

Top 10 Trends For Designing the Porch of Your Dreams

Design a 3 season porch your neighbors and friends will both love and envy you over. Check out what we've found to be the top ten trends for designing a functional, yet stylish, outdoor living space. Come on, take a look!



About the author of this eBook and owner of Porch Windows Direct

Brandon Williamson is CEO of Porch Windows Direct. Brandon converts regular and underutilized porches and decks into areas of pride and joy for families looking to entertain, enjoy, and have peace in its surroundings.

Contact Brandon to learn how you can get started with your porch and sunroom at brandon@porchwindowsdirect.com or calling (651) 505-0062.

1. Less is More

When picking out furniture and paint swatches, bold colors and simple designs are what's in this year. A simple clean look allows you to give your porch an updated feel while having bold colors and patterns gives you the opportunity to express your style loudly. We recommend picking a color pallet that matches your current home decortoshow a seamless transition between rooms.



2. Think About What's Under Your Feet

Your flooring can really set the effect you want a room to have. Whether you are looking at tile, cement, vinyl, hardwood or carpet, matching your porch flooring to what's inside your house creates the feel that the porch is a part of home and not just an "add-on". No matter which you pick, each type of flooring has its advantages and drawbacks. Here are a few tips:

- Carpet: Feels great on your feet, doesn't overheat in the summer and adds a padding of insulation in the winter. Though if a spill occurs, cleaning could be a pain.
- Hardwood Flooring: Automatically gives a room an elegant feel. Easy to clean if spills occurs. Keeps your room cool in the summer. Can be challenging to retain heat in the winter.
- Tile: Super durable, can help regulate the temperature as the climate changes. Can be hard to keep looking new over time.
- Cement: Gives you the great industrial-contemporary feel. Similar to hardwood, in that during the summer months it is helpful in keeping your room cool though retaining heat can be challenging in the winter.
- Laminate and Vinyl: The most inexpensive and easiest to install. Wears and fades the quickest.



3. Media Systems are A MUST have

Porches are primarily used for entertaining. Adding a SMART flat screen TV, surround sound system, and wifi are great ways to make your porch more enjoyable for both you and your guests. There are more products on the market today than ever before to install and more options include wireless features that don't require opening walls for wiring.



4. Get Rid of Your Traditional Patio Door

A large set of French doors or sliding doors leading out of the house is a great way to bring the outside in and make the porch feel like an extension of the house. It's much more inviting and adds value to your home!



5. Purchase Indoor Furniture

Make your outdoor living space feel more like "home" by adding in an area rug, sectional couch and few other items you'd typically see indoors. As long as your porch is protected from the elements, there is really no need to only purchase outdoor furniture.



6. Create a Staple

Building in a fireplace or heater will help keep your outdoor living space warm during the fall and winter months. It will also be an attractive focal point to your room.



7. What's Above?

Add some dimension to your ceiling by installing some lighting and a fan or two. Recess and spotlights allow you to highlight key elements that make your room pop. Fans are great features that can also save you money by using less energy to keep your room cool in the warmer months.



8. Divide Your Room Up into Multiple Spaces

Depending on what you plan to use your porch for, a recent trend is to break up the room into a place where you can lounge around, eat and play. Consider adding in a table for dinners, a sofa for gathering and maybe shave off a corner for the kids to play.



9. Protect Your Porch From the Elements in Style

Enclosing your porch allows your expanded living space to stay clean and dry while still maintaining the feeling of an outdoor room. Offered in customized styles, shapes and colors, Xtend Porch Windows by PWD collapse for 75% ventilation on nice days and then easily close up to protect your porch from harsh weather.



10. Take Advantage of Every Inch

If you have dead space in your porch, think creatively about any storage needs you may have. Do you have an empty corner that you can turn into a nook? Or is there space on the walls for a bookshelf or two? If storage is a priority to you, consider purchasing furniture that you can use to store items in as well.



