

Lamorinda OUR HOMES

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Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian

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Spruce up the front entry for summer entertaining

By Amanda Eck



Front porch décor

I don't know about you, but I am ready for longer days and warmer temps. Every evening around 6 p.m. you will find me in the backyard, feet up with a glass of wine, enjoying the evening breeze. We love to entertain in the summer and have friends over for casual dinners or simple drinks and hors d'oeuvres. But before those guests filter out to the backyard they first must come through the front door. And as you know the first impression of any space starts at the front of the home. So here are some simple ways to spruce up your front porch.

1) **Give it a good clean.** Sweep away the dust and dirt and remove any cobwebs. Some front en-

trances may need a good power washing to remove any tough stains from the winter and spring rains.

2) **Add a pop of color.** One of the quickest ways to add some curb appeal is to paint your front door a bold bright color. Make sure you use a paint that is for exterior surfaces and is easy to clean. My favorite front door paint colors are Benjamin Moore Vine Green, Sherwin Williams Tri-corn Black, Benjamin Moore Palladian Blue, Benjamin Moore Rumba Orange, Sherwin Williams Red Tomato, and Benjamin Moore Sunburst.

3) **Update your address.** Does your house number need a little face-lift? I love adding some

modern metal or brass numbers to give the home a fresh look. You can find these at your local hardware store or one of my favorite online shops, Rejuvenation.com.

4) **Go Green.** If your porch gets sunlight, add some potted flowers. Or if you have a porch like mine that gets zero sunlight, go faux. I have two large urns with faux boxwoods on either side of my door. No watering required, but you do have to dust them from time to time.

5) **Light the way.** Update your outdoor lighting and it will give your space a fresh look instantly. Some great affordable outdoor lighting sources are Rejuvenation.com and Circlighting.com.

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Vine Green BM 2034_20



Tricorn Black SW 6258



Palladian Blue BM HC_144



Rumba Orange BM 2014_20



Red Tomato SW 6607



Sunburst BM 2023_40