

Rethink your Wreath

by Linda Pescatore

With autumn upon us, it's time to dress the doorways with a festoon of fall foliage. Make sure yours is right for your space.

"When creating a floral garland for the entryway, color, size, shape and the door's architectural style should all be considered," said Elizabeth Souders, a marketing manager with door manufacturer Jeld-Wen Inc. "Homeowners often take their inspiration from the shape of the door itself or personalize their decor using plants from their own gardens."

Jeld-Wen suggests keeping these tips in mind when buying or making door decor:

BEAUTY GARLAND - Make sure the shape, color and scale of your fall and winter decorations match your entryway. The charm of the "speakeasy" grille on this Old World style door would be lost if hidden under a traditional wreath. CNS Photo courtesy of Jeld-Wen Inc. - Think outside the wreath. Look to the geometry of your entry for inspiration and drape a garland that follows its form. Match the elements in your decoration to the style of your door; for example, if your door exudes Old World style, use natural materials such as fruit, hemlock, pine and seedpods that may have been used hundreds of years ago in Europe.

- Don't skimp on scale. A grand entryway deserves grand decorations. That doesn't have to mean one gargantuan wreath; try three or four wreaths that graduate in size and weight. Use wide, splashy ribbons to tie things together.

- Explore nontraditional colors. Your door doesn't have to sport the usual reds, golds and browns, especially if your color scheme leans toward cooler blues and greens. Try incorporating dried natural products such as blue hydrangeas, seeded eucalyptus, hawthorn berries and pine cones attached to a base of mixed greenery and entwined with fine French ribbons in your favorite color.

© Copley News Service

Rethink your Wreath by Linda Pescatore