

## Yanic Simard, principal interior designer, Toronto Interior Design Group

"Since the architectural details of this suburban house are limited, I transformed the shutters and front door into prominent accents. The schemes have been kept simple: for a small to medium house like this, I recommend picking one colour and using two or three

shades of it. This approach creates a fresh, elegant look that's pleasing to the eye. Harmony is paramount when choosing exterior colours. To bring it all together and add a little sophistication, I blended the garage into the main structure with a muted shade."



front door Farrow & Ball Off-Black 57 oil full gloss garage door, siding, soffit, window and door trim Farrow & Ball String 8 exterior eggshell shutters Farrow & Ball Off-Black 57 exterior eggshell



front door, shutters Pratt & Lambert Dansbury Downs 33-22 exterior semigloss garage door, window and door trim Pratt & Lambert Phantom 11-31 exterior semigloss siding, soffit Pratt & Lambert Phantom 11-31 exterior eggshell

front door Benjamin Moore New London Burgundy HC-61 exterior highgloss garage door, shutters, soffit, window and door trim Benjamin Moore Lacey Pearl 2108-70 exterior low lustre siding Benjamin Moore Silver Marlin 2139-50 exterior low lustre



### sylvia's primer for choosing colour

Always choose exterior colours outdoors. All that natural light will bleach out the colour, making it look different than it does indoors. Exterior colour should be subtle and relate well to the landscape. Whimsical or bright hues are best reserved for interiors. Keep the streetscape in mind. You want to create a flow with surrounding homes, so avoid clashing tones on yours. A street is a collaboration – remember, your neighbours see your exterior more than you do, so be a good neighbour and go with the flow!

### YANIC'S TIPS FOR REPAINTING THE EXTERIOR OF YOUR HOME

If your garage protrudes in front of your house, it's a good idea to make it blend with the overall structure by using a muted colour on the garage door, perhaps the same colour as the siding. Then put the accent on the front door instead by painting it a dark colour. Keep in mind that dark or bright colours are more prone to fading and will cost more in material and labour in the long run. Also remember that dark colours will tend to look lighter when applied to a large surface. Draw attention to architectural details and disguise design flaws. If your house lacks details, add an attractive mailbox, a pair of cast-iron planters with topiaries flanking the front door, or eye-catching updated light fixtures. Look at magazines or check out other homes in your area to get some ideas.