

architecture



9 FIRST LOOK

“People love front porches and covered entries, because they provide a sense of security and craftsmanship,” says architect Hans Berglund, who applied those tenets to a modern Vail residence. He discusses other variables worth minding below. [berglundarchitects.com](#)

Architectural relevance: The entry elements should relate thematically to the architecture. It’s the first thing people see, so not making that connection can result in the entry looking tacked on and out of place.

A memorable front door: Here, an 8-foot-tall wood door topped with a 2-foot-high transom establishes a grand scale. Wrapping the door with glass also creates a sense of intrigue that allows a peek into what lies beyond.

A little drama: Exposed structures, like the ceiling, add a level of interest, and uplighting them come nightfall makes them pop. You also want to create a sense of welcoming that makes visitors feel connected to the home.

THIS PAGE: FIRST LOOK PHOTO: KELLEY AND PETER GIBSON. CUNNIFFE HEADSHOT: ROSS KRIBBS. WEBB HEADSHOT: KIMBERLY GAVIN. BREWSTER MCLEOD HEADSHOT: COURTNEY JAMIEL. BREWSTER MCLEOD. EKMAN HEADSHOT: DANA MCGRATH. ALVAREZ HEADSHOT: COURTNEY CARLOS ALVAREZ. OPPOSITE: INTERIOR MATTERS PHOTO: PETER AND KELLEY GIBSON. WARM FRONT PHOTO: DAVID PATTERSON.

10 CRAFTING FORM

ARCHITECTS DISH ON WHAT INFORMS AND INSPIRES THE PROGRESSIVE HOMES THEY’RE DESIGNING FOR OUR STATE.



CHARLES CUNIFFE

Favorite material to design with: Whether we are designing in the mountains, in an urban context, in the desert or on the beach, we aim to incorporate as much glass as possible. **What impacts the exterior architecture of a home?** In addition to the surrounding context, a home’s exterior should reflect how the building works on the inside. [cuniffe.com](#)



KYLE WEBB

Is there anything in particular that homeowners are requesting? Modern design. It has infinite flexibility and an ability to adapt as time goes on. It is truly timeless. **What makes for good interior architecture?** A successful home will have minimal variation between the exterior and interior architecture and should be seen as a whole. [khwebb.com](#)



JAMIE L. BREWSTER MCLEOD

Tell us the secret to a good floor plan. The perfect floor plan is one where each space draws you in, the function meets the needs of the owners, and the primary spaces are organized to take advantage of the natural light and views. **Favorite materials:** Decorative metals. They add high curb appeal with low-maintenance requirements. [brewstermcLeod.com](#)



STEPHEN P. EKMAN

What are homeowners requesting? Our clients are asking for homes that can grow and mature with them through the years, from young families to empty nesters. **How is historic architecture relevant today?** We are trying to build homes that will last for generations, and what better way to do that than by working with historic structures that have lasted over a hundred years? [ekmandesign.com](#)



CARLOS ALVAREZ

Material of choice: Board-form concrete. I like that it’s modern and warm all at the same time and that it takes on the qualities of the boards used to make it. **What is the most important element to keep in mind when designing?** The sun. It will influence the location of the house on the property, the orientation of the house, the position of each space inside and more. [alvarezmorris.com](#)



12 WARM FRONT

Although the lines may be sleek, the tactile materials architects Rich Carr and Chris Touchette incorporated in a home they designed near Carbondale lend a feeling of warmth to the contemporary look. “We used stone, steel, wood, concrete, glass and plaster,” Touchette says of the palette selected with the homeowner. “The resulting spaces are comfortably eclectic, sustainable and artistic.” [ccyarchitects.com](#)

How do you keep modern design inviting? **RC:** We’ve always focused on creating original design solutions that embody contemporary lifestyles and speak to the richness, textures, and traditions of the place. **CT:** Mixing natural, unusual and familiar materials keep a modern living environment from feeling too sterile or cold.

What elements are critical to good modern architecture? **RC:** Thoughtful integration of site, place and family give great design its uniqueness, depth and dimension. This house features layered textures such as stone unearthed during excavation and Cor-Ten-steel siding. The beetle-kill siding is a regionally sourced material that reflects the owner’s strong environmental ethic.

Why do you think homeowners are embracing contemporary architecture? **CT:** It is an extension of their lives. They are shedding clutter and looking for a direct connection to the natural world. **RC:** The desire for open, progressive spaces speaks to how people live now. I hope as we move forward, we can create new architecture grounded in the uniqueness of the landscape and region.



11 interior MATTERS

“Interior architecture should represent the soul of the home and relate to the personality of those who reside within it,” says builder and developer Rick Hermes, who collaborated with South Carolina architect Tom Markalunas on designing this Edwards home. “For the hearth room shown here, a fireplace acts as a visual anchor to balance the glass perimeter windows and adds warmth to the space.” Additional warmth is brought into the room through the reclaimed-wood ceiling and beams. “As an architect,” Markalunas says, “you want to start with good bones for the house and set up the structure as a canvas for interesting materials.” [resortconceptsco.com](#); [marchitecturegroup.com](#)