



FRESH Colors

FOR HOMES WITH BRICK OR STONE



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DaVinci Roofscapes Slate, Castle Gray. Cultured Stone, Handmade Brick, Canvas.

Introduction



Every homeowner wants a color scheme that enhances the appearance of their home and increases the value of their property. Brick or stone exteriors add a distinctive element to a house. However, matching those features with color schemes that work from the top down on your home is essential.

A Fresh Way to Choose Exterior Colors

The FRESH approach is a method for selecting an eye-pleasing color palette for your home’s exterior. When you use FRESH thinking to choose the right color for each element — roofing, siding, doors, windows, shutters, trim, and accents — you create a unified top-to-bottom look that exudes curb appeal.

By considering these five points, you can pick the perfect colors for your home’s exterior:

F

Fixed
Features

R

Regional
Colors

E

Environment &
Surroundings

S

Style of
the Home

H

Historic or
HOA Colors

Fixed Features

There are many things to consider as you select your home's exterior colors, the most influential being the fixed features. These are the elements of your home that do not change often. These include:

- All or partial brick, stone, stucco, or concrete
- Roofing style and color
- Chimney structures
- Porch, steps, retaining walls, and walkways
- Decks, patios and hardscapes

Fixed Features = Permanent Design Elements

Look at the fixed features of an attractive home, and you'll begin to see the repetition of tones. This duplication allows different materials and textures to work well together, which is especially important for a home with brick, stone, or both.

When choosing colors for your home exterior, find those that blend with or complement the brick or stone's predominant color or color cast. **All other materials' colors need to harmonize with the stone or brick to create the best look.** If you are building a new home, select the stone or brick first and then create a color scheme to enhance this feature.

Generally, these essential elements of the home exterior are not a solid color but a mix of colors. To describe these materials as a solid color would not do them justice since the beauty is in the variations of colors. Instead, **the term "color cast" is a better way to describe the dominant color in a material, which includes different colors.**

Color cast is a term that has roots in photography and describes an overall tint on a photographic image caused by sunlight or incandescent light. You will get the idea if you imagine an entire image looking slightly yellowish.

Now, think of this idea applied to stonework, bricks, or roofing material. The color cast is the tint of a particular color that looks like a wash over the surface. All the colors throughout are not the same, but they have a typical tinge of a color that is common to the overall mix.

Identifying and repeating the colors or color cast from one fixed feature to the next begins to tie the exterior visual color scheme together. **When all the permanent elements from the roof down harmonize, it sets the stage for a unified exterior color scheme by opening up options for the primary and accent colors.** If the fixed features have a different color cast, finding hues for siding, trim, and accent colors that work with the different color casts becomes challenging.

It is always possible to find a color solution, but bringing two essential elements together that do not harmonize can be a challenge, even for the most skilled professional.

For homes that include brick or stone, focusing on the first step in FRESH is more important than for any other type of home. Once you have identified the color cast of your fixed features, the remaining steps can help you select your palette.



DaVinci Roofscapes Shake, Mountain. Cultured Stone, Country LedgeStone, Wheaton.

Regional Colors

Regional color preferences come from a blend of the region’s natural characteristics, such as climate, topography, landscape and quality of the natural light. Other influencers include housing styles, available materials and the cultural history of the area.

Environment and Surroundings

As you determine colors for the outside of your home, consider the overall look of buildings in the area. While you don’t want your home to be a twin of another home close by, you do want your home to blend in with surrounding structures.

Consider the context of your home and choose colors that will stand out while still fitting in. Find colors that express your style and complement the other homes in the area.

Style of the Home

The architectural style of your home is the next part of the color equation to think about. Your color scheme should “fit” the design of your home. Color and materials support the home’s look and architecture, not vice versa.

Historic or HOA Colors

Traditional color schemes — including reds, browns, and grays — have a sense of stability and permanence because of their historical connection and the likelihood that they will continue to be in style for years to come.

The good news is that many, if not all, of the popular exterior paint colors have their roots in the past. Historic colors have stood the test of time, making them an excellent choice for the color schemes of both new and older homes.

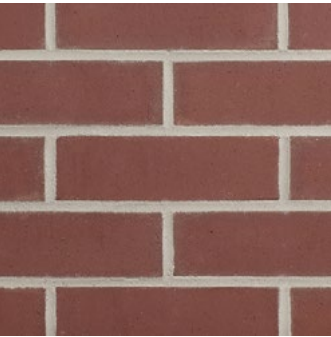
Newer homes may also be subject to regulations from a homeowner association (HOA). These neighborhoods have pre-approved color palettes for houses to ensure uniformity in the community. However, you will still have enough options to make your home stand out from your neighbors’. Before making your final color selections, understand any rules or approvals the HOA requires. Following these guidelines may limit creativity, but they maintain the neighborhood’s appearance.

The FRESH approach guides you in considering the top five areas that most influence your home’s best exterior palette. By thinking about these critical areas, you can make good choices and find a color scheme that works beautifully for your home from the top down.

How to Choose a Roof Color for Homes with Brick

To select a roof befitting your brick or partially brick home, look closely at your bricks to see their color. Your first thought might be that they are red, but look closer. Your brick can have a cast of another color. Bricks come in a wide variety of colors and color casts.

Most often, bricks found on residential exteriors are red, tan/buff, white/cream, pink, gray or brown/black. Within each color group, you will see bricks that are predominantly that color or have a cast of that color. Before selecting a roof color, you must first determine the brick color and the color cast on your brick or partially brick home.



Red



Pink



White/Cream



Gray



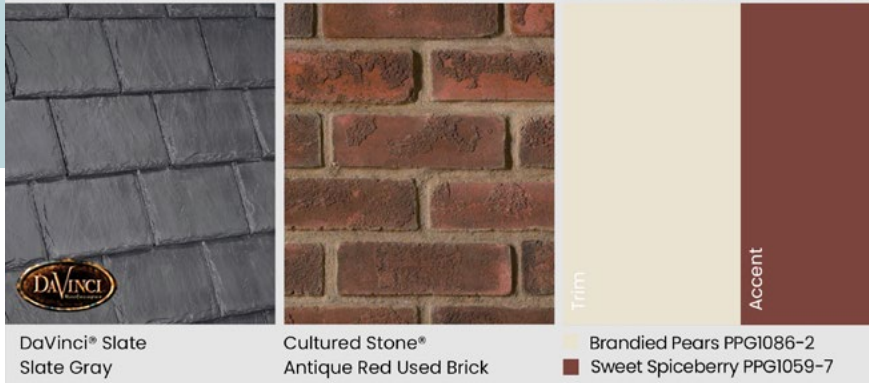
Brown/Black



Tan/Buf

Red Brick

There are many colors and types of brick, but the most popular by far is red. This classic, all-American look has a timeless appeal. From clean, straight lines to rustic, uneven edges, your red bricks play the lead role in the color palette.

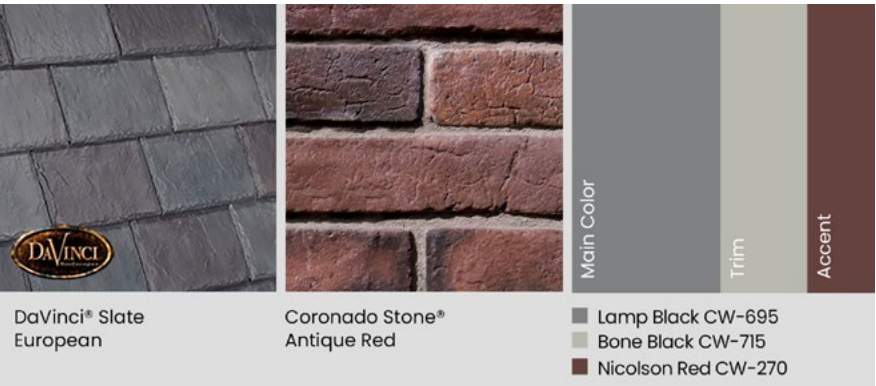


Light neutral trim is well suited to a brick home. Highlight architectural details by using it to frame windows and doorways. Balance the scheme with a Slate Gray roof and a deep color on the door to draw attention to the entranceway.



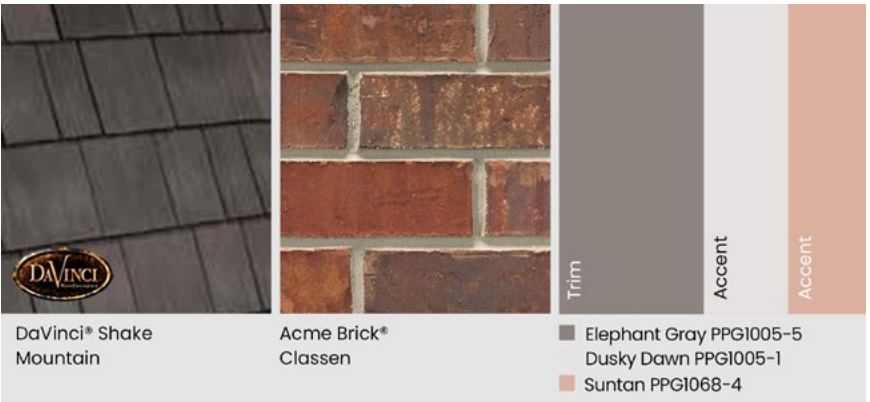
Bricks are naturally toned down, but that doesn't mean neutrals are your only option as the primary color. For example, gold with a dollop of gray mixed in is beautiful with warm red bricks.

When your home has a brick with a distinct pattern, use colors that don't compete for attention such as a combination of warm gray and light greige. Balance the power of the pattern with a strong door color.



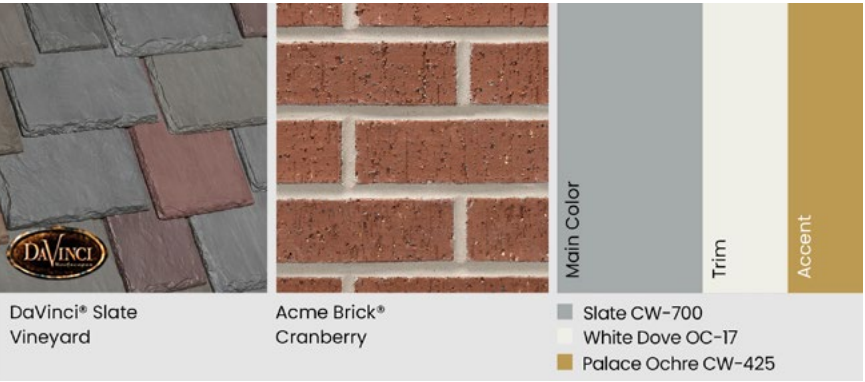
Red brick can be warm with tones that lean towards rust or terracotta. They may also be cool and be closer to burgundy. Determine the color temperature and find a harmonizing palette.

Deep or dark colors have traditionally been used on the roof and door of a brick home, but it doesn't mean you can't use a lighter paint color for the front door. Find a harmonious color that is a bit muted to blend with the brickwork.



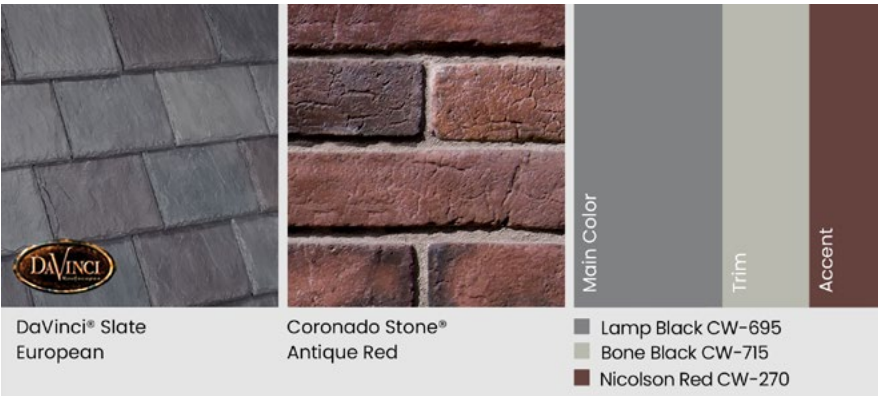


Red brick and DaVinci Aberdeen Slate roof are the perfect pairing. A few well-chosen colors complete the look. Find slightly more vivid colors when using the slate to inspire your accent colors.



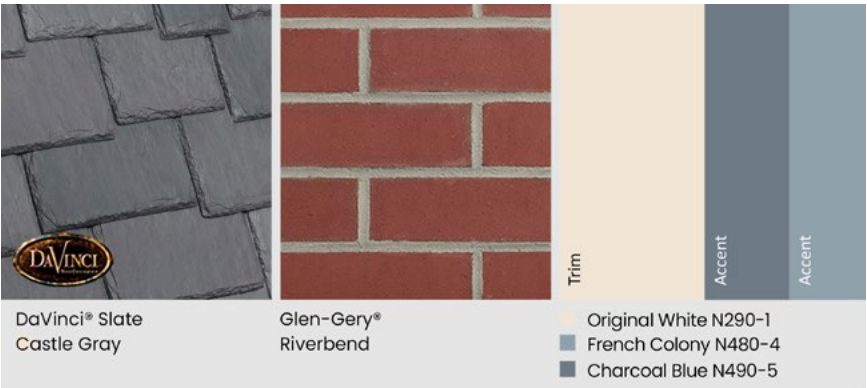
Let the colors of multi-color slate inspire your palette. With DaVinci Vineyard Slate, White Dove and Slate paint are a beautiful canvas for a gold door.

As the complement of red, green can be intensified when paired with your brick. To keep the green from looking too vivid use a grayed or muted green. Complete the palette with equally muted hues or neutrals.



The look of antique bricks goes well with DaVinci European Slate and a palette of historic colors. The two intriguing shades of gray and brick are brought to life with a striking deep red front door.

Crisp red bricks retain their fresh look when partnered with colors that are clear rather than muted. DaVinci Castle Gray and cool blue accents and front door complete an attractive scheme.



Pink Brick

Don't let preconceived thoughts of pink fool you. These bricks range from slightly lighter than red to neutral uplifted with a rosy glow. Add soft colors and an accent or two with the same subtle radiance as your brick.



Look at the grout selected to blend with the bricks to help you find the right white or off-white for the trim. White paint with the same undertone as the grout will make a suitable companion color.



Never try to find a paint color identical to the bricks. Paint is a single tone, while brick is not, making it almost impossible to match. Instead, select a neutral in the same lightness or darkness as the brick. Choose contrasting dark DaVinci Mountain Shake to keep the scheme more striking than sweet.

Brown is a perfect partner for pink brick. The DaVinci Brownstone Slate roof and brownish taupe neutrals allow the many tones of the brickwork and slate to shine.



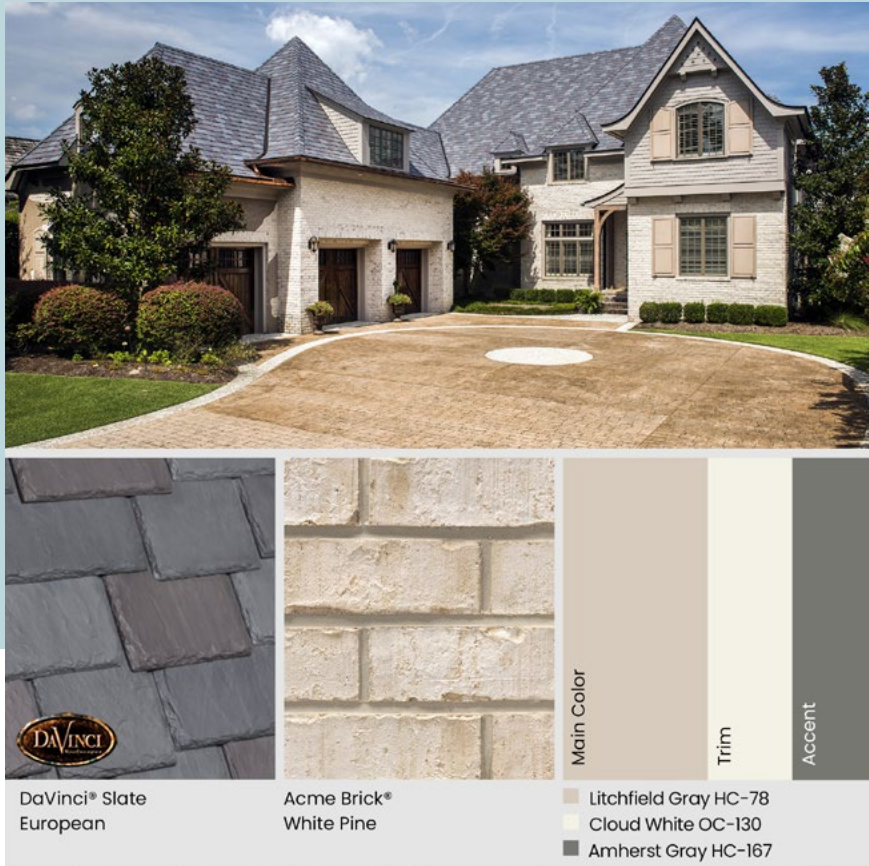
With bricks like White Rose, play up its tones with a warm pinky-beige primary color trimmed in white. Pull out the deepest tones with a DaVinci Tahoe Shake roof and chocolate front door.

Let the soft tones in the Frosty Pink bricks and DaVinci Chesapeake Shake roof lead the scheme. Build your palette with one or two soft colors and a white that has the same look as the white frosting on the bricks.



White/Cream Brick

Though not usually pure white or cream, the clean look of light bricks is attractive on many home styles, from historical to modern. One advantage of white and cream bricks is their ability to harmonize with any color palette.

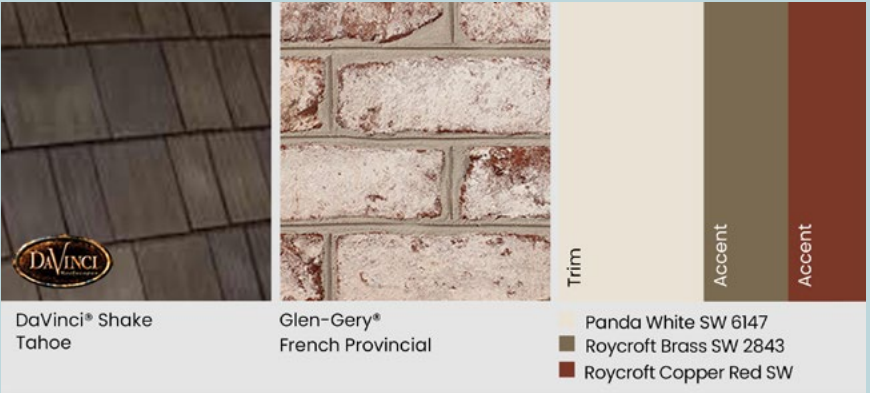


A home with attractive architecture can look best with a pale color palette that allows light and shadow to show off every detail. Pair with a European slate roof and repeat the dominant color from the slate on the front door for a classic look.



An eye-catching roof color like Weathered Green is the star of the show when topping off a home with a neutral scheme. Accents in tones pulled from the slate play a supporting role.

White siding and trim with the same undertones as the brick's color cast is an excellent scheme. Then play up the colors peeking out around each brick with the front door color.



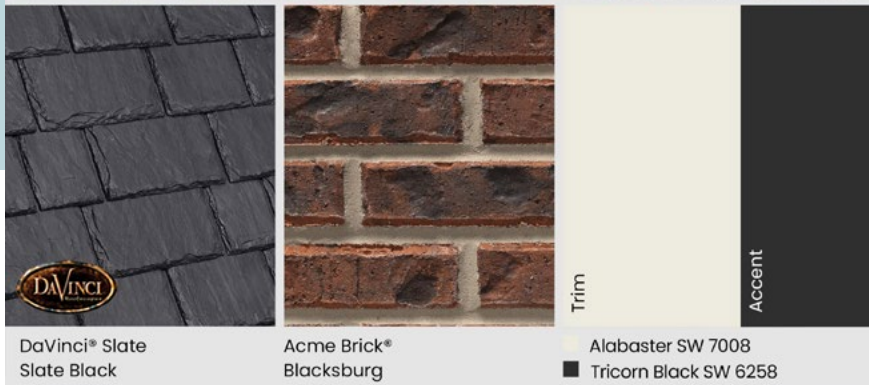
Create a sophisticated look for your home by combining brick with a white cast and several tones of gray. Add a touch of your personality with a door color that welcomes guests into your home.

Accent a quiet palette of ivory brick with gray siding and trim featuring two shades of warm blue. Pull the color palette together by topping the home with a Mossy Cedar roof.



Gray Brick

Bricks with gray or gray casts can be cool bluish or warm brownish gray. Match the temperature of your bricks to the temperature of your primary color and neutrals for the best results.



A timeless palette of black and white works well with a great range of brick colors. Brighter white highlights architectural details, while toned-down white makes other elements stand out.



The aged look of a Black Oak roof marries well with the style of Rockwell brick. A grayed tan ties the two together, warmer tan accents the colors in the brick, and dark paint or stain on the door finishes the scheme.

Bring out the beauty of a brick-like Augusta with a tonal palette for the roof, main body, and trim. Highlight the deepest tones in the Tahoe roof and brick with an eye-catching copper-colored front door.



Pair a two-tone brick with a single-tone roof to allow the pair to harmonize rather than compete for attention. Cool gray-blue or gray-green paint colors highlight the tones they have in common.

Bricks with a subtle blend of tones can inspire your scheme. The result will be more pleasing if you choose colors that blend with the brick when standing back from your home rather than matching the color more closely.



Brown/Black Brick

These bricks are not purely brown or black but feature rich dark neutrals brought to life by contrast and color. Give contrast with a light to medium primary color, then add medium to dark accent colors.



Show off the beauty of your bricks with a simple color scheme of DaVinci Tahoe Shakes with charcoal gray and off-white.



Pair a DaVinci Aged Cedar roof with dark bricks and beige and brown-black paint to create a tonal scheme. Add energy with a lively front door color. For example, a slightly muted version of orange fits the color palette.

A modern mix of neutrals is a marvelous way to update the look of your home. Combine brown with gray, then add subtle contrast by choosing a taupe with lavender, blue, or green undertones.



Mountain or another dark roof color is superb when your brick combines light and dark tones. Accentuate the contrast further with your trim and accent colors.

Slate Gray roofing and Ironside brick give your home a look that has withstood the test of time. Keep the palette classic with light gray on the trim and a distinctive green door.



Tan/Buf Brick

Bricks predominantly tan, or tan overlaying another color, have a welcoming warmth. Tan bricks are a natural partner for a palette of warm colors but can work with cooler tones, too, when used as accent colors.

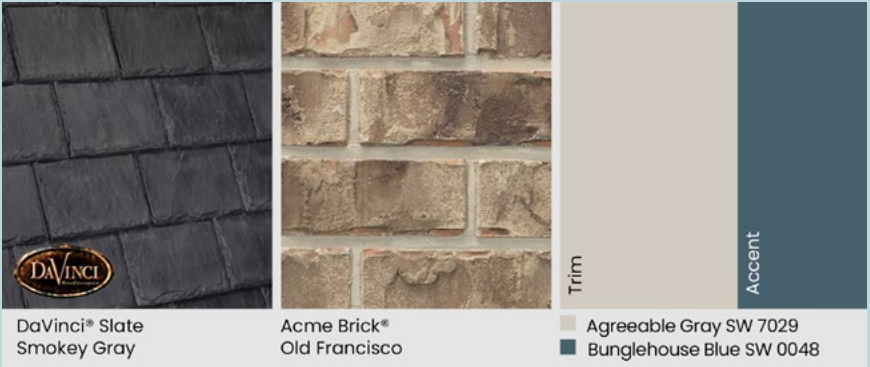


A Weathered Gray roof is perfect for a home with creamy tan bricks muted with gray. A neutral color trim blends with both the roof color and grout, and a pretty door color completes the scheme.



DaVinci Shake Tahoe complements Eldorado Stone’s TundraBrick profile in Latigo. Carry the colors into the palette to create a color scheme enhanced by a Mesa Peach front door.

Light neutrals accentuate classic tan brick. The darker accent tones were pulled from the deep blue undertones of DaVinci Smokey Gray Slate.



Some bricks can have a tan or buff cast that sways the scheme towards using these tones. The Brownstone roof, a grayed beige primary color, and buff trim will complement bricks with a tan color cast.

Set off the beauty of Carmel Mountain brick with a neutral scheme of stone, light brown, and beige. A Mossy Cedar roof perfectly tops this color palette.



How to Choose a Roof Color for Homes with Stone



Whether it highlights your entrance or anchors your house to the landscape, when your home exterior features natural stone, you will want to show it off by choosing a color scheme that complements it. There are many different types of stone, each with its unique beauty. Selecting an exterior whole-house color scheme that enhances the natural color variations in the rocks can add to your home's curb appeal.

For your stone or partial stone exterior, consider the overall color cast of your stone and any colors that stand out in the mix. The overall tone could be gray, tan, brown, greige, cream, white or another color. The primary color of your home must blend with the colors of your stone, but it doesn't mean it must be the same. For example, with gray stonework, you could select blue for your primary color, but a grayed blue will blend with the stones better than a bright, clear blue. If the mix of rocks includes a color that stands out, that color might make an excellent choice for your shutters or front door.

Determining the primary colors and the underlying color cast of your stones is essential for choosing the best color scheme for your home exterior.

Tan Stone

The warmth of stones with a tan cast makes them a popular choice for home exteriors. Tan can be neutral or lean towards another color, such as gold, greige, peach, or taupe. Noticing your stone’s subtle nuances will help you find the right colors for your home.



A muted green roof, like Evergreen, and tan stone can integrate your home into its natural surroundings. This grayed green can be a gorgeous choice, especially when landscaping or trees add to the setting.



Highlight the color and pattern of your stone by going deep with the primary color of your home. An accent in a complementary color creates a focal point at your entrance.

Use natural textures and well-chosen colors to give your home personality. Soft neutrals coupled with your stone and favorite color on the door become the focus of the exterior.



When your roof and stone colors work together, like DaVinci Shake Autumn and Eldorado Stone’s Mountain Ledge profile in Sierra, the neutral colors give your home a polished look. High-contrast neutrals for the body and trim create a fresh, contemporary style.

The natural textures of DaVinci Slate and Cultured Stone’s River Rock profile in Earth Blend are an excellent foundation for a well-chosen color scheme to give your home personality.



Brown Stone

Like in the world around us, earthy brown can stand alongside all color families. Look for hues based on those you see in nature, where colors are toned down.





Main Color

Trim

Accent

DaVinci® Shake
Tahoe

Eldorado Stone®
Shasta Mountain Ledge

Nearly Brown SW 9093

Rookwood Brown SW 2806

Rookwood Terra Cotta SW 2803

A monochromatic palette for your primary color and trim creates a backdrop that gives your Eldorado Stone’s Mountain Ledge profile in Shasta room to shine. Pull a color from the stone and intensify with it as an accent.



Main Color

Trim

DaVinci® Slate
Canyon

Eldorado Stone®
Bodega Bluffstone

Rabbit PPG15-11

Cabin Fever PPG1021-7

Stone and slate give texture and depth to your exterior scheme. Neutral colors are all you need, with elements as distinctive as DaVinci Canyon Slate and Eldorado Stone’s Bluffstone profile in Bodega.

The shake and stone have tones that fall between gray and brown, making this a pairing that works well with many color combinations. Deep blue and orange liven up the gray-brown scheme.



Main Color

Trim

Accent

DaVinci® Shake
Mountain

Cultured Stone®
Country LedgeStone,
Hudson Bay

Blue Print S470-5

Looking Glass MQ3-45

Polo Pony PPG1202-6



Trim

Accent

DaVinci® Slate
Brownstone

Coronado Stone®
Mocha Granite

Soft Sand 2106-60

Passion Plum 2073-30

When your slate and stone look united, all you need to add is the right trim color and a fantastic front door. Don’t be shy. A color like Passion Plum will punch up your palette.

This rustic Mossy Cedar roof and stone scheme are well suited to a palette inspired by the warm colors in the stone. Stay neutral or choose a statement color for your door.



Main Color

Accent

DaVinci® Shake
Mossy Cedar

Cultured Stone®
Buck's County
Country LedgeStone

Softer Tan SW 6141

Portabello SW 6102

Gray Stone

Versatile neutral gray stones look great in an all-neutral scheme or can take on any shade of color: dark, medium, or light.

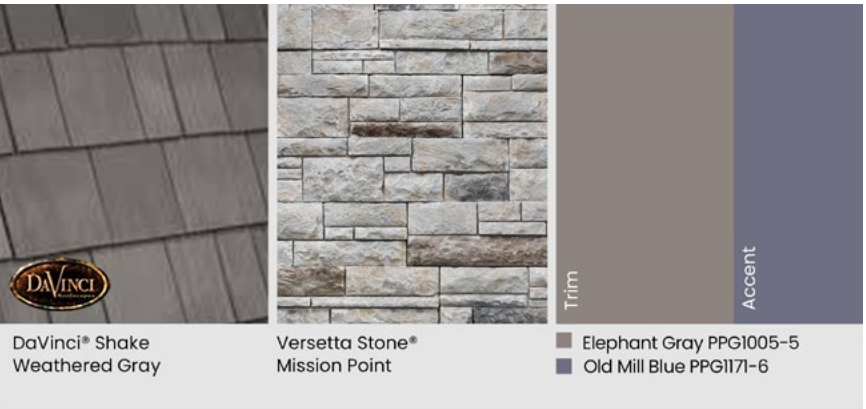


Show off the beautiful combination of a DaVinci Black Oak roof and Eldorado Stone’s RoughCut profile in Loire Valley by limiting paint colors to coordinating neutrals.



A DaVinci Brownstone roof is an excellent choice when stones include tones of both gray and brown. Accent with a color from the stonework. A bold yet slightly muted hue can be the perfect color for the front door.

Tone-on-tone Eldorado Stone’s Cut Coarse Stone profile in Cannonade is beautiful with three shades of blue-gray. DaVinci Smokey Gray complements the scheme’s understated elegance.



When your composite shake roof and stone have color variations and texture, it is best to use a monochromatic scheme that quietly bridges those elements. Add pop with an unexpected color on the door, like this blue with a dollop of purple.

Eldorado Stone’s Ledgecut33 profile in White Cap and DaVinci Castle Gray Slate is a classic combination with a monochromatic palette for the body and trim. Then, spice it up with a warm color.



Greige/Cream Stone

It may seem odd to describe stone as “soft,” but that is exactly how the color of greige or cream feels in stone when compared with other options. Match this quality in your primary colors and keep the bold contrasts for your accents.

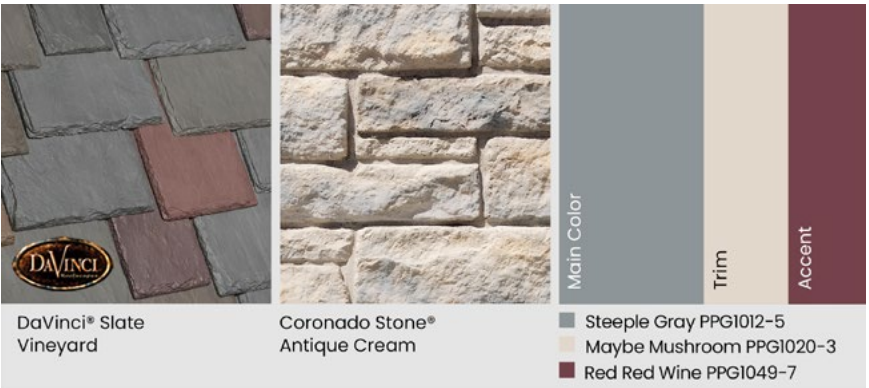


A stately greige stone exterior topped off with multi-color DaVinci Mountain Shakes is exquisite. Tonal trim and a deep purple on the front door give this home a regal look.



DaVinci Shakes with Eldorado Stone’s Weather Ledge profile in Winter Point is a gorgeous foundation for those who love a soft look. Gentle gray with a touch of linen white and pink complements the softness of Mossy Cedar, creating a lovely scheme.

Beige with a touch of rose or lavender often blends perfectly with greige stones. Accents of brown nod to the gorgeous DaVinci Tahoe Shake on the roof.



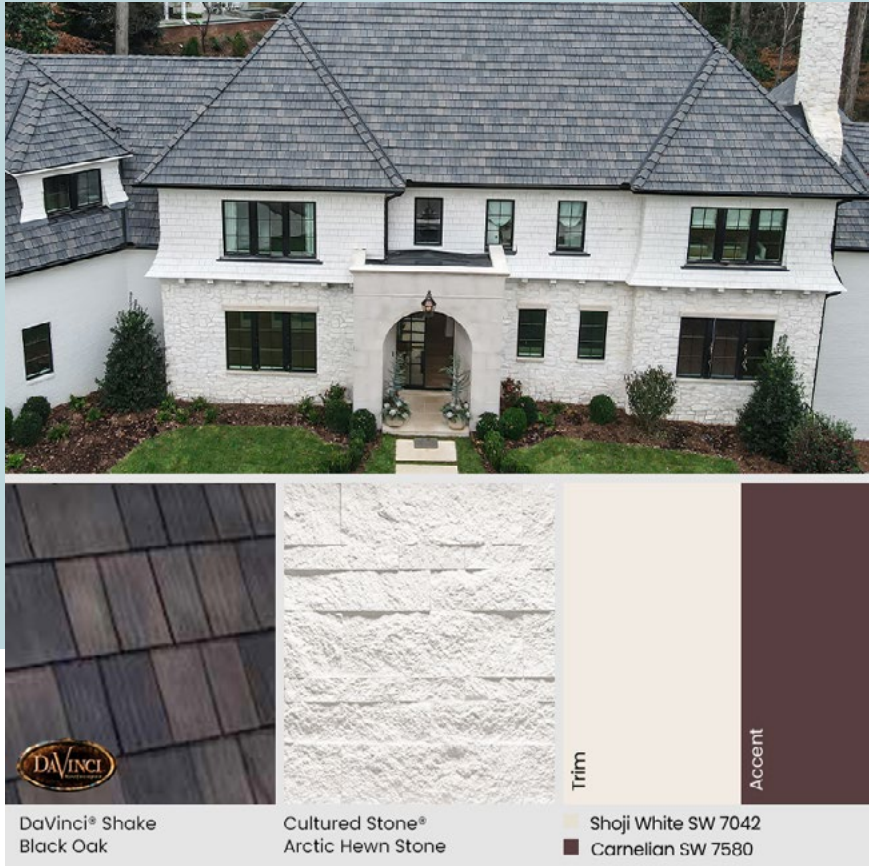
Coronado Antique Cream, with its hints of gray, is charming under a Vineyard roof. Let the multi-color blend drive the color scheme — cool gray and cream trim accented with wine. Green, gold, or eggplant would be equally lovely as the accent color.

DaVinci Chesapeake Shake and Eldorado Stone’s Vintage Ranch profile in Dawnwood complement each other. Enhance this perfect pairing with a tonal scheme of grays and a soft pink front door.



White Stone

Whether on its own or combined with brick or other materials, white stone makes a statement. Accentuate it with contrasting colors or let the texture take the lead with a tonal scheme.



White stone and brick are a perfect pairing. Coordinating white trim carries the color around the entire exterior, and Carnelian, a deep maroon, that creates a rich focal point at the entrance of this lovely home.



Adding sophisticated color to your roof works very well with a palette of muted neutrals. A roof blend like DaVinci Weathered Green is a beautiful counterpoint to bring white stone and taupe paint to life.

Create a scheme that is as inviting as the stone's namesake. Cashmere. Combine cool gray and with white trim. Keep the look tranquil with light and airy Maiden Mist blue-gray accents.



DaVinci Slate Black with white never goes out of fashion. Play up the tones in Versetta Stone Sand with off-white paint that has the same undertones as the stonework. Go with a shade like Rose Brocade on the door and gray with a touch of violet on the trim to complete the look.

An advantage of stone like Eldorado Stone's Stacked Stone profile in Daybreak is that it draws attention and needs little more than an attractive DaVinci Brownstone roof to set it off. Grab some of the spotlight for yourself by adding a front door color that reflects your personality.



You've Got Color!



Congratulations, You've Selected Your Colors!

Following the simple steps outlined in this ebook, you can easily select a perfect color scheme for a brick or stone home. Plus, we've got even more ways to support your desire to create a beautiful home exterior.

Visit the free [Color Visualizer](#) from DaVinci Roofscapes to see how quickly you can update the exterior of your home.

The "roof to ground" product and color selector offers a fast way to visualize how different colors and products can enhance your home's curb appeal. Quick and straightforward to use, upload your home exterior image or use one of the home styles we've made available.

While at the DaVinci website, visit our ["Projects & Inspiration"](#) section to download any free ebook in our [FRESH Home Exterior Colors series](#). You can even [send us your color questions](#) and see colorful project profiles.

Visit today, and let's get FRESH!

About the Author



Kate Smith

International Color Expert
President & Chief Color Maven, [Sensational Color](#)

Kate Smith is a well-recognized color expert sought out for her unmatched ability to show homeowners how to put together a FRESH color scheme for their home's exterior.

”

It was very important to us to have a roofing product that resembled the original slate on the home when we purchased it. We wanted to keep the look and character of the house the same. We're very pleased with the appearance of the simulated slate shingles. The color blend we selected has nicely accented the color of the home's brick siding and helped pull the entire exterior renovation together.

~ Doug Miller



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DaVinci Roofscapes Shake, Black Oak.