

## Earthtone Colors for Exterior Painting and Stucco

The Architectural Review Committee (ARC) has noticed a recent trend toward darker exterior colors for paint and stucco. This trend reflects the current popularity of darker colors. However, the ARC cautions against darker colors for two reasons: darker colors fade faster and during our hot summers, they absorb extra heat into homes, which make the A/C system work harder and sometimes fail.

The ARC revised the Architectural Rules and Guidelines, Section 3.3.2 to better define “earthtone colors”. Please review the section below and use it as a guide when selecting paint and/or stucco colors.

3.3.2 Painting and Stucco Colors. Exterior painting and stucco projects shall specify the planned colors and color chip samples shall be attached to the ARC application. Three different colors are allowed by the ARC: one Base color, one Trim color, and one accent color for front door and shutters. The garage door should match the base or trim color. Colors for base and trim shall be selected from the “earthtone” family of colors.

The earthtone family of colors that apply to the main body and trim paint generally includes:

- Most shades of tan or beige
- Some lighter shades of gray
- Most shades of white or off-white

Exceptions\* to the above color guidance may be approved on a case-by-case basis. Brighter accent colors for front doors and shutters may be approved, on a case-by-case basis, when color chip samples are submitted with an ARC application.

- \* Some lighter shades of green
- \* Some lighter shades of yellow

Colors that are NOT generally approved as earthtone colors are:

- Any shades of red
- Any shades of blue
- Any shades of orange
- Any shades of purple
- Any shades of black

The Architectural Review Committee (ARC) reserves the right to make final decisions about “earthtone” color compliance. The above information is solely for guidance in connection with homeowner’s submittals of the ARC Forms for New Construction and Exterior Improvement Projects.