

# Not just for curb appeal The front yard is gaining clout

Homeowners are showing more love for their front yards, carving out a spot to mingle with neighbors and relax. A new article at [realtor.com](http://realtor.com) says front yards and porches are among the hottest outdoor trends of the season—a trend that is stretching way beyond just Southern states.

“People are rediscovering the joys of using the front yard and porch as an extended living room,” Pablo Solomon, a designer in Austin, Texas, told [realtor.com](http://realtor.com). “This gives the homeowner actual benefit from the

front yard other than just showcasing the house from the street. And by having neighbors enjoying their front yard, it creates more of a sense of community.”

Spruce up the front yard with rocking chairs or a swing, designers suggest. Also, display colorful planters and hanging plants and fill window boxes with bright flowers.

Plus, beyond just tucking a private entertainment space into a backyard, homeowners are bringing more mingling spots to the front of the house.

Some homeowners are adding a lounging area with a fire pit to the front of their home, for example.

“After spending so many hours at work disconnected from nature and often only interacting with people over the internet, the trend is to grab as much of real life and life friendships as possible,” Solomon told [realtor.com](http://realtor.com).

Over recent years, builders have been taking note of consumers’ increasing desire to have a front porch again and are including it in more

home blueprints. The front porch was once a mainstay in home design in the early 1900s, but over the years, it was replaced by garage-facing homes. The entertainment focus of the front porch was then shifted to the backyard, out of the desire for greater privacy, too.

But the front porch is reemerging. Younger generations are finding new uses for it too, even holding neighborhood events like “Porchfest” right from their front lawns.

Source: National Association of Realtors

## Open HOUSES



**1570 Kanawha Boulevard, Charleston**  
\$339,000  
2:00-4:00 PM

Overlooking the Great Kanawha River, experience security and convenience of Condo Living. Spacious open floor plan. Easy space for entertaining. Wonderful kitchen with granite, stainless appliances. Private master suite with fireplace, sitting/office area. 1 car garage, add'l parking space, storage unit. Elevator to your unit. Very convenient location from which to walk, ride.  
DIRECTIONS: From Greenbrier St. turn right on Kanawha Blvd 1570 on the right.

Jackie Zakaib  
304-545-0488

R. Joseph Miller, Broker  
oldcolony.com



**200 Flintlock Road, Charleston**  
\$224,900  
2:00-4:00 PM

Just listed, 1st time open. Southpointe Village Townhome. Hardwoods just refinished, vaulted ceiling, skylight, built in bookcases & WBFP in living room. Large 1st floor master. Three bedrooms three baths, one car garage Large rec room.. 2500 square feet of relaxed living. \$224,900  
DIRECTIONS: Lucado to Smith to Hunters Ridge, down hill to South Pointe, right at bottom, 1st house on left.

Joe Nekoranec CRS GRI  
304-552-2042

R. Joseph Miller, Broker  
oldcolony.com



**2 Saint Charles Place, Charleston**  
\$166,900  
2:00-4:00 PM

Well-maintained large three-story townhouse with garage. Back deck for relaxing and entertaining. Near shops and the interstate located in the GW School District!

DIRECTIONS: From Route 119, turn left on Lucado. Turn left onto Smith Rd. Turn left into St. Charles Place.

Danielle Boggs  
304-553-5850

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**1213 Ridge Drive, South Charleston**  
\$187,900  
2:00-4:00 PM

Privacy abounds in this 5 bedroom, 2.5 bath home sitting on 1.2 acres. Nice hardwood floors, 20x10 back porch and newer HVAC. 3 bedrooms and 1.5 bath on main level with 2 bedrooms and full bath and rec room on lower level.  
DIRECTIONS: Rt. 60 to Spring Hill, turn at the light at Rock Lake Dr., go under the underpass and turn L, R up Village Dr., into Rock Lake Village, veer R on Village Dr. Turn L at the stop sign on Ridge

Rick & Debby White  
(304) 549-3055

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**2103 Woodhill Place, Saint Albans**  
\$194,000  
2:00-4:00 PM

Spectacular home in Lakewood in the Hills! Beautiful flooring, large family room w/ fireplace. Fenced yard w/ deck & beautiful views. 2 car garage. Walk to school & pool.  
DIRECTIONS: St Albans, Route 60, 2nd Street at Subway, continue on Pennsylvania Ave, cross RR tracks, turn left towards Lakewood Elementary at SS turn right on Bellewood, 3/10 mile, left onto LITH, right on Woodhill

Hosting Agent: Jacob Moss  
304.941.4004  
Listing Agent: Pam Lewis  
304.552.6049

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