



PHOTOS SCANWEST DESIGN

ScanWest Doors combines traditional design techniques and innovative materials to create truly distinctive doors.



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Living by Design

Sourcing reclaimed doors, like this one recently used by Dvira Interiors, can add panache to a kitchen pantry.

Adding architectural beauty with interior doors

Interior doors, an often-overlooked design priority, frequently blend into walls and rooms.

However, at my design firm our team looks at interior doors as a great opportunity to add architectural beauty to any room. Throughout my many years designing spaces for HGTV's *Income Property*, I have often enhanced the architecture of a room by simply changing a door, the hardware or even the paint color.

Doors come in all price ranges and hollow core doors, readily available at most hardware stores, are a cost-effective option when replacing. As the name suggests, hollow core doors, made from plywood panels or a composite shell, have nothing in-between the panels. However, unlike higher-end solid wood doors, hollow core doors are made from synthetic materials and provide little insulation against sound and temperature change. In addition, because hollow core doors are less weighty than solid wood, they provide a very different physical feel when opening and closing the door. It's wise to consider your needs before purchasing interior doors.

Architectural salvage stores are wonderful sources for finding solid wood vintage gems. Salvaged and reclaimed doors, restored to retain their beautiful worn-in patinas, add an element of unexpected drama to a room. At Dvira Interiors, we love to integrate a touch of "unexpected" to a space. I find that reclaimed doors used to divide rooms or distinguish certain areas of the house not only contain an architectural element, but also hang like works of art. Try using a reclaimed door to add panache to a kitchen pantry closet.

Specialty doors are ideal for key areas in your house in need of style, color and texture. One exciting player is ScanWest Doors. (scanwestdoors.com) The company combines traditional design techniques and innovative materials to create truly distinctive doors. With a vast array of custom design options to choose from, you are now given the option of having interior doors that create a wonderfully visual artistic focal point to your living spaces.

Changing your interior doors, or even sprucing them up with new paint and hardware can greatly enhance the

architecture in a room, but selecting the right doors and hardware takes a keen eye for design. Be smart the first time to avoid costly mistakes. If you are struggling with interior door styles and colours, call in a design professional.

Tips:

- If you need to replace your interior doors but have budget restrictions, explore local, online-classified sites — they're a great resource for salvaged doors. I work daily with builders who gut entire homes and through my experience, I've found that builders often post salvaged goods online for quick resale. A little elbow grease and these doors are as good as new.
- Add your own personal touch to a door, and create a custom design by applying decorative molding. One of my favorite door moldings is a tall rectangle with chamfered edges.
- When budget dictates, choose simple, less expensive doors and embellish them with quality hardware.

Toronto-based celebrity and award-winning designer Dvira Ovadia, principal of Dvira Interiors, is known for her appearances and design work on various HGTV programs. Dvira and her team use their profound understanding of design to create stylishly smart spaces, servicing clientele throughout Ontario. Visit [@DVIRAdesigner](http://dvira.com)