

homestyle



CRAFTSMAN

With all things Arts and Crafts once again finding favor, it's no surprise that Craftsman-inspired homes dot this parade. The 100-year-old home style — known for its quarter-sawn oak woodwork, open porches, canted columns and built-ins — is "a timeless look," said builder John Hilla. Although many original Craftsman homes were humble, the larger, neo-Craftsmans — such as American Prairie Homes' \$875,000 house in Credit River Township (model No. 585) — boast all the modern amenities.

Photographs by Joel Koyama • jkoyama@startribune.com

Trendspotting the parade

• Want to see what builders are betting on as hot commodities for the home? The Home + Garden staff scouted out the Parade of Homes Spring Preview for trends. Here's what we found.

Seen and noted

WE APPLAUDED:

• **European-style baths**, with separate tub, double shower and water closet. • **The absence of builder beige**. Hello, color! • **Transom windows**. They add architectural interest (and light) to high-ceilinged rooms. • **In-floor heating** — even in the kitchens and bathrooms of moderately priced houses. • **Kitchen islands** with elegant furniture style details.

WE PANNED:

• Same old, same old **kitchen islands**. • **Pre-formed shower stalls** anywhere in a pricey home. • Grand entrances for guests and **dreary minud rooms** for the family. • **Ultracheap "closet systems"** in massive walk-in closets. • **Stainless steel appliances** in every kitchen. C'mon, let's see some other styles, finishes and colors.

THE JURY IS STILL OUT ON:

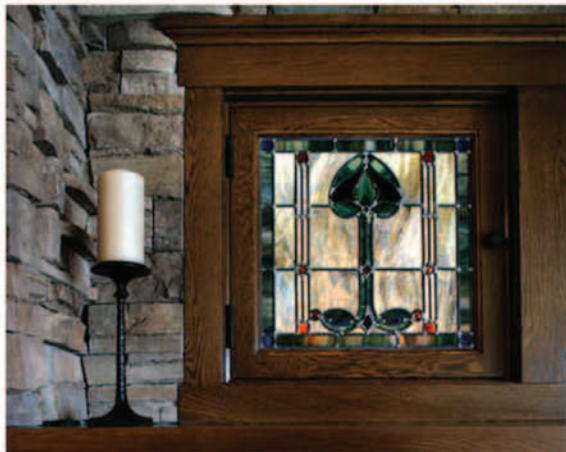
• **Angled walls**. Sure, they're less linear, but they can make for some odd, wasted spaces. • **Art niches**. Don't they end up housing dusty fake flowers? • **Living rooms**. Though they were pronounced dead several years ago, they're being resurrected in some high-end homes.

KIM PALMER,
LYNN UNDERWOOD,
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For details about the Parade of Homes Spring Preview, see the calendar below.

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Parade of Homes trends



Craftsman accents offer a shot of color to a corner in this Credit River Township home, model No. 585.

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