

lake norman

# WOMAN

CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF WOMEN

APPS FOR  
SPRING  
*cleaning*

BE  
*aware,*  
STAY SAFE

S.L. Holley, D.M.D.  
Pediatric Dentist

PLUGGED  
*in*

featuring DR. SHARON L. HOLLEY

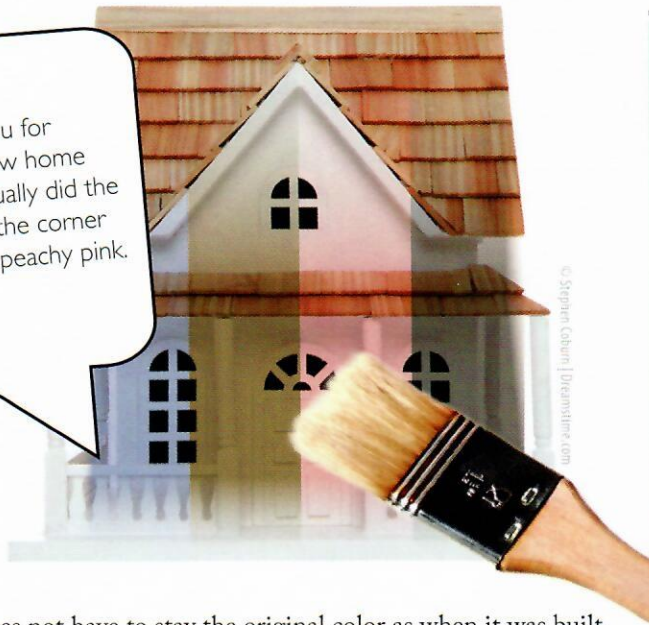


TAKE YOUR SMARTPHONE

# and Run Outside!

BY: STARR MILLER

*Dear Neighbor,*  
 Thank you, thank you, thank you for immediately moving in your new home and painting the exterior. I actually did the happy dance when I rounded the corner and saw that it was no longer peachy pink.  
 Your happy neighbor,  
 Starr



So here's the thing: Your home does not have to stay the original color as when it was built. The door, trim, shutters, and siding are not stuck. They can change and shine! Just because you have had teal shutters for 25 years does not mean that you can't change them.

While many homeowners associations have rules, there are choices that fit into these rules. And while you may fear making a bad choice, especially considering the expense of time and labor, the truth is you were going to paint anyway. Why not freshen up the look? The life expectancy for paint is an average of seven years. To maintain the value of your home, you want to keep up the maintenance, including as much curb appeal as possible.

As much as the color trends change in clothing and interiors, they change in exteriors as well. The trends have been away from the yellowy browns and more toward the grays and cooler colors for new homes. This is not an edict that all must go gray, so if you like the browns, freshen up the color just a bit. Browns come in many shades. Some look tired, but some look crisp. Too much pink in the base can make your home look muddy, and too much gray can make your home drab.

Several years ago, we changed our khaki trim and deeper-khaki shingles to a crisp white trim with dark green shingles. It took our home from drab to fab! Next time, I may go in an entirely different direction.



*Starr Miller is the president and principal designer at StarrMiller Interior Design, Inc. Contact her at 704.896.3321 or visit [www.starrmiller.com](http://www.starrmiller.com).*

A CHALLENGE:



- 1 Take a picture of your home.
- 2 Drive around and look at new homes being built, looking for color combinations you like and don't like. Take pictures.
- 3 Download a few paint apps.
- 4 Start playing with some ideas.
- 5 Buy some paint testers and either paint directly on some samples on the house in a tucked away area, or get some foam board and paint large samples you can hold up against the house.
- 6 Remember: the color is big on a home. A more subtle hue is always suggested.
- 7 Once you choose the primary color of your home, learn what the undertones of the paint are (gray, yellow, pink). The apps listed below may help.
- 8 Pick out your trim color with similar undertones. If you are color-challenged, don't be afraid to get help from a professional.
- 9 Submit your plan to the architectural review board of your neighborhood.
- 10 Paint!

**MY GO-TO GADGET:**

"Every morning and night, I read books on my Kindle; it's always with me when I have a few moments—and I read about 48 books a year!"

DOWNLOAD THIS!



## Apps for Color

**Color Capture**  
by Benjamin Moore

**ColorClix**  
by Olympic Paint/Porter

**Color Smart**  
by Behr Paint

**Color Snap**  
by Sherwin Williams

**The Voice of Color** by PPG Architectural Finishes