



Country Classic
Dutch Doors

Swing into spring by going halvesies with your entrance.

OPPOSITE PAGE: PHOTOGRAPHS BY (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP) TIM STREET PORTER, DESIGNER: STEVEN GAMBREL; KARYN MILLET; TREVOR TONDRO/OTTO, DESIGNER: HEIDI CAILLIER.



Object Lesson

Double-Hung History: The Dutch may have mastered dreamy oil paintings and the tulip trade, but to us their greatest achievement is a simple two-piece door. A Flemish-Dutch invention known as the *boerendeur*, which translates to “farmer’s door,” these doors were popularized in America after Dutch colonists swung stateside in the 1600s.

Country Cred: Holland’s milkmaids loved Dutch doors because they could keep the bottoms closed to ensure kids stayed in and the cattle out, while also getting fresh country air and morning light through the open tops.

Style Statement: A range of design options brings quaint country charm to homes, no matter the zip code. Divided-lite tops are perfect for gazing out over rolling fields or backyard gardens, while solid doors provide more privacy. X-brace embellishments (below) bring a subtle barnyard nod, and classic panels are more versatile. You can even bring them inside to set off spaces such as mudrooms and pantries.





Makers to Know: You can find premade Dutch doors in standard sizes by manufacturers such as Jeld-Wen (jeld-wen.com) at most major big-box home-improvement stores, or work with a trained craftsman at companies like Simpson Door (simpsondoor.com) or Pella (pella.com) to create a custom piece to your exact specifications.

Split Decisions: If you prefer vintage patina, look for an exterior door at your local architectural salvage yard, and then consult with a skilled carpenter to have it converted. (DIY-er, beware: Creating a Dutch door isn't as simple as slicing an existing piece in half.)

PHOTOGRAPH BY KEVIN BROST; DESIGNER: LORI CLARKE DESIGN.



PHOTOGRAPH BY BECKY LUIGART-STANNER; STYLING BY ANNA LOGAN.

Bring It Home

Dutch doors require specific hardware to secure the two halves together. (Psst: You'll also need four hinges.)

Go Old...

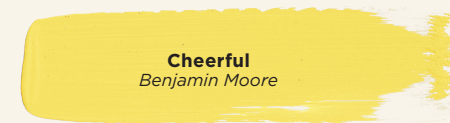
Expect to pay from \$20 to \$80 for restored antique locks. **Cheaha Antiques** (cheahaantiques.etsy.com) carries simple bolt locks (1) for a classic farmhouse feel. Or, go with an ornate rim lock (2) from dealers such as **Indigo Bird Trade** (indigobirdtrade.etsy.com). Tip: When buying secondhand, always check to see if the lock needs any replacement pieces, such as a new strike plate.

...or New

Manufacturers such as **Baldwin Hardware Direct** (baldwinhardwaredirect.com) and **House of Antique Hardware** (houseofantiquehardware.com) design locks (3, 4) grounded in tradition but bolstered by modern engineering. They're also your best source for the quintessential quadrant latch (5), a swinging arm-and-lock mechanism made specifically for double-hung doors. New locks range from \$50 to \$100.

Just Add Color

Nothing says "welcome home" like these cheery hues. Opt for an exterior-grade paint in a semigloss finish to best highlight your door's architectural features.



Cheerful
Benjamin Moore



Fern Glow
PPG Paints



St Giles Blue
Farrow & Ball



Hopeful
Sherwin-Williams