

# CRAFTSMAN STYLE



The Arts and Crafts movement in Britain was an international design movement that flourished between 1860 and 1910. It was a counter movement to the eclectic over-decorated aesthetic of the Victorian era. The Arts and Craft movement inspired a variety of distinct design movement throughout Europe. The American Craftsman style arrived to the United States in the 19th century after the Victorian era was coming to a close. The movement's name, American Craftsman, originated from a well known philosopher, designer, furniture maker, and editor, Gustav Stickley, in 1901. Stickley founded the well known magazine, The Craftsman, which featured original houses and furniture designs that were influenced by the arts and craft movement. These designs were by Harvey Ellis, the Greene and Greene Company, and others. The designs, while influenced by the ideals of the British movement, found inspiration in specifically American antecedents such as Shaker Furniture, the Mission Revival Style, and the Anglo-Japanese style. In 1903 Gustav Stickley hired architect Harvey Ellis, who had an immediate effect upon the design of The Craftsman magazine. Ellis's architectural offerings combined with Stickley's furnishings reinforced the connections between Stickley's work and that of the English and Glaswegian designers. Stickley began to further develop his concept of the Craftsman home announcing the formation of the Craftsman Home Builders Club which provided architectural plans from The Craftsman to its subscribers. The homes were offered in the farmhouse, town house, cottage, bungalow, and others. These designs reflected current approaches to open floor plans, economy of function, and the use of natural materials throughout the home...

The American Craftsman Style homes in the United States incorporate Victorian architectural opulence and common mass produced housing. The style integrates locally handcrafted wood, glass, and metal work into the home to create a simple and elegant style. The Craftsman home floor plans have a high level of detail throughout the entire home designed to increase functionality with useful features such as built in benches, cabinetry, and replaces with inglenooks for seating. Keep in mind that, "You never get a second chance to make a first impression". The Craftsman style homes provide a lasting impression with their oversized detailed front doors. The exterior also features low-pitched, front gabled roofs with generously overhanging eaves and exposed rafters and beams. Elegant dormer windows combine with generously full or partial wide front porches with tapered porch columns supported by low pedestals made of stone, brick or wood. As you enter through the illustrious doorways the rooms will gracefully flow from one to another while displaying natural finishes on wood trim, casing, baseboard and doorways. Along with other natural or rustic wood work, some of which entail covered ceilings, hard wood floors, wall paneling and wainscot. The American craftsman style homes are a functional beauty with its earthy colors and natural mixed materials creating a warm, cozy, and welcoming home.