



Details: Crown Moulding & Trim

“No matter what type of moulding you choose, proper care is essential. Mouldings should be dusted regularly along with the other furniture in your room. Care should be taken not to use harsh chemicals when washing floors and baseboards.”

—Jonathan Schoenheider, Regency Builders, Inc.

The use of interior moulding and trim has become even more popular in today's modern homes – especially crown moulding. Commonly used around the top of the walls at ceiling height, crowns soften the transition from wall to ceiling while adding a distinctive look and allure to your room. When it comes to designing a room in your home, adding crown moulding and trim to your ceiling will enhance the room's style and character. Crown mouldings come in a

wide range of patterns and sizes. Whether you want to achieve a Frank Lloyd Wright bungalow look or one with an elegant Victorian feel, choosing the right crown moulding and trim to fit the look is key.

Crown mouldings are truly customizable and can be designed to match or compliment the moulding and trim used throughout the home. Choose between wood moulding profiles that are engraved with squares, circles, arches, or other

custom-carved wood patterns. Choosing the type of wood is also important when creating a custom moulding profile. Oak, poplar, maple, pine and cherry are a few popular wood species used in ceiling, window, and door frame applications. When selecting wood and trim styles for your home or remodeling project take into consideration the style of your home and decor. You can also use paint to accent your moulding. For example, moulding painted a soft white lends an elegant feel

to a room, whereas bold or dark colors will highlight the crown moulding and trim, creating definition in your ceiling.

In addition to the design of your crown moulding and the type of wood, the band-width and thickness of the trim will also play a role in creating the visual effect you desire in your home. While most homes use a crown of 4" to 5", grand homes with soaring ceilings can handle mouldings up to 15" or 20". Choose a band width that will maximize the depth appearance in your ceiling's height.

loche mouldings are popular crown moulding styles in homes throughout the Southeastern Wisconsin area. Adding light within the crown of a tray ceiling gives a wonderfully soft glow and also highlights the room's architecture.

Finally, hands-on selection is important in choosing a moulding and trim profile that will satisfy your style preferences. While the internet or a catalog can be a good starting point for exploring the many options in moulding and trim selections, make sure you visit an integral



"Medium Density Fiberboard (MDF) is available as a renewable resource option for moulding and trim. These MDF products are made of wheat board that comes as a primed wood. When caulked, these products are less likely to shrink and contract like real wood and they are proven to be a cost effective alternative."

- Greg Adamec, Milwaukee Millwork

The reason why homeowners appreciate crown moulding in their living room or dining room is because the crown makes the ceiling *appear* higher; thus the room *feels* more spacious.

Crown mouldings are especially unique because they offer the opportunity to create your own build-up. This process is also known as stacking. Stacking lets you combine two or more moulding profiles to create a build-up that offers a custom look for your walls and ceiling. For example, you can stack a base moulding with a crown and decorative moulding to create a beautiful 3-piece moulding profile that will greatly enhance the appearance and style of any room. Add a square trim piece or a cove to soften the transition on the inside corner, and you have a unique 4-piece crown build-up.

Crown moulding can be used on the inside of tray ceilings and also to soften the lines of a beamed or coffered ceiling. Arched openings become much more dramatic with the addition of moulding. Historic or period-style homes tend to have very specific architectural details. Dentil, egg & dart, greek key and guil-

showroom that will allow you to see and touch the moulding and trim you are considering. This will give you a clearer picture of what the finished piece will look like in your home. In addition, a trained professional will be available at the showroom to answer your questions and concerns. If you have been researching moulding and trim options on the internet or have been skimming the selection of options in a catalog, but have yet to visit a showroom in your area, you will be surprised when you see the intricate displays and additional ideas a showroom has to offer.

Greg Adamec of Milwaukee Millwork and Jonathan Schoenheider of Regency Builders, Inc. shared their expertise for this article.

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