Tudor & English Inspired Styles

The Tudor style sought to imitate the architectural forms of medieval Britain, France, and Germany with particular emphasis on the use of half-timbering. Considered a sub-category of the Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival was popular in California and the United States from as early as 1900 until the 1950s. Most of Glendale's Tudor style residences were constructed in the 1920s and 1930s. Tudor houses range from smaller "cottages" to more grand, high style residences. Storybook and other English Inspired styles often have very similar elements. The Storybook frequently has rounded edges to shingled roofs and a smaller scale than the more grand Tudor style. While Storybook houses are often smaller in their overall scale, they frequently have exaggerated proportions (such as large door or window openings) further giving them a Storybook character.

Character-defining features of this style are steeply-pitched and multi-gabled roofs with prominent front-facing gables and decorative elements, such as: half-timbering, arches, textured wall surfaces, and tall narrow windows usually in clusters. The chimney plays a primary roll in the façade and is often a dominant interior feature. Nationwide, houses in this style are usually constructed of brick, stone, stucco, or wood.



Siding & Exterior Finishes

character - defining features

- Smooth stucco or brick siding is most common in Glendale
- Combined use of stucco and brick
- Some use of stone
- Half timbering used to break up facades
- Stucco often light in color, half-timbering is frequently darker

design guidelines

- Stucco or brick cladding should be preserved and maintained.
- Contrasting elements used together, such as brick, stucco and half-timbering, should be preserved and maintained as visually distinguishable features.
- Original exterior surface finishes should not be covered with synthetic materials, such as aluminum or synthetic brick veneer.
- Synthetic spray on stucco is not appropriate for this style.



Above: This house has stucco, half-timbering and brick as exterior finishes.

Below: The smooth stucco finish on the house below is a character-defining feature.





Above: The projecting overhang on this gable and the change in material helps define the character of the house.

Below: The rolled over edges on this house give it a Storybook character.



Roofs

character - defining features

- Steeply-pitched gable or cross-gable roof; sometimes hipped
- At least one prominent front-facing gable
- Overhangs may be used at a gable to help define the change in surface material or to provide relief
- Roofs are frequently slate, wood or composition shingles, sometimes in variegated tones and shapes
- Shingles are sometimes "rolled" over the edges to mimic thatching

design guidelines

- The historic roof form should be preserved.
- The historic eave depth and configuration should also be preserved.
- Historic specialty roofing materials, such as slate or uniquely-shaped shingles, should be maintained.
- If possible, "thatched" roof elements should be preserved or restored if they have been removed in the past.
- Replacement roof materials, when necessary, should convey a scale, texture, and color similar to those used originally, such a rough-cut slate or decorative "thatch." Imitation slate or wood is generally appropriate.
- Asphalt shingles should generally be similar in both shape and color to the original roofing material and should be of contrasting color to the wall surface.
- Clay tile roofing is an inappropriate substitute roofing material for this style.

Porches

character - defining features

- Typically, porches are limited to small covered, arched entries
- Recessed entries, usually under front-facing gables or small gable-roof porticoes
- Front entries are often arched on Tudor style houses
- Some houses have courtyard entries
- Arches are sometimes Gothic, sometimes semi-circular.
- Frequently, porches have arched openings or decorative elements
- Stoops are often brick or use materials found on the Tudor style house

design guidelines

- Historic porches should be preserved and maintained.
- Restoration of porches that have been previously enclosed is encouraged.
- Front porches should not be enclosed with doors or screens; side porches could be sensitively enclosed if desired
- Decorative details, such as arched openings, that help to define a historic porch and entry should be preserved and maintained.
- The gable pitch and shallow eaves of a historic porch should be preserved.
- Additional porch elements should not be added if they did not exist historically.



Above: This house has a highly detailed recessed front porch that gives it a great deal of character.

Below: This recessed porch has a surround treatment called rusticated quoining that marks the entry.





Above: These leaded casement windows are a very important component of the front facade of this house.

Below: This rounded arched opening with a wood panel and decorative light door is a common feature of the Tudor or Storybook style.



Windows & Doors

character - defining features

- Windows have wood or steel frames and small scale divided lights
- Windows are typically casement ordouble-hung sash; and sometimes leaded in a small diamond pattern
- Tudor houses occasionally have arched windows
- Windows are typically taller than wide. Where wide horizontal expanses are present, window openings are often filled with pairs or groups of tall, vertical windows
- Oriel and half- and full-height bays are often present on high-style Tudor examples
- Doors are frequently arched on Tudor houses and are typically heavy board-and-batten or wood panel

design guidelines

- The arrangement, size, and proportions of historic openings should be maintained.
- Repair windows or doors wherever possible instead of replacing them.
- Window replacements, when necessary, should be divided-light casement or double-hung sash that match the material and profile of the original Tudor style windows as closely as possible. Aluminum or vinyl windows are not appropriate replacements.
- New window openings should maintain the rhythm of horizontal groupings that existed historically in the Tudor tradition.
- New window openings should be recessed in the wall to the same depth as the historic windows and have similar exterior trim, all conveying the Tudor style.

Architectural Details

character - defining features

- Walls may be half timbered with stucco in-fill. Half timbering, under the steep roof line, is one of the most recognizable characteristics of the Tudor style
- Prominent and decorative chimneys, often on the front or side of the house
- Decorative brickwork, often around doorways, windows and at porches
- Decorative half-timbering is sometimes used below windows
- Decorative stone or other masonry finishes accent exterior walls

design guidelines

- Half-timbering should be maintained and preserved. The timber and stucco should be stained or painted in a contrasting, complimentary colors.
- Decorative brick or stonework should be maintained and preserved. These features should remain unpainted, if not painted historically.
- Original architectural details should not be covered with stucco, vinyl siding, stone, veneers, or other more modern materials.
- Chimneys should be braced rather than removed for seismic concerns.
- Chimney repairs, when necessary, should replicate both the historic bonding and tooling patterns and any decorative brick or stonework.



Above: The windows, half-timbering and gable details give this house it's Tudor character.

Below: The chimney on this house is just one of several architectural details that provide a richness of design to this Tudor style house.





Above: Often Tudor style houses have a variety of roof shapes that break up the massing of the building.

Below: Additions to Tudor houses often take advantage of the roof shapes and use of dormers.



Massing & Additions

character - defining features

- Asymmetrical massing primarily defined by very steep cross-gabled roofs, with little or no overhangs, and at least one prominent front facing gable
- One or two stories, although two stories is most common, with second story most often occurring at least partially within roof gables
- Roofline is integral to the character of the Tudor style, overlapping gables with eave lines of various heights

design guidelines

- Generally, for the Tudor style, additions should be located at the rear of the property and away from the main façade to minimize visibility from the public right-of-way.
- Additions should be compatible in size and scale with the original structure, although subordinate in massing.
- A second-story addition to a one-story Tudor house should not overwhelm the scale and massing of the house from the public right-of-way.
- Additions should employ similar finish materials as the original Tudor structure, generally stucco or brick. For Tudor style house additions, the following exterior finish materials would not be appropriate: aluminum or vinyl siding, plywood, synthetic spray on stucco, imitation stone or brick, wooden lap or board siding.
- Additional roofing forms and materials should echo those present on the original Tudor structure. Steeply-pitched gables are appropriate but should remain subordinate to the front-facing gables of the main façade.
- Rooftop dormer additions may be appropriate, provided that they are of similar roof form and slope and minimize visual impact to the original roofline and form.
- Additions should use similar fenestration patterns, generally with tall windows placed in horizontal groupings. Windows should be similar to the original in type, a wooden or steel divided-light casement, or a simple double-hung sash.
- When an addition necessitates the removal of architectural materials, such as siding, windows, doors, decorative elements, and the like, these should be carefully removed and reused in the addition where possible.

Multi-Family Tudor & English Inspired Buildings

character - defining features

- Tudor Revival style apartment buildings generally mimic the appearance of large single-family homes and should adhere to the design guidelines for single-family residences, with the exception of those for additions as discussed below.

design guidelines for additions

- Additions to the rear of building need not mimic Tudor Revival massing. A simple linear addition to the rear of the structure could be appropriate.
- Roofs of additions may be flat, parapeted, or pitched but should not be visible above the roofline of the primary façade from the public right-of-way.
- Exterior surfaces and finishes should match that of the original structure, generally brick or smooth stucco with perhaps some half-timbering or varied material to break up the massing of an addition.
- Windows should maintain a pattern similar to that of the historic Tudor building or in a simpler, symmetrical, evenly spaced placement across the length of the facade.
- Windows should be similar to the original in type, a wooden or steel divided-light casement, or a simple double-hung sash, and be compatible with the Tudor style.
- Vinyl or aluminum windows are not appropriate on the primary facade. Vinyl windows, if similar in type and style to the original, may be acceptable in an addition to a Tudor style apartment building.



Above: This large scale apartment building uses a variety of roof shapes, dormers, changes in material and fenestration to break up the massing and to convey the Tudor characteristics.