



# Trendy vs. Timeless

Good barn door

## *Isn't Your Home Worth It?*



Lauerhass Architecture

*Specializing in Renovating Bexley Homes  
for over Twenty Years!*

*Amy Lauerhass - President*

614-371-3523 | [LauerhassArchitecture.com](http://LauerhassArchitecture.com)

**What improvements  
will still look great 10  
years from now?**

**living spaces**

Article contribution courtesy of **Amy Lauerhass**,  
Bexley resident, owner of Lauerhass Architecture

With our unlimited access to renovation ideas, it is easy to get caught up in what the hot trends are right now. Before you jump in with lots of changes, make sure you're making smart upgrades.

## Barn Doors

This is probably one of the hottest trends right now. They can look great in the right space, but beware of the downsides. They do not offer any acoustical privacy, and they do not keep moisture contained in a bathroom. They do not lock easily, and they make art placement difficult. Lastly, because extra space is needed for the door to slide open, it can be tricky to place light switches.



Bad barn door

## Shiplap

This can be a great accent in certain places, but be careful of overdoing it. Less-is-more when it comes to shiplap. Use it as a focal piece above a fireplace, or on a small section of wall where you want to highlight a piece of art.



Good use of shiplap



Too much shiplap

## Painted Brick

Sometimes homeowners do not like the color, pattern, or texture of their brick. However, unlike most renovation ideas, painting brick is a rare change that is permanent for the current homeowner, as well as all future homeowners. Regarding painting exterior brick, you are taking a very-low-maintenance material and turning it into a high-maintenance material. Different colors, textures, and patterns of brick is what makes older communities like Bexley so interesting. So, before you take the plunge, strongly consider your impact on the neighborhood.

## Open Shelving in the Kitchen

I admit — this looks great in pictures. But really, who has all their dishes perfectly color-coordinated and stacked neatly and evenly at all times? If you want to add some texture and interest to your kitchen, do shelves in one small area, and use it for pieces you want to display.