



CITY OF EL MONTE

Economic Development Department
Planning Division

This is only a summary of key design guidelines. Please see the Planning Division and/or the El Monte Zoning Code for the full text and additional requirements.

DESIGN GUIDELINES

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE – RANCH

The Ranch style house was perhaps the ultimate symbol of the postwar American dream; a safe, affordable house promising efficiency and casual living. California architects created this style in the 1920s based on early Spanish Colonial houses modified with modern Craftsman and Prairie elements. Ranch houses are dominant in El Monte neighborhoods built in the 1940s and 1950s.

Defining Architectural Characteristics



Asymmetrical Facade



Single or Two Story



Low Pitched Roof



Long Low Roofline



Overhanging Eaves



Recessed Porch



Prominent Chimney

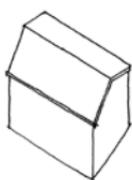


Rooftop Cupola

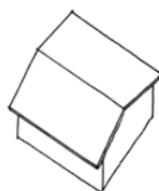


Simple Post

Preferred Roof Types



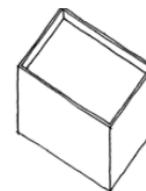
Side Gabled Roof



Front Gabled Roof



Hipped Roof



Flat Roof

Preferred Roof Materials



Slate Shingles



Asphalt Shingles



Wood Shingles or Shakes

Preferred Building Materials and Colors

Ranch houses typically have wood or brick siding and a low-pitched roof with a covering of a half-cylindrical tiles or shingles. A mixture of siding materials is common. Wood is often used for trim around windows and doors, and for porch posts.



Stucco



Wood Lap



Board and Batten



Wood Shingles or Shakes



Brick



Wood Trim

Preferred Window or Entry Types

Windows emphasize the horizontal orientation of a Ranch-style house by either having more width than height, appearing in groups, or being flanked by shutters. They are casement and double hung. Ranch house entries are typically recessed under the wide overhanging eave. Doors tend to be wood paneled or flat and are sometimes paired. A popular trait of the Ranch style is the sliding glass doors for secondary entries.



Casement Windows



Double Hung Windows



Bay Windows



Single Door



Paired Door



Sliding Glass Doors