



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 – MODERN

Modern architecture, not to be confused with 'Contemporary architecture', describes a style that possessed simple forms and no ornamentation. Although this style was conceived early in the 20th century, Modern buildings became popular in the last half of the century. Entries are integral to the particular geometrical design of the house and range from subdued or hidden to being a dominant architectural feature of the house. El Monte contains a few Modern-style houses and houses with Modern elements.

Defining Architectural Characteristics



Asymmetrical Facade



Horizontal Orientation



Simplified Forms



Cantilevered Upper Floors



Horizontal Bands of windows



Horizontal Stripes



No Ornamentation

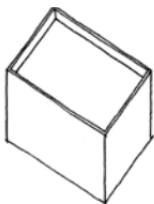


Rounded Corners

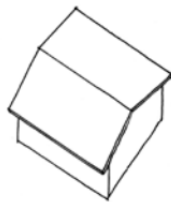


Metal Balustrades

Preferred Roof Types



Flat Roof



Low Pitch Gable Roof

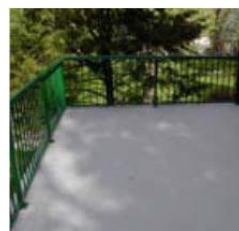
Preferred Roof Materials



Asphalt



Asphalt



Synthetic

Preferred Building Materials and Colors

Architects in the Modern tradition embraced the new building materials of the 20th century, including reinforced concrete, steel, chrome, and glass block. Modern buildings often have smooth stucco and reinforced concrete exterior walls with aluminum and stainless steel trim and extensive use of glass. White is the most common color for exterior walls although other muted colors are also used.



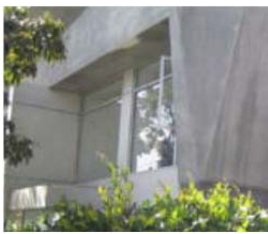
Stucco



Concrete



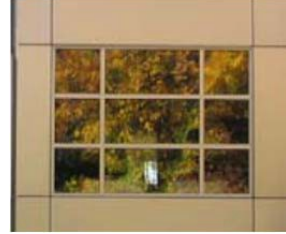
Steel



Glass



Glass Block



Aluminum Trim

Preferred Window Entry Types

Glass is a favorite material of Modern architecture, so Modern houses incorporate considerable space for windows. They tend to be fixed or casement windows arranged in horizontal bands. Modern doors tend to be flat and incorporate simple geometric forms constructed from glass, wood, and steel. Sliding glass doors first became a popular feature in modern Houses.



Grouped Windows



Corner Windows



Porthole Windows



Glass Doors



Flat Wood Doors



Sliding Glass Doors