

**WE LOVE THIS!**

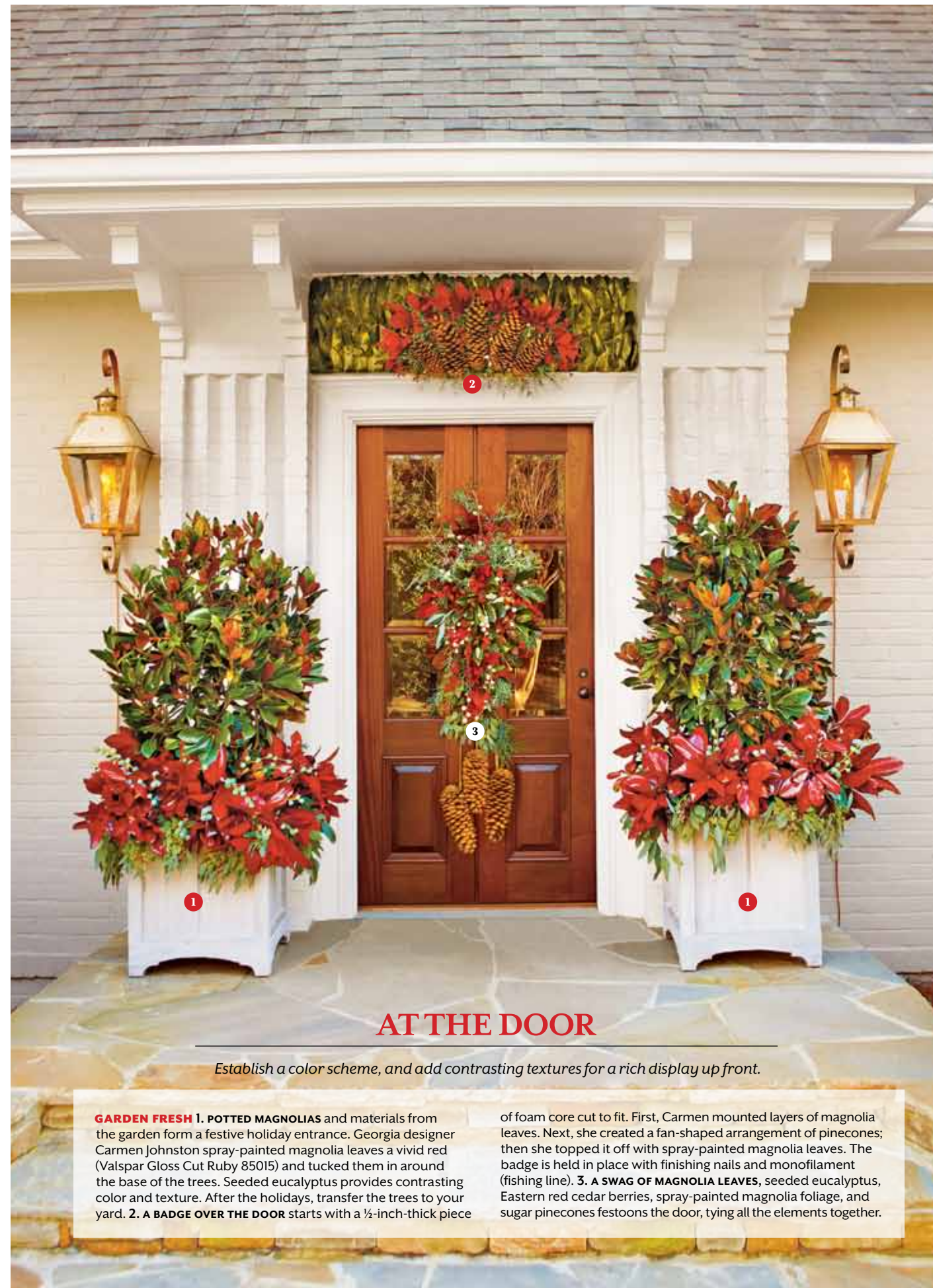
A brightly trimmed wreath draws attention to the elegant woodwork surrounding this classic front door. Lanterns and greenery frame the doorway without obscuring the beautiful architecture.

# Warm Welcome

*Proclaim the season of celebration with an entrance that's all dressed up and ready to party*



LEFT: PHOTOGRAPHY: HELEN NORMAN, PRODUCED / STYLED BY DICKIE MORRIS OF JUST A LITTLE DITTY, STYLING: SHERRY SPENCER AND PAT ROBERTS OF SOUTHERN BLOOMS



## AT THE DOOR

*Establish a color scheme, and add contrasting textures for a rich display up front.*

**GARDEN FRESH 1.** POTTED MAGNOLIAS and materials from the garden form a festive holiday entrance. Georgia designer Carmen Johnston spray-painted magnolia leaves a vivid red (Valspar Gloss Cut Ruby 85015) and tucked them in around the base of the trees. Seeded eucalyptus provides contrasting color and texture. After the holidays, transfer the trees to your yard. **2. A BADGE OVER THE DOOR** starts with a ½-inch-thick piece

of foam core cut to fit. First, Carmen mounted layers of magnolia leaves. Next, she created a fan-shaped arrangement of pinecones; then she topped it off with spray-painted magnolia leaves. The badge is held in place with finishing nails and monofilament (fishing line). **3. A SWAG OF MAGNOLIA LEAVES**, seeded eucalyptus, Eastern red cedar berries, spray-painted magnolia foliage, and sugar pinecones festoons the door, tying all the elements together.

## ON THE PORCH

Include your porch in the holiday fun to fashion an outdoor room for party spillover.



A wreath of gold magnolia leaves gleams against the black-painted front door, while swags of fir garland outline pretty porch railings. Simple potted boxwoods get dressed up with a skirt of pine boughs.



An industrial farm table with a burlap runner down its center offers a spot for casual holiday meals. Float sprigs of spruce and cranberries in Mason jars, and top them with votive candles for an easy, double-duty centerpiece.



A comfortable side porch serves as a summer sitting room in warm weather. At the holidays, potted cypress trees wear a layer of sparkling lights and serve as miniature Christmas trees. Lime green throw pillows pop against the wicker furniture and enhance the seasonal feel.



Wreaths at the windows, a lit garland outlining the front door, and a simple strand of lights under the eave give the front porch of this farmhouse a cheerful glow.



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Create a festive entry that welcomes guests before they've even stepped through the front door. A covered porch is the perfect spot to place a tree adorned with burlap ornaments and ribbon. A glass jar of mini candy canes is a fun, hospitable touch.

## Deck the Halls

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Give ubiquitous red poinsettias an updated twist by cutting the blossoms and tucking them into an ivy topiary.



## IN THE ENTRY HALL

Greet holiday visitors with a pretty display of seasonal greenery and flowers.



An antique demilune table and etched-glass mirror form an elegant backdrop for a wreath studded with glass ornaments and a grosgrain bow. A collection of white stoneware holds arrangements of flowers and fruit.



A lavish bouquet of hydrangeas, fir boughs, berries, and fruit makes a long-lasting impression inside the front door. Use a tall vase to position your arrangement where the mirror will amplify its image.



An abundance of mirrored and glass surfaces in this entry hall means that every adornment is reflected and multiplied. To keep the visual complexity in check, a pale feather wreath, a snow globe, and a small vase of white narcissus are the only holiday additions.



If family and friends enter through your kitchen, dress it up with a little touch of Christmas decor. Potted herbs arrayed on a windowsill, along with a small bouquet of glass ornaments and greenery, add holiday flourish to this hard-working space.

TOP LEFT: PHOTOGRAPHY/LAUREY W. GLENN; STYLING/ELIZABETH DEMOS

## ON THE STAIRS

Let your staircase provide the structure for a cascade of Christmas greenery.



With a graphic, boldly patterned wallpaper as a backdrop, this entry already has that wow factor. A little Christmas cheer only enhances the effect. A lush boxwood garland swags down the banister, and coordinating black-and-white oversize ornaments dangle from bows of bright turquoise ribbon.



A lush garland of pine boughs and magnolia leaves threaded with wide burlap ribbon winds down the entry hall banister. Pinecones add texture, and sprigs of berries from the garden bring pops of color to the neutral scheme.



Slender wreaths of preserved boxwood hang from the banister by wide red-and-white-striped ribbons embellished with vintage red glass ornaments. The repetition of wreaths lends a fun and festive air to the traditional banister.



A front door swag and banister garland include many of the same materials for a cohesive look, but the addition of red berries to the door brightens it up against the dark paint color.



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Layering on holiday decor needn't be complicated. Here, an understated boxwood garland and spruce wreath enliven the staircase and provide a bit of holiday charm. A simple glass container filled with shimmering ornaments reflects the palette of the neighboring artwork on the chest. The raspberry throw on the wing chair echoes the color scheme.

BOTTOM/LEFT: PHOTOGRAPHY/LAUREY W. GLENN; STYLING/ELIZABETH DEMOS