



Cape Cod Style Architecture

A **Cape Cod** is a style of house originating in New England in the 17th century. It is a low, broad, frame building, generally a story and a half high, with a moderately steep, pitched roof with end gables, a large central chimney and very little ornamentation. Often dormers are added to the front roofline to give second floor spaces more headroom and natural light.

This is the quintessential American cottage style. The floor plans are typically cozy and efficient. Simple symmetrical exteriors are embellished for curb appeal with accents such as shutters, window boxes and pedestrian paths. Many traditional Cape Cod homes are painted shingles or clapboard on the front with natural cedar roof shingles.

Cape Cod Style Homes



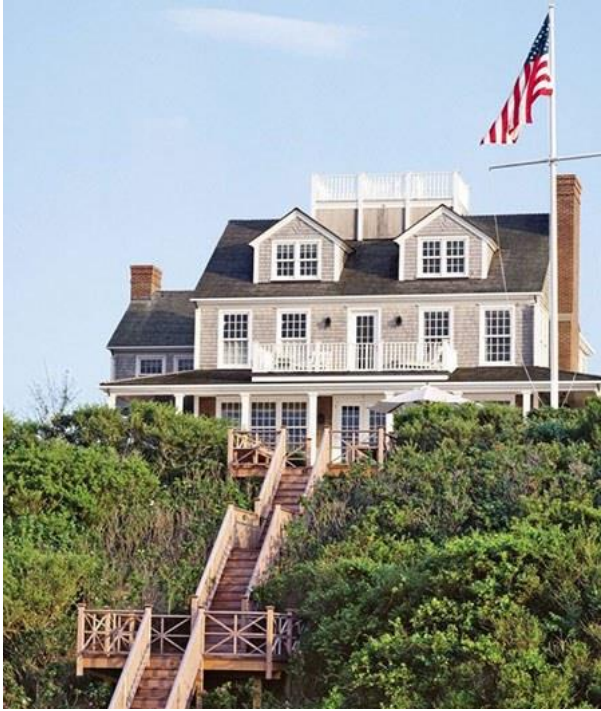
Cape Cod Style Homes



Nantucket Style Architecture

A **Nantucket** home is less recognized by its distinct shape and floor plan but by a classic shingle-style design in a free-form, often asymmetrical style. Aside from a few unique island characteristics, such as a Nantucket front stair, widows walk or Nantucket dormer; a quintessential Nantucket home is often an adaptation of coastal shingle-style architecture.

Nantucket Style Homes



Shingle-Style Architecture

Today, what we see on both Cape Cod and Nantucket is a blended style commonly known as **Shingle Style Architecture**. A modern shingle style home may be less elaborate than its predecessors but the simple adaptation of gambrel rooflines, porches, towers and materials all clearly inspire the modern cottage.

Known as one of the most uniquely American styles of architecture, Shingle style's roots lie in the late 19th century, from about 1880 to 1900. Rambling homes of this style were built along coastal New England to serve as getaways for well-to-do families and can still be seen today.

Shingle style can be hard to pin down, because it's really an interpretation of several architectural traditions. Early Shingle-style designs borrowed wide porches, shingled surfaces, and asymmetrical facades from Queen Anne-style architecture, and gambrel roofs, classical columns, and Palladian windows from Colonial Revival. The Richardsonian Romanesque tradition offered arches, sculpted shapes, and lower stories built of stone. The absence of a singular style is what inspired architects to be so inventive about how they designed these free-spirited summer homes.

Shingle-style architecture was a movement to clad the entire exterior (sloped and vertical surfaces) in wood shingles. The shingles were stained brown or simply allowed to weather naturally to a handsome patina (light gray to dark brown) from the effects of sun, wind, salt water, and precipitation. Some of the more expensive homes were built on foundations of rough-hewn rock that made them look as though they were embracing the earth.

Shingle-Style Homes



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