

# Arched Back – Desirable Doorways Are Showing Their Curves

The arched framed doorways that were so popular in the 1930s are back with a bang and on the list of highly desired characteristics of a home, writes Pierre Mifsud, Technical Director at Comp Door.

Typically seen on period properties of the Victorian era and inspired by historic Roman architecture, arched frame doorways found renewed popularity in the 1930s, writes Pierre Mifsud of Comp Door.

And this classic design feature has found a new lease of life and is trending again, as the perfect way to create an eye-catching entrance to a property while maximising space and bringing more light into the home.

**Here's what you need to know about the latest home improvement trend and how to recreate it for a customer.**

An arched frame is ideal for homeowners looking to renovate and refurbish their period properties, while at the same time preserving the original character and charm.

Options used to be limited to timber and stone constructions to achieve the arched effect, which were costly and difficult to maintain and didn't possess the security and insulation properties of more modern doors.

However, now the look of a traditional arched framed doorway can be achieved along with the many benefits associated with modern, high-performance composite doors, thanks to bespoke arch shaped PVC-U frames from manufacturers such as Comp Door.

## **Why choose an arched framed composite door?**

The beauty of a shaped frame with composite door insert is that it not only creates an eye-catching focal point to the front of a home, it brings extra light into a hallway through glazed side panels and a top light – and of course, has the insulation and security benefits of a modern composite door.

## **New homes too**

The bespoke arch of the top frame can follow original brickwork arches that are typical of period properties. The trend is also catching on in new developments and home extensions, where arched framed doors are being used to give the impres-



## Doors

sion of more space and natural light. An arched entrance also works very well and is typical feature on porchways. They can be used to complement or contrast with existing windows and doors.

### Comp Door

Despite being relatively new to the market, Comp Door has already developed an arch framed option to complement its solid timber core composite door, making it possible for homeowners to replace their existing arched framed door with something that will be long lasting, secure and offer thermal efficiency.

The all-in-one frame is easy to install as there are no metal couplers and it is finished with an 82 mm transom and mullions, that allow for bespoke sized side lights and top lights to suit the homeowner's requirement.

Comp Door has seven glass styles to choose from to create the desired effect and give the required level of privacy.

Frames come in a range of colours to co-ordinate with the chosen door colour or as a foiled finish, to give the look of a traditional timber frame.



### Locking systems

As for the door itself, each one is fitted with a slam shut, auto-fire lock as standard. This automatic multi-point locking system features four self-locking, dead-bolt latches that activate when the door is closed and keeps the door latched at all times over the full height of the door. It requires no homeowner intervention as with a single latch and lift lever, thus eliminating the chance of the door not being secured properly and minimising the thermal movement that causes warping or bowing associated with some other brands.

### At its core

The cross-laminated Albasia Falcata solid timber core has been designed to be thermally efficient and offer maximum security. The timber core is then wrapped in a high-performance CoolSkin which is engineered to

withstand extreme temperature changes.

It is impact resistant and has a colour protective layer so that it won't get worn away or chipped. Comp Door's InvisiEdge system gives a seamless colour edge to the door faces. This also helps to stop any unwanted water penetration and protects the timber core.

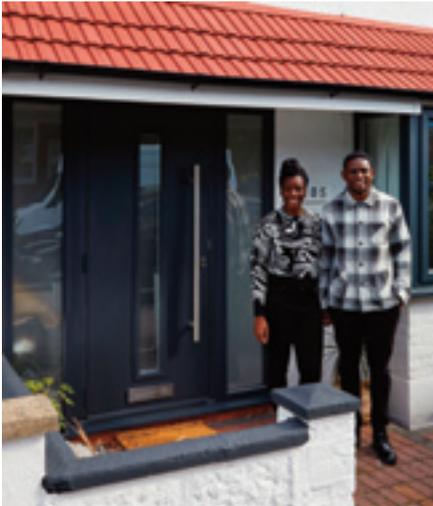
### Range

The range of door styles, glass designs and door furniture options range from traditional or retro to modern and contemporary. The bespoke nature of the doors means lead times are six to eight weeks. [i](#)

Picture: Just some arched entrances completed with Comp Door doors and frames.

[www.compdoor.co.uk](http://www.compdoor.co.uk)

# Worst House On The Street



**Endurance Doors has been seen in a prime-time home makeover TV programme – Channel 4’s ‘Worst House on the Street’ – contributing a solid exterior door.**

Endurance Doors featured in an episode that focused on twenty-something newlyweds, Harry and Yimika. The couple had recently

bought their first three bedroom, 1930s, mid-terrace home in south London for £415,000.

Given a project timeline of six weeks, it was essential that the couple carefully considered what renovations they would and wouldn’t make with a budget of £40,000. Any changes had to have a positive impact on the overall value of the property. Prioritising was essential to keep the project on track and on budget.

## Porch

From the outset, Yimika wanted to add a porch to the front of the house and the show’s hosts were completely supportive of this idea. They advised it could improve the house’s security, energy efficiency and space utilisation. They also explained that improving the façade of a house

to give it greater kerb appeal and a more welcoming feel can increase the value of a property by as much as 2%.

To ensure their new porch had the fresh and contemporary look they wanted, Harry and Yimika opted for a composite door from the Endurance Doors Urban Collection. This range of doors includes ten modern designs which are suited to contemporary homes and traditional properties alike. [i](#)

Picture: The couple decided on a door and frame in Anthracite grey to suit the house’s brilliant-white exterior and to match their recently resprayed PVC-U window frames.

[www.endurancedoors.co.uk](http://www.endurancedoors.co.uk)

# Traditional Doors Desired



**Composite door supplier, ODL Europe, reports a strong upturn in demand for traditional door designs despite a growing market backdrop for contemporary styling.**

Year-on-year sales have increased of the company’s Canning cottage door collection

which delivers traditional styling with diamond panelling. Also seeing strong sales is the Hornby collection, which offers a modern approach to the cottage door because it is available in both cottage and flush variations.

“With over half of the UK’s housing stock being built before 1964, there is a continued popularity of traditional cottage door styles,” says Suzanne Nicholl, Head of Sales & Customer Services, ODL Europe. “Traditional cottage door designs have always looked good in older homes. But they also bring traditional charm to more modern properties which makes them an incredibly flexible choice.”

## Wood or smooth

The Canning and Hornby collections are manufactured from the

Capstone door slab. Over 750,000 Capstone composite doors are installed worldwide every year, so they are tried and tested. The slabs are available in a wide range of pre-finished colours using a hard-wearing polyurethane paint system in a comprehensive choice of colours. They all feature Capstone’s maintenance-free, hard-wearing 2mm thick GRP door skin, which is available in a TrueGrain wood effect or a smooth finish.

ODL Europe also supplies a range of 38 decorative glass options and a range of PAS-24 accredited glazing cassettes. [i](#)

Picture: Sales of traditional door designs are high.

[www.odleurope.com](http://www.odleurope.com)