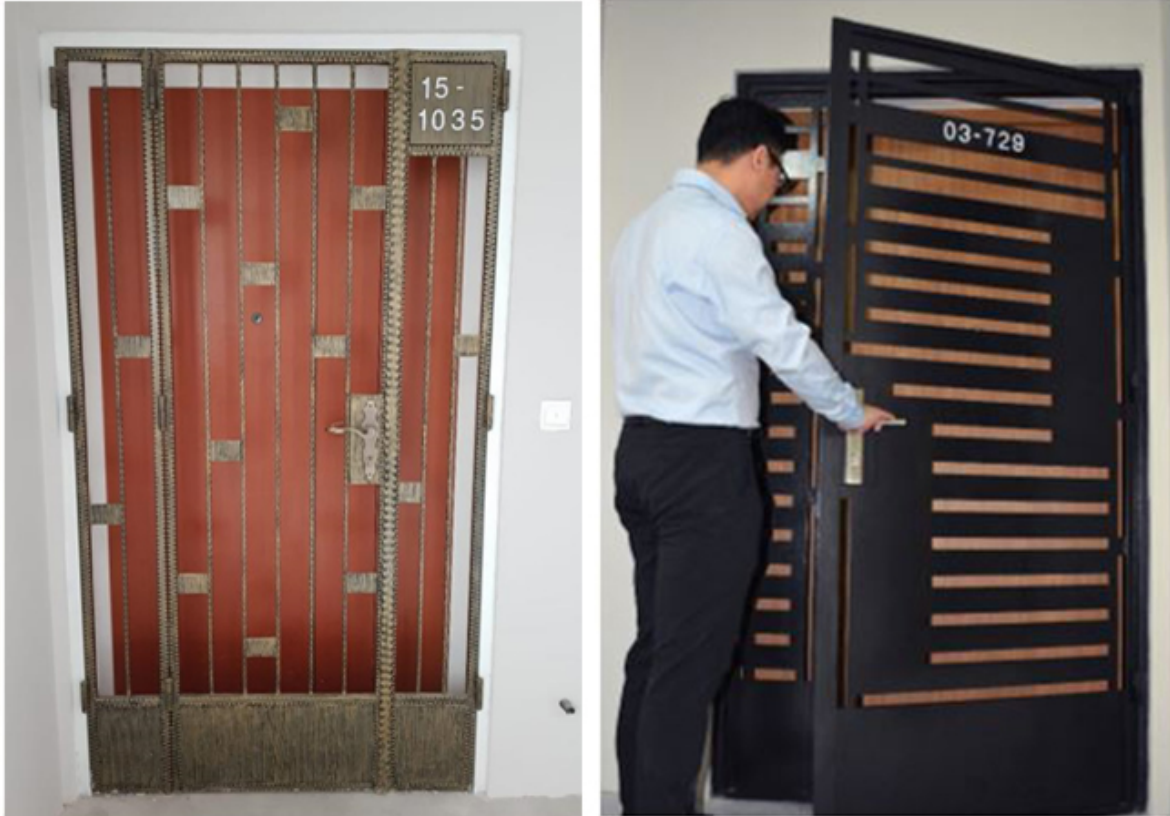


Welcome Home to Sleeker and More Modern HDB Flats

Homeowners can now enjoy sleeker and more modern fittings, including laminated timber doors, steel entrance gates with thumb-turn knobs, larger tiles in glazed porcelain, and sanitary fittings with better finishes.

As part of HDB's efforts to provide quality and well-designed homes, the new fittings will be installed in all new Build-to-Order (BTO) flats launched from February this year.



Existing timber veneered doors and wrought iron gates (left) will be replaced by laminated timber doors and steel entrance gates for a more contemporary look (right).

First-time homeowner Mr Ari Haikal Bin Subtu, 24, will be among the first few Singaporeans to live in the BTO flats with the new fittings. Mr Haikal said: "I feel quite privileged because the new flats have a modern look, which is what everyone is looking for nowadays. This also means we can expect to spend less on renovation costs."

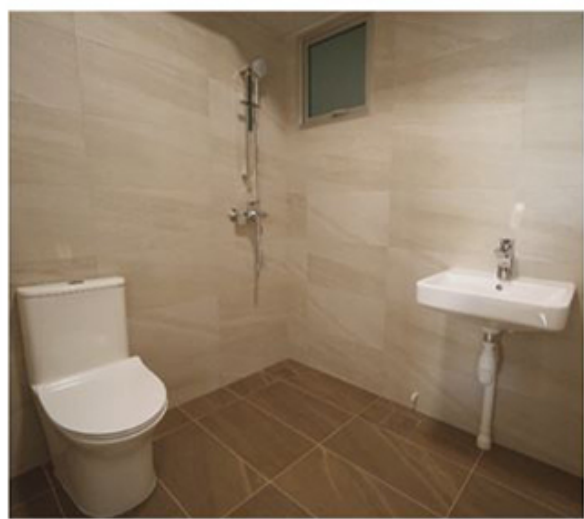
HDB has continually improved the designs and fittings of HDB flats to keep pace with changing demographics, as well as with new social and lifestyle trends. The designs and fittings of HDB flats have evolved from the simple and functional furnishings of the 1960s to higher-quality furnishings which are durable and eco-friendly to suit the needs of residents today.

HDB flats have also evolved in layout from simple and functional rectangular corridor-facing units to flats that afford more generous views, natural ventilation, and light while providing greater privacy for residents.

Mr Jansen Foo, Deputy Director (Project Development and Management) of HDB's Building Quality Group, said: "We have improved the range of fittings and finishes to give our flats a more modern and contemporary look. The new fittings allow homebuyers greater choice and flexibility in how they want to design and use the space."



The louvered windows in the door/window ensemble between the kitchen and service yard (left) will be replaced with top-hung windows (right), allowing for more flexibility in the layout of kitchen furniture.



Existing WCs and wired-glass louvered vent windows (left), will be replaced with dual-flush low-capacity WCs and top-hung windows (right).

In line with the Roadmap for Better HDB Living, HDB will continue to explore new planning concepts and refine its flat designs to create quality homes, giving all residents homes that they can be proud of.

HOW THE DESIGNS OF HDB HOMES HAVE EVOLVED

1960s

HDB flats were designed to be simple and utilitarian, built from basic slab blocks along a common corridor. This made for easier and faster construction.



1970s

Housing blocks took on new shapes such as L, U, pin wheel, Y and square or point blocks. Storerooms were introduced as part of flats, and flat units were raised off the corridor level to provide privacy.

1980s

Larger flat types such as 4-room and 5-room flats were introduced to cater to the lifestyle preferences of residents.



1989

The Optional Component Scheme (OCS) was introduced to give buyers the flexibility to customise their homes. The options have since expanded to include flooring, internal doors and sanitary fittings.



2006

Universal Design (UD) features such as ramps, wider corridors and lower-positioned switches were provided to be user-friendly to all residents, including the elderly and handicapped.

2004

Larger windows (¾ or full height) were built at the living rooms and more window areas were catered to facilitate more natural light and better ventilation.



1990s

Windows were reoriented along the façade, instead of looking into the common corridor. This provided residents with more privacy, the best external view and maximum lighting.

2013

The dining area was integrated into the living area, with the option of an open concept kitchen or partition wall between the living/dining area and the kitchen. This gave residents greater creativity in designing their living spaces.

2014



A standard suite of eco-features to manage water, energy and waste more efficiently was installed in new flats. All water and sanitary fittings were rated at least a "Good", under PUB's Water Efficient Labelling Scheme.

2018

All new flats now come with open kitchens where feasible. This is in response to its growing popularity and the changing lifestyle needs of residents.



2019

Sleeker, more modern fittings will be provided for all BTO flats.



SLEEKER, MORE MODERN FITTINGS FOR BTO FLATS

