

# HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

## The Value Of Your Home Is Paved With Curb Appeal

(NAPSA)—In today's challenging real estate market, homeowners are realizing how important that first look is when a prospective buyer visits their home. That's why landscaping and driveways have become as important a feature as a new kitchen.

Driveways and front walkways are the first things a prospective buyer sees. An impressive driveway usually indicates how well a home is maintained. Driveways that use pavers provide a low-maintenance surface that also provides a friendly "welcome mat" to neighbors and visitors.

An increasingly popular driveway design choice is also a practical one: concrete pavers.

### Cost Is Recouped

Real estate experts say it's easy to recoup the cost of a driveway upgrade. In fact, your return on investment may double when you sell the house.

Pavers are available in a variety of colors, shapes and laying patterns that can match any architectural style—from colonial to Mediterranean to modern.

### Inexpensive Room Addition

Further good news is that patios—as outdoor living spaces—are an inexpensive room addition that increases the value of a home. A well-designed patio of interlocking concrete pavements not only provides extra entertaining space, it enhances the character of your home.



**Walkways and driveways not only lend more grace to an entrance, they can improve your home's curb appeal.**

Pavers can be snowplowed. Some projects use heated walks and driveways to eliminate snowplowing, as the pipes placed under pavers circulate hot water to warm the pavers and melt snow.

In warmer climates, using lighter-colored pavers results in a cooler surface for bare feet on patios and pool decks.

Homeowners often use lighting right in the surface of a driveway or walkway, with paver-shaped fixtures that fit into the paving pattern to guide users and create a warm mood.

For more tips on how to help your home make a good first impression, visit [www.icpi.org](http://www.icpi.org).