



Iron doors and railings offer not only class and elegance, but also safety and low maintenance.

IRON *Woman*

Jenny Sandlin combines elegance with metal

When Jenny Sandlin, president and founder of Elegante Iron, began her own company four years ago, she knew it didn't matter that she was one of the only women in the ironwork business. She knew it was more important that she was already known in the industry for producing high-end ironwork for demanding customers.

She proved correct. Specializing in ornamental high-end wrought iron doors, wine-cellar doors, balconies, and railings, Elegante Iron (214-342-8987, www.eleganteiron.com) has been very successful providing gorgeous works in an increasingly hot market.

"It's really taken off," Sandlin says. "Now, just about every high-end home in the \$700,000 price range and up expects a hand-crafted iron front entry. So we work with builders at the planning stage to match the architectural elements and select the best style door for those buildings." Each design is custom made, so delivery and installation takes eight to 10 weeks.

As people begin to realize the aesthetic and security benefits of iron—"Unlike with wood doors," Sandlin notes, "with iron you never have peeling, cracking, or warping."—Elegante is putting more and more iron elements into homes during remodeling projects.

"Lots of people, when they update their house they update with an iron front door,"

she says. "Right now we're working on this incredible 15,000-square-foot home, and they're using 11 of our doors in the remodel plan. They wanted it for the sleek look, but also for the safety and maintenance of iron. They know iron lasts longer. It gives you peace of mind."



All of the ironwork done at Elegante Iron is custom made, not pre-cast.



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