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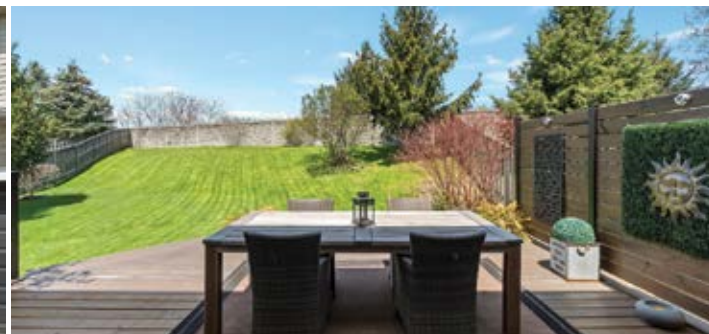
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## editor's note



A NOTE FROM  
**Oakville**  
**Burlington**  
**Mississauga**

**THE TIME HAS COME.** Both our young adults are moving out in September. Weren't they just dancing to *The Wiggles* in the living room? It's going to be quiet around here.

Our daughter Christina, a fourth-year life sciences student, is going to be a residence advisor at the University of Toronto. Our son Matthew, a first-year media production student, is moving into residence at Toronto Metropolitan University.

We're proud and we want to make their transition a success, even if it's hard to wave goodbye without feeling a little sad. For those who have kids moving on to the next chapter, here are some tips for a smooth move when the exciting, chaotic, emotional day arrives. If you're a parent of little ones, you'll need this soon enough!

**TIP #1:** Pack all the hanging clothes on hangers. It's a big time-saver! Zip them into garment bags. Easy to transport, easy to hang!

**TIP #2:** Under-the-bed storage is a game-changer. Purchase low-profile containers that slide beneath the bed to store off-season clothing.

**TIP #3:** Command hooks are a must. They are a great way to hang extra jackets and room décor.

**TIP #4:** A laundry hamper that converts to a bag. Cinch it closed, and it's ready for transport.

**TIP #5:** A survival kit. Include first aid items like Band-Aids and Advil and assorted bits like a mini sewing kit.

**TIP #6:** A rolling cart. The shelves provide extra storage and it tucks away when not in use.

**TIP #7:** Extra lighting. Dorm rooms can look cold. An extra lamp or two helps personalize and adds much needed ambience.

**TIP #8:** A mini fridge. It's a great way to store drinks, snacks and homemade meals cooked with love.

Yes, we joke a lot about looking forward to the peace, but we'll miss them fiercely, and I'm going to resist the urge to phone and text every five minutes. University is a time of independence, right? Just the same, I might find myself in the neighbourhood with a lasagna or some homemade cookies.

*Gina Makkar*

Gina Makkar, Managing Editor  
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## editor's note



**A NOTE FROM Hamilton**

I READ AN ARTICLE IN THE NEWSPAPER this weekend profiling a woman who began a TikTok account because she wanted to be famous. I guess she's succeeding, since she's in the paper. But fame for fame's sake? I just don't get it.

The people who impress me are the quiet achievers. Those who go about their work diligently striving for excellence, without the need for public praise. The very people we find to showcase in each issue of this magazine.

I was particularly blown away by the new home we feature this issue on page 44. Led by the team at Precise Projects, a huge number of tradespeople came together to build certainly the most impressive ranch-style home I've seen.

Oh, the craftsmanship on display, in every detail! Craftsmanship has been identified as the quality that comes from creating with passion, care and attention to detail. Those are exactly the elements builder Rick Wiersma brought to this significant project, one he has worked his way up to during his career.




He threw himself into researching the style and characteristics of the house the homeowners wanted, and in the end, he says, he built not only their dream home but his. Kudos to Rick and the team. As American Statesman Colin Powell said, "A dream does not become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination, and hard work."

To all of the people who allow us to share their hard work in these pages, thank you. Whether it's your passion for décor or architecture or design or gardens or even the behind-the-scenes technical matters that drive you, your craftsmanship and realized dreams inspire us.

Here's to a wonderful summer, everyone!

*Melissa*

Melissa North, Managing Editor  
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### ON THE COVER

A new home in Copetown has all the style and character of a Montana ranch. Story, page 44. Photography by Jason Hartog.



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Gorgeous home, located in Stoney Creek, high-demand area. This 3+1 bedrm/3 bath. Approx 2300 sqft + finished basement bdrm/office/3pc bath. This above grade home boasts an open concept interior w/hardwood flrs on the main and 2nd lvs. A stunning gourmet kitchen with centre island and backsplash, gas stove. Separate good size living/dining room. Welcoming 2nd floor spacious cozy family room/loft. Huge master bdrm offers walk-in closet and spacious 5pc bathroom.

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\*For dollar volume sold on the Toronto Real Estate Board for 2011-2021.

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# COOL HOUSE

Designer **Tamarisk McNalty Stephens** explores the principles of sustainable living.

You may be fortunate enough to have air conditioning in your home, but did you know that there are some practical ways to help minimize your dependency on the AC? Read on for ideas that are good for the environment – and your pocketbook!



## FANS

Ceiling fans should turn counter-clockwise in the warmer months as this creates a downdraft. The effect of moving air hitting the sweat on your skin is known as evaporative cooling. As sweat evaporates, it helps lower your overall body temperature. Thus, you can keep the thermostat turned up a few degrees and still stay cool. High-quality ceiling fans are worth the investment because they are often much quieter while providing powerful airflow.

## PAINT

If you have a room that gets a lot of southern exposure in the warmest months of the year, keep the paint light and airy. Dark colours can absorb the sun's radiant energy and that energy creates unnecessary heat gain.

## BEDDING

An important consideration in the summertime is optimizing comfort levels in the bedroom. In addition to keeping the room cool (65°F is considered optimal for sleeping), another element that can greatly impact body temperature is the material of your mattress, pillows and bed linens. Natural materials are preferred over synthetics because of their ability to breathe. Some

synthetic materials (including most memory foam mattresses) are very dense and tend to trap body heat. Ensure your bed frame allows for proper airflow around your mattress. Consider a mattress topper made from natural material such as latex, wool or cotton. Select bedding that is natural and breathable – such as linen. Use a lighter duvet in the summer months made with natural down or wool filling. These will help keep you cool as they allow moisture to escape. A shredded latex pillow with a cotton or linen cover is a good combination to help keep your head cool. Latex is a naturally breathable material and when shredded, provides improved airflow.



**HOLTEN IMPEY:**  
Autumn Tile in Grey

## TILE

Porcelain or natural stone tiles generally provide cooler temperatures in the summer (look to Mediterranean architecture) – that is, if not continuously exposed to direct sunlight. Natural stone floors and porcelain tiles will hold heat, which is why they are often successfully paired with radiant heating options to warm up spaces in the colder months. Again, consider selecting lighter-coloured flooring in rooms that get direct sun exposure.

## WINDOWS

If you are in the market for replacing windows, get the most energy-efficient windows you can afford. Spend some time with a professional to review the various frame, glazing and operation options. To minimize solar heat gain and reduce energy loss, you may require different energy efficiency ratings depending upon the exposure/orientation of various windows within your home and the overall ratio of window glazing to walls. A professional can also make recommendations on the operation styles and how the layout can optimize the breeze available from cool air entering through lower window openings, travelling through the house and the warmed air exiting at a higher location. Close windows first thing in the morning and open them up once the outside temperature has dropped in the evening.



**HUNTER DOUGLAS:**  
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**POTTERY BARN:** Classic Belgian Flax Linen Rod Pocket Blackout Curtain in Dark Flax

## WINDOW TREATMENTS

Window treatments are an excellent way to keep the cooling bill in check by controlling solar heat gain (while also adding an element of design). Blackout drapery is the most effective at preventing the sun from entering a room and offers a great solution for the sunniest times of day for south/west facing windows (specifically bedrooms). Solar shades provide various degrees of privacy, light penetration and heat transfer – all while offering a view to the outside.

## LANDSCAPING

Landscaping outdoors can also help to keep the inside of your home cooler. Planting deciduous trees, shrubs and tall grasses can provide shade that will help mitigate solar gain in the summer months.

## APPLIANCES

Practical day-to-day tips include firing up the outdoor grill instead of using the oven, installing a clothesline for drying and waiting to use the dishwasher until temperatures dip in the evening. Also remember to turn on exhaust fans in the bathroom when taking a shower to remove hot, humid air. **OH**



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good taste

# Peach & Pineapple AGUA FRESCA

Agua Fresca translates to “cool water” and is the ideal drink on a hot day. It’s a refreshing drink made with fresh fruit, water, lime and a bit of sugar.

RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY  
**JENELLE MCCULLOCH**



## INGREDIENTS (Serves 4)

- 1 cup pineapple, chopped
- 1 cup peaches, chopped
- 2 cups water
- Juice from 1 lime
- 1 Tbsp sugar\*

## INSTRUCTIONS

Combine all ingredients in a blender and mix until smooth. Taste and add more lime and/or sweetener.

Pour the mixture through a fine mesh strainer.

Serve over ice. Enjoy!

*\*May substitute other sweeteners for sugar or omit sugar altogether, depending on sweetness and ripeness of the fruit. Adjust to taste. OH*



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# MODERN BEAUTY

STORY **GINA MAKKAR**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**



A recent Mississauga project by **David Small** of **David Small Designs** and builders **Joel Atkinson** and **Mike Murray** of **Profile Custom Homes** demonstrates how beautifully a modern build can fit into the landscape.

With a frontage of 100 feet, the goal was to maximize width to create a strong street presence and minimize depth to allow natural light to reach the centre of the home. The positioning of the home preserved the mature trees that border the property and accommodated a U-shaped driveway, a priority item on the homeowners' wish list.

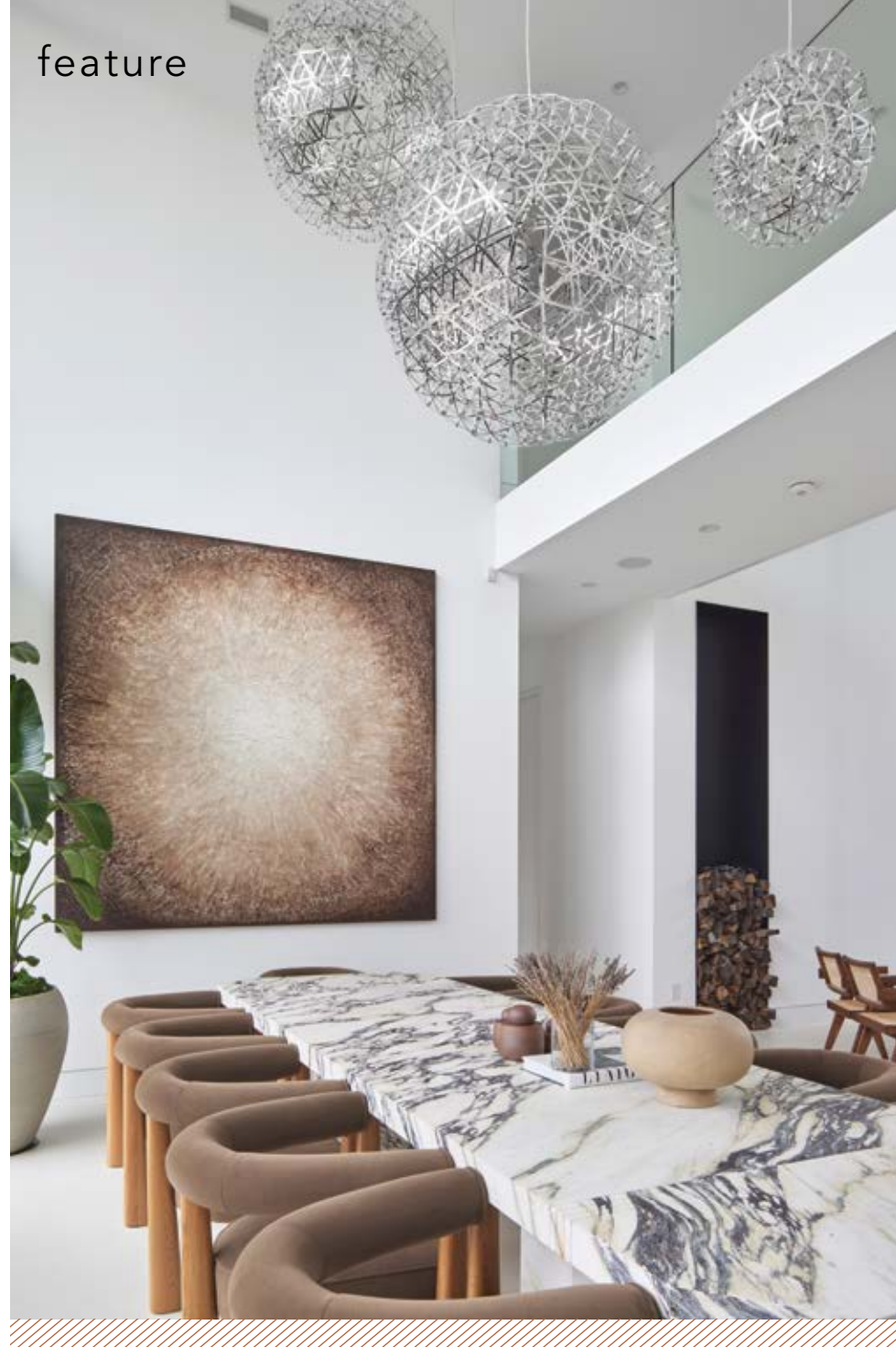
The 5,700 sq. ft. home is an uber-modern design juxtaposed against its traditional neighbours. To help assimilate the home to its surroundings, the variation in roof height downplays the overall height to create a dynamic facade.

Homeowners Marian and Joseph Noora mixed the modern aesthetic with timeless finishes and features by using raw materials. The natural limestone and shou sugi ban wood highlight the tones in the surrounding landscape, adding warmth to the exterior design. A 10-foot tall front door clad in charred wood is nestled between windows to minimize unnecessary borders for a seamless look. The vast expanse of glass, often a privacy concern, is concealed with a unique stone landscape wall that blocks the view to pedestrians but preserves the natural light. "The home is incredibly energy-efficient and was designed in a way to provide the utmost privacy even without the use of window coverings," says Marian.

*Continued on page 30*

**OPPOSITE:** The family wanted unfettered sightlines from front to back. This was achieved with soaring 23-foot ceiling heights. **TOP LEFT:** The suspended fireplace was strategically placed so that it could be seen through the glass at the front entrance. **LEFT:** One of the primary architectural features is the vast expanse of glass, allowing the natural light to fill the home.





**LEFT:** The custom marble dining table is over 13 feet long and pulls in the earthy tones from outdoors. Custom artwork adds movement to the serene surroundings.  
**RIGHT:** The polished concrete flooring is practical, durable and maintains the home's brightness.

Indoors, clean crisp lines and an open living space reflect the lifestyle of an active family of five. With three young children and plenty of hosting, it was important to have an open-concept kitchen connected to a casual living space. The layout was designed to incorporate a 20-foot island with a 48-inch cooktop and six-foot-long sink that converts to a slip-in salad bar, a hit on taco nights or for poke bowl lunches. Rift-cut white oak cabinetry runs the full length of the kitchen and incorporates pocket doors for easy access to the coffee station, liqueur cabinet and appliances. Corian countertops are

beautiful and resilient, perfect for a family with young children. The family also wanted some formality in the space. Soaring 23-foot ceilings and floor-to-ceiling glass create a spectacular entry. A modern black fireplace, a cantilevered staircase and a modern glass bridge add architectural detail. “One of the first features we discussed with David Small Designs was a two-storey wood-burning fireplace that would suspend from the ceiling,” says Marian. “David brilliantly worked around this first wish to make sure it could be seen through the glass from the front entrance.”

*Continued on page 34*





***THE TRUST AND RESPECT BETWEEN ALL PARTIES, WE BELIEVE, IS WHAT MADE THIS BUILD SOMETHING WE CAN ALL BE SO INCREDIBLY PROUD OF.” – Marian Noora***

Kitchen cabinetry runs the full length of the home and is clad in rift-cut white oak to add warmth. The room is enclosed with floor-to-ceiling windows on both sides of the space to create picturesque views.





**LEFT:** The Nooras love to host, and the open-concept main floor provides the perfect backdrop for entertaining.  
**RIGHT:** The views were carefully considered and windows were placed like picture frames to the outdoors.  
**BELOW:** Modern yet functional, the space was designed with materials and finishes that allow the kids to be kids.  
**BOTTOM RIGHT:** A privacy wall allows the family to look out without passersby looking in.

The palette throughout is serene, with white walls and flush mouldings and trim for a clean, simple look. “As an osteopathic manual practitioner and registered massage therapist, I value so much the vibe of the environment that my family lives in,” explains Marian. “It was important for the house to feel calm, serene, fresh and open. As parents with busy work schedules, and kids with fully-loaded extracurriculars, home is where we unwind. The environment needed to encourage that through the tones and textures used.”

Radiant floor heating allowed for the use of concrete flooring on the

main and lower levels. A white polished overlay was added to the main floor.

**Montana Labelle Lifestyle** designed a 13-and-a-half-foot marble dining table and cantilever-style coffee table. **Fy Art Designs’** oversize canvas artwork blends beautifully with the tones of the titanium travertine fireplace surround. “The textures of these art pieces really add so much life to the space,” says Marian. Pottery from Marian’s collection adds Mediterranean character and can be found throughout. Upstairs, rift-cut white oak flooring adds warmth and blends seamlessly with the stairs and the colour used in the library. *Continued on page 36*



**“IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR THE HOUSE TO FEEL CALM, SERENE, FRESH AND OPEN.” – Marian Noora**






Building any home is a process. “We were lucky that David Small Designs and Profile Custom Homes were with us from start to finish and beyond. As with any build, there are always unexpected issues that come up. This was always dealt with calmly and strategically. It was mind-blowing to see how they would problem solve on the spot to ensure that the best outcome occurred. The trust and respect between all parties, we believe, is what made this build something we can all be so incredibly proud of.” *Continued on page 38*




Clean lines in furniture and plenty of open space are essential when achieving a modern look. **ABOVE:** Transom windows maximize the light but maintain privacy in the en suite. **TOP RIGHT:** Marian’s collection of pottery adds texture throughout the space.



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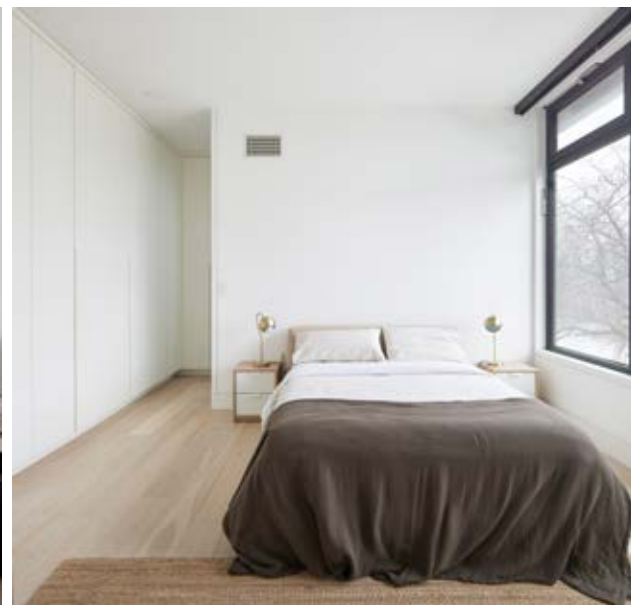
“The homeowners were highly involved,” says David. “At the start of every project, we take the time to get to know our clients – their vision, their lifestyle and their family dynamics. All these elements influence the design – the layout, the aesthetic and the unique details.” The first step in the Nooras’ design exercise was a site visit. The team walked the property to get a sense of the views, vegetation, neighbouring structures, and more. A wish list meeting

ironed out the functional and aesthetic requirements for the home.

The last couple of years made the Nooras realize the importance of being happy at home. “We are so incredibly blessed that everything was done efficiently and we were able to live in this wonderful home during a pandemic in isolation,” they say.

Up next, the family is planning a backyard oasis to create an inviting space that the children and their friends will enjoy spending time in. **OH**

**TOP LEFT:** The glass corner windows take full advantage of the beautiful property. **TOP MIDDLE:** The solid freestanding one-piece circular pedestal sink is a statuesque work of art in the powder room. **TOP RIGHT:** Custom library shelving adds form and function and makes a statement that can be seen from many spots in the home. **BELOW LEFT AND RIGHT:** Cluttered homes are linked to increased stress levels. Bedrooms are a place to restore, relax and reflect, and minimalism can be especially impactful there.



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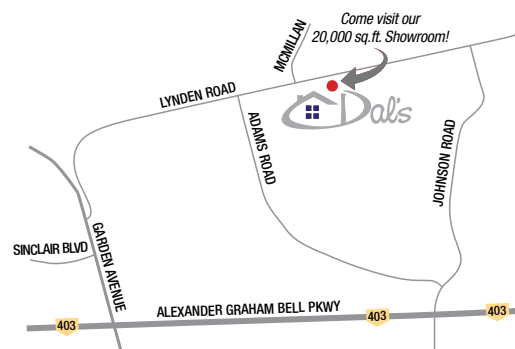
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decorating



Is blue the new *it* colour? I say yes! This versatile hue comes in hundreds of shades and tones, from primary blue, barely-there baby blue, to Pantone's 2022 colour of the year – a bold, purplish periwinkle. Indeed, there's a variation of blue that goes with everything in every room. Here's why blue is my go-to hue in much of my own design work and where to incorporate it in your own home.

### WHY THE DRAW TO BLUE?

This incredibly adaptable colour is a "shape-shifter," with a shade for every mood, making it a fixture in many different rooms, with varying results. Blue can range from energizing and relaxing to brooding, depending on its tone, temperature and vibrancy.

*Continued on page 42*

# TRUE BLUE

STORY **PATTI WILSON**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **MIKE CHAJECKI & JAMES C LEE**



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## HOW TO “DO” BLUE

That all depends on your space, your intended vibe and the blue you'll be using. But generally speaking, if blue is your dominant colour in the space, chances are it is a lighter, paler shade. In this case, blue acts as your backdrop, which you'll live up with a secondary colour and accent colour. Refer to the 60-30-10 rule when playing with colour proportion: 60 per cent of the space is reserved for the dominant hue, 30 per cent for the secondary and 10 per cent for the accent, which is usually a bolder choice.

If blue is your secondary or accent colour (or both), chances are you've selected something a little more daring, more vibrant or darker. A feature wall, a bank of cabinets, furniture and accessories are all impactful ways to incorporate your selection into a more neutral aesthetic.

I've always enjoyed working with blues in my design work and in spite of the ever-changing trends I've seen come and go, this one seems to have endured them all with grace and a touch of drama. It remains at the forefront in 2022, inducing a sense of calm in a world that can get crazy at times. Try it out in your home and see what it can do for you. **OH**



## TEMPERATURE & MOOD

Blue is thought to be a cool colour and it often is – but not always. Cool blues have green undertones, while warm blues have purple ones, such as denim or slate, which boast earthy, organic characteristics and are subtly warm. The “temperature” of your blue can dramatically impact the overall ambience of the room.

A warm blue is the perfect choice for cosy spaces, such as a living room, family room or den, giving some wonderful depth and drama. These shades of blue have a warmth and intimacy to them, which are conducive to the intimate activities taking place in these areas of the home. Depending on the desired atmosphere in your space, consider a moody, navy blue.

Meanwhile, on the cool side of the colour spectrum, you'll find greenish blues, such as aquamarine,

turquoise and other ocean-inspired hues. The bathroom is the logical choice for these cool colours, inspiring a sense of calmness and relaxation. They also pair well with other bathroom staples such as mirror and polished chrome and complement crisp white casings, fixtures and floors. This classic palette boasts widespread appeal and for good reason. The look is fresh and clean, perfect for a spa-inspired bathroom.

Beyond temperature, colour intensity can also influence the mood of your space. A saturated shade of blue will convey a very different look and feel than a faded version of the same. Barely-there blues act as palette-cleansers, which are essential for hectic lifestyles, delivering some much-needed serenity when it's time to retreat.



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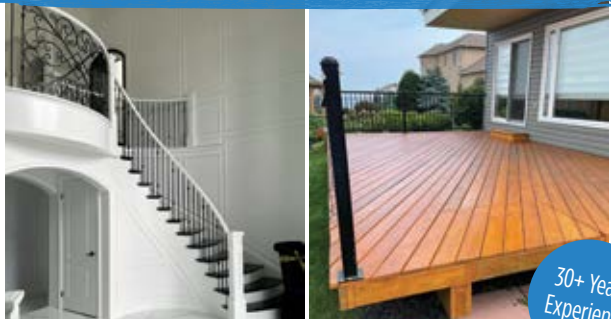
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# welcome HAVEN

STORY **DENISE WILLSON**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**

The Ranch evokes the style of Montana homes. Stunning ceiling timbers are from Northern Ontario and a two-tier candelabra chandelier is scaled to suit the space. **RIGHT:** Rick Wiersma and Braden Lomanto, the hard-working duo from Precise Projects Inc., built the home from the ground up. They went to Precision Exteriors Inc. for the siding, soffit and fascia.



***THIS CUSTOM BUILD IN COPETOWN – LOVINGLY DUBBED THE RANCH BY THOSE WHO GATHER UNDER ITS SOARING TIMBER BEAMS – IS INCREDIBLE.***

It was recently built from the ground up by **Rick Wiersma** and **Braden Lomanto** of **Precise Projects Inc.** “We are a family of builders,” says Rick. “The business started in 2006 and we learned a lot doing smaller projects before tackling a project of this magnitude.”

The 8,020 sq. ft. ranch stands regally on acres surrounded by conservation land, farms and golf clubs, yet is only 10 minutes from downtown Dundas. When homeowners David and Siobhan purchased the property 40 years ago, they hoped to someday renovate the existing farmhouse. But when the couple decided it was time to move back from out west to be closer to their family, the pieces didn’t fit. *Continued on page 47*



Like the endless rows of windows, everything needed to be large-scale to work with the timber framing and soaring rooflines, including the lighting. The massive fireplace and the floor-to-ceiling stone surround add texture and warmth. Varied widths of European white oak engineered hardwood run the majority of the main level, while marbled tile flooring (**Bert Vis Flooring**) was used in the bathrooms and laundry room.

A large, open-plan kitchen with white cabinetry, a stone backsplash, and a dark countertop. The space features exposed wooden beams and two large, copper-colored pendant lights hanging over the island. A sink with a copper faucet is visible on the left side of the counter.



A rustic wooden barn door with a sliding mechanism, partially open, revealing a modern kitchen interior with white cabinetry and a grey tiled floor.





In the open-style kitchen (**Kitchens for Keeps**), white cabinetry and a brick pattern porcelain backsplash offer a simple yet elegant backdrop to the stunning hand-forged hood. “The hood was designed and built by a local blacksmith,” explains Rick. “The finish mimics the antique copper farm sinks and copper island lights.”

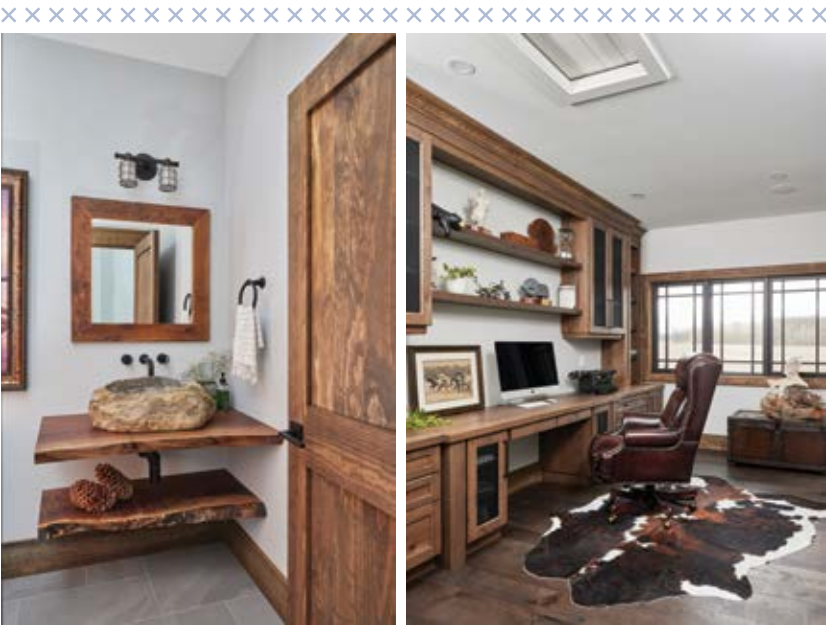
The 11-foot stained oak kitchen island is topped with chiseled-edge Charlestown Cambria quartz, and the perimeter countertops are white Colton Cambria quartz (**Quartz Co.**). Set in behind the main kitchen, a large

butler’s pantry provides more storage and counter space (great when entertaining) and room for a coffee bar that doesn’t clutter the main kitchen area.

Every detail took considerable planning, resulting in a truly beautiful, rustic masterpiece. The many trades involved were handpicked for their expertise. The talents of interior decorators **Andrea Kluczenko** of **Gracewood Homes** and **Jaclyn Harper** of **Harper Designs** were integral to the artistry of the finished home. **Adanac Rubber Flooring** installed the gym floor.

*Continued on page 50*

**LEFT:** The unique kitchen pendant lighting is cleverly constructed using a repurposed stop sign rail. Countertops are all from Quartz Co., which specializes in hard surfaces. For the island, they opted for the thickest slab available, and chose a new, flecked colour to tie in with the cabinetry. **TOP:** Much of the completely outfitted back porch is covered, allowing for all-season enjoyment. Flatwork by Complete Holmes Construction. **RIGHT:** Both powder rooms feature sinks carved from stones found on the property. **FAR RIGHT:** Metal mesh dresses up the office cabinets, while shelves showcase family heirlooms and sentimental pieces.







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**LEFT:** Casings around the windows are bandsawed and custom stained to match the flat finished pieces. Anything rough sawn is very absorbent so Rick and his team had to make up 20-plus stain and oil combinations to get the right colours. **ABOVE:** Wood elements continue through the primary bedroom. **BELOW:** Separate dual vanities and a beam feature create a statement in David and Siobhan's en suite.



With three bedrooms on the main level and two below, David and Siobhan look forward to entertaining guests. Sliding barn doors in the primary bedroom separate spacious dual closets and a reading area opens onto the back patio. "I love this suite," says the homeowner, "but the tub was hell to get inside." Made of cast stone, the free-standing tub weighs in at 500 pounds. (It echoes the stone sinks in the powder rooms, hand carved from rocks found in the area.) Timber features were added to the main bedroom surrounding the en suite tub and reading area.

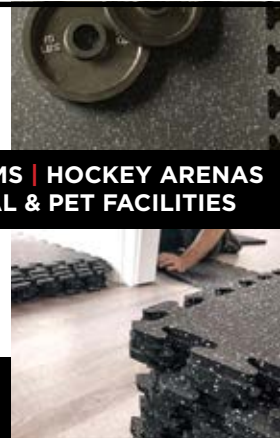
The timber roofline extends out back from the kitchen so nature can be enjoyed with the comforts of home. "We love having everyone lounge on the back porch," says David. Siding, soffit and fascia by **Precision Exteriors**. The exterior walls and fireplace consist of full-bed stones and the wood-burning fireplace boasts a reclaimed barn beam mantel. An inground hot tub is steps away. Flatwork by **Complete Holmes Construction**. *Continued on page 52*

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Although the results are precisely what the homeowners envisioned, it wasn't easy to build during a pandemic. "Getting supplies was a challenge," says Braden, "especially considering the sheer size. But our trade partners were amazing. They did everything in their power to come through, and they put their hearts and souls into this project."

When the house was finished in August of 2021, David and Siobhan gathered family, the trades team and their families for an outdoor barbecue to celebrate. "Life is about people, relationships," says David. *The Ranch* was built to pull people together – to share great food and laughter, to enjoy campfires and outdoor sports, to provide a welcoming haven.

Given the tribulations of the last two years, it's safe to say the gathering of friends and loved ones is more important than ever. Thanks to the commitment and expertise of Rick and Braden of Precise Projects Inc., this home will play host to the making of memories for generations. **OH**

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**TOP LEFT:** The guest bedroom en suite received as much thoughtful design as the rest of the home. **TOP RIGHT:** Artwork celebrating Dundas, where David grew up, adds a personal touch to this guest bedroom. **LEFT:** Lights are built into the staircase to the lower level and one of the blacksmith-crafted wine racks makes creative use of the landing wall space. In the gym, Adanac Rubber Flooring installed the flooring.

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519.740.9991





### THE STYLE

Bella & Coop originally offered primarily décor, but has since evolved to also include an eclectic mix of everything they love, such as jewelry, fashion and stationery. “We really want to be, especially in a smaller town, a one-stop shop,” explains Remi. “If you have a bridal or baby shower, if you want to pick up something to decorate a specific corner in your house, if you need a new outfit, we want to be that place you can come to for just about any of those needs.” With Remi’s taste leaning to the modern, and Michele’s bohemian, their gorgeous stock encompasses a myriad of styles.



### THE TREND

Bolder colours are coming to the fore, mixed with natural tones and textures, says Remi. “We’re seeing a lot of rattan, a lot of seagrass, but I’d say the biggest trend for summer and then heading into fall is going to be earth tones.” Beautiful displays spark the imagination, suggesting ways to incorporate their latest finds, which include new items weekly, in our own homes.



Remi Stonehouse

# DÉCOR Love

STORY **MELISSA NORTH**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**

### THE PLACE

Located on the main street of Waterdown, home décor and lifestyle boutique **Bella & Coop** is the brainchild of mother and daughter team Michele and Remi Stonehouse. Following the success of their flagship store in Caledonia, which opened in March of 2018, this second location was established in July of 2021 and is just as beautiful.

### DELIVERY

Responding to the changing times of COVID, Bella & Coop offer extensive Canada-wide shipping, as well as delivery to Ancaster, Brantford, Caledonia, Cayuga, Hagersville, Hamilton, Mount Hope, Stoney Creek, Waterdown and York. Terrific for gifting! **OH**

### Get There

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double take

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# BEST Advice

Our experts want you to focus on nature  
and the view at home this summer.



PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

*Janice Gardiner  
& Cathie Lee*

## HAVEN HOME & GIFT

The Haven team curates a collection of items with the intention to bring comfort to the lives of our customers. We select warm, neutral pieces that blend effortlessly throughout the home, creating a cosy, natural, casual style. Why? Because every home should be a haven.

*“We’re all about the finishing touches. Stop by and we’ll help you select timeless pieces to create the perfect look.”*

### WHAT EVERY HOME SHOULD HAVE

It’s all about buying what you love! Surround yourself with pieces that bring you happiness and make you feel comfortable. And don’t forget to include a Haven candle for aromatherapy and ambience.



### NEW AND TRENDING

This year we’re inspired by natural textures and materials. Think jute rugs, linen pillows, terracotta vases, warm wood touches and rich marble and metal accents.



*Continued on page 62*



NEST

Uniting my two biggest passions – love of animals and a dedication to supporting Canadian makers – I created Nest. An eclectic boutique, visitors discover handmade one-of-a-kind gifts for all ages, including fine art, DIY crafts, kids’ items and pet accessories.

TRENDING

DIY crafting kits are gaining in popularity. People enjoy the process of learning a new skill and having something they created themselves. Nest offers a variety of kits that make excellent gifts, such as Low Poly Paper Kits sculptures. Fold and glue your favourite animal figure.



Robyn Allan

*“Those who cannot do – find people who can. I have found lots of skilled and creative people and love to share them with everyone.”*

PHOTOS: JASON HARTOG

JOB LOVE

Showcasing Canadian talent and promoting handmade makes me happy, especially when I get to watch our artists grow and flourish. And I love being in the shop – it is such a warm and happy place where we talk about all things animal.



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Salnek’s Custom Window Treatments has more than 30 years’ experience working side-by-side with clients, helping them accomplish their design vision within budget with the best innovative products on the market. Let our dedicated team help you bring your visions to fruition.

INDUSTRY NEWS

Health Canada has mandated new cord restrictions for window coverings. Come see the new lift options and go cordless or motorized today.

TRENDING

Bluetooth automation! Come check out the new Generation 3 automation by Hunter Douglas. You will be impressed with the ease of programming and whisper quiet motors.



Catherine Murdock & Carolyn Cowan

PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

Continued on page 64





Sam McDadi & his team

PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

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BROKERAGE

Sam McDadi Real Estate Inc. Brokerage is a full-service brokerage that separates itself from the pack with a host of value-added services.

WHAT WE DO

Our services include, but are not limited to, an in-house staging team with furniture and accessories available to our clients. We also have a full-time home inspector, a marketing and social media team, in-house photographers and videographers and a large administrative team.



ADVICE

We think it's important to align yourself with a knowledgeable and reputable realtor who will protect your interests. In this ever-changing market, you want to have really good counsel when you're both buying and selling.

Continued on page 66

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# INTERIORS BY BETTER SHADE

When it comes to hidden gems, Interiors by Better Shade might be a contender for crown jewel for all your interior needs. The company is celebrating more than 67 years of complementing your style at home with custom window treatments made on-site and quality Canadian furniture. Our impressive two-storey showroom is filled with distinctive designs from our Canadian and Italian manufacturers.



**Back: Inessa Perron, Scott Somerville & Janice Baker  
Front: DJ Hallett, Jordan Cecchi & John Fiorino**

## NEW FROM OUR DESIGNERS

We are continuing to see the trend of open-concept spaces and furniture being used to divide a room. Due to this trend, sofas, loveseats and sectionals with folding headrests and footrests are more and more popular. They offer a sleek modern look that doesn't obstruct sight lines, keeps visual clutter to a minimum and remains comfortable when reclined.



## MODERN AND FRESH

Most customers are modernizing and refreshing their homes. They are looking for more natural light and a brighter, fresh space with a neutral palette – but with rich, saturated pops of colour.



Continued on page 68

# The Unique Process

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## ADVICE

When dealing with a contractor make sure they are up-to-date with the leading manufacturers' standards. Too often we may get caught up in the price. But, without the proper certifications, licenses and insurance from the contractor, you and your house's warranty are at risk.



**Bruno Levesque**

*"Being certified across the board sets us apart from our competitors and gives us the ability to provide our customers with the highest grade level of quality workmanship." – Bruno Levesque, President*

PHOTO: JASON HARTOG



## FUN FACTS ABOUT ROOFING

It can be fun! Let It Rain encourages their customers to get creative and showcase their personality. With so many types of shingles, soffits, fascia and more, your home's facelift can not only be a summer project, but one the neighbours will be talking about and one you'll be proud of.



Continued on page 70



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**Terry  
Vanderkruk**



PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

## CONNON NURSERIES

Since 1906, Connon Nurseries has been growing, wholesaling and retailing plants. Suppliers to both home gardeners and the landscape industry, our focus is on plants and quality garden products. More than 25 acres of beautiful trees, shrubs and perennials are complemented by a lush atrium space.

### INSPIRATION

The beauty and positivity of our industry is daily inspiration. Our company has grown for several generations so that others can plant for generations to come. A part of our vision is to enhance our living environments through passionate people; our team loves to see our plants gracing the landscapes, gardens, parks and schools in our communities.



PHOTOS: CONNON NURSERIES



*"2022 has been named The Year of the Garden and we're happy to be a part of this initiative. Celebrating plants and gardens is what we've done for more than a century."*

### SUMMER TIP

As temperatures heat up, the importance of planting shade trees is evident. Even in smaller places, trees can be accommodated and provide invaluable environmental benefits. Identify your ideal planting spaces and water well when planting. Talk to our experts – we're happy to help you plant for the future.



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**Brad & Tracey Paton**



PHOTO: KELLY HORKOFF



## EXPERTISE

The one thing that sets us apart is our planting. Each garden we create is tailor-made to our clients' needs and wishes. We love it when they leave everything up to us. Big impact urns with tropical plants are trending as the expense of annual planting continues to rise.

## GARDEN DESIGN

Every garden design has to be thoroughly thought out. The level of maintenance required, bloom times, environmental settings and even furry creatures such as deer or bunnies need consideration. For instance, this contemporary garden design we did in Dundas is completely deer proof.



Continued on page 74

# SHADES OF SUMMER LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE

We have been designing, creating, building and maintaining landscapes in our area for 13 years. Having now worked in this industry for 35 plus years, we have had the opportunity to work on some of the most beautiful properties our province has to offer.

*"Nature is our palette to create beautiful gardens."*

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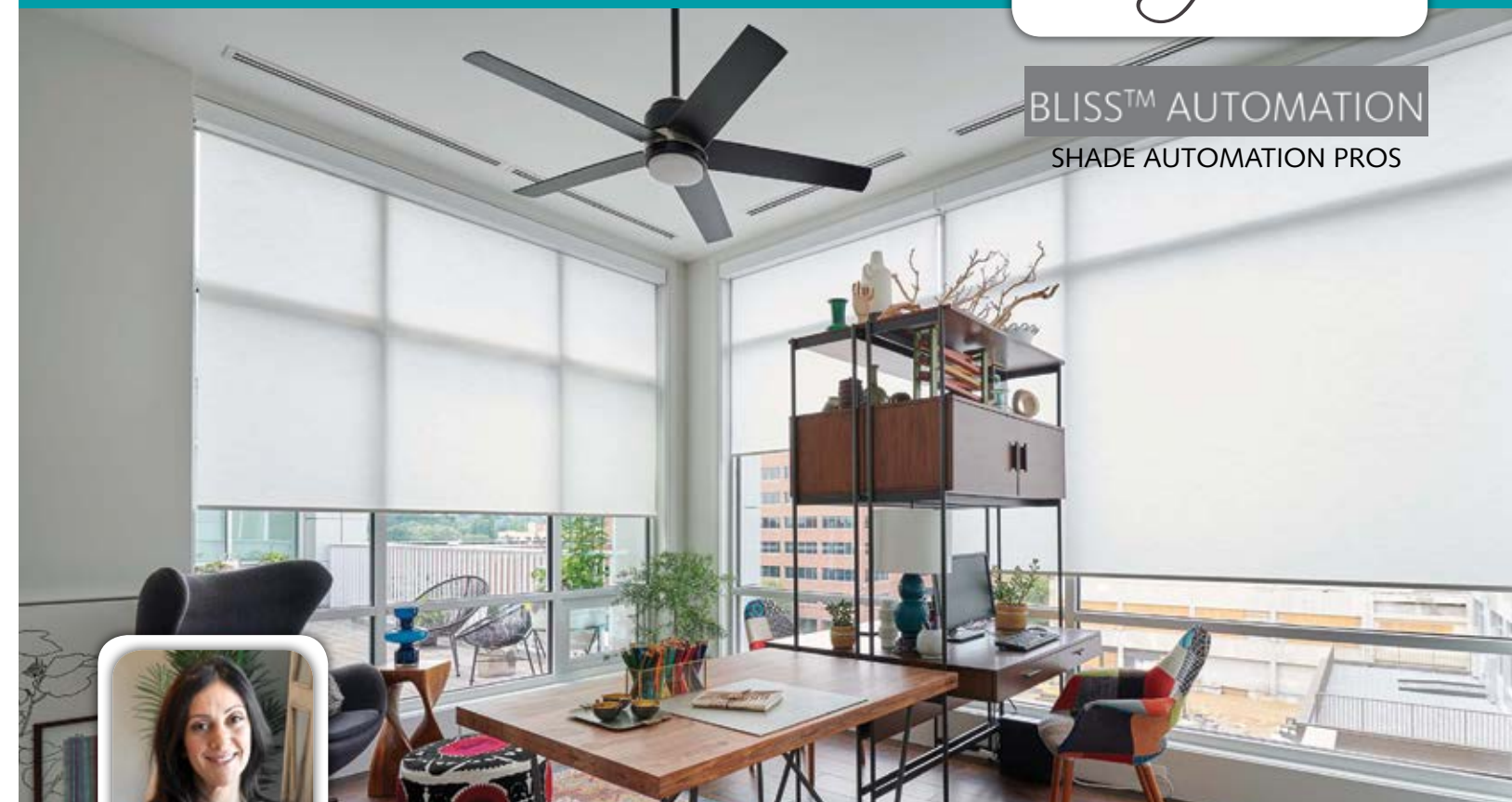
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The Arborwood team is passionate about tree care. Beyond skills development and tree expertise, our focus is on customer-service excellence. Providing you the best tree-care service possible is integral to what we do.



Andrew Hordyk



## ADVICE FROM THE PROFESSIONALS

1. Watering trees during drought is one of the most beneficial means to a healthy and vibrant tree.
2. Adding mulch around trees is beneficial, however, be careful of the source of the wood and the dyes. And remember not to pile the mulch up the trunk of the tree.
3. Hire an arborist to maintain your trees.



PHOTOS: JEREMY JAMES PHOTOGRAPHY

## SERVICES WE OFFER

We offer organic tree care, insect and disease-suppression and control, tree fertilization, tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, arborist reports and tree preservation plans.

*"Trees in the physical form are like people in the spiritual form; they are who they are because of the environment they are in or subject to."*



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# timeless DESIGN

STORY **DENISE O’CONNELL** | PHOTOGRAPHY **MIKE CHAJECKI**



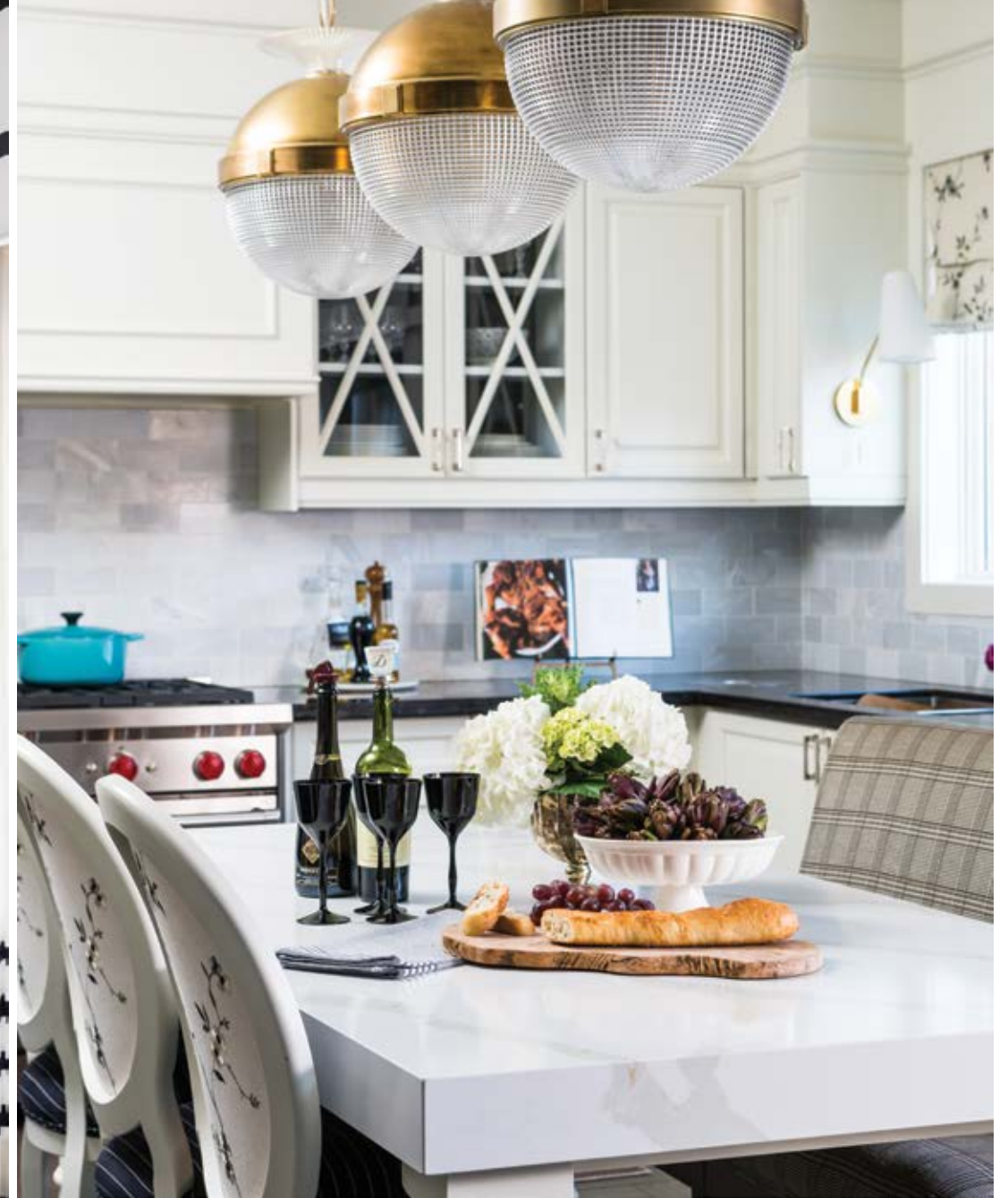
**WHEN DESIGNER ODETTE DE LUCIA BOUGHT HER WEST OAKVILLE HOME IN 2001, SHE WAS STUDYING INTERIOR DESIGN. SHE KNEW THE DETACHED TWO-STOREY BUILDER HOME HAD POTENTIAL, BUT IT WAS A BLANK SLATE IN TERMS OF DESIGN AND DÉCOR.**

*Continued on page 78*



Charcoal grey is a true neutral, with undertones that blend beautifully with this serene palette of white and cream. It opens the room and adds depth and dimension. **OPPOSITE, LEFT:** This modern take on the traditional is not your 70s panelling and adds instant texture and interest. **RIGHT:** A chic colour can tie a design together. Hints of blush paired with darker hues create an inviting contrast.





Rather than overhauling the home all at once, the young family decided to take their time with renovations, spreading out the cost and inconvenience by changing the functionality and design as her family's needs changed.

"We didn't mind waiting," Odette recalls. "We took our time, and in the end the home is exactly what I wanted, represents my style and design philosophy and is the perfect space for us."

The renovations over 20 years tell the story of a growing family and a designer – used to catering to the tastes of others – becoming true to her own preferences.

The first task was turning bland yellow walls into a showpiece. She added panelling to create a three-dimensional focal point that exudes depth. Painted a simple white, the walls are subtle but provide a bold geometric pattern that Odette carries throughout the home in different ways and adds a formality that wasn't reflected in the design before.

"Panelling and wainscoting never go out of style," Odette says. "It

was the first step for me to take this subdivision home and turn it into something that felt much more custom."

The main floor was the next project. With the help of **Goran Krsikapa** of **G Custom Homes**, a dated kitchen and living room were redesigned to maximize light and space. Odette wanted to ensure that everything looked relative to the dramatic, two-storey ceilings in the living room. She chose a neutral palette of whites and creams. Dark charcoal velvet drapes frame a wall of floor-to-ceiling windows. A new limestone fireplace is much more inviting and works with the height of the room much better than the builder fireplace that came before it.

"As a designer, I'm quite adept at designing with lots of colour," says Odette. "However, I knew that for my own space, I wanted a very relaxing colour scheme that was soothing." Despite the serene palette, Odette doesn't dismiss colour completely. She adds colourful surprises with a blush throw cushion and fresh florals.

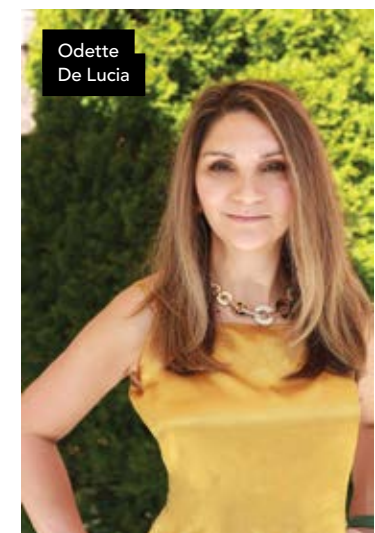
A large gold chandelier from Restoration Hardware sets the tone for all of the warm gold accents used throughout the home. "Gold is so

warm and inviting," she says. The area rug by Stark Carpet in the living room draws the eye with its bold geographic black-and-grey pattern, a nod to the wall panelling.

Odette admits that the original kitchen boasted quality and craftsmanship, so instead of stripping it completely, she chose to work with the existing cabinetry. "Like many builder homes, the cabinets didn't extend to the ceiling, and there was a gap, making them look unfinished," she says. "Instead of adding an upper row of cabinetry, I decided to just enclose the gap with moulding."

The maple cabinets were refinished in **Benjamin Moore** Floral White. The metal range hood was replaced with a custom hood to match the cabinetry. The addition of glass inserts provides a custom look.

Odette wanted an island, but with a small kitchen footprint, an island would restrict the space. Instead, she designed a counter-height table and topped it with quartz to achieve the look and feel of an island. A banquette seat provides a functional work and eating area. *Continued on page 80*



Odette De Lucia

Working with the existing kitchen cabinets was a wonderfully sustainable way to achieve a custom look with a few tweaks. Taking the cabinetry to the ceiling created a seamless look and painting and adding glass panels gives the cabinetry a custom feel. Stone countertops and a custom table that doubles as an island elevate the aesthetic and add function.





As the family grew, Odette wanted an outdoor oasis where the children could lounge with friends. She longed for a backyard renovation that exuded California style but didn't realize that achieving the soft, clean look of white concrete walkways and coping around the pool would be hard to come by. Sand in Ontario is grey, making grey concrete the standard. After thorough digging, she came across **Castle Precast Ltd.**, which was working on the restoration of Toronto's Casa Loma. They special-ordered and imported white sand for the project.

The walkway around the rectangular pool by **Gib-San Pool & Landscape Creations** is surrounded by a premium artificial turf. "It's great! No maintenance!" Odette says. "All artificial turf is not created equal, however. I spent some time looking for turf that looked and felt realistic." A pergola, built by her handy husband, houses a daybed and provides shade in the otherwise sunny backyard. White hydrangeas bloom all summer long.

*Continued on page 82*



**BELOW:** It's California love in the backyard oasis. The white concrete walkway is a bright contrast to the lush green hues. A dreamy daybed with billowy white curtains makes it easy to dream the day away.



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The most recent part of the renovation was an overhaul of the primary bedroom and en suite. G Custom Homes took on the job. A custom upholstered bed by **White Glove Furniture** and drapery by **Jean Gardner Designs** use whites, soft greys and creams to create a restful room. Warm wood accents on the ceiling light from **Universal Lighting** and gold accents throughout add dimension. Odette included custom floor-to-ceiling mirrored cabinetry by **Houser Fine Cabinetry** on one wall to keep clutter at bay.

*Continued on page 84*

Sweet dreams are made of this. Soft neutral tones, layered textures and soothing artwork bring a calm, serene feeling to the primary bedroom. Custom, integrated mirrored cabinetry helps create openness while providing a space to keep clutter out of sight.

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INTERIOR DECORATOR



INTERIOR DECORATOR/  
NEW OWNER

Anne Smith has proudly provided Ancaster, Hamilton and beyond with custom decorating solutions since 1989, but the time has come to take time for herself and retire. She is happy to announce that Jill Fraser, of Fraser Decor, will be taking over Buy The Yard Interiors, and would like to assure her loyal clientele that they can expect the same personal and professional service they've come to rely on.

## Buy the Yard INTERIORS

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In the bathroom, Odette wanted that feeling of a high-end hotel. Instead of a vanity with cupboards and drawers, she opted for a waterfall countertop with an open area underneath for fluffy towels. She removed the big builder tub in favour of a make-up and hair station. The tiles from Ciot are Turkish dolomite, and gold faucets and accents add warmth to the space.

Three years after her last renovation, Odette still feels the new design will stand the test of time. “I definitely lean more towards classic and timeless design,” she says. “Trendy has its place too, but I never want my home to feel outdated. This home will always be beautiful.” **OH**



The crisp look and luxury feel of a contemporary hotel bathroom is an enticing style feature in home design. Here, dark hues add a luxe, moody feel. In a neutral en suite, metal accents sometimes get lost, but hints of gold stand out against a darker tone, and texture in the window coverings and flooring add dimension.



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# BETTER *Together*

STORY **MELISSA NORTH**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**

## THE PLACE

Dundas, at the base of the Niagara Escarpment, has long lured visitors with its historic downtown and outdoor activities. And there's another reason to make a fast track to Dundas: **Graham & Brooks'** brand new refurbished 5,700 sq. ft. showroom. With high ceilings and old wood floors, it's the perfect setting to discover a wealth of unique new and old furniture, décor and accessories.

## THE BACKSTORY

Lorna and John Parcher began Graham & Brooks back in 2015. Lorna established her home, garden and cottage store while John sourced olden ware. John's reach grew and he formed Graham & Brooks Salvage Company, an extraordinary mix of architectural, industrial and antique finds. And now the two have united their businesses, creating an expansive, beautifully curated and designed destination for inspiration.



Lorna and John Parcher



## THE STYLE

With an amalgamation of new and old, Graham & Brooks offers a range of products sourced locally and from far afield, including Eastern Europe, the U.S. and the Middle East. Vignettes suggest novel ways to repurpose vintage pieces (lighting, Persian rugs!), while incorporating brand new elements. "It's really customer driven," says John. "We're going to continue to offer many of the things we've always offered, but are evolving and growing in a way that respects where the customer is going." Adds Lorna, "The blending of our merchandise has also been a blending of our customers. It's exciting."



## THE FUTURE

Never ones to sit and idle, Lorna and John will continue to expand their offerings. They have recently gone into custom Ontario-made bedding. Under their Whisky Jack line they will add furniture to the custom tables they already build. And look out for upholstered furniture and textured wall paint. Together, this lovely couple really do provide inspiration. "One of the best things about merging our two visions of the business into one location is that I get to work with my partner," says John. **OH**



## Get There

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## ABERDEEN INTERIORS

**Aberdeen Interiors** was established to reflect the passion for service and quality owner Robert Armstrong has spent his career cultivating. After almost 10 years of building a reputation of high-quality workmanship and service experience, together with a team of more than a dozen craftsmen and a full network of licensed trades – we are excited to help bring your vision and dreams to reality and maximize the functionality and beauty of your living spaces!

We provide a complete range of services for all your renovation and building needs. From design, architecture, and engineering to renovations and additions, we are ready to help you every step of the way. We have a dedicated kitchen and bathroom team and more than 100 years of combined renovation and building experience on staff for all your interior project needs.

We are grateful to our clients, who have generously hired us for multiple projects or homes, or for their ultimate compliment of referring us to their friends and family – thank you. We will work hard to continue to earn your trust through honesty and integrity.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and to help bring your dream a step closer to reality!

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**aberdeeninteriors.ca**

*(Please see ad on pg 25)*



## BUY THE YARD INTERIORS

It is with bittersweet excitement that we announce the retirement of Anne Smith, owner of **Buy The Yard Interiors** since 1989. Anne and her team have provided exceptional service and custom decorating to thousands of homes over the years. Under Anne's dynamic leadership, Buy The Yard Interiors has always been a highly sought after resource for reupholstery, custom upholstery, custom window treatments and high end home décor. Throughout her career, Anne has helped happy homeowners create beautiful homes and has enriched their lives in immeasurable ways.

It was important to Anne, as she approached retirement, that Buy The Yard Interiors continue to provide clients with custom decorating under the careful leadership of a professional. She is pleased and excited to announce that Jill Fraser of Fraser Decor is the proud new owner of Buy The Yard Interiors. Clients can expect the same full service custom decorating Jill has been providing clients since 2011, along with additional design staff, and access to designer fabrics, wallpaper, reupholstery, luxury home décor, custom furniture, draperies, and bedding.

Please do come in and say both hello to Jill and farewell to Anne! We are looking forward to working with you!

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*(Please see ad on pg 83)*



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*Continued on page 90*





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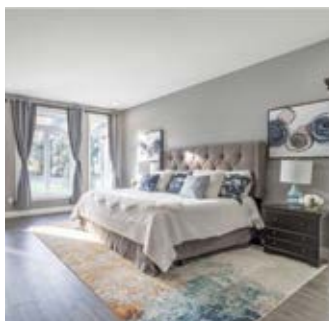
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STORY **DENISE WILLSON**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**

# MAJOR RENOVATION

***WHEN SARA AND CHRIS MOVED THEIR FAMILY INTO THEIR NEW HOME IN DUNDAS TWO YEARS AGO, THEY WERE NOT PLANNING AN IMMEDIATE MAJOR RENOVATION.***



This was going to be their forever home and they knew how important it was to live in the house before knowing how to change it. “Experiencing the house allowed us to understand our wants and needs,” says homeowner Sara. The children – Alex, Laura, and Ben – would need space to grow and to accommodate their regular flow of friends. The house had to meet the family’s needs today and tomorrow. Their long-term plan turned into a whole-home renovation after discovering significant concerns.

*Continued on page 94*

**LEFT:** Crisp white cabinetry and subway tiles play nicely together with wood elements. Running the cabinets to the ceiling looks smart and in some places hides ductwork and plumbing. **ABOVE:** Chris and Sara and their children Alex, 10, Laura, 8 and Ben, 6 moved in with family for the eight-month renovation project. **OPPOSITE:** “The kitchen wasn’t in this configuration at all,” says Brad. “We actually stole a corner out of the garage to square off the kitchen and achieve a proper layout.”





**LEFT:** The original 1962 home's main floor was divided into rooms, but Sara and Brad wanted open spaces that would flow into each other. **OPPOSITE, TOP:** The property backs onto a creek and conservation area, so large windows make the most of views and privacy. A mantel adorning the newly-added fireplace was milled from a black walnut tree in the yard that had to come down several years earlier. **BOTTOM LEFT:** The homeowners opted for this beautiful loose-lay vinyl flooring from Eden Tile-It. In fact, says Brad, in terms of final colours and finishes, the homeowners picked out everything themselves. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Builder Brad Robinson designed all the floor plans for the renovated house.



The electrical, plumbing and HVAC systems were pulled and replaced with smart, energy-efficient alternatives. “The house was insulated poorly,” says Brad, “and seasons weren’t comfortable.” A KeepRite dual-zone HVAC system and a steam humidifier were installed, which help keep humidity levels constant in the house. **EMCO Corp.** provided the plumbing fixtures throughout the home. The electrical system includes two Eaton Panels that divide the power needs in the house if there is a blackout – a common issue in the area. The primary 200-amp panel runs the must-have needs of the home on a daily basis and the secondary panel runs a generator should the need arise from a power outage.

*Continued on page 96*







**ABOVE AND RIGHT:** The original en suite was small, but by reworking the walk-in closet and bathroom floor plan, Brad was able to create a more functional space. The steam shower is particularly striking with a wood-grain tile feature wall. **BELOW:** The children's bathroom is styled to suit them as they grow – blue cabinetry is both fun and timeless.



The interior space boasts a mix of traditional elements and contemporary features. The family's lifestyle was at the forefront of every decision. They love to play and entertain both indoors and outdoors, so the kitchen, dining and living rooms were updated with this in mind. "Summer weekends are always busy with barbecues, swimming in the pool and kids running around," says Chris.

Brad moved walls and poached a little garage space to create an open and airy kitchen, with cabinetry by **Interior Works Inc.**, open shelving, and bevelled subway tiles. One of

the homeowners' must-haves, a large kitchen island, is topped with quartz from **Rockstella Stonery Inc.** A pantry keeps kitchen supplies corralled.

Sara loves to cook, bake and gather friends and family in the kitchen. "I am a collector of people," she says. "Everyone we know is welcome at our home for the holidays." Sara loves to decorate for Christmas and Easter and even had Brad position electrical outlets and switches to accommodate holiday décor, including outlets placed in the three-storey staircase to power the illuminated garland for the banister and hand rails.

*Continued on page 98*

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The homeowners adore the open riser, open stringer floating oak staircase connecting all three levels of the house. “Brad removed a wall so the backyard and trees can be seen through the stairway,” says Chris, “and when you stand in the basement, you can see all the way to the top floor ceiling with recessed lighting. The kids love dropping little green army men with parachutes from the top of the open stairway.” The stairway was done by **Lennox Stairs & Wood Floors**. Recessed lighting was used around the perimeter of several rooms in the house, offering a soft alternative to pot lights.

The limestone fireplace in the sunken living room is another of the homeowners’ favourites. “A backyard tree was hit by lightning, splitting the main trunk,” says Chris, “so we had the wood made into a mantel for the fireplace.” The gas fireplaces were supplied and installed by **Distinctive Fires**. A live-edge waterfall table from **Dhimarko Inc.** built off the kitchen island was cut from massive cherry slabs sourced locally. “We love bringing nature indoors,” says Sara. They renovated using reclaimed wood, beams, organics and live edges, striving to support local vendors and trades when possible. *Continued on page 100*

**LEFT:** One of the many things Sara and Chris wanted to achieve was an open feeling running from the lower level to the top floor. They debated installing a cascading chandelier but instead Brad lifted the ceiling in the middle and added recessed lighting. **BELOW:** The lower level is, as Chris calls it, their at-home cottage, with a pool and yard out the back, fireplace and entertaining areas. **BOTTOM:** A downstairs kitchenette completes the vacation spot vibe.



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Scratch-resistant vinyl flooring supplied by **Eden Tile-It** runs through the first and second floors of the house and by **Your Floors & More**, in the lower level. “The loose-lay flooring looks like wood,” says Brad, “yet is perfect for dogs and kids.” The family’s chocolate lab, named Tater, likes to join the fun. “We even built a dog cave for Tater in the mudroom,” says Sara. In addition to hooks and cubbies for storage, there is a place for Tater to relax and dry off from the outdoors. Your Floors & More also supplied bathroom vanities by **Stonewood Bath Cabinetry** and tile for the four renovated

bathrooms, as well as the stone facing for the main fireplace. Now that these homeowners are the ones with renovation experience, they know what advice they’d give to others. “Don’t skimp on things that stay forever or a really long time,” says Chris. “Put money into details that can’t be easily replaced.” Sara and Chris made a few splurges while shopping around for economical options to offset costs, and Brad and his team respected their budget. The newly revamped household is alive with laughter. And this family is at home in a house that suits them perfectly. **OH**

**TOP:** The mudroom connects the garage and the kitchen, as well as the lower level via a second staircase. Tater even has his own hidey-hole. **RIGHT:** A small powder room packs a lot of punch, with arabesque tiles and a live-edge counter.





Project Designer: Andrea Lynn Designs

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RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY **JENELLE MCCULLOCH**

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## Brownie

### INGREDIENTS

1 cup cocoa powder  
1 cup all-purpose flour  
¾ tsp baking powder  
1 tsp salt  
1 cup unsalted butter, melted  
2 cups granulated sugar  
3 eggs, room temperature  
1 tsp vanilla extract



### INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat the oven to 350°F and line two 9x9-inch square pans with parchment paper.

In a medium bowl combine cocoa powder, all-purpose flour, baking powder and salt. Mix thoroughly and set aside.

In a large mixing bowl, combine melted butter and sugar. Whisk until combined. Whisk in eggs and vanilla extract. Fold in dry ingredients until just combined.

Split the brownie mixture between the two pans (about 2 cups of batter in each pan). The batter will be thick.

Take a piece of parchment paper and place it on top of the batter. Press the parchment into the batter to flatten the batter (this will help the batter bake evenly). Bake for 15 minutes.

Remove from oven, let cool and place in freezer until ready to use.

## Filling Assembly

### INGREDIENTS

1 ½ cups whipping cream  
1 tsp vanilla  
1 can (300ml) sweetened condensed milk  
½ cup Dulce de Leche

### INSTRUCTIONS

In the large bowl of a stand mixer or using a hand mixer, whip the cream until thick and fluffy. Add vanilla and continue to beat until stiff peaks form. Fold in the sweetened condensed milk.

Remove whole brownie from one pan.

Spread the filling evenly on top of the brownie still in the second pan.

Drizzle Dulce de Leche on top and swirl into the filling.

Place the other brownie on top and gently press down.

Freeze for approximately 6 hours.

Cut into rectangles and keep frozen until ready to eat. **OH**



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# SPECKLED Style

Terrazzo is back in all shapes and colours. And it's not just for floors, walls and counters. The terrazzo look is everywhere and we've found some fun ways to introduce this look at home.

1. **RENWIL:** Bruno Bookends 2. **RENWIL:** Teano Side Table & Magazine Holder 3. **INDIGO:** A4 Spiral Notebook in Terrazzo Blush 4. **GEON TILE:** Assorted Terrazzo Tile 5. **SURYA:** Terra Pillow 6. **RENWIL:** Castelo Pillow 7. **S'WELL:** Pink Terrazzo Takeaway Mug 8. **IH CASADÉCOR:** 9.5" Cutting Board Shape Ceramic Trivet 9. **SIMONS:** Concrete Disc Hook 10. **NUEVO:** Nani Sconce in Bubble Gum Terrazzo 11. **CRATE & KIDS:** Terrazzo Toddler Bedding 12. **SUGARHOUSE CERAMIC CO.:** Hand-Painted Terrazzo Mug in Speckle 13. **STYLE IN FORM:** Anthology Honeycomb Coasters 14. **MADE GOODS:** Janison Tray Set in White Mop Terrazzo 15. **ABBOTT:** Luncheon Terrazzo Napkins 16. **SIMONS:** Terrazzo-Print Shower Curtain 17. **SIMONS:** Terrazzo-Print Bath Mat 18. **SIMONS:** Terrazzo Printed Accessories **OH**



## The Floor Shop

Quality Wood Flooring . . . Since 1989

### WOOD FLOORING SPECIALISTS

Hardwood Flooring lends character and charm to any room in your home or business and best of all—it never goes out of style, and it is simply beautiful! Wood flooring has gone far beyond classic styles of traditional wood-grains. In addition to beauty, our collection of hardwood flooring offers exciting possibilities in a variety of species; oak, maple, birch, beech, walnut, jatoba, hickory, American Cherry as well as colours, widths, finishes and so much more. Since 1989, The Floor Shop, now with three locations in the Greater Toronto Area offers you incredible floors that will last a lifetime.

The Floor Shop has also been featured on several episodes of 'Holmes on Homes', the highly revered award winning HGTV program with Mike Holmes. The Floor Shop—your wood flooring specialists for warmth, livability and character.



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**MERCIER**  
wood flooring





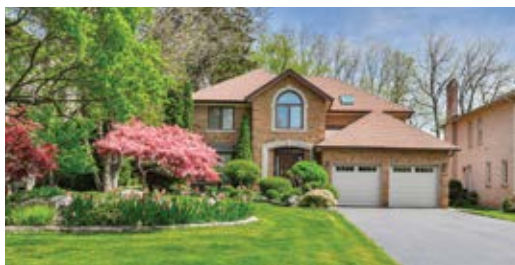
**DAVID SMALL DESIGN**  
**\$3,220,000**

Incredible David Small design home on spectacular estate lot in desirable South Mississauga. Breathtaking magazine worthy dream kitchen open concept to great room & lounge overlooking entertainer's backyard oasis. Legacy home built for family enjoyment.



**LUXURY BY THE LAKE**  
**\$1,850,000**

Prem. almost 3000sq.ft. end unit exec. townhouse w/ sought after loft & added ensuite bath-2nd master bedroom! Customized spacious flr plan w/expanded fam rm! Kit walkout, western private patio & extra mature trees. Huge 3 car garage. steps to trendy Port Credit, GO, marina, waterfront trail, min. to QEW.



**CREDIT RIVER VALLEY**  
**\$3,488,000**

Impressive 331ft. estate property overlooking Credit River Valley across to Doulton Estates. Gorgeous regally appointed manor home, gourmet kitchen, custom solarium conservatory, main floor library, primary suite with sitting room and lux ensuite. Finished lower level. Perfect inside & out. Park like backyard!



**PORT CREDIT DREAM**  
**\$4,650,000**

Exciting Magazine worthy contemporary dream home finished to perfection. Breath taking open concept main level & entertainers lower level w/ walk-out to private yard. Simply must be seen! Steps to GO, dining, lake & trails.



**STATELY ARTHUR BLAKELY**  
**\$2,698,800**

Premium wide lot in desirable & mature enclave steps To UTM, schools & best trails! Main flr office, gracious LR & DR, custom gourmet kitchen & generous fam rm w/fireplace. Family perfect private backyard, gorgeous pool & patio.



**CREDIT RIVER RAVINE**  
**\$4,680,000**

Truly unrivalled approx 2.5 acre Credit River estate retreat on gently sloping manicured grounds & riparian rights. Sprawling raised bungalow, soaring Great rm, expansive wings & full walk-out lwr level. 8 car garage parking-circular drive. Mesmerizing sunsets! Iconic waterfront sanctuary property.



**BACKYARD POOL OASIS**  
**\$2,649,000**

Stunning Heritage style modern replication on premium 66x149ft private lot w backyard pool oasis! Stunning approx 10ft ceilings on all 3 levels! Kitchen overlooks gorgeous Great rm. Ultimate turn-key Nanny/in-law suite + work from home office.



**PARADISE FOUND**  
**\$3,199,800**

Spectacular whole home reno, custom built quality! No expenses spared! Breathtaking kitchen open to vaulted GR, DR, main fl. library, + heated garage + wet bar. Lux primary BR, sitting rm/office + spa ensuite. Fin. basement, cinema, steam bath + Resort cabana, wood pizza oven, BBQ, TV, bar! Best trails. Walk to schools.



**SOUTHERN REAR EXPOSURE!**  
**\$1,775,000**

Stunning 5 bedroom family home on premium pool size lot with brilliant southern rear exposure! One of the most sought out neighbourhoods this home boasts almost 3000 sq. ft. + 3 baths on bedroom level. Shows to perfection.

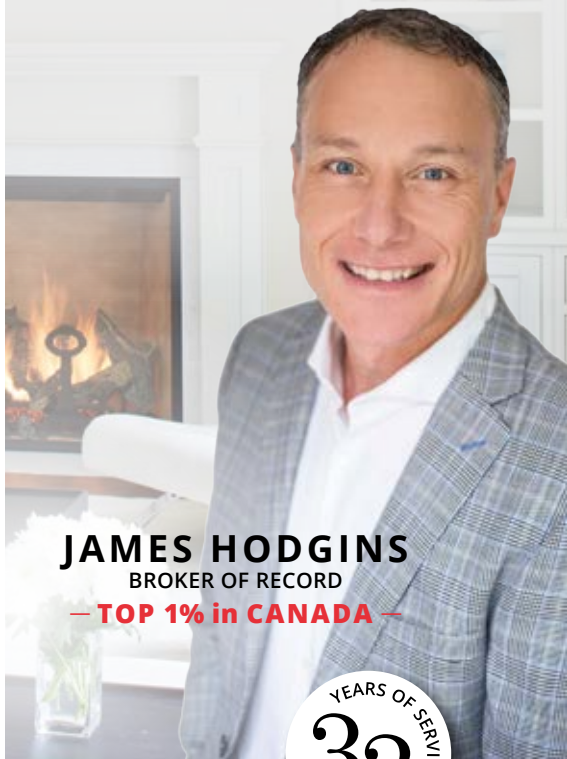


**Thinking  
of Selling?**

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**BROKER OF RECORD**

**— TOP 1% in CANADA —**



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Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract with a brokerage.

