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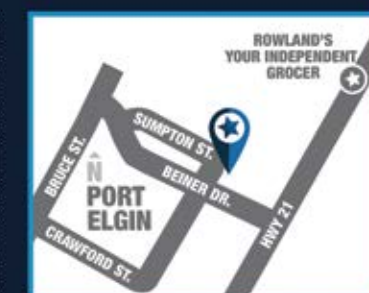
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REGIONAL PUBLISHER **OUR HOMES Media Group Inc.**

Jamie Jefferson  
Georgette McCulloch

REGIONAL MANAGING EDITOR Tamarisk McNalty Stephens

REGIONAL PRODUCTION MANAGER Kelly Donaldson

MARKETING & ADVERTISING Betty Ann Fawcett, 519.372.6338  
[bettyann.fawcett@ourhomes.ca](mailto:bettyann.fawcett@ourhomes.ca)

DISTRIBUTION Allan Fawcett, 519.986.2599

REACH US EASILY: [firstname.lastname@ourhomes.ca](mailto:firstname.lastname@ourhomes.ca)

OUR HOMES is a registered trademark of OUR HOMES MEDIA GROUP INC.  
OUR HOMES Grey & Bruce Counties is published four times a year.

OUR HOMES is distributed to residents of Grey & Bruce Counties and to cottagers via direct mail. Copies of OUR HOMES are available for free pick up at high traffic locations throughout the region. Copies of OUR HOMES are also sent via direct mail to members of select ski clubs in the region. OUR HOMES is distributed throughout select B&Bs and hotels, and to select business leaders via direct mail.

OUR HOMES Media Group Inc. is a proud member of the  
Owen Sound and District Chamber of Commerce.

Please send all letters and/or feedback to OUR HOMES Magazine, 25 Elgin St.,  
Collingwood, Ontario, Canada L9Y 3L6. Or email us at [editor@ourhomes.ca](mailto:editor@ourhomes.ca).  
All letters received are subject to editing for grammar and length.

OUR HOMES MEDIA GROUP INC:

**EDITORIAL**

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Georgette McCulloch

ASSOCIATE & WEB EDITOR Laurel Fortin

**MANAGING EDITORS**

Nancy Belgue, Adrienne Brown,  
Laurel Fortin, Walter Franczyk,  
Mary Hatt, Gina Makkar,  
Tiffany Mayer, Georgette McCulloch,  
Tamarisk McNalty Stephens, Melissa North,  
Merrilyn Patterson, Diane Sawchuk

**ART**

ART DIRECTOR Tara Chattell

ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTORS

Sheila Britton, Robynne Sangiuliano

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY Jason Hartog

**PRODUCTION**

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR Lynn Derrick

**PRODUCTION MANAGERS**

Julia Dempsey, Kelly Donaldson,  
Marilyn Reid, Abby Reynolds,  
Tracy Shuttleworth

**OPERATIONS**

MANAGING DIRECTOR, SALES & MARKETING

Jamie Jefferson  
[jamie.jefferson@ourhomes.ca](mailto:jamie.jefferson@ourhomes.ca)

MANAGING DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS

Georgette McCulloch

DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Christine Puma  
[christine.puma@ourhomes.ca](mailto:christine.puma@ourhomes.ca)

NATIONAL SALES DIRECTOR

Amanda Newell  
[amanda.newell@ourhomes.ca](mailto:amanda.newell@ourhomes.ca)

ACCOUNTING Donna Duggan

ADMINISTRATOR Lisa Merrell


**CONTRIBUTORS**

Leigh-Ann Allaire Perrault, Nicole Aubrey, Brandon Barre,  
Sheila Britton, Tara Chattell, Michael Carson, Eddie Cimbron-Corner,  
Pat Crocker, Megan Dunn, Walter Franczyk, Jason Hartog, Sandy MacKay,  
Jenelle McCulloch, Jennifer McGuire, Tamarisk McNalty Stephens, Dolores Pian,  
Melanie Rekola, Mehreen Shahid, Yanic Simard, Sarah Tacoma

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### TUCKED DOWN BEYOND A ROLL IN THE LANDSCAPE

is a small wood cabin nestled amongst a backdrop of frosty trees. Smoke wafts from an old stone chimney while icicles glisten in the sun. The tiny abode has become part of its surroundings and invites wildlife to meander past.

Sounds lovely, doesn't it?

Three years ago, my husband and I moved into this 800 sq. ft. cabin that sits quietly on our dream property. Since then, a hound dog and a little guy have joined our family. Although the intention was for our accommodation to be temporary, here we are, still dreaming about the dream home.

While it may sound idyllic, the reality is that one must park and carefully manoeuvre down a snowy slope toward the door while balancing a toddler, groceries, keys, etc. The smoke that wafts from the old stone chimney requires wood to keep the fire burning – wood that one must gather multiple times a day. Of course, the icicles indicate a lack of insulation that brings many frosty mornings, while the wildlife (...or perhaps critters is a more accurate description) send continual reminders that they were here long before us.

Needless to say, come the end of February, there is nothing like the promise of spring to preserve my sanity.

As an interior design professional I often make jokes about our living quarters, but the fact is that this cabin has become our home. In addition to its practical purpose, it has also taught us valuable lessons about living with less, gratitude, and most importantly – that home is truly what you make it. And fortunately for me, I can live vicariously through the builds and renovations of my clients – and now, I can further explore all things home with my new role as Managing Editor for OUR HOMES Grey & Bruce.

Spring is the perfect time to be re-energized to tackle home projects indoors and out, and I know you'll feel as inspired as I did meeting the people, businesses and families who are committed to their craft and passionate about their role in helping you create a home you love.

Cheers to everyday life at home,

*Tamarisk McNalty Stephens*

Tamarisk McNalty Stephens, Managing Editor  
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# CONTENTS

## SPRING 2017



**ON THE COVER**  
Building the Dream.  
Story, page 54. Photography  
by Sandy MacKay.



### LOCAL FEATURES

- 20 Style Picks** Blending the lines of rustic and modern design.
- 36 Feature Home** A young family settles where roots run deep.
- 48 Spotlight** Endless inspiration at Grey Bruce Paint & Décor.
- 54 Home & Builder** Tour a builder's home in Saugeen Shores.
- 68 People** The favourite spring pastimes of local businesses.

### DEPARTMENTS

- 14 Editor's Note**
- 18 Advice** Fabric Basics
- 22 Gardening** Modern Landscapes
- 26 Good Taste** Herbal Honey Cocktail
- 28 Design Ideas** Must-Have Colours
- 32 Cooking At Home** Cheesy Pancakes
- 46 Real Estate** Millennial Dilemmas
- 64 Decorating** The Worldly Guest Room
- 76 Focus** Pantone's Colour Of The Year
- 78 Double Take** Whimsical Vintage Bathroom
- 84 Outdoor Living** Headed For The Highway
- 88 Home Resource Directory**
- 90 Cooking At Home** Fresh Asparagus Salad
- 92 Crafty Ideas** Organized Closet Hangers
- 96 Finishing Touch** Scandinavian Style

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advice

## FABRICS 101

Interior Designer **Dolores Pian** shares her ideas.



Fabrics surround us. We look at them. We sit on them. We touch them. They are above us, below us and around us.

We interact with fabrics more in our day-to-day lives than any other material in our homes. They must wear well, look fantastic and be reasonably priced.

Although fabrics may appear on walls, seating, carpets and household textiles such as bedding and towels, it's upholstery and window coverings that we put the most demand on in the home. Knowing the basics about textiles will help you invest in your fabrics wisely.

### LABELLING

Always read the label and ask questions. All textile products should have a label that commonly contains the following information:

**Fibre Content** – listed in order of the highest fibre content first

**Country of Origin**

**Product Details** – type, size and style

**Retailer's Logo and Product Number**

**Barcodes**

**Care Labels** – how to look after your product to keep it looking good

**Abrasion Resistance** – the ability of a fabric to resist surface wear caused by rubbing

**Other Information** – ratings for safety, flammability, classifications of finishes

**Finishes** – aesthetic and performance functions

### FINISHES

A finish may not be apparent to the naked eye but it is there. And they vary with the end use. Fabric finishes are used to improve the fabric in some way. This could be to:

**Improve the appearance**

**Change the texture**

**Improve the feel**

**Improve how it drapes (hangs)**

**Improve functional qualities and durability** such as water-, stain- and soil-repellence, care-free finishing, wrinkle resistance and shrinkage control.

The average interior design fabric is treated with six finishes in order to be saleable.

### HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Another important consideration for fabric selection is your sensitivity to materials and finishes. Manufacturers understand this environmental concern and will tell you what their IAQ (indoor air quality) rating is.

Most materials off-gas. After installing furniture, drapes and carpeting, it's important to open your home to fresh air to dissipate possible fumes. This allows the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) to dissipate.

### UPHOLSTERY (AKA SEATING)

The fabrics that we sit on are subjected to a great deal of stress.



Kids, pets and couch potatoes seem to be the most demanding creatures on these fabrics.

Homeowners are now asking for commercial abrasion and durability ratings such as 30,000 double rubs to 50,000 double rubs, or more, for their sofas. The Wyzenbeek method, a standard of rubbing fabric back and forth on itself, is used to evaluate a fabric's strength.

If your label doesn't contain durability information, then use other tried and true methods such as the "key test" or the "diamond ring test." On a sample fabric, rub a key or ring back and forth across the fabric to see if it starts to wear, makes a mark, shifts or if its threads pull easily. If so, then it is not suitable for upholstery applications.

Luckily, Robert Allen Design and other reputable textile suppliers have beautiful performance fabrics that are stylish. They are easy to clean, highly repellant to stains and spills, and reduce or eliminate the need for chemical cleaners. You'll find them as standard fabric offerings for various seating manufacturers.



Sunbrella, used for outdoor seating, wears like iron. Manufacturers of beds for pets use Sunbrella for its virtually indestructible, yet pleasing, properties.

### WINDOW COVERINGS (AKA DRAPERY)



Draperies enhance the appearance of windows or architecture, provide privacy, control light and sound and can provide a pleasing view.

Although not subject to as much stress as a sofa, they still have performance standards to consider.

Remember that fabrics, as well as other materials, can fade in direct sunlight – even synthetics.

Natural fabrics will fade the fastest. If you have direct southern or western exposure on the top floor of a penthouse with air conditioning – yes, your drapes will still fade. This is the law of nature and physics.

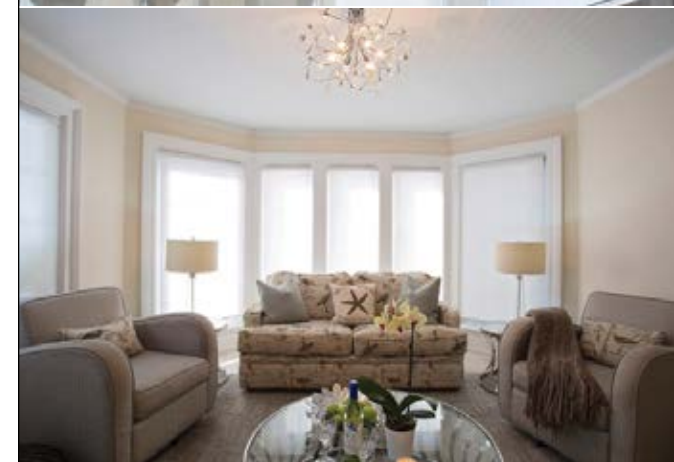
### FABRIC'S FUTURE

What's in store for fabric? Drapes that contain solar cells, or perhaps seating fabric that can monitor your health or allow you to communicate with your "intelligent" devices? The possibilities are endless with textiles. Embrace the fabrics that surround you. Choose wisely. Choose well. **OH**



1. CRÉATION BAUMANN: Velos Strato in Colour 0120 2. CRÉATION BAUMANN: Velos Strato in Colour 0164 3. ROBERT ALLEN: Windsor Park in Palm 4. ROBERT ALLEN: Mill Reef in Palm 5. ROBERT ALLEN: Dover Street in Saffron 6. ROBERT ALLEN: Ashcombe Bk in Saffron 7. ROBERT ALLEN: Sunbrella Wanderlust Indoor / Outdoor Fabric Collection 8. CRÉATION BAUMANN: Viento S in Colour 0002 9. ROBERT ALLEN: Monsoon Weave in Mint 10. ROBERT ALLEN: Teague in Gold Leaf

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# THE RETURN OF RUSTIC

PHOTOGRAPHY SARAH TACOMA

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Contemporary style courses naturally through my Scandinavian veins; its purity of form makes my heart sing. I never tire of clean lines and elegance.

But applying a modern home's style to its landscape may seem a step taken too far. The words "nature in a straightjacket" come to mind. But Mother Nature need not be pummeled into submission to be considered modern. I assure you, gardens can be contemporary and at the same time connected to the natural world.

Boiled down to its most basic beginnings, the term "modern design" originates from the modern arts movement's influence on design in general, but it also encompasses many ambiguous representations, making it difficult to define. Contemporary, mid-century and Scandi-style, just to name a few, all seem to fall under the modernist umbrella. Fortunately, most of what applies to interior design also applies to exterior design and for simplicity's sake, I will focus on the central themes common to these style terms rather than their finer points.

## MATERIAL

A modern garden design, you might think, would run contrary to centuries-old landscape design basics, yet the same rudimentary



elements hold true. The patio, shade structure and fencing are all still part of the modern backyard plan, but the materials have been refreshed. Instead of flagstone, the patio is simple concrete, and the arbour is made of metal. Terracotta pots are replaced by large, geometric, fibreglass planters. Horizontal fencing is used in place of the popsicle-stick standard and free form pools are swapped for rectangular shapes. *Continued on page 24*

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gardening

SOFTENING

With its strong visual lines, grids and graphic elements, a modern backyard can read cold and lifeless without the necessary softening provided by plants. It is through the vegetation that the modern landscape becomes a relaxing and calming retreat, by providing a vital connection with nature at home.

JUXTAPOSITION

Visually, plant life delivers a natural juxtaposition to boxy shapes and smooth textures. No matter how well designed a contemporary space is, all those rectangles can come across as too sterile. Through strategic block plantings (meaning groupings of perhaps fives, nines, and 15s and not an assembly of 105 hosta plants), the garden space can still relate to the geometric planes of the house and hardscape. Yet, it is the randomness of vegetation that breaks up those same linear lines and makes all the difference. These plantings need not be restricted to ground covers and clump-forming grasses. From large,

airy perennials to architectural shrubbery, any plant material can be executed in a modern way to break up the sparseness.

COMPOSITION

Even trees have a home here and serve a critical design purpose where they act as essential living and growing focal points. Eye-catching colour schemes fit in effortlessly as part of contemporary compositions, thus there is no need to shy away from flamboyant foliage or blossoms. Think back to the groovy 60s. Yes, modern yards can even be lush! By contrast, plush gardens only enhance beautifully straight lines and scales, striking the perfect balance.

CONNECTION

A frequent criticism of modern homes and landscapes is their disconnection from the traditional neighbourhoods they're so often found in today. By incorporating natural elements indigenous to the area, such as plants, stone and wood, the modern space feels warm, interconnected even, when placed

within a traditional locale. I call this style classic modern and believe these natural materials contribute a timeless appeal. Even traditional homes can be moved toward the modern scale and become transitional where flair from the past fuses with style-forward colours and design.

ESTABLISHING

Modern or not, sadly landscaping is often at the very bottom of the home improvements wish list and many lonely backyards never realize their full potential. Me? When I move into a new home I take care of the outdoor overhaul first and afterwards get to work on the interior. It takes years for trees to gain heft and a garden to come into its own, so while I plug away at the interior, the outdoor space just keeps getting better. Perhaps this method is opposite to most but it's a process that has served me well. **OH**



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good taste

# thyme-honey GRAPEFRUIT COCKTAIL

RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY JENELLE MCCULLOCH

Learn the art of infusing your cocktails with fresh herbs and honey. This drink is refreshing and sure to impress.



## THYME HONEY SYRUP

Using honey in cocktails is a fantastic way to add sweetness and depth of flavour. But first, we need to make it into a dissolvable syrup.

The amount of honey you use will depend on the ratio you prefer. A 1:1 ratio is perfect for a mild syrup, but I prefer a ratio of 2:1 – two parts honey to one part water – for a sweeter result.

### INGREDIENTS

½ cup honey  
¼ cup water  
1 sprig of thyme

### DIRECTIONS

- In a small saucepan combine ½ cup honey, ¼ cup water and a sprig of thyme.
- Bring to a simmer until honey dissolves.
- Take off heat and let cool. The thyme will begin to infuse into the syrup.
- Once cooled, strain thyme out of syrup.
- The syrup will keep for two weeks in the fridge.

## THYME HONEY GRAPEFRUIT COCKTAIL

### INGREDIENTS

Juice of 1 fresh grapefruit  
½ ounce thyme-honey syrup  
1 ounce gin  
1 thyme sprig for garnish

### DIRECTIONS

- Place ice in a cocktail shaker and combine all ingredients.
- Shake and strain over ice.
- Garnish with fresh thyme and enjoy! **OH**



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# THE NEW MUST-HAVE: MUTED COLOURS

STORY **YANIC SIMARD**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **COURTESY OF BENJAMIN MOORE**



Knoxville Gray  
(HC-160)



Dinner Party  
(AF-300)

Sea Star  
(2123-30)



PHOTO: BRANDON BARRE

These days, many people crave a little colour in their interiors, a desire that traditional neutrals like white, beige and grey just don't satisfy.

Muted colours stood idly by for years, but lately they've been taking their place on centre stage, as the new must-have for designers and homeowners alike. Their subtle depth deserves a little attention, so in this issue, I'm answering some questions about what makes a true muted colour, how to use them, and why they might be your new favourite too. All paint colours by Benjamin Moore.

## WHAT IS A MUTED COLOUR?

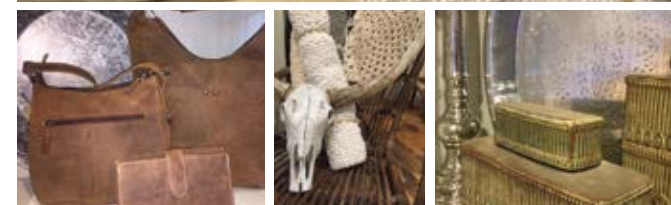
**A** When you add white, black or grey to a pure hue, you get a softer version of the colour. Although people use the word "shade" in other ways, a shade is technically a hue with black added, creating a darker and moodier version. Adding white makes a "tint," and adding grey produces a "tone." Perfectly muted "tones" are usually the most subtle and liveable, as they aren't too dark, too light, or too saturated.

## WHY CHOOSE MUTED COLOURS?

**A** They're smart semi-neutrals. Toned-down colours carry neutral grey in them, making them truly "semi-neutral," and for this reason they can still coordinate easily with many other accent colours. Muted options like dusky blues, oceanic greens, blush pinks, and rosé purples enrich your colour palette without overloading the senses. They make great paint selections for a quick update, because they can easily coordinate with existing accent hues in upholstery or art that you won't be replacing.

**TRY:** For a sophisticated green-grey, Knoxville Gray (HC-160). For an easy-to-work-with red, Dinner Party (AF-300). For a soft sky blue, Sea Star (2123-30).

Continued on page 30



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## design ideas



Amulet  
(AF-365)

Gentleman's Gray  
(2062-20)

**They look modern in a matte paint finish.** Muted colours are often associated with traditional design, being especially prevalent in historical homes. However, this doesn't mean they can't be put to beautiful use in a contemporary space: choosing a matte paint finish (instead of the common eggshell or semi-gloss) gives muted wall colours a perfect modern twist. Use muted matte walls with traditional furnishings, modern ones, or – even better – both, to tie the whole room together.

**TRY:** For a charming yellow, Amulet (AF-365). For a commanding navy, Gentleman's Gray (2062-20).

**They work well together.** Bold colours are made to make a statement. Neutrals are total wallflowers, letting the bold accents be the star. Muted hues, however, are made to work together, sharing the spotlight without fighting, and even making each other better. Because the undertones in muted colours are subtle or even a little hidden, they shine the most when they are offset by a contrasting hue. This means you can pair very different muted colours, even complete opposites, and watch them come alive without risking a total overload.

**TRY:** Pair the murky and mysterious Salamander (2050-10) or the velvety Dark Burgundy (2075-10) with a go-anywhere blush pink, Porcelain (2113-60).

Salamander  
(2050-10)

Dark  
Burgundy  
(2075-10)

Porcelain  
(2113-60)



## WHERE CAN I ADD MUTED COLOURS?

**A** Walls are a great home for a muted colour, but there are many other ways to use them to stunning effect.

**Upholstery:** Be bold and try a complex, muted hue for a sofa or dining chair, rather than a typical pure neutral. Grey may be safe, but a sumptuous cabernet red is inspirational, like the Viansa Velvet Sofa by Safavieh Couture.



**Pillows:** Mix-matched pillows, like these from Eastern Accents, add tons of personality. Pile up toss cushions in various subtle-but-contrasting hues and you can add lots of life to your colour palette.

**Rugs:** Traditional rugs in worldly patterns (like the Kashan Rug by Weavers Art) usually contain a range of inky shades. Layer such a carpet into a modern space to add immediate depth, or use one to pull colours for other pieces.



PHOTO: BRANDON BARRE



**Cabinets:** Who says cabinetry has to be either white or wood? Have cabinets sprayed an interesting shade, giving new life to your kitchen. I used Gentleman's Gray (2062-20) for my own kitchen cabinets, and it makes my brass accents and steel appliances sing. **OH**



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RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY **PAT CROCKER**

These puffy griddlecakes are easy, fast and satisfyingly good.

Serve piping hot with fresh fruit, or frozen yogurt for dessert, or add a dollop of ricotta cheese with slices of banana and drizzle with maple syrup for a hearty breakfast. For lunch or dinner, smear them with hummus or bean spread and top with thinly sliced carrot, cucumber, cabbage and red onion. Offer them alongside a salad for dinner. For a totally leftover lunch, place a spoonful of leftover chicken or fish in the centre, roll up and eat like a burrito.

No skillet or frying pan is large enough to grill pancakes for everyone at the same time, so for easy serving, cook pancakes up to 2 hours ahead of time and stack in fours on a baking sheet with a square of parchment paper between each pancake. Warm in an oven set to 350°F for 5 minutes or until warm.

**INGREDIENTS**  
(Makes 6 to 8 pancakes)

- ½ cup drained ricotta or cottage cheese
- 1 apple, shredded
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 2 Tbsp maple syrup or honey
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- ½ cup whole wheat or all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 to 2 Tbsp extra-virgin olive or coconut oil
- 1 cup blackberries or blueberries



**DIRECTIONS**

- In a medium bowl, combine cheese, apple, eggs, maple syrup and vanilla. Whisk with a fork until well mixed.
- In a separate, large bowl, combine flour, baking soda, cinnamon and salt. Pour cheese mixture into flour mixture and whisk with a fork just until mixed. Do not over mix.
- Lightly oil a griddle or large skillet and heat over medium-high heat. Scoop the batter using a ¼ cup measure (for small cakes) or a ½ cup measure (for medium cakes) and scrape onto the hot griddle, spreading each pancake to about ½-inch thickness. Cook for 2 minutes or until the uncooked side is golden and large bubbles form. Flip and cook on the remaining side for 2 minutes or until lightly browned.
- Serve on heated plates and garnish with a spoonful of blackberries or blueberries **OH**



Pat Crocker is a Culinary Herbalist, writing and growing herbs in Grey County. She is the author of 18 cookbooks.

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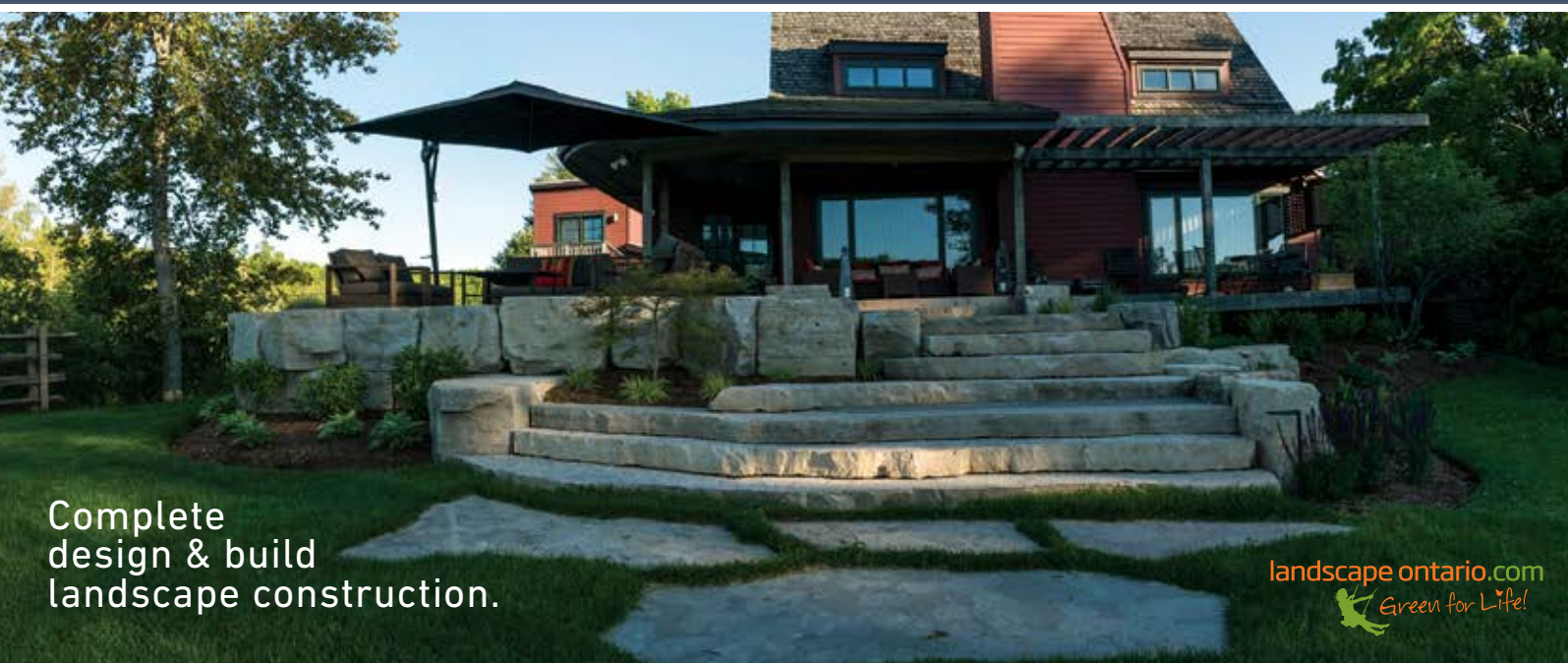
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# STRONG Roots

STORY JENNIFER MCGUIRE | PHOTOGRAPHY SANDY MACKAY | STAGING HOUSE RULES DESIGN SHOP

Most of us had a little picture in our heads as children, of what our someday, grown-up life might look like. The job we might have, the person we might marry, the children we might raise.



And somehow, that picture gets forgotten a little over time. Life, financial responsibilities, styles... everything can change if you're not careful. But Julie and Jeff Holland have been careful. When this young couple from Durham decided to build a home along the Saugeen River, they took children into consideration. Not just their own three little ones, but even, on some level, the children they had once been. When Jeff was a child, he had always pictured himself living on the water. "With big windows, so that when people walked in the front door, the first thing they would see would be the water," he says. And thanks to **Candue Homes** (as well as a real dedication to the vision he and wife Julie shared), that picture became a reality. *Continued on page 38*

- A natural focal point in the gathering area is the sleek modern fireplace set in floor-to-ceiling stacked stone with a mid-tone stained timber mantel. The light stone is accentuated by Benjamin Moore's Arctic Seal (CSP-15), the darker accent colour that flanks both sides. The symmetrical floating timber shelves are highlighted by the integrated pot lighting by **Dingwall Electric**.
- The large window displays a view to the expansive backyard and the river beyond. Sofa, chairs and tables are sourced from **House Rules Design Shop**.





« A classic white U-shaped kitchen and large island (Barzotti Woodworking Ltd.) was thoughtfully designed with functionality top of mind. Beautiful and subtle quartz countertops from **The Old Barn** and simple white subway tile complete the timeless aesthetic.

Stepping in the front door of their newly constructed home feels like walking into a spa getaway. The soothing, calm grey walls and floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace (House Rules Design Shop) give the impression of artless ease and welcome; as though the Holland family is always waiting for family to drop in with a smile, a hug and a cup of tea. Which is exactly what Julie had in mind when she and Jeff chose to build on the river where she grew up, a hometown girl from Durham.

The two met in Jeff's hometown of Ottawa in their 20s, living there for the first six years of their relationship. Once they decided to settle down and have a family, their thoughts turned to the Grey-Bruce area, where, as Jeff notes, "everyone is always nice, always genuinely happy to see you. A quick trip to the bank feels like a social outing."

The couple built their first home in Hanover, and discovered they loved the process of working with a builder to individualize their space. But that first home didn't feel like a perfect fit. Jeff lovingly called their first experience with building a home themselves a "guinea pig" project, and admits, "we had no idea what we were doing, but we learned a lot."

When the Hollands, who have three children under six, decided to buy a piece of property along the winding Saugeen River in 2015, their first experience building provided a lot of information about what they wanted in a forever home. *Continued on page 40*

« Homeowners Julie and Jeff Holland at their kitchen island – the definite hub of their open-concept, main-level living space.

» Wide plank hardwood flooring from Twelve Oaks Flooring extends throughout much of the main level living space, which contributes to the open and spacious feeling. A convenient entrance off the kitchen leads to the screened-in porch and deck at the back of the house for easy access to the grill, entertaining and watching the kids as they play.







« A fun and playful child's room offers the space for imaginations to flourish. Window coverings from **Cuneo Interiors Carpet One Floor & Home** provide privacy and the ability to darken the room during afternoon naptime.

They bought the land from **Don Tremble**, owner of Candue Homes. As they moved towards beginning construction the following spring, the couple worked closely with Don and the design firm he recommended to the couple, Darryl Regimbal of DR Designs, to customize their bungalow. Jeff says they must have revised their plans at least 13 times with Darryl and Don, but the end result was worth it. Both Julie and Jeff had their own vision of what was important to them. Julie wanted all four bedrooms on one side of the house so their kids could be close. Jeff was wise enough to have piping installed in the basement for a future wet bar "when the kids are older and we get to be grown-ups again," as Julie points out. Those two visions were executed in perfect harmony.

While Jeff's favourite room is the hyper-functional eat-in kitchen, designed with Julie's big extended family in mind, Julie, a stay-at-home mom, appreciates having a full service laundry room not only on the main floor, but just outside her bedroom.

The well-designed mudroom contains the mess and chaos. Separate hooks, shelving, and cubby holes for all members of the family blend form and function in a way only busy parents can truly appreciate. *Continued on page 44*

« The kids' bathroom was designed with the future in mind as a pocket door separates the bathing and toiletry area from the double vanity wash-up space – so everyone can get ready at once.

» The Holland's have their fair share of laundry in a house with three young children. A main floor laundry is conveniently located between all four main level bedrooms. Built-in cabinetry provides ample storage for extra towels and linens.



« The principal suite is flooded in natural light and has a lovely view to the river. Benjamin Moore's Cement Gray (2112-60) creates a soothing and welcoming retreat.

» The Hollands turned to Heather Smillie of House Rules Design Shop for assistance selecting a complementary scheme for the tiles in the large glass shower in the en suite. Sleek chrome fixtures and hardware complete the look and accent the double basin grey vanity.





feature

Hopkins Trim and Carpentry installed the trim throughout the home and also created this custom built-in unit to contain the necessary seasonal wear that accompanies life in Canada. The mudroom is located just inside the garage, and so, whether coming or going, family members can quickly and easily stay organized with these individualized cubby units.



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« The screened-in porch by **Wilson Solutions** is the perfect blend of indoor and outdoor living. Protected from the rain, the bugs and the beating sun, this room is a welcome extension to the Hollands' home and is complete with ceiling fan and potlights. Whether entertaining family and friends or simply enjoying the view on a quiet summer evening at home, this room is bound to see plenty of use in the years to come.

» A subtle and classic grey stone from **Shouldice Designer Stone** (installed by **Bross Masonry**) is accented by black windows and doors from Golden Windows. The crisp, linear architectural details are softened by landscaping and plantings by **RWC Landscape Design**.

### LOCAL SOURCE GUIDE

- Bross Masonry • Candue Homes • Clayton Brophy Painting
- Cuneo Interiors Carpet One Floor & Home • D.C. Overhead Doors Inc. • Dingwall Electric • Dennis Lorenz Roofing • Gary Voisin Flooring • Hopkins Trim & Carpentry • House Rules Design Shop • JT Excavating Inc. • Pratt Plumbing & Heating
- RWC Landscape Design • Shouldice Designer Stone • The Old Barn • Wilson Solutions

The beauty of the Hollands' home? It's not meant to be a showpiece. It's meant to be the sort of home their children will grow up in. A home where their family will always visit, whether to have a chat around the centre island in the kitchen, or watch the sunset on the screened-in patio overlooking the river.

When Jeff and Julie were working on their plans for their home, really considering what they wanted, it all came down to this: they wanted a place where their children would be comfortable for years to come. Where family and friends would always feel welcome to come sit and watch the river any season of the year.

They both got the home they wanted as kids. What more can you ask for? **OH**

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# WHERE WILL MILLENNIALS SETTLE?



Are millennials doomed to live in their parents' basements? The forecast for affordable housing for the cohort isn't great. In fact, real estate agents suggest millennials looking for a first-time property should keep driving out of the city until they qualify for a mortgage.

"From 10 years ago, prices have doubled," says Keith Marshall, a Kitchener-Waterloo sales representative for TheRedPin Brokerage. "Average home prices (freehold townhouses) today in tech-hub Waterloo are about \$370,000 – 10 years ago they were probably selling for about \$200,000."

The situation is pretty much the same across the country, where first-time buyers between the ages of 18 to 35 are expected to spend an average of \$350,000, according to a BMO Millennial Home-Buyer Report released in 2016. Almost one third (29 per cent) of those surveyed by BMO don't think they'll ever be able to afford a home.

House prices in British Columbia, the Prairies, Quebec and Ontario are out of most millennials' reach, while prices in Atlantic Canada remain below the national average at \$253,990, says a housing survey for the first quarter of 2016 by Royal LePage.

Yet, according to the latest RBC Home Ownership Poll, 43 per cent of 18 to 24 year olds expressed that they intended to purchase a home in the next two years, up from 34 per cent in 2015.

So what are some fallback options? Marshall suggests downtown condos, housing developments in the suburbs, or collaborative buying.

## FAMILY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

RBC found young buyers can consider purchasing a home with a family member or with a friend. "Parents of children in their 20s to 30s have a lot of equity built up in their homes, and they can take some finances from there and put it towards their children's properties," says Marshall.

Parents of Canadian millennials have benefited from skyrocketing home prices over the last decade and can pass down the wealth to children.

"We did 40 transactions this year, and with the exception of two, everyone under the age of 40 had help from mom and dad or grandparents for a down payment," says Duncan Harvey, partner in Harvey & McCreery RE/MAX Aboutowne Realty Corp. brokerage in Oakville.

Millennial couple Frank Flitton and Alice

Tsay are in that boat. "The rate at which the housing market is growing in price is not something that reflects a millennial's salary," says Tsay. Ottawa public opinion firm Abacus Data says only about 50 per cent of those aged 25 and older have found full-time jobs in their field, and that's led to a delay in major life events, including buying a home.

Alternatively, Tsay would have waited, too, if her parents hadn't offered to lend a hand. To Flitton, it made sense to take help, instead of waiting to be priced out of the market.

And they believe in starting small with a bungalow priced between \$350,000 and \$400,000; there's room to grow if you have kids, says Tsay.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING SHORTAGE

In Ontario, rising housing prices can be attributed to improper land-use development policies, says Frank Clayton, senior research fellow at the Centre for Urban Research and Land Development at Ryerson University.

"There's a shortage of service land, therefore, we're not building, so supply can't grow to accommodate demand. But that also protects people's house prices from going down," he says.

The province's environmentalist policy directs building fewer single houses and more apartments, Clayton says. But a crucial element is missing: a strong transit structure.

Until that shortcoming is met, the deficiency is leading all buyers to bid higher for preferred housing.

It's a trend realtor Harvey has witnessed among his Oakville clients.

"Every house we sold in 2016 was over asked," he says. "Depending on the market you're buying in, the over-ask could be anywhere from five per cent to 30 per cent above the listed price."

Clayton's research at Ryerson shows there's little sign preference is shifting from houses to apartments, and he recommends a way out of the conundrum: encouraging municipalities to re-designate old or underused industrial lands in built-up areas to create residences, be it smaller lots or townhouses.

And that, he says, is the only way to keep prices from blowing up further and to make houses more affordable for the upcoming generation. **OH**

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# PRIMED WITH INSPIRATION

STORY **TAMARISK MCNALT** STEPHENS | PHOTOGRAPHY **SARAH TACOMA**

**THE PLACE:** It was during a busy sale in the summer of 2003 when Gil Armes, a former contract painter in the Greater Milton Area, pitched in to help out at his favourite paint store. Gil's efforts were noticed by a Benjamin Moore representative who approached him shortly thereafter to gauge his interest in becoming a store owner. At the time, the Owen Sound location was up for sale and within the next six months, Gil moved north to become the proud owner of **Grey Bruce Paint & Décor**. Ten years ago, Krista McKenster responded to a job opening that Gil had posted. Beginning as an interview and evolving into dinner dates,

Gil and Krista have been together in life and business ever since. What started as a 1,400 sq. ft. boutique store has grown into a 10,000 sq. ft. paint and décor centre and is now the largest independently owned paint store in the area.

**THE STYLE:** While the hottest colour trends and modern décor are always on offer, Gil highlights that the "surrounding area is home to a wide variety of houses; from innovative new builds to century old Victorians, so we want to ensure the paint colours and décor items selected complement the unique character of each individual home."



Shadow 2117-30

Newburg Green HC-158

Pewter 2121-30



**SPECIALITY:** Gil and Krista provided a solution to a common request when they opened their in-house spray booth, where the professional staff will assess each piece and handle all of the prep work. The options are endless as they specialize in colour-matching stain, paint and lacquer. Although the projects are varied, a frequent request is to spray kitchen cabinet doors (a lacquer finish is a hard and durable option) – and then the homeowners paint the boxes themselves at home. Krista also explains that "builders often bring all their stairs, stringers and risers. We do the finishing and then they are assembled on site. The end result is so much more precise, especially when you want a painted stringer and riser with a stained step."

**WHAT'S HOT:** Although Benjamin Moore's Simply White is still in-demand for cabinetry and mouldings, the ever popular pale grey walls are beginning to give way to richer greys, such as Pewter, and accented with tones such as Newburg Green or Benjamin Moore's 2017 Colour of the Year, Shadow. While the friendly staff prepares your paint, you can find inspiration in a wide array of wallpaper options and browse through home accents, such as art, lamps and occasional tables. They also offer Canadian-made sectionals, sofas and ottomans by Stylus Sofas, where you can select custom upholstery to make a space uniquely yours.

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# THE HOUSE THAT BRYAN BUILT

STORY **MEGAN DUNN** | PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY**

Built with his trademark stone exterior, the home of Saugeen Shores builder, **Bryan Snyder** of **Snyder Development**, is situated in **Pegasus Trails**, a desired, treed cul-de-sac, alongside the picturesque views and calming shoreline of Miramichi Bay off Lake Huron.

*Continued on page 56*



Classic design details are a signature throughout the home and this built-in unit with gas fireplace is no exception. Design inspiration from the shoreline is evident in the soft aqua accents and the use of driftwood and sand. **OPPOSITE:** Upon walking in the front entrance, you are immediately greeted by soaring ceilings and a large grouping of peaked windows that offer a serene display of nature.





**LEFT:** Practical tile flooring and a cloak closet greet guests at the front entrance while etched glass creates the immediate feeling of privacy and seclusion. **BELOW:** Bryan and his girlfriend Tiffany Main on the covered patio overlooking the forest. Tiffany has a keen eye for design and a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from Concordia University in Montreal. She put her modern design sensibilities to work to get Bryan's home picture perfect. **BOTTOM:** Stately but subdued; the home is perfectly situated on its half acre lot.



**LEFT:** The thoughtfully designed two-toned kitchen includes a practical corner pantry, prep sink, island with seating and lots of uninterrupted counter work space. **BELOW:** Bryan carefully placed the breakfast nook so that it didn't interfere with traffic flow and access to the back patio.



**T**

This home was designed and built by Bryan to grasp in-demand concepts and showcase structure and style that is so often seen in his architectural designs and floor plans.

Bryan's 3,010 sq. ft. walkout was built true to form. The home features signature designs synonymous with the builder's brand: a covered deck, high ceilings and a maintenance free, man-made stone exterior. The grey tones of the stone are complemented by the charcoal roof and punctuated by black windows (**Georgian Bay Window & Door**).

Although open-concept is on-trend and the "most popular way to go," says Bryan, he opted for a semi-open-concept design by choice. The vaulted ceilings provide an expansive, open feeling while interior columns simultaneously provide structure and definition to the space. "I wanted to highlight different things in this house. Being a builder, you always have people wanting to see your home, so you want to display certain features."

A 12-foot ceiling with a 16-foot peak in the living room deserves a second glance, as the window wall overlooking a forest out back demands



all attention. "I wanted to capture the light from the southern exposure in the winter as the sun comes through," he says. "And the leaves on the trees that surround the property help keep it cooler in the summer." Deer, rabbits and even a bear have been spotted near the cul-de-sac, where he has designed and built five homes for his neighbours. The community benefits from many walking and cross-county ski trails.

The semi-open-concept style kitchen, tucked off to the side, showcases high cabinets (**Kreller Kitchens Ltd.**) that are accented with lighting from top to bottom. Bryan says he wanted his kitchen "pushed back a bit." The granite counters on the kitchen table and island were carefully selected to match the custom stain of the hardwood flooring that flows throughout the home (**South Bruce Flooring**). A timeless off-white painted cabinet was selected to complement the darker stain, creating a popular two-tone kitchen. Bryan explains that although under-cabinet lighting is now a standard request in his homes, the accent lighting at the top of the cabinets is an added feature that provides a nice evening semblance. *Continued on page 59*



home & builder

The dining room is defined by classic columns and a coffered ceiling. The soft blue tones from the artwork are repeated in the table linens while the champagne flutes mirror the elegant linear glass of the chandelier.



**RIGHT:** Welcome to the spa: the influence of nature infuses the principal en suite with an air of peace and calm. **BELOW:** A double basin vanity and walk-in shower are striking and yet practical for everyday use. **BOTTOM:** The dark walls of the principal bedroom are cosy and inviting. A custom piece of art (painted by Tiffany) is the perfect size, colour and scale to adorn the wall between the windows.



Doors off the kitchen conveniently open to the covered deck that features a sound system, pot lights and ceiling fan. Aluminum railings lead down steps to a hot tub ([Water & Wellness](#)), which overlooks the backyard landscape and fire pit ([Backyard Boys Landscape Construction Inc.](#)). Bryan says the number-one benefit of having a covered deck is that you're protected from the elements, as is your outdoor furniture. "If you want to be in the shade you can be in the shade," he says. "If you want some sun, you can extend your deck out past the covered roof." The yard is pristinely finished with plants and trees supplied by [Everest Nurseries](#). The Backyard Boys installed sod and armour stone.

A coffered ceiling is the focal point in the dining room, which is situated near the front entrance of the home. Although the entrance faces the street, it feels secluded behind frosted chinchilla glass and the mature trees that surround the property can produce dancing shadows and provide a calming effect.

Moving to the west side of the home, where the principal bedroom and en suite are situated, a soak in the tub offers a grand view of the forest. The executive glass-tiled shower with granite accents adds yet another level of detail.

*Continued on page 60*





Whether lounging on the 10-foot sofa, enjoying a game of pool, or sliding up to the bar for a beverage, the lower level was designed to be the ultimate gathering space. The backyard and forest beyond is on full display through the large expanse of windows.

From formal dining to a low-key patio party, Bryan's home was built to entertain – and the lower level is no exception. Much more than a “man cave,” the walk-out basement is highlighted by large windows and a subtle green hue that was carefully selected to match the felt top of the pool table (**Double D Company**), which is a definite focal point. Bryan calls it “a first class living space” that he always wanted and adds that “with the large windows, you feel like you’re upstairs.” He designed the lower level with TJI floor joists to span larger distances so that beams, posts, and ductwork were kept out of the main room, allowing for a more open feeling. The modern space is considered “smart” as his entertainment and security features (**Balaklava Audio** and **Saugeen Security Inc.**) are connected to a wall-mounted control panel. The basement also includes an office, bedroom, washroom, utility space and a room for a home theatre.

Pot lights lead the way to a granite bar that includes a sink, dishwasher and microwave and is accented by stools from **Smitty's Fine Furniture** that were purchased raw and stained to match the bar. “I went to great extents to try and keep things in the same colour family,” Bryan says. He does admit that

*Continued on page 62*



The large stone fireplace is the focal point as you descend the staircase. Bryan's custom-made coffee table was carefully crafted to specific size and style and is the perfect complement to the space.




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**BELOW:** Bryan ensured the tile flooring was carefully installed to mark the throw line for a game of darts. A one-of-a-kind hide from Hide and Chic Canada adds another layer of visual interest to the space. **RIGHT:** Bryan jokes that the bar wouldn't be complete without a TV. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** An exterior view of the back of the home showcases the expansive windows, covered patio and landscaped hot-tub (Water & Wellness).



the sun changes the hue of the room, and jokes that the pool table colour inspiration is nearly impossible to recreate in different lighting conditions. Bryan recently had a large coffee table custom-made out of hardwood to match the cabinetry and furniture throughout the lower level. The tile flooring in the basement includes in-floor heating by **Sprung Heating Sheet Metal & Pump Service**. The large sofa provides a comfortable retreat to watch TV or cosy up by the fireplace (**Matt's Masonry** and **Carson Supply**), which features the same stone as the home's exterior.

Although there are no window coverings in the basement, the forest that hugs the half-acre lot offers warm comfort. In the summer months, it also provides a secluded environment for the toss of a horseshoe or relaxing by the outdoor fire pit. For Bryan Snyder, his home offers the best of both worlds: the perfect place to escape and all the amenities of a small town.

When asked what he's learned from his 29 years of building experience, Bryan says "it's most important to stand by the quality of your product and have people happy with their homes." **OH**



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« This room has a Parisian design influence, using antique and modern finds. The writing table is an antique paired with an Eiffel chair. *Continued on page 66*



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# HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF *spring*

PHOTOGRAPHY **SARAH TACOMA**

These five local companies sure know how to get down to business – but find out what really gets them excited about spring.



## **CARLA PAVLOV** *CR Designs*

**Tell us about your company:** We can guide you through your entire project, from inception to completion. This helps ease the decision-making process and relations with contractors, installers and suppliers. My design experience includes working for some of Canada's largest home design companies in the GTA, southwestern Ontario and even abroad. We offer new and sophisticated design concepts to both home and business owners.

**What's your specialty?** We have a proven track record and are driven to maximize client satisfaction with economical solutions that focus on inspiring and leading our clients to a great result – we put the wow factor into the interior design and decorating of your space. We bring our suite of interior services directly to you in a fun and affordable manner.

**Are you making any changes to your home this spring?** I plan to put a fresh coat of paint throughout the main floor of our home and when that happens things will probably snowball from there, with new window coverings, furniture, area rugs, lighting... (although my husband doesn't know it yet, shhh).

## **MELODY, MARLENE, NATHAN & NICOLE** *Living Lighting*

**Tell us about your company:** Based in Owen Sound, we are a family owned and operated lighting store focused on service and attention to detail. Offering a diverse selection of products and styles, we provide lighting to suit all applications, including task, ambient and accent. Servicing both home and commercial projects, we provide on-site consultations to help with layout and suggestions throughout the design process.

**What do you do best?** We pride ourselves on our strong service and finding solutions to meet the needs of our customers. With on-site repairs, full service electrical contracting and installation available, we simplify the process whether updating your existing lighting or creating a new space.

**What are your favorite spring activities?** With so many attractions from the local trails to the area's many waterfalls, just taking in the outdoors at this time of year is spectacular.

*Continued on page 70*





**PLINY LOUCKS**  
*The Great Lakes  
Frame Company*

**Tell us about your company:** We are a small construction company that has been in business since 1989. We work closely with our clients to bring their dreams to reality. By focusing on a limited number of homes each year we have built a reputation for constructing high-quality homes. We also get involved with some commercial and agricultural work.

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Our specialty is high quality, traditional hand-cut timber frames. Whether constructed of pine, Douglas fir or recycled timbers, all the timbers in our homes are responsibly harvested and carefully selected to ensure the best in strength and appearance.

**What do you look forward to most each spring?**  
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*Continued on page 72*



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**What's your speciality?** Quality-built subdivision homes with family function in mind. We work very closely with our customers from the concept plans through closing to make sure that they end up with the perfect home for their needs.

**What are your favourite outdoor spring activities?** We love to go hiking and exploring along the beautiful peninsula trails! *Continued on page 74*

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**JIM SLOAN**  
*Pratt Plumbing and Heating*

**Tell us about your company:** We employ 10-12 people and most of our work is in new residential construction. Over the past 20 years we have worked on homes in a variety of areas including Orangeville, Collingwood and the Durham area itself. These projects range in size from 1,200 sq. ft. bungalows to multi-level custom homes.

**What do you enjoy most about your work?** I have enjoyed the past two years as the new owner of Pratt Plumbing and Heating and transitioning from employee to employer. My trade experience was in HVAC and so learning about the plumbing side of the business has been interesting. We have a weekly meeting to find solutions to potential problems and I feel like this has been very positive for the team – and seeing the results has also been satisfying.

**What is your favourite spring activity?** My wife Natasha and I, and our boys, look forward to warmer weather. We enjoy camping with friends and family, watching things bloom, and visiting some amazing places right here in Grey and Bruce. **OH**





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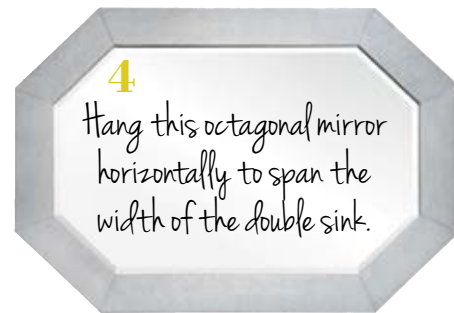
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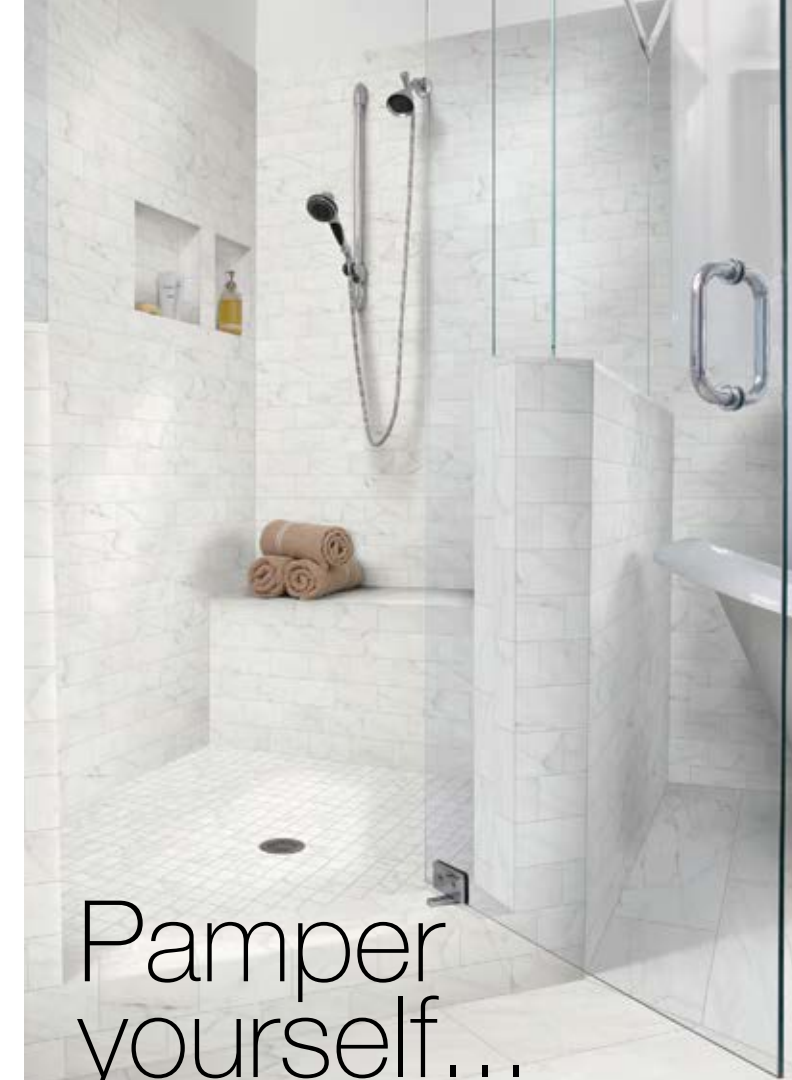
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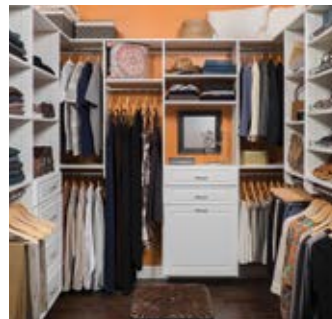
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outdoor living



Equipped with a roof rack and large storage box, the Canadian-made WeeGo trailer comfortably sleeps two adults.

# HOME ON THE ROAD

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY **WALTER FRANCZYK**

Small is beautiful. Put a couple of wheels under it and small becomes cute and mobile.

It's a successful formula manufacturers are blending to serve a growing market for tiny camping trailers. As empty-nest baby boomers downsize their homes and trade their minivans for smaller, more fuel-efficient rides, they're also exploring how to unleash their inner nomad without breaking the bank or spreading their carbon footprint.

Andy Demerling identified this niche market during more than 10 years of renting, servicing and repairing recreational vehicles and



Adrienne Demerling relaxes inside the WeeGo camping trailer she and her husband manufacture in Bracebridge.

own small cars that can't tow a big trailer. With today's high cost of fuel, Demerling supplies small campers that are less expensive to haul.

He began importing tiny American-made camping trailers, large enough to comfortably sleep two adults, but sufficiently compact and light to be towed with cars as small as a Honda Fit, Volkswagen Beetle or Mini Cooper. "These can be towed economically behind a four-cylinder car," says Demerling. The response from customers was so encouraging he began manufacturing his own line of little camping trailers, named WeeGo, in a former automotive parts plant in Bracebridge. *Continued on page 86*

campers in Muskoka. "We found the market wasn't being serviced," says Demerling, a heavy duty mechanic who owns A&A RV in Muskoka. "There are a lot of people who really enjoy camping, but they're getting older and tents are not what they want. They want a camper," he says. Many baby boomers and retirees want an inexpensive way to travel. They

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outdoor living

Demerling furnishes his trailers with queen-size mattresses, a galley with counter storage, sink and propane stove, as well as plenty of cupboard space. The campers come equipped with locking, screened, side entry doors, screened windows and a roof fan. Interiors and cabinetry are finished in maple. Safety equipment includes a fire extinguisher, smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector. “We can customize them to order,” he says. “We do a basic layout. If people want changes we can do them. We have a couple right now we’re pricing out with different colours – one with bigger tires, air conditioning.”

He builds the trailer frames and sidewalls in Bracebridge. Sidewalls are three-quarter-inch plywood, sheathed in aluminum. Axle suspensions are sourced in Whitby and mattresses are made in Ontario. Windows and some power converter centres are imported from the United States. “We deal with as many local Canadian companies as we can,” says the maker.

His customers have wheeled his little rigs as far as California, Alaska and Newfoundland. “We’ve had them all over,” says Demerling. He estimates it may take an extra litre or two of fuel per 100 kilometres to tow the compact trailers he sells and rents. Some customers, he says, don’t even notice a difference in mileage.

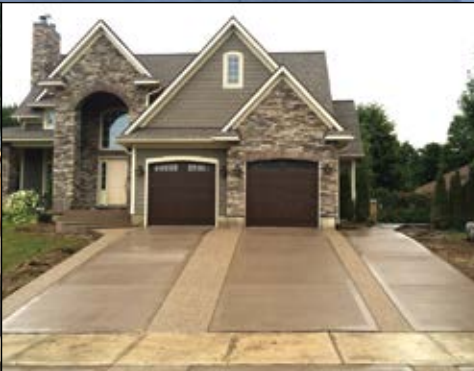
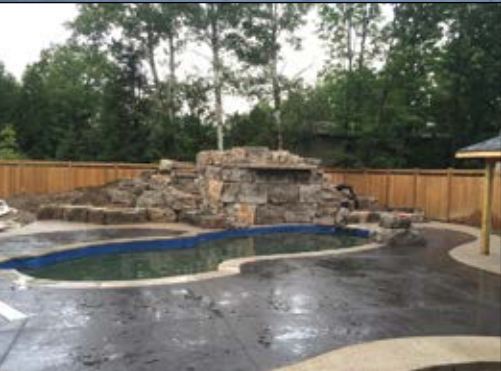
The little rigs carry an air of nostalgia. They grew popular after the Second World War when hobbyists built their own, using surplus military equipment and materials, such as wheels from old army Jeeps and metal from the wings of decommissioned bombers. Their popularity revived about 15 years ago, when rising fuel prices began



Roof fans, smoke detectors and plenty of storage space are standard features in Little Guy trailers.

making the RV lifestyle more costly. Campers started staying closer to home. According to the Recreational Vehicle Industry Association, RV owners were spending more time in campgrounds and less on the road in order to save fuel. “The high gas prices and the fact that our camper trailer can be towed by nearly any vehicle with a hitch actually helps us sell trailers,” general manager Joe Kicos said in describing the success of Little Guy Worldwide. The company began building its Teardrop Camper Trailers in Elkhart, Indiana in 2002. Within two years it was making three or four a day and now has thousands of Little Guys on the road in 17 different models.

While the American campers are popular in Canada, the drop in the value of the Canadian dollar has made them more expensive. Over the past five years, the Canadian dollar has dropped by more than 30 cents against the U.S. currency. That prompted Demerling to look at building his own line of campers. His wife, Adrienne, encouraged him.



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The rear hatch of the Little Guy camper opens to reveal an efficient galley with a sink, propane stove and cupboards.



“We felt that it’s time for manufacturing to get going again in Canada,” he says. “If we can build it into a larger company, we will. If we can start employing people here – that’s what it’s about.”

He’s trademarking his company name and working to obtain a vehicle identification number (VIN), a code that identifies a product’s country of origin, manufacturer, model year and serial number. Often called a vehicle’s fingerprint, the VIN, can make financing a camper purchase easier. “It’s been a rough start, but it’s been interesting. It’s been fun,” he says. **OH**

High fuel prices have popularized American-made Little Guy trailers. They can be towed economically with a four-cylinder vehicle.



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ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Blackline Power, 71

APPLIANCES

Brandsource Macdonalds  
Furniture & Appliances, 65  
Square Deal Neil’s TV & Appliances, 35

AQUACULTURE

Silver Creek Aquaculture Inc., 85

ARCHITECTURAL STONE

Shouldice Designer Stone, 75, 80

ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGISTS

Pam Farrow Architectural  
Technologist, 18

AUTOMOBILE SALES & SERVICE

Subaru Canada, 2

BUILDERS

Candue Homes, 35  
Dennison Homes, 11  
Hanover Home Hardware, 15, 82  
High R Construction, 73  
Snyder Development, 52  
The Great Lakes Frame Company, 12  
Valley Home Improvements, 85  
Walker Homes Ltd., 11

BUILDING/LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES

Centre Grey Building Supplies, 89  
Hanover Home Hardware, 15, 82  
Moggie Valley Timber Inc., 91

CABINETS & MILLWORK/  
FINE WOODWORKING

Bruce County Custom Cabinets, 11  
Exquisite Wood Design, 5  
The Woodworm, 83  
Topnotch Furniture, 100

CONCRETE/MASONRY/STONework

Extreme Linings and Coatings, 73  
Great Lakes Concrete, 87

COUNTERTOPS/GRANITE & STONE

Di Pietra Design, 67  
The Old Barn, 17

DECKING

Postech Grey Bruce, 45

EXCAVATING/SITE PREP/SEPTIC

Mac Taylor Corporation, 83

FARM SUPPLIES & MACHINERY

Highland Fuels (Highland Supply), 45  
Stoltz Sales & Service, 23, 82

FENCING AND GATES

Modern Fencing, 85  
Wilkin’s Fencing, 65, 80

FINE WOODWORKING/CUSTOM  
FURNITURE/CARPENTRY

Fine Line Carpentry, 61

FIREPLACES & STOVES/  
HEATING & COOLING

Air Tech Mechanical, 12  
Chantico Fireplace Gallery, 6  
Pratt Plumbing and Heating, 83  
Sandy Hamilton Plumbing & Heating Inc., 83  
South-Port Mechanical Geothermal, 8  
Sprung Heating & Sheet Metal, 61  
The Fyre Place & Patio Shop, 29, 93

FITNESS & SPAS/Wellness

Legge Fitness Superstores, 50&51

FLOORING, STAIRS & TRIM

Cuneo Interiors Ltd., 79  
Moggie Valley Timber Inc., 91

FLORISTS

Riverside Greenhouses, 23, 82

FOOD/DRINK/CATERING

Top of the Rock, 89

FUEL SUPPLY

Highland Fuels (Highland Supply), 45

FURNITURE/HOME DÉCOR/  
GIFTS/COLLECTIBLES

Barebirch, 29  
Brandsource Macdonalds  
Furniture & Appliances, 65  
Country Charm, 27  
Grey Bruce Paint & Décor, 29  
House Rules Design Shop, 31  
Inside Ideas, 18  
J’Adorn, 79  
Kountry Kat Mennonite Furniture, 83  
Luxus Dekor, 25, 80  
Pellow Pharmasave, 93  
Signature Homestyles, 93  
Smitty’s Fine Furniture, 99  
The Fyre Place & Patio Shop, 29, 93  
The Rusty Star, 93  
Topnotch Furniture, 100

GARDEN CENTRES

Maxwell Garden Center, 25  
Riverside Greenhouses, 23, 82

GEOTHERMAL

Sandy Hamilton Plumbing & Heating Inc., 83  
South-Port Mechanical Geothermal, 8

GOLF & DRIVING RANGE

Markdale Golf and Curling Club, 89

GREEN LIVING

Blackline Power, 71

HOME IMPROVEMENT/RENOVATIONS

Valley Home Improvements, 85

HOME ORGANIZATION

Wilson Solutions, 43, 80

HOT TUBS/POOLS/SAUNAS

The Water and Wellness Centre, 63

INSULATION

Owens Corning, 10

INTERIOR DESIGN/HOME STAGING

CR Designs, 19  
Cuneo Interiors Ltd., 79  
Décor Design, 97  
House Rules Design Shop, 31  
K-Interiors, 11  
Timeless Home Staging, 65

KITCHEN AND BATH

Bruce County Custom Cabinets, 11  
Exquisite Wood Design, 5  
Hanover Home Hardware, 15, 82  
House Rules Design Shop, 31

LANDSCAPING/LAWN & GARDEN

Highland Fuels (Highland Supply), 45  
Hutten & Co. Land and Shore, 3  
Jen’s Garden Services, 25  
Mulch-It, 65, 80  
Rocksolid Landscapes, 34

LIGHTING & ELECTRICAL

Living Lighting, 97

MOVING & STORAGE

John Thompson Movers, 83

NEW HOME COMMUNITIES

Snyder Development, 52  
Walker Homes Ltd., 11

OUTDOOR FURNITURE

Maxwell Garden Center, 25

OUTDOOR STRUCTURES

Maxwell Garden Center, 25

PAINTING & DECORATING

Cuneo Interiors Ltd., 79  
Grey Bruce Paint & Décor, 29

PAINTING, PRIMING, BLASTING  
& STAINING

Custom Soda Prep & Paint, 73  
Premier Industrial Painting, 31, 82  
TNT Dry Ice Blasting, 87  
Weatherall Stain, 33

PLUMBING

Carson Supply, 61  
McCann Water Systems, 79  
Pratt Plumbing and Heating, 83  
Sandy Hamilton Plumbing & Heating Inc., 83  
Sprung Heating & Sheet Metal, 61

POND MAINTENANCE

Silver Creek Aquaculture Inc., 85

REAL ESTATE

Chestnut Park, 13  
Coldwell Banker Lifestyles Realty –  
Brandon Vanderschot, 97  
Engel & Völkers, 7  
Royal LePage Exchange Realty, 47

RESTORATION SPECIALISTS

ServiceMaster Restore, 81  
Wise Cracks, 81

ROOFING

Dennis Lorenz Roofing, 45  
Karn’s Roofing, 87

SERVICES

Traynor Homestead Enterprises, 83

SPECIAL EVENTS

Home & Cottage Expo, 75

STONE PRODUCTS

Ledgerock, 4  
West Shore Stone & Brick, 23

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Telus Canada, 9

WATER TREATMENT

McCann Water Systems, 79

WINDOW FASHIONS

Budget Blinds of Owen Sound, 27  
Cuneo Interiors Ltd., 79  
Décor Design, 97  
Inside Ideas, 18  
Pellow Pharmasave, 93

WINDOWS & DOORS

Georgian Bay Window & Door, 53

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RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY  
JENELLE MCCULLOCH

# SPRING ribbon salad

Celebrate the arrival of spring with this beautiful and light salad. You'll love how the long, elegant ribbons of asparagus and zucchini decorate the plate.

**INGREDIENTS** (Serves 2)

- 5-6 asparagus spears
- 1 zucchini
- 1 pear, cored and sliced
- Handful of parsley
- 1 radish, thinly sliced
- Handful of snow peas, steamed
- Juice of 1 lemon
- Olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- A few handfuls of baby mixed greens
- ¼ cup walnuts
- ¼ cup parmesan cheese, shaved

**DIRECTIONS**

- Use a vegetable peeler to create long ribbons of zucchini and asparagus. Simply run it along the length of the vegetables until both are shaved.
- Combine sliced, shaved and steamed produce in a large mixing bowl.
- Drizzle with lemon juice and olive oil to keep it bright and fresh.
- Gently mix in the greens and parsley and season with salt and pepper.
- Transfer to a serving platter and top with walnuts and parmesan cheese. **OH**



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# up your CLOSET ANTE

PROJECT **LEIGH-ANN ALLAIRE PERRAULT**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **MICHAEL CARSON**

If you're planning a closet overhaul as part of your spring cleaning routine and really want to up the style ante, why not tap into your inner Carrie Bradshaw by adding fashionably bespoke accessories. Ditch the mismatched wire hangers and opt for a curated collection of matching wooden ones. If you want to take it to the next level of glam, upcycle the wood hangers with a fresh coat of paint to show off your personality and transform your "meh" closet into a trendy treasure box.

For each of the following DIYs, ensure that you are working in a well-ventilated area, cover your work surface and surrounding areas with drop cloths, and wear the appropriate safety gear, including disposable gloves. Before painting, ensure that all wood hanger surfaces are clean by wiping them down with a lint-free rag and Krud Kutter Gloss-Off to prep for paint, and mask off the metal top hook with painter's tape.



## DIY #1: *Fashionably Functional Hanger*



For a functional twist, apply a coat of automotive FlexiDip rubberized spray paint to your hangers in fiery red to add a zing of colour and prevent your items from slipping off.

### MATERIALS

- Painter's Tape
- Rust-Oleum Specialty FlexiDip Rubber Coating in Red
- Patterned Washi Tape

### HOW-TO


- Step 1:** Using painter's tape, mask off any wood areas that you don't want painted.
- Step 2:** Apply 1 to 2 even coats of FlexiDip Rubber Coating and allow to dry thoroughly as per directions on can.
- Step 3:** For an added detail, trim the hanger with patterned Washi Tape to complement the colour. *Continued on page 94*





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## DIY #2: *Glittery Glam Hanger*

Add a dose of sparkly glamour to your closet with this haute hanger update, and plan your weekly wardrobe with cute couture DIY hanger tags.



### MATERIALS

- Zinsser Bulls Eye 1-2-3 Water-Base Spray Primer
- Rust-Oleum Specialty Glitter in Silver
- Rust-Oleum Specialty Glitter Clear Sealer
- Craft Paper
- Scissors
- Gold Letter Stickers

### HOW-TO

- Step 1:* Apply a light coat of primer to the wood surfaces and allow to dry.
- Step 2:* Apply 2-3 coats of Rust-Oleum Glitter paint in silver to all primed surfaces and allow to dry between coats.
- Step 3:* Apply a coat of Rust-Oleum Glitter Clear Sealer to prevent the glitter from rubbing off.
- Step 4:* Using craft paper, cut out two half-inch circles and punch a hole at the top, then add letter stickers to make daily tags to help coordinate and organize your weekly wardrobe.



## DIY #3: *Blue Bespoke Hanger*

Customize a collection of hangers with this vintage hue, and add a bit of glitz with a simple gold polka dot detail.



### MATERIALS

- Zinsser Bulls Eye 1-2-3 Water-Base Spray Primer
- Painter's Touch Ultra Cover Paint in Gloss Ocean Mist
- Adhesive Gold Glitter Paper
- Hole Punch

### HOW-TO

- Step 1:* Apply a light coat of primer to the wood surfaces and allow to dry.
- Step 2:* Apply 2 coats of Painter's Touch in Gloss Ocean Mist and allow to dry thoroughly as per directions on can.
- Step 3:* To add a touch of sparkle, use a hole punch to cut out dots from a sheet of glitter adhesive paper and apply them randomly to the top of the hanger.

Don't let a small closet cramp your style! By tackling a wardrobe overhaul and injecting some colourful personality into your space, your closet can easily and affordably be dressed to impress. **OH**

online

Discover more DIY projects at [ourhomes.ca/mag/create](http://ourhomes.ca/mag/create)

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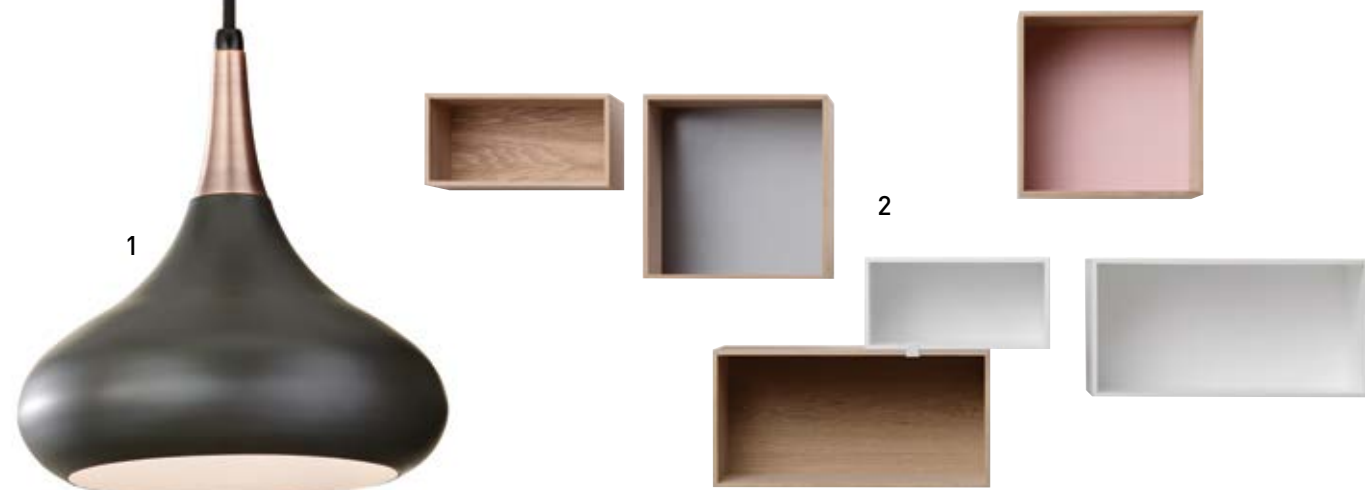
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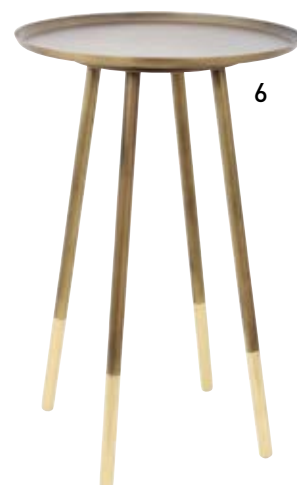
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8

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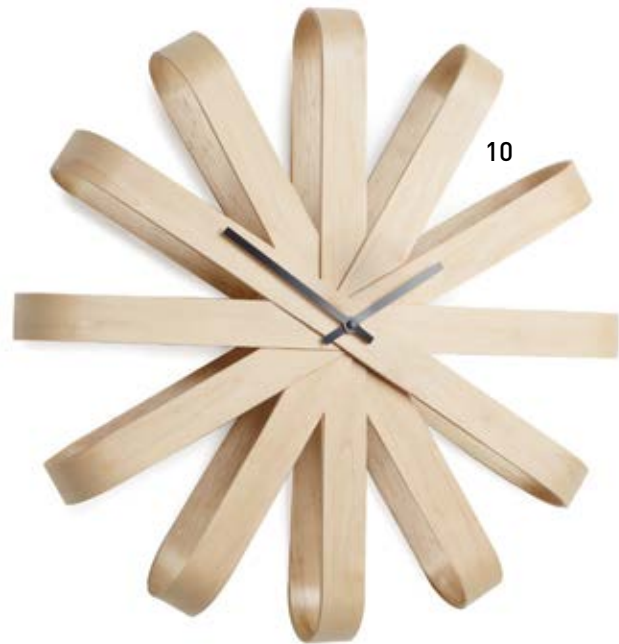
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10

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