

# TIMELESS *elegance*

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Creating your own piece of luxury in an established Oakville neighbourhood may seem like a dream to many, but to **Dwight** and **Chris Lacey**, it's their dream come true.

The Laceys, parents to four grown children, always knew that they wanted to build their home in Oakville. It was just a matter of finding the ideal location. After a year and more than 60 lots later, they found the right place tucked into a well-established neighbourhood on Riverside Drive by Sixteen Mile Creek.

Their first call was to friend and designer **Danielle Fernald** of **Danielle Fernald Design**. Having worked with her in the past, the Laceys knew that Danielle would understand the look and feel that they desired. In turn, Danielle recommended the expertise of **David Small** of

**David Small Designs** to help put their ideas on paper and builder **Sadat Kolenovic** of **Dream Homes 92** to put the plan into action.

"I would never have guessed David would have given us the footprint that he did, but once I saw it sitting on the lot where the trees were positioned, how the lot worked, it made sense," Dwight recalls. Having grown up in a contractor family, Dwight felt it important to find a contractor like Sadat who understood their objectives and was comfortable with allowing him to be involved in the process.



**OPPOSITE:** The heart of the house, the kitchen, opens to the large yet cosy family room that Dwight desired. **LEFT:** Everything on the main level is kept light and bright. **BELOW:** Instead of the original plan to place doors that open to the outside, large windows and a window seat overlook the back yard.



Sadat's step-by-step approach to building starts with reviewing the drawings. He spends many hours contemplating how to deliver the best product possible. "As the guy that is building the home for them, I have to keep in mind that the customer's input on the house is crucial and extremely important, as at the end of the day, they are the ones that will occupy the house."

The exterior is a mix of traditional and modern, made of stone, wood siding and trim. "The 4,000 sq. ft. home has an irregular footprint allowing for a lot of architecture to be on display, both

from the street and inside," David explains. "The trim simplified the house, giving it an overall appeal of clean lines. They traded in the traditional Oakville architecture and cladding for their desire of a clean, crisp look."

With a love for the New England style of dark blue and bright white exteriors, they thought they knew what they wanted. After trying out different hues, they decided on more earthy colours that would blend in with the trees, rather than stand out. "It was important for us to respect the neighbourhood," Dwight says. *Continued on page 24*





Though the corner property initially possessed some issues with privacy and exposed the backyard, the final L-shape design of the bungalow provides an intimate and protective feeling. The backyard oasis champions any summer getaway. A pool, hot tub and Muskoka room are accessible through the kitchen walkout, mudroom and master bedroom. “You truly feel like you are on vacation when you’re there,” David says.

Inside, the Laceys feel David did a great job giving them a living area that reflects their lifestyle. “I have wanted, for more than 20 years, to have a great room like this and the only way to get one was to build my own house,” Dwight says. “It’s actually taking us back to an era where people entertained out of their kitchens, making the kitchen the heart of the house.” The bright kitchen with large island and hardware from **Oakville Fine Hardware Inc.** flows straight into the family room with its comfortable yet elegant seating area with pieces from **Cocoon Furnishings Inc.**

The open-concept floor plan allows each room to transition to the next with ease – from the kitchen to the living area to the main floor master bedroom – while taking advantage of the natural light coming in through the large windows by **Kolbe Gallery**. Beautiful custom interior doors crafted by **Victoria Strong Manufacturing Corporation** add architectural appeal.

Wall colours were kept subtle in the open concept space. “A transitional use of paint tones was used in each of the rooms to give a timeless, yet current look without noticing the use of a different colour,” Danielle explains. *Continued on page 26*

**TOP LEFT:** David Small and Sadat Kolenovic worked in tandem to deliver a beautiful end result. **TOP RIGHT:** The appliances are concealed with panels, an extra touch that maintains the cohesiveness of the open floor plan. **LEFT:** The island is conveniently situated next to the wall ovens and sink, creating effortless flow within the workspace.



The formal dining room at the front of the home is connected to the kitchen with a butler's pantry.



The high ceilings create drama everywhere, including in the master bedroom. Light is maximized with the addition of lovely windows that flank the bed. **RIGHT:** Beautifully-crafted cabinetry adorns the master en suite.



The unique roof lines allowed for something that was unexpected and well received: vaulted ceilings. They created an open and airy interior and gave way to additional bedrooms upstairs above the two-car garage and mudroom. “The huge arch ceilings give us the grandeur that we wanted while maintaining a timeless look that will never go out of fashion,” Dwight explains.

They put their trust in Danielle to guide them to find the design elements that would best suit their home. “She streamlined the entire process,” Dwight says. “If you go to the right place and if you’ve got someone who knows how it is all supposed to come together, it saves a lot of time and guesswork.”

The high ceilings forced Danielle to think outside of the box when it came to lighting the main floor. Rather than going with the typical task and pot lighting in the kitchen, they chose beautiful, transitional lighting from **Lighting Centre** that completes the rooms in a way you would never have thought possible with typical fixtures.

For some, their dream house will always be a dream, but for the Laceys and their team of experts, it took 14 months to complete the entire process. It just goes to show you, that with the right people in your corner, dreams really can come true. **OH**

**FAR LEFT:** The convenient main floor laundry room also boasts built-in closets and access to the garage and the outdoors. **LEFT:** A built-in bookcase fills a pass-through space beyond the doors to the master bedroom.



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