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LET'S TALK ABOUT THE WEATHER... it's what makes us truly Canadian. We take our winters with a side of dry cold or damp. And if -30°C in late January isn't bad enough, there's always the wind chill: cold enough for ya? Yet complain as we do about winter, we moan and groan about heat and humidity the moment summer arrives. Still, the Humidex is no match for us, because we absolutely live for this season.

This is what we wait for all winter long and during that week-long warm spell we call spring here in Ottawa. Outdoor activities are our raison d'être in summer, when it seems the entire city is out, doing... something. We're blessed with an overabundance of choice, from roller or inline skating and biking the Aviation Parkway when it's closed to traffic on Sunday Bikedays, to sloughing off the day's humidity by paddle boarding at Fitzroy Harbour, or riding over the Carp Ridge with a bicycle club no matter the weather.

Even if you're more spectator than participant, the numerous events our city is known for will beckon, rain or shine. With a different festival every few days, it seems the nation's capital is also the Festival Capital of Canada, with about 150 such events on the calendar each year. And this year's 150th anniversary of Confederation will add even more events to the roster.

Speaking of which, do make the time to enjoy some of the celebrations planned for Canada 150, because Ottawa is at the epicentre. With visitors from all over the world and different parts of Canada travelling to our city, it would be a shame not to take advantage of what's on our own doorstep. And admit it Ottawa, you've still got the heart of a small town, but you're a world-class city.

So while it's here, do something completely Canadian: get out there and wring every last sweaty drop of summer out of the season. Six months from now, you'll be glad you did.

And Happy Birthday, Canada.

Diane Sawchuk, Managing Editor
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ON THE COVER

Timeless elegance and cool sophisticated design.
Story, page 36. Photography by Gordon King.



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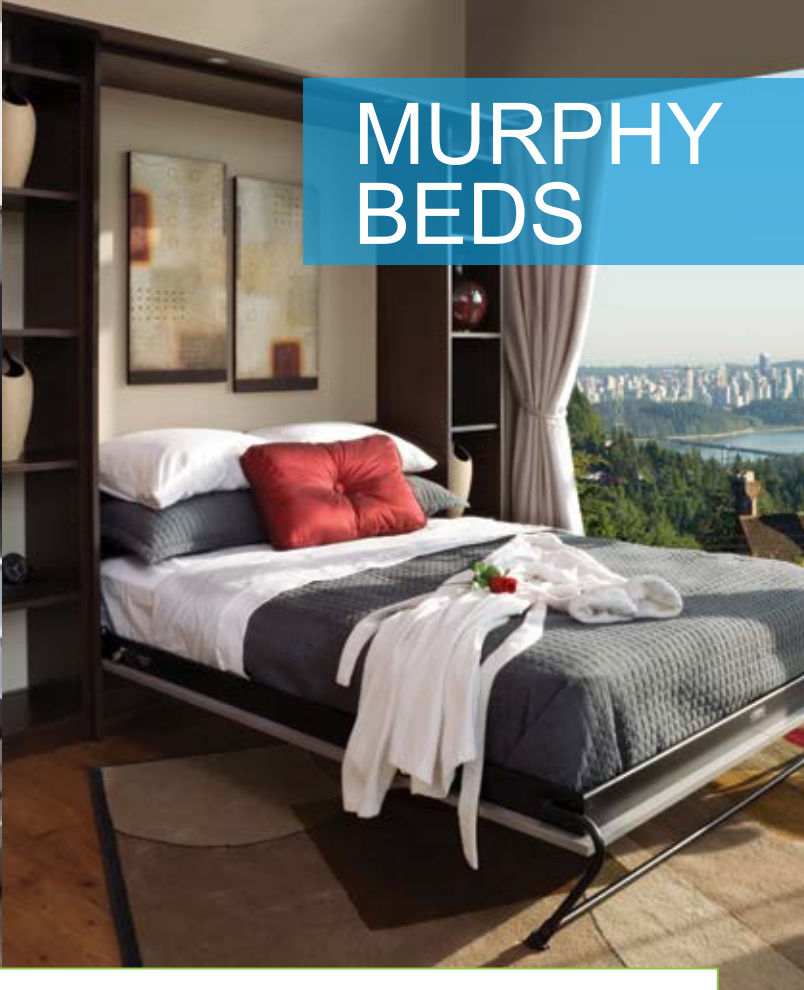
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The renovations will be completed by June so if you are planning a home renovation project, be sure to visit us and see for yourself why Mondeau Bathroom and Kitchen is a leader in the plumbing industry.

publisher's note



IT IS SUCH A PLEASURE to be publisher of OUR HOMES The City of Ottawa for the simple fact that it allows me the opportunity to visit local companies.

From Carleton Place to Orléans and everywhere in between, I am constantly impressed by not only how talented and creative Canadians are, but also by the quality of the goods and services they've made available to us. It's all a reminder of how much we have to celebrate on the 150th anniversary of Confederation and how we have matured as a country. Today, "shop local" is more than a marketing slogan, it is a comment on our pride in our products and the people who create them.

And what better time to celebrate some local businesses that have stood the test of time than in this issue of OUR HOMES, while the sesquicentennial is at the forefront of our attention. Be sure to flip to our People section to learn how these businesses have overcome the challenges of enterprise and have grown and adapted over the years.

While our city has a history we can be proud of, Ottawa continues to grow and thrive. So we would also like to welcome new businesses, such as Ashley HomeStore, exciting building projects like the one we've highlighted as this issue's Feature Home and the revitalization of stately older homes such as the one featured in our Home & Builder.

And to honour our country's birthday celebration in a fun way, we think you'll enjoy our Style Picks selection of products with a Canadian flair sold by local retailers.

I am grateful every day to be blessed by birth to call this country my home. I'm also proud to live in a country that welcomes others who also want the privilege of calling Canada home. As tourists and fellow Canadians from other parts flock to Ottawa this summer, let's offer them all a warm welcome so the world will see us as the welcoming city that we are.

Happy Canada Day to my fellow citizens and those who drop by to visit!

Beth Charbonneau

Beth Charbonneau, *Publisher*
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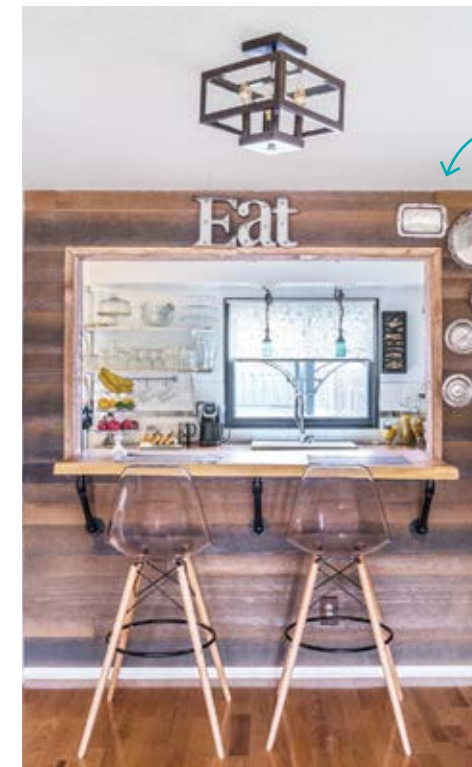
MAKE A SPLASH IN YOUR KITCHEN

The backing behind your sink, stove or counters doesn't just protect your walls from splashes. **STORY SARA MARTIN**

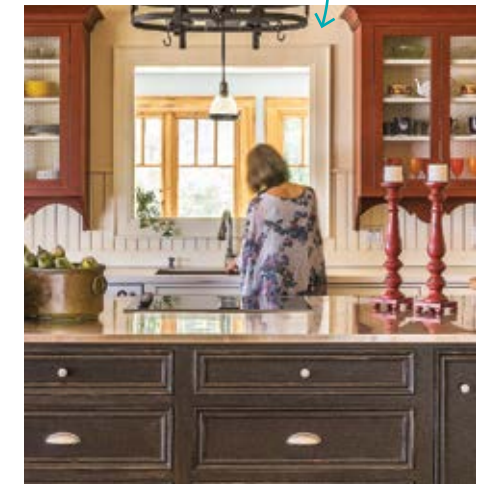
The backsplash is an opportunity to add colour and texture to your kitchen design, without taking on a major renovation or breaking the bank. With so many design choices out there, you don't have to settle for the same old, same old. Look at metal, wood, tile, mirror, stone, wallpaper, glass or paint – the backsplash is an ideal place in your home to let your creativity shine.



4 WOOD
Another natural product is wood, and again you're only limited by your imagination. Hang barn board vertically or horizontally. Try wide pine boards or maybe walnut or bamboo. Tongue-in-groove boards or beadboards are another option.



Bead board, barnboard or even driftwood can add texture and create interest.



1 GLASS
Glass tiles add a lovely reflective quality in the kitchen and come in a multitude of colours. Look for frosted glass, glass bricks and even a process that will transfer an image onto glass – imagine how that could personalize your kitchen. Mirrored glass is very useful in a smaller space, reflecting light and making the space look much bigger.

The return of the "curb" backsplash is trending. This one is in honed soapstone.

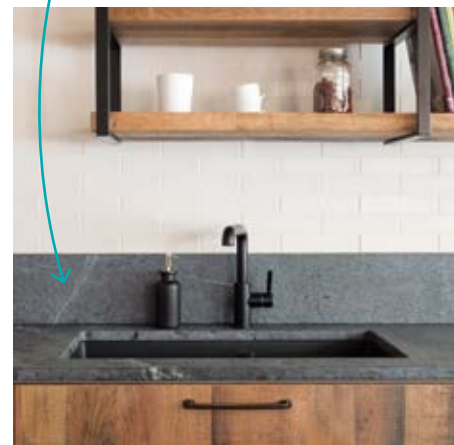


PHOTO: COURTESY OF POLYCOR

3 STONE
Beach pebbles, fieldstone, river rock, clay bricks and dry-stacked stone have a nice organic quality to them and can add a lot of texture to a backsplash.



5 TILE
Classic tile has seen an expansion of choices: porcelain, marble, stone, ceramic and quartz. When using tile, the next decision is how will it be laid: straight, diagonal, checkerboard, chevron, herringbone and brickwork patterns are some choices, or perhaps you have a different pattern in mind.



Inject a jolt of personality with a bold, graphic wallpaper pattern. A protective layer of glass makes cleanup a snap.



6 PAINT & WALLPAPER
In paint and wallpaper, the colours and designs are endless. Once a wallpaper is covered with glass it becomes an easy-to-clean feature. Many paint suppliers offer tough finishes, so with a quick wipe, your backsplash looks brand new, year after year. Don't forget chalkboard paint, it will give your family a chance to create a unique and ever-changing canvas.

When you see something you like, use your imagination, and don't be restricted by suppliers' pictures. Make a splash in your kitchen and let your personality shine. **OH**



1

OH HHHH, CANADA!

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PHOTOGRAPHY **AMY ZAMBONIN**



2



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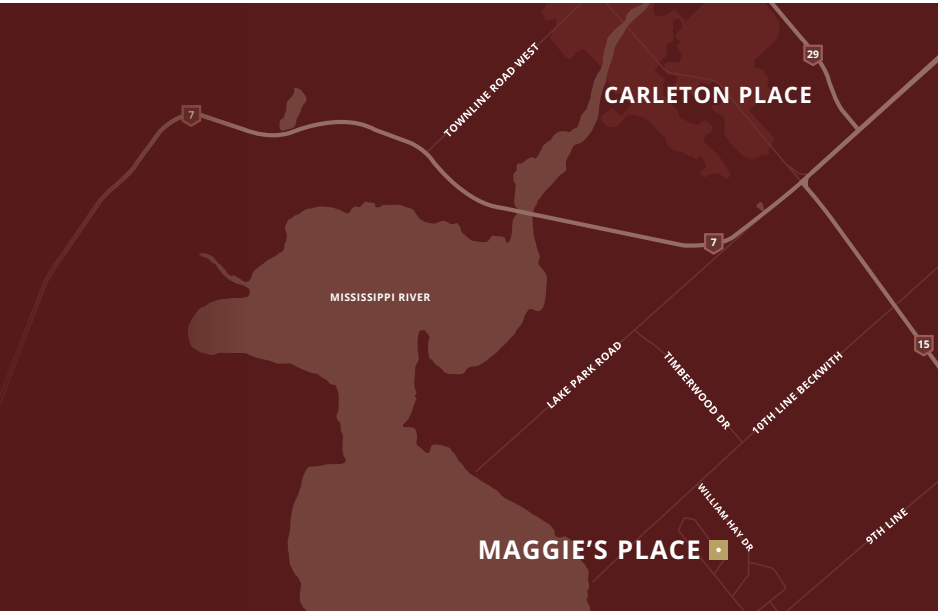


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STORY **DIANE SAWCHUK**
PHOTOGRAPHY **GORDON KING**

The problem with older homes is the lack of respect shown so many of them.

Because their existence has spanned through the decades of various trends and styles, as well as homeowners, each with their own taste and requirements for their residence, century homes are sometimes modified beyond recognition. A shell of their former selves, you might say.

Often, these renovations don't necessarily enhance what's left behind. Depending on the homeowner's (and builder's) taste, requirements and budget, they may suit the intention while actually

doing nothing to enhance the structure. It takes a discerning eye, a respect for tradition and a certain skill to update a classic, without changing the character of the home or eradicating whatever qualities made it special to begin with.

Various updates and renovations have been made to the three-level house in Rockcliffe Park that Angela Murphy and Michael Schwartz call home. But with the completion of each upgrade or update, the home has become a better version of itself, while still retaining its character.

Clark Cada, principal of **Cada Construction Inc.**, has been overseeing the projects carried out in the house over the past decade. He describes the changes as a great evolution, not a revolution. *Continued on page 24*

After extensive work was done to the facade of this Rockcliffe Park home, the owners then turned their gaze inward. As work progressed, the interior design and decorating firm 2H Interior Design Ltd. was engaged. Long established in Ottawa, 2H's expertise created a warm ambience previously lacking in the house.



PHOTO: COCHRANE PHOTOGRAPHY

“The house is still a reflection of its time,” Clark says. “The look and character has been maintained, it wasn’t made over into something that it isn’t. What it is, is a traditional house in the sense that it’s timeless.”

Built around 1919, the house stayed in the original family for a long time before the next owners took possession. Angela says her family was surprised last year with a visit to their home by a granddaughter of the original owners, now elderly, who dropped by and shared her memories of playing on the property.

Because they’re only the fourth or fifth owners of the house, much of the original character has been maintained. On the downside, that meant much of the work included expensive upgrades to the infrastructure, such as updating the electrical and heating.

Clark says the layout of the home hasn’t been changed much and structural work was all done within the basic framework of the existing structure. “It was a cold house before, physically it was cold and the layout was cold,” Clark says. “It was functional, but by updating and upgrading everything, the warmth is now enhanced. There’s a welcoming feeling to the home now that was lacking before.”

“There’s a welcoming feeling to the home now that was lacking before.”

LEFT: By removing a failing concrete porch and replacing it with a lighter canopy, then painting the previously stark white exterior a cream colour with brown trim, the exterior was softened and made more welcoming. **BELOW:** Fresh cut flowers from Mood Moss Florist and a grandfather clock, by Robert Skelton of Malton, England, circa 1780, are key

ingredients in this welcoming entrance hallway. **OPPOSITE, TOP:** The spacious dining room, to one side of the centre hall plan, serves as a multipurpose great room, with the home office area contained at one end and a games area at the other. **BOTTOM:** A cosy corner of the large dining room features a card table, set up for a rubber of bridge or whist.



After purchasing the property in 2007, their first order of business was to replace the concrete porch. Spanning the width of the house, its surfaces were cracked, the steel beams had rusted and the construction was starting to fail. Instead of replacing it with another heavy addition, a canopy was installed instead, giving the facade of the house a lighter appearance. Painting the white stucco a cream colour and adding brown trim further softened the look of the house.

Over the years, the kitchen and bathrooms were renovated, the basement updated, a kitchenette removed from the third floor and carpeting on the second level replaced

Continued on page 27



Elaborate Florentine playing cards make a vivid addition to the card table.

A stained glass window in the powder room features a deep sill.



ABOVE: The kitchen was initially renovated by Deslaurier Custom Cabinets. After a fireplace was removed, an island was added and further renovation was completed by Dimension Cabinet & Millwork Inc. and National Capital Kitchens Ltd. **OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT:** A wide staircase wends its way up all three levels of the home. **BOTTOM:** After Cada Construction Inc. removed the concrete fireplace measuring approximately four-feet deep and eight-feet wide that straddled the area between the kitchen and the family room, conversation carried on between those two rooms was no longer impeded.

with hardwood. But the most extensive job, one that proved even more complex than anticipated, involved removing a massive fireplace from the back of the house. Constructed of concrete, as are all the walls in the house, the enormous fireplace intersected the kitchen and the family room. While not quite a wall, since passage was possible on either side of it, the chimney was the elephant in the room. “It was humongous,” says Clark. “The firebox itself wasn’t all that big but a lot of concrete went into creating it. Plus, it wasn’t attractive at all.” Clark believes the chimney was part of the heating system at some point.

Or perhaps it was to augment the heating, since previously there were two other fireplaces on the main floor as well as three on the second level. However, because the family at that time was planning to relocate, Angela says they decided to leave the fate of the fireplace in the hands of future homeowners. The house was put on the market for a while, and Angela stayed behind in Ottawa to allow their youngest to finish his schooling in the city, while Michael lived and worked in the United States. When he was then transferred back to Ottawa, they faced the challenge of what to do with the fireplace. *Continued on page 28*

It turned out to be a large-scale project. As a result of structural issues, the third floor, as well as part of the second floor, had to be blocked off and over the course of the four-month project, floors and walls had to be rebuilt.

But with its removal, useable space was created, which also made a difference in how the space was utilized. In addition to creating better flow at the back of the main level between the kitchen and the family room, the lack of impediment between the two areas allows for conversation between those in the kitchen and those in the family room.

“The work that’s been done has honoured the age of the house,” says Angela. “We’ve always kept in mind that there’s a functionality to it, which is that this is very much a family home. All three children went to school in the neighbourhood and up until a couple of years ago, they all lived here. Now, it’s a place to come home to.” **OH**



“The work that’s been done has honoured the age of the house.”

TOP: In this secondary bedroom, cupboards original to the house, dating back to the earlier part of the 1900s, were painted white. **ABOVE:** The master en suite provides a relaxing spa-like experience in sophisticated surroundings created by Karhu Woodworking. **LEFT:** With cosy seating nearby, a built-in bookcase provides a perfect excuse to pause and peruse on the second-level landing.



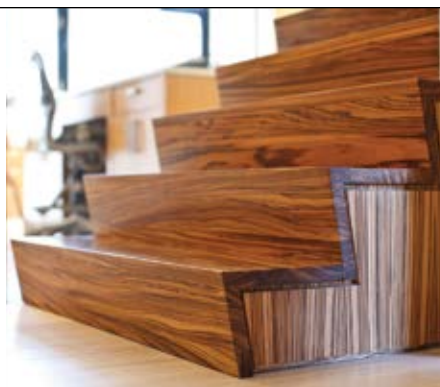
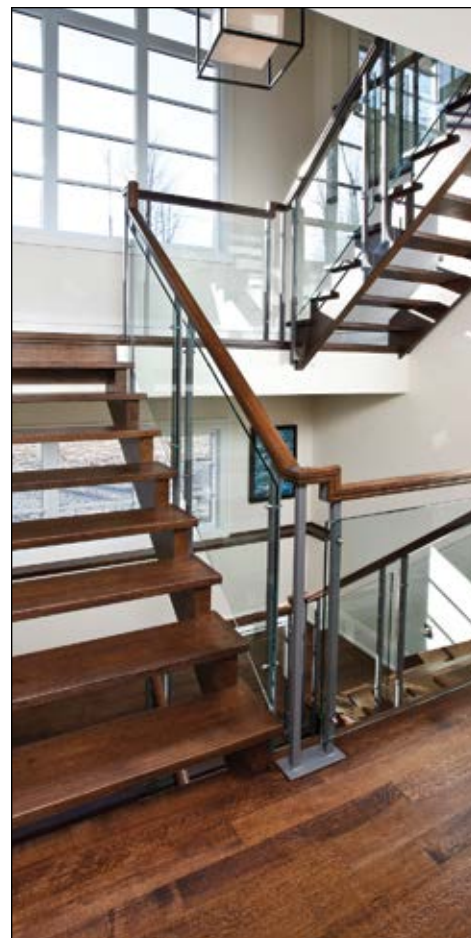
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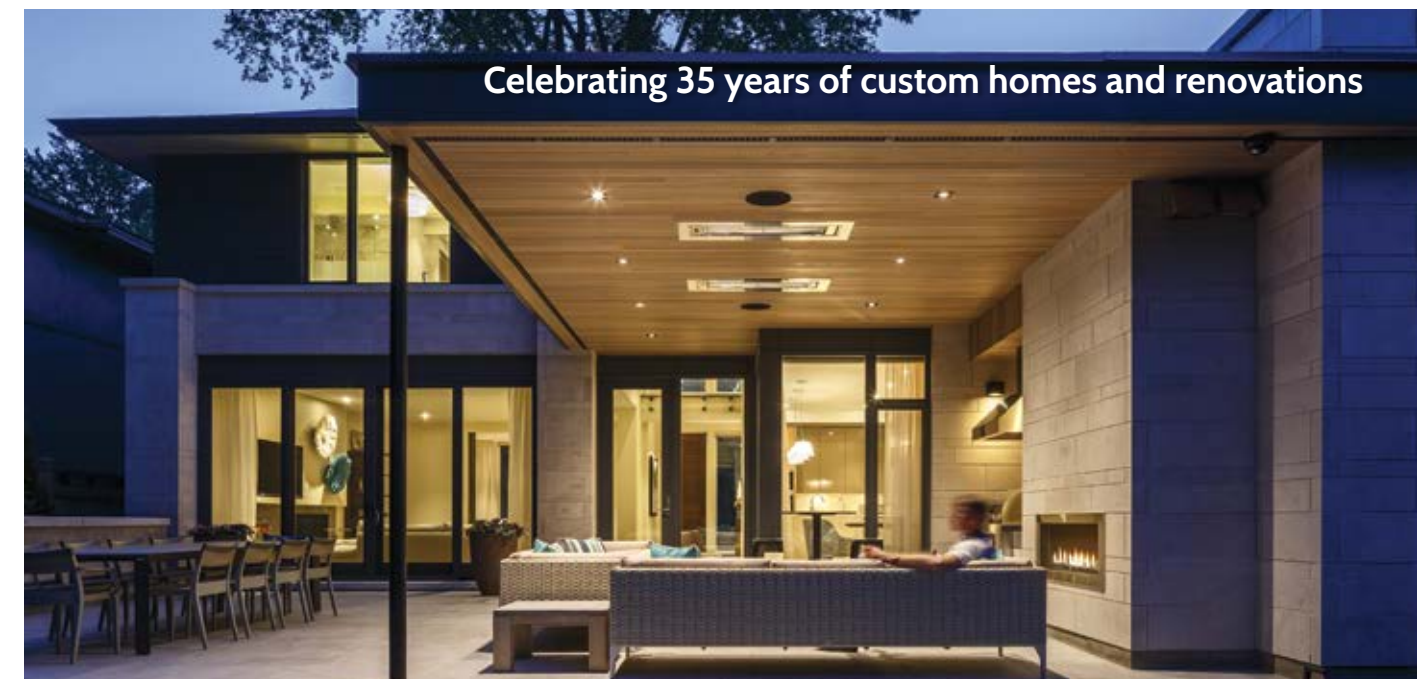
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Standing: Owner Elizabeth Graham and merchandising manager Deborah Moreno. Sitting: Owner Robert Fish, his spouse France Lachaine and owner Richard Copping.



MAKING A HOME YOUR OWN

STORY **DIANE SAWCHUK**
PHOTOGRAPHY **JOSH HOTZ**

THE COMPANY: If you've already dropped by **Ashley HomeStore** in the west end, you won't be surprised to learn this is the number-one furniture store brand and manufacturer in the world. One look around the 25,000 sq. ft. showroom says it all. Ottawa's premiere destination for furniture shoppers (one of 50 Ashley locations across Canada) opened last fall and overflows with exceptional furniture, accessories, lighting, rugs and even recliners and mattresses. If you aren't amazed by the variety of the selection, then check out the price tags: these unique items look far more expensive than their entry- and mid-level price point. Long established on the local furniture scene, owners Richard Copping and Bob Fish, along with Elizabeth Graham (yes, that Elizabeth Graham, with more than 50 years' business experience at Tony Graham Motors) have their finger on the pulse of what customers look for in eye-catching design as well as price.



THIS IS HOME: You'll feel at home at Ashley HomeStore. The furnishings and accessories that define your taste and lifestyle are found right here. Furniture for every room in your home, including the outdoors – along with a vast selection of complementary accessories – are grouped into lifestyles. Choose the category that best describes you, and everything you need to create the perfect room setting can be found in that particular section. Leaning towards an eclectic style? Check out their Urbanology furnishings, offering a selection of loft-style designs that combine industrial with comfortable. Love the look of old and new blended into furnishings that are sophisticated yet cosy? Then Vintage Casual is more your style. Ashley HomeStore offers six other lifestyle sections, including children's furniture that's heirloom quality.



MAKING IT HOME: The latest designs, style and fabrics are on-trend with Ashley HomeStore's quality pieces, but this is affordable style that's accessible, without breaking the bank. Their experienced sales staff are on hand to help with everything from selection to in-home service. And if you're looking for instant gratification, or the closest thing to it, most items can be delivered within two to three weeks.

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STORY **DIANE SAWCHUK**
PHOTOGRAPHY **GORDON KING**

Luxe living reaches new heights with boutique condominium **1451 Wellington – The Residences at Island Park Drive**, coming soon.

Meticulously designed and offering all the details, finishes and amenities of a five-star hotel, residents can expect to be pampered in this 12-storey condominium, granted “landmark” architecture status by the Urban Design Review Panel due to its distinctive copper top. Located in Wellington West, on the outer edge of fashionable Westboro, the project is the first foray into the Ottawa market for **Sam Mizrahi** of Toronto-based **Mizrahi Developments**. *Continued on page 38*



1 Timeless. Sam Mizrahi says the transitional design of 1451 Wellington has its own signature, in that it's anchored in the past but incorporates elements that are current. "You see this quality of timelessness in all the great cities of Europe, where buildings built hundreds of years ago are still relevant today," Mizrahi says. "The look is traditional, but in a fresh way that looks very clean and streamlined. In 25 years, 1451 Wellington will be as fresh and relevant as it is today."

2 Sanctuary. Downsizing need not translate into settling for less: those entering a new life phase will find the same refined finishes and details at 1451 Wellington as they did in their traditional home. Here, the aspiration is to exceed expectations of what a home should be, by incorporating into every suite in this ultra luxurious building refinements that deliver a sense of permanence, such as seven-inch baseboards, heated floors in the master en suite and classic architectural moulding.



3 Inspired Interiors. Recognized as one of the top designers in the world, Brian Gluckstein is renowned for the elegant aesthetic of his showpiece homes and his talent for creating luxurious settings. Having worked on various Mizrahi Developments projects for the past 10 years, Gluckstein brings an awareness of the inspiration that launched the concept of this project and an ability to articulate the vision, translating it into luxe results in every suite.

4 Custom. Floor plans are just a starting point to create a home that's a true reflection of each resident. Each suite is custom designed to the homeowner's specification and individual vision, without limit: rooms can be moved in the layout or multiple units combined to create the ultimate dream suite. The designer works with purchasers in choosing the finishes, colours and materials to ensure each suite is as unique as the individual who calls it home.

5

Details. High-end architectural detailing, such as that more typically found in lavish residences, are everywhere, from the lobby's detailed marble flooring and soaring ceiling overhead, to the lavish wainscoting in the elevator. Inside each suite you'll find wall panelling in abundance, curved walls to create visual interest and cove ceilings drawing your eye up to the full nine to 10 ft. height of the rooms.

Continued on page 40



"Downsizing need not translate into settling for less."



Italian granite countertops are embellished with a choice of edges, including bevelled, seen here.



6 Sumptuous. From doors so substantial they require a fourth hinge, to kitchens kitted with Italian granite countertops and undermount sinks, no detail has been overlooked in the effort to create a home that feels established and refined. The Miele appliance package and luxury designer fixtures only further enhance kitchens personally customized by locally acclaimed **Irpinia Kitchens Ottawa**.

7 Five Star. In keeping with Mizrahi Developments' goal of creating a five-star resort lifestyle for their residents, the building will have a theatre, spa and indoor saltwater pool; a light-filled fitness retreat will be outfitted with the latest equipment.

“No detail has been overlooked in the effort to create a home that feels established and refined.”

8 Quiet. While this gateway building is situated in a vital, energetic part of the city, residents will hardly be aware of the outside world. Insulated 10-inch-thick walls are acoustically engineered for sound reduction, while the latest technology has produced superior grade windows that muffle extraneous urban noise. Offering a superior Sound Transmission Class (STC), these windows also protect interiors from UV damage, with multiple glazing and trapped argon gas that ensures energy efficiency. Sam Mizrahi says his company applies their own standards of quality, which exceed industry requirements.

9 Smart. With the pre-wired CAT6 computer network and state-of-the-art security system to communicate with a choice of monitoring service, residents can check who's at the door, cool their home before their arrival or program ambient music through the system wired throughout the suite, using their mobile device.

10 Entertain. Residents are offered the convenience of hosting gatherings in the fully-furnished entertainment suite. There, the dining room offers a catering kitchen for food preparation, serving and cleanup, while guests can gather in front of the fireplace in the lounge area. Overnight guests are offered privacy in the private retreat of a fully-equipped guest suite, where they are coddled in high-quality linens and looked after by a cleaning staff. *Continued on page 42*



11 Green Space. The vibrant and highly desirable communities of Wellington West and Westboro offer a thriving mix of green spaces, recreation, retail, public transportation and bike paths, all within walking distance. In addition to an outdoor green space with barbecue area for the exclusive use of residents, the site at 1451 Wellington will also include a parkette with a playground and incorporate an existing bike path and walkway, benefiting the entire neighbourhood. Those interested in exploring further will find the Ottawa River Pathway and Trans-Canada Trail a short walk away, where meandering and bicycle paths follow the Ottawa River. Meanwhile, a short drive north down Island Park Drive and across the Champlain Bridge leads to the picturesque Gatineau Hills in Quebec.



12 Every Comfort. From a fully-equipped indoor pet wash facility, to a 24-hour manned porte-cochère with parking valet and even 24/7 full-service concierge, no detail has been overlooked to ensure residents enjoy the ultimate in sumptuous lifestyle. This theme carries through from the penthouses on the upper floor, where terraces are designed larger for expansive outdoor living space, to the lower levels, where the heated indoor garage, with epoxy flooring and CCTV for security, offers electrical outlets in every parking spot and a car-wash bay. **OH**

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ARUGULA ORZO SALAD

RECIPE AND PHOTOGRAPHY **JENELLE MCCULLOCH**

This is a perfect make-ahead summer salad with fresh arugula, artichokes and orzo. Simple, yet full of flavour and seasonal produce.



INGREDIENTS (Serves 4)

SALAD

- 1 cup orzo, uncooked
- 5-6 artichoke hearts, packed in water
- 5-6 sundried tomatoes, drained and thinly sliced
- 1 cup canned white beans, drained and washed
- arugula
- ¼ cup parmesan cheese, shaved

LEMON DRESSING

- ¼ cup lemon juice
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- ½ tsp pepper
- ½ tsp salt
- pinch of dried oregano

DIRECTIONS

- Bring large pot of water to a boil and cook the orzo for 5 to 7 minutes, as per package directions. Strain and rinse thoroughly.
- Combine and whisk ingredients for dressing in a large mixing bowl. Set aside.
- Drain artichokes and slice in half. In large bowl, add orzo, artichokes, sundried tomatoes and white beans. Mix together. Right before serving add dressing, and mix. Toss with a few handfuls of arugula and top with parmesan cheese. **OH**



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A TRUE NORTH ROSE

STORY **PAT CROCKER**
PHOTOGRAPHY **VINELAND RESEARCH AND INNOVATION CENTRE**

There's a red and white party about to unfold across the country this year, and for homeowners, one surprise guest is a proud Canadian rose.

Known as Canadian Shield, this stunner is a made-in-Canada repeat bloomer, and a more fitting plant could not have been selected to help Canadians celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

Few flowers are as rich in lore and history as the rose, and few are as highly prized. As natives of the cooler parts of the northern hemisphere, wild or species roses were blooming on this continent long before Columbus was born. In fact, they are thought to have evolved as long ago as 60 million years in Central Asia before making their way to North America, Europe and China.

The Canadian Shield rose is Canadian-flag red in colour and like the country itself, it has a majestic beauty and yet it is deceptively hardy, welcoming freezing temperatures as well

as searing heat. Developed by the Vineland Research and Innovation Centre in partnership with the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association, the Canadian Shield rose is the first of Vineland's 49th Parallel Collection to be released. If you plant in May it will be ready for the big day this summer.

Even if you are not partial to roses, because of its low-maintenance, versatility, repeat-blooming characteristic, disease-resistant hardiness and over one-metre spread with full, red flowers and glossy green foliage, the Canadian Shield rose is a natural for Canadian homes, landscapes and gardens.

Visit 49throses.com/node/10 for a list of greenhouses, nurseries and garden stores that carry it.

GROWING ROSES

PLANTING

Roses require a minimum of six to eight hours of direct sunlight every day, so choose a sunny spot, preferably one with slight shade in afternoons.

Although hardy to -40° C, as do all roses, the Canadian Shield rose will benefit if protected from cold winds by a hedge. Because they require circulating air, do not plant roses under trees or near walls.

Dig a hole twice the size of the container and to a depth that is about twice the length of the plant from growth node (the swelling from which the stems grow) to the end of the roots.

Add enough moist compost, manure, or peat moss to the hole so that when planted, the growth node is 2.5 cm below the surface.

Remove the plant from the pot and spread the roots over the new material in the hole. Add soil back around the plant, making sure that the plant is upright and the hole is completely filled. Lightly tamp the soil around the stems.

Empty a bucket of water around the base of the plant.

MAINTENANCE

Mulch roses (do not let mulch touch the stems) to help hold moisture, add some nutrients, and prevent the growth of weeds.

In early spring, cut out thin, damaged or weak shoots then prune all stems by about half of their length.

Add fertilizer to the soil around roses in the spring and water thoroughly after adding. One more feeding of fertilizer may be added around mid-summer.

Water around the base of roses regularly during summer.

Snip dead flowers from rose bushes. **OH**



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PHOTOGRAPHY LOIS SIEGEL

As we celebrate our country’s 150th – happy birthday, Canada! – OUR HOMES congratulates these local business people on their company’s longevity.



TIM BOND
CO-OWNER
Bonds Decor Ltd.

Congratulations on your 90th year in the business. What factors allowed your company to endure? I’m the third generation and I’ve learned that success comes through building lifetime relationships with your customers and by having the right products to fit their needs. Also, a knowledgeable, motivated staff is the backbone of your business.

How has your company grown? My grandfather and his brother opened Bonds Decor in 1927 as a paint, wallpaper and flooring store, then added furniture in the 1940s. My father took over in the 1970s and we expanded to three stores in the 1980s. Recently, we added Benjamin Moore to our product line and we’re well-known as experts in wood stains and finishes.

Where do you see your company in 10 years? You can’t control outside forces and their effect on your business. However, if we keep focused on strong customer service and continue to develop and maintain relationships, I can see us being successful for years to come.



MARK PATTERSON
FOUNDER & PRESIDENT
Patterson Homes

Your company has been renovating and building custom homes for more than a quarter century: how do you explain its longevity? Over the past 30 years, I’ve built a team of professional contractors that communicate well with the customer – and each other. We respect the customer and treat them how we would want to be treated; with respect and honesty. And we offer them excellent value for their money.

How has your company grown? The company hasn’t expanded, yet. I control all the projects and I deal with the customers directly. It’s a method that obviously works, since Patterson Homes has been honoured by the Greater Ottawa Home Builders’ Association (GOHBA) with three awards.

Where will you be in 10 years? My 20-year-old son Lane is now working with my handyman Rick Jacques because my son wants to learn the plumbing business. You never know what the future holds, but I do know I’ll still be serving the Ottawa Valley residential construction industry.

Continued on page 56



SHAWN SPOONER
OWNER & PRESIDENT
Michael Spooner & Son Estate Auctions

Your company has been in the business for nearly half a century. To what do you attribute that longevity? We are a family owned and operated business committed to obtaining the best prices we can for our clients. With an aging, downsizing population, we sell and give a new lease on life to many interesting pieces, providing a financial return for consignors.

How has your company grown? From humble beginnings as pickers and sellers in the Ottawa Valley, we progressed into auctioneering while operating Ottawa's

fine furniture store, Widdicombs of Westboro. We also expanded to include Ottawa Estate Appraisers, which provides accredited personal property appraisals for estates, divorce, insurance, etc. Today, our auctions are conducted live, as well as online, to reach buyers around the world.

Where do you see the company in 10 years? The third generation is now involved and will continue to offer our clientele the depth of knowledge and expertise that keeps us on top of current market trends.

**JACQUES MARCHAND,
SIMONE MARCHAND,
CLAUDE MARCHAND
& ERIC MARCHAND**
*THIRD, FOURTH AND
FIFTH GENERATIONS*
Marchand Electric

Your company is almost as old as Canada, congratulations! This year, Marchand Electric is marking 125 years in business. As it has been from day one, our goal every day is to surpass our clients' expectations in product knowledge, product selection and service. Our hard working team makes that possible.

How has your company grown? We've constantly evolved as advances and improvements in electrical technology provided us with new products and applications. Marchand Electric has also expanded into Stittsville and Gatineau, on top of our east-end Ottawa location. We have always been a location store, but wanted to offer more convenience to some of the communities we work with.

Where will you be in 10 years? In a decade from now, Marchand Electric will be in the very capable hands of the next generation. Hopefully, you'll also find the generation after that starting out in the family business, in the warehouse... sweeping up.

Continued on page 58



people



JODIE MATTHIESEN
GENERAL MANAGER
KIM REID
SALES MANAGER
TOM ALAIN
FOREMAN
*Hubert's Fireplace
Consultation + Design*

Your company has been in business for almost a century. What's the secret behind your staying power? Excellent customer service has always been our primary goal and with the third generation now operating our store, people know they can expect personalized service and one-stop shopping. Our in-house staff are responsible for the entire job from concept to completion, so customers trust us and depend on our knowledge and expertise.

How has your company grown? We've operated

from the same Hintonburg location since we opened our doors 95 years ago, but we've adapted by staying ahead of, as well as with, the trends and technology in the hearth industry. Focusing on a few specific quality lines, Canadian products and specializing in hearth products is what makes us unique.

Where will you be in 10 years? Ten years from now we'll be celebrating 105 years in business. We intend to stay a small family business, customizing fireplace installations and excelling in customer service. **OH**

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decorating



STORY **YANIC SIMARD**
PHOTOGRAPHY **VALERIE WILCOX**



EXOTIC ELEMENTS

There's no place like home, but sometimes don't you dream of enticing distant lands? If your décor is feeling a little bit like the same old, same old, shake things up with a touch of exotic flair, and bring back that feeling of home sweet home.

HERE ARE 7 OF MY FAVOURITE WAYS TO BRING AN ELEMENT OF THE EXOTIC INTO ANY DESIGN:

1 PILLOWS & THROWS
For a quick infusion of exotic appeal, pile on the pillows. Indian, East- or South-Asian-inspired prints and fabrics make for an easy splash of colour, in as big or small a dose as you desire. Bravely add rich jewel tones to even the most neutral of colour schemes – they're surprisingly easy to work with. The best part? If you eventually get tired of a saturated hue, you can always switch out the cases for a while, and bring them back in when you're craving that sizzling flavour again.

2 ARTISTIC ACCENTS
A curated home avoids clutter, but don't be scared of adding a few sculptural objets, even on your minimalist

surfaces. Cultivate items with true beauty and meaning: fewer items of a higher quality will amount to a worldly collection over time, so bring one great piece back when you travel, rather than several tourist-trap knickknacks.

3 FURNITURE
Adding accessories doesn't feel like enough of a shake up? Opt out of using just the typical clean-lined furniture and mix in something a bit more bold. Try drum coffee tables, East-Asian-influenced cabinets or Moroccan-inspired side tables. The flair a piece of exotic furniture brings to a space is worth braving a little commitment. Pair evocative pieces (like a studded wing chair) with demure classics like a plush leather sofa to create a subtle, sophisticated story.

4 PRINTS & PATTERNS
Fabric can be used to cover up or to attract attention. For beautiful draperies that make as much of a statement as the view outside, why not try a wild motif, such as this feather print from



Maxwell Fabrics (Fantail fabric in #338 Prism). Try a similarly colourful print to upholster

a side chair or bench, or spice up a headboard – or use a printed wallpaper to add rich hues to your dining room, foyer or powder room.

5 RUGS
Bold prints aren't only for vertical surfaces. A vivid exotic rug brings some drama to the fifth wall – the floor – which has several advantages. In some spaces, using a bold accent wall can leave the space feeling lopsided, but an accent rug stays grounded. Plus, you can always use a petite carpet (like a three-by-five-foot) in a small nook for a little splash of interest, rather than filling a whole room. Try pairing a rug in a rich palette with a piece of art that echoes some of the same colours to add a sense of continuity throughout the space.

6 TILES
In the kitchen and bath, and even beyond, tiles in exotic designs are a beautifully bold choice. Try a statement tile for a small area, such as a powder-room floor (or even the full walls), a kitchenette or butler's pantry, a shower-stall floor or accent wall, or a short but impactful backsplash. Look



to cosmopolitan suppliers like Cercan Tile for traditional cultural patterns or even bold tropical motifs, to speak volumes with just a few tiles.

7 WILDLIFE
So maybe you can't have an exotic pet – you can still bring home some wildlife in the way of a stunning live plant. Not all tropical varieties can survive a Canadian climate, but you can bring lots of exotic essence with indoor trees, such as the impressive fiddle leaf fig. Look for a plant with large leaves or fronds to bring the air of a dreamy vacation destination to your home year-round. **OH**

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Over the years, thousands of discerning customers have trusted us with their vision – most of those coming to us from referrals. We believe that's due to our ironclad commitment to service excellence, and our ability to offer timeless designs that deliver integrity, harmony and warmth.

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(Please see ad on pg 65)



OMEGA HOMES

Omega Homes is the difference between a house and a home.

Omega Homes understands how essential your personal touch is to making your dream home a reality. A high-end custom home builder, Omega Homes specializes in modern, stylish homes and retains single-source responsibility from start to finish. This means their top designers, architects, trades and staff will be working with you to meet your needs every step of the way.

Omega Homes provides a careful balance of home building ideas, creativity, communication and organization to each of their customers. They are committed to delivering a productive, stress-free experience which results in a home that matches your needs, lifestyle and personality.

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(Please see ad on pg 45)



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serves all of Ottawa and the surrounding region. We are a local business with all local employees. Details regarding all of our services are available at **ncirrigation.com**. A quick call or email from you is the next step to greater enjoyment of your landscape for years to come.

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ncirrigation.com

(Please see ad on pg 51)



MOSTLY DANISH

It would not be an exaggeration to state that **Mostly Danish** is Ottawa's largest environment conscious furniture recycler. Our two stores – 3,500 square feet at 1000 Wellington Street West, and the 30,000 square foot showroom/warehouse at 2437 Kaladar Avenue are stuffed to the rafters with Mid Century Modern furniture from the 50's to the 70's.

We have genuine antique Chinese furniture made in the distant past, recycling them into use in our modern homes. This is a win-win strategy for the **environment**, by not polluting with new manufacturing; the **customer**, which receives furniture of superior quality unseen in most new items; and the **merchant**, who makes a living in the process, also knowing that he is indeed doing the right thing.

As an award winning wood worker, owner Zvi Gross, is himself a creator of award winning objects – from wood cutoffs that otherwise would have found their way to the land fill, burned, and thus adding additional carbon dioxide to the environment.

Support their endeavor for a greener world for our kids!!

613.241.3873

2437 Kaladar Ave, Ottawa

mostlydanish.com

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DIY JIGSAW SERVING BOARDS

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

To help carry food and beverages from inside to out, try flexing a little DIY muscle to create these easy and affordable puzzle piece serving boards.

Used individually at your next afternoon get-together, or interconnected along the centre of your outdoor dining table to host a chic charcuterie evening al fresco, these unique boards will have you serving up style all season long.

TOOLS & MATERIALS

Untreated hardwood board (approximate size eight-inches wide, 24-inches long, one-inch thick)

Electric jig saw

Disposable gloves

Lint-free rags

Sanding block

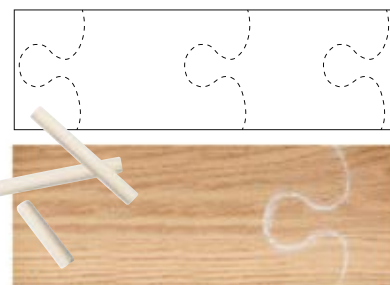
Electric palm sander

Chalk

Watco Butcher Block Oil & Finish

HOW-TO:

Using a piece of chalk, sketch a puzzle pattern near both ends of the plank and in the centre to create two connecting serving boards.



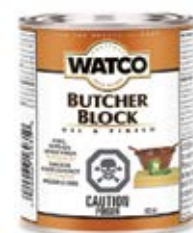
With a jig saw, cut along the chalk lines.



Sand all wood surfaces thoroughly, rounding edges with palm sander, and then wipe down both boards with a damp, lint-free rag to remove all sanding particles.



Wearing gloves and using a lint-free rag, apply an even coat of Watco Butcher Block Oil & Finish to seal and protect boards.



These boards are ideal for summer entertaining and make a great gift, too. **OH**



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finishing touch

Cuttings from tropical plants make a simple yet bold statement

BLUE lagoon

Aquatic-themed spaces are a design trend we're loving this year. Dive in and submerge your kitchen or dining area in colour palettes and elements inspired by oceans, lakes, lagoons and the creatures and plant life that inhabit them.

1. MUUTO: Elevated, Silent, Shade & Four Vases **2. TECH LIGHTING:** Quinton Pendant in Surf Green **3. COLE & SON:** Palm Jungle 95/1003 Wallpaper **4. MOSAÏQUE SURFACE:** Nadja Tile in Calacatta Oro & Brass **5. KITCHENAID:** Artisan Stand Mixer in Blue Willow **6. DELTA:** Trinsic Single Handle Pull-Down Kitchen Faucet in Champagne Bronze **7. AMEROCK:** Sea Grass CTC Cup Pull in Golden Champagne **8. ABBOTT:** Mojave Succulents in Globe **9. LE CREUSET:** Covered Sauté Pan in Caribbean **10. ABBOTT:** Graphic Pumpkin Knob in Turquoise & Gold **11. NOVICA:** Azure Chalice Handblown Recycled Glass Pitcher Set for 2 **12. ABBOTT:** Large Classic Pillar Candle in Navy Blue **13. BANQUET ATELIER & WORK SHOP:** Wild Birds in Navy Blue 100% Linen Tea Towel **14. JAIPUR LIVING:** Barcelona I-O Drizzle Rug in Papyrus & Green Bay **15. BABA SOUK:** Natural Seagrass Medium Belly Basket in Black **16. TON CANADA:** Chair Split in Gradient Blue **17. MOE'S:** Belem Rectangular Dining Table **18. ABBOTT:** Rustic Rim Porcelain Dinnerware in Ocean **OH**



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