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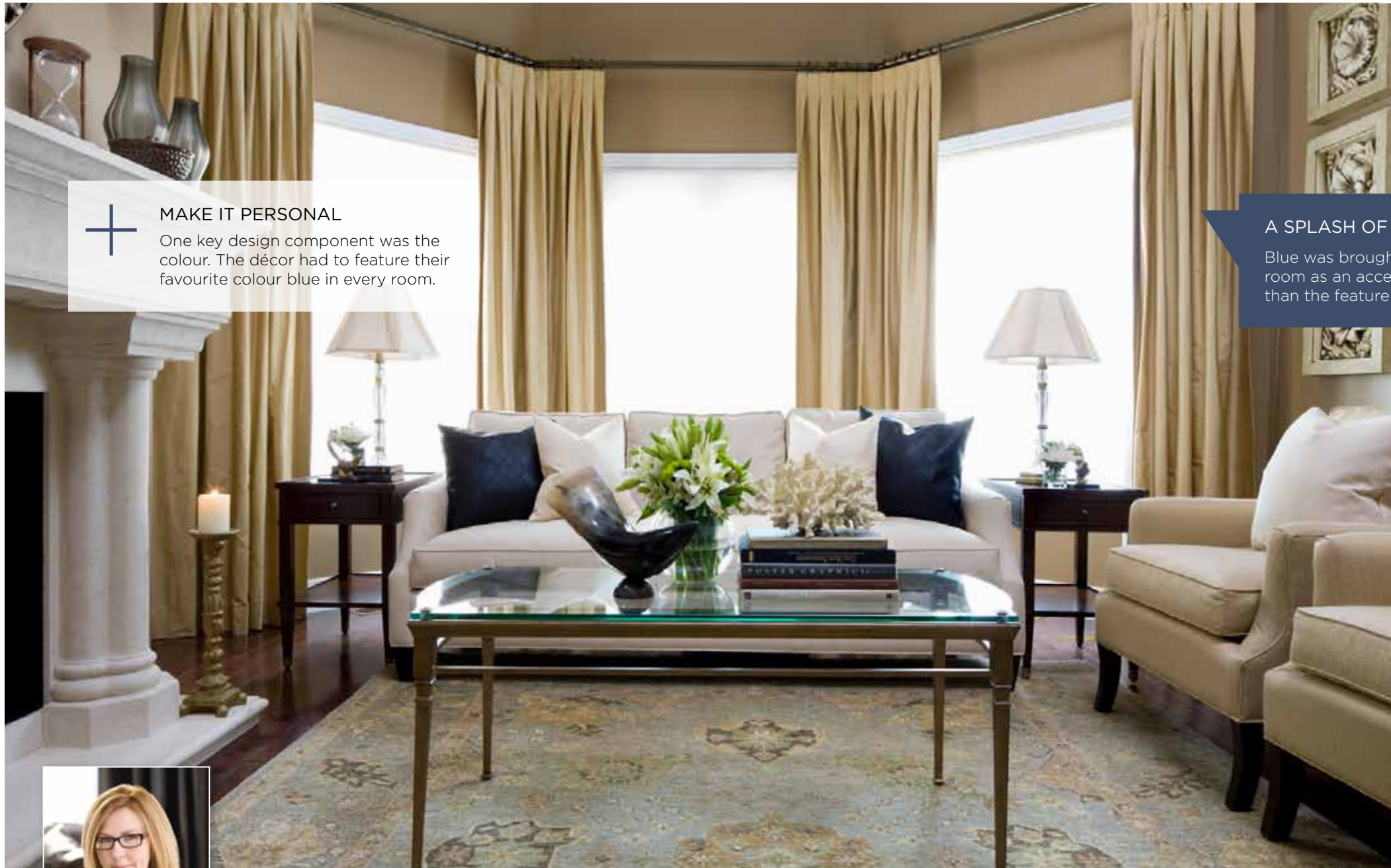
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A WALK ON THE DESIGN SIDE WITH *JANE'S WORLD* | LEGENDARY B.C BROADCASTER TONY PARSONS' *TAKE ON ART*



+ **MAKE IT PERSONAL**
One key design component was the colour. The décor had to feature their favourite colour blue in every room.

A SPLASH OF COLOUR
Blue was brought into this room as an accent rather than the feature hue.



A MARVELOUS **MAIN FLOOR MAKEOVER**

+ Renovating one room is disruptive and challenging enough but renovating an entire main floor including the kitchen all at once can be at best, overwhelming. But in this case, for our clients, all the inconvenience and patience was well worth it and the results are truly amazing!

For our busy working parents of three kids there really wasn't a good time to squeeze in a large-scale renovation but they realized that it made sense to tackle the job and only go through the mess and chaos once! Having lived in the house for some years they loved the neighbourhood and nearby school so moving wasn't an option. The decision was made to update the old wallpaper, worn broadloom and tired colours. The kitchen was especially old looking with inefficient appliances, lighting and dated cabinetry.

A very style conscience family, the new look had to reflect their personal taste. Brought up in Stratford, Ontario with its charming English country style architecture, the couple wanted to achieve a similar look and feel but with a contemporary flare. One key design component was the colour. The decor had to feature their favourite colour blue in every room. Needless to say, this is a challenge when you want to ensure that a space remains classic and timeless and not overwhelmed by one colour!

Accentuate lovely soaring ceilings by hanging draperies above the window trim to enhance a room's height and lend elegance and drama to a formal space.



jane lockhart INTERIOR DESIGN

Jane Lockhart B.A.A.I.D, Intern, A.R.I.D.O is the principal Interior Designer with Jane Lockhart Interior Design in Toronto and host of Colour Confidential on W Network.

Interior Design and Story by Jane Lockhart
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Photography by Brandon Barré



BRIGHT IDEAS

White cabinetry, accented with bold pops of colour, works wonderfully in a small kitchen...adding lightness and the illusion of space.

CUSTOM CABINETRY

Custom cabinetry is a nod to warm and inviting English countryside style but with a modern sophisticated twist.

The first challenge was the size of the rooms, in particular the kitchen – the most important room in the house as baking and cooking is a primary function for this family. Measuring only 10' by 11' it was restricted to the back corner of the house and wedged behind a lovely circular staircase. Ultimately, this meant that the kitchen couldn't be made larger so had to be cleverly and efficiently laid out to maximize storage and provide ample space for new appliances and modern conveniences. This room set the style direction for all the other spaces despite its small size.

The kitchen renovation began with taking the walls back as far as possible to gain extra space. The layout includes all paneled appliances to keep the room warm and library-like. There are several main features in this tiny space that make it unique despite its pint-size square footage. The large range hood emphasizes the cooking area and is detailed with a mantel for plate and decorative display. The stunning blue range adds the English country style they desired with a modern touch. The Viking professional oven and cooktop becomes a very interesting element in the space, drawing attention away from the small size.



A stunning cobalt blue Viking gas range is the highlight of the space.

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ROOM-TO-ROOM CONTINUITY

Mimicking the kitchen's window treatments, a tailored box pleated valence in chocolate brown linen with sheer roller blinds help connect the rooms in style and function.



The custom coloured, diamond-cut cork floor tiles are not only resistant to mildew and fungus, they're warm under foot and comfy to stand on for long periods of time. The colouring and layout of the warm, resilient cork give the appearance of an elegant travertine stone tile.

Picking up the tones of the walnut dining set in the adjacent dining nook, the highly durable and easy to maintain quartz countertops in the kitchen add rich contrast to the white cabinets and light coloured floors. The beige Blanco stone series sink was chosen to complement the countertops for a softer look. French doors overlooking the garden provide easy access to the patio and provide the room with a flood of natural light.

A spacious dining nook is made fresh and bright with sky blue walls, white wainscoting and French doors to the garden patio.



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ATTENTION TO DETAIL

Timeless style meets functional living with comfortable, well chosen investment pieces and space saving built-ins.


Next we tackled the dining and living rooms just off the kitchen. Both rooms are separate from each other and each opens into a main hallway remodeled with white wainscoting to add architectural detail and glowing walnut hardwood flooring.

The small dining room required serious decorating attention from top to bottom! First, the unsightly stippled ceiling was smoothed and painted in a gray-blue and new walnut hardwood floors were installed. The classic English country style wall-to-wall cabinet unit with space saving sliding glass doors, matches the kitchen cabinetry. The built-in unit was designed to maximize storage in the small room and offer a place to display the homeowners' collection of creamy white antique cake plates and china. A round pedestal dining table in dark wood features six parsons chairs upholstered in pale blue easy-to-clean eco microfiber. Silk drapes combine all the room's colours from blue to brown, frame the bay window of this quaint dining space. An elegant pendant light with sheer shade and crystal drops and an area rug in muted neutral tones soften the room.



The showstopper of this house has to be its lovely two-story living room. Before the addition of the fireplace the room was a big empty box with no architectural detail – a blank canvas. We kept the original hardwood floors since they were in good shape and didn't connect directly with the hallway due to an existing step-down into the living room. What was really needed was a strong element to balance the height of the room and make it feel intimate when entertaining. A clean-burning fireplace fitted with an open gas insert and large cast stone surround and mantel adds a dramatic focal point and sets the tone for this elegant room. In this front room three large bright windows faced the street and are simply dressed in sheer blinds and fixed silk drapery panels in a warm neutral colour. Pot lights, wall sconces, candles and table lamps offer flexible lighting to create just the right ambiance instantly.

Blue was brought into this room as an accent rather than the feature hue. This allows the room to remain neutral overall and the opportunity to accept other subtle accessory colours in the future. Contemporary furniture with ultra-lux seating and fabric make this a wonderful room to spend time in but is also an excellent space for entertaining friends and family.

Blue is certainly the colour that connects the traditional layout of the main floor but it is the family that keeps each of these rooms alive as they continue to enjoy each other's company and their home for many more years to come. 

YOUR KITCHEN, YOUR STYLE



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