

CANADIAN

APRIL 2024

# HOUSE & HOME

## *The Makeover Issue*

FROM SMALL CHANGES TO MAJOR RENOS!

A LAKESIDE  
RETREAT IS REDONE  
BY LYNDA REEVES  
DESIGN STUDIO

EMMA  
REDDINGTON'S  
BIG REVEAL

10  
FABULOUS  
PEEL AND  
STICK TILES  
CYNTHIA  
FERGUSON  
BRINGS ON  
THE COLOUR

*Plus* Rosie Daykin's Amazing  
Turkey Burger with Rhubarb Ketchup!

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Architecture PAUL ROTH ARCHITECT  
Design LYNDA REEVES DESIGN STUDIO  
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IT'S  
IN THE

*Mix*

LYNDA REEVES  
DESIGN STUDIO  
TRANSFORMS A CENTURY  
LAKEHOUSE INTO A  
CHARMING AND  
COMFORTABLE RETREAT.





This is a favourite corner where Lynda's client loves to read and enjoy the lake view.



**THERE'S A BENEFIT TO HAVING** a well-travelled client. Who can holiday in the south of France and the English countryside or comb through the markets of India without wanting to bring some of that beauty home? "My client loves to travel, so 'Parisian French,' 'English Country,' 'Classic American Trad' and the textiles of India happily found their way into the recent renovation of my client's country house," says designer Lynda Reeves.

After working with Lynda on two other projects, the client reached out for help when she bought a graceful Dutch Colonial farmhouse on Lake Simcoe. Intended to be a weekend retreat for extended family, the early-1900s house needed help — previous renovations had removed some of the original detail.

Architect Paul Roth was hired to restore some of those details and add new windows, exterior finishes and structural elements. Lynda and her team at LRDS were

**TOP RIGHT:** John Derian plates form a fun pastiche that can be added to over time. **Plates**, John Derian Company; **table lamp**, Visual Comfort; **sideboard**, Crate & Barrel.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** The new custom bar is a nod to a French brasserie. **Tile**, Ciot; **faucet** by Perrin & Rowe, House of Rohl; **coffee maker**, Nespresso.


**OPPOSITE:** The custom table in the "kids' dining room" (background) doubles as a craft table and can seat 10 for large dinner parties. **Candleholder**, Hopson Grace.



Produced by Stacy Begg

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In the dining room, paisley-print drapes add pattern and colour against the soft, stone-coloured walls. **Pendant and sconces** by Aerin, Visual Comfort; **drapery fabric**, Kravet Canada; **bowl**, Hopson Grace; **dining table**, RH.





The original living room ceiling looked heavy, so the dark wood beams and ceiling planks were painted a warm cream. The fireplace was re-stuccoed, but the original mantel beam was salvaged.  
**Floor lamps, armchairs, RH; sofa, Jayson Home; rug by Ralph Lauren, RugStudio.**





**TOP LEFT:** LRDS designed this barn door to separate the kitchen from the dining room and bar area. **Pendants**, *The Urban Electric Co.*  
**TOP RIGHT:** Paver floor tile was laid in a herringbone pattern. **Peg rail, bench**, *Coolican & Company*; **floor tile**, *Thames Valley Brick & Tile.*  
**BOTTOM RIGHT:** The combination mudroom–laundry room was an addition. The dog shower is essential for the owner’s two goldendoodles. **Shower tile**, *Ciot*; **faucet** by *Perrin & Rowe*, **sink** by *Shaws, House of Rohl*; **counters**, *Canadian Butcher Block Company*; **washer, dryer**, *LG.*

brought in to do the interiors. “The mandate was to transform this farmhouse into what we thought an original heritage country house should feel like,” says Lynda.

The owner, who frequently hosts her six adult children and 12 grandchildren, has fond memories of being here for the first time. “When I stepped on the property after a long winter in the city, I felt my shoulders just drop,” she says. “This house is one of the first in the neighbourhood and has quite a history in this little community, so I wanted to preserve the feel of it.” Architect Paul Roth adds: “Much of the interior was gutted during this renovation, but we retained the original detailing and character wherever possible.”

The two-year-long project started in 2020 and included all-new windows and exterior doors, siding, insulation and a new cedar-shingled roof. On the main floor, the hardwood floors, staircase, fireplace, interior French doors and fir panelling in the sunroom were all retained, while the kitchen was expanded. Upstairs,



A big island was a must-have. "The dads serve breakfast to the kids lined up at the island," says the hostess. **Counters**, Cosentino.







The principal bedroom was painted in fresh white; Kiska block-print bedding is a favourite. **Sconces**, Shoppe Amber Interiors; **bed frame, bench**, Serena & Lily; **dark floral accent pillow, throw**, Au Lit Fine Linens.

## Key Paint Colours

**Dining room wall colour:**  
London Stone (6), Farrow & Ball

**Mudroom millwork colour:**  
Pigeon (25), Farrow & Ball

**Kitchen wall colour:**  
Balboa Mist (OC-27),  
Benjamin Moore

**Kitchen island colour:**  
Iron Mountain (2134-30),  
Benjamin Moore

**Kitchen barn door colour:**  
Cat's Paw (240), Farrow & Ball

**Principal bedroom ceiling  
and wall colour:**  
Cloud White (OC-130),  
Benjamin Moore

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** The sitting room off the principal bedroom has a vintage daybed fitted with a new custom mattress and woven throw pillows. **Floor lamp**, Mkt; **daybed**, Chairish; **armchair**, CB2; **rug**, West Elm.







A skirted dressing table with matching drapes brings charm to the principal ensuite. **Drapery and vanity skirt fabric**, Kravet Canada; **tub**, Muti Kitchen & Bath; **stool**, Wicker Paradise.

**OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT:** The custom oak vanity, glossy tile and glass-walled shower are elegant. **Wall tile**, Ciot; **sconces**, Mitzi; **faucets**, Watermarks Kitchen & Bath Boutique; **hand towel**, Au Lit Fine Linens; **sinks**, Kohler; **floor tile**, Marble Trend.





**TOP LEFT:** Original wood panelling is a wonderful backdrop for rich blue bedding and drapes in this guest room. **Drapery fabric,** Lewis & Wood; **bed frame,** Article; **table lamp,** Jayson Home; **bedding,** Kiska Textiles; **lumbar throw pillow,** Au Lit Fine Linens.  
**BOTTOM LEFT:** A trio of twin beds gives a “Madeline” feel to this bedroom, which is sophisticated enough for adult guests. **Blinds,** Hunter Douglas; **table lamps,** Soho Home; **bed frames,** West Elm; **nightstands,** Pottery Barn Canada.



a new bathroom was created and the existing bathrooms were all redesigned.

The house is used by extended family primarily as a weekend house and friends often visit on their own, so the design had to be intuitive and functional. “I’m not very good at practical and low-maintenance, I admit it,” says Lynda with a laugh. “That was a particular challenge for me, because I wanted it to be elevated yet still really comfortable, and as childproof as possible.”

And so the house became a wonderful mix of influences. The painted kitchen and adjoining mudroom have classic English country style. A new yellow barn door buffers the sounds and cooking chaos in the kitchen from the dining room. “You don’t know how your client is going to live in a house until they do,” says Lynda. “I try to give every possible option. But I don’t think the barn door is ever closed.”

A new bar off the dining room is a nod to a Parisian brasserie, with custom brass and glass shelves. The living room feels “pure Ralph,” says Lynda, with classic leather seating, leather-wrapped floor lamps and a woven striped rug. “It’s a pretty house, so one of the goals was to bring a mix of classic country prints, graphic modern elements and artisanal accents to each room.”

Paisley-print drapes in the living and dining rooms, and the principal ensuite’s patterned bedding, throw pillows and skirted dressing table in a feminine floral fabric are part of the mix. To help the freshly painted rooms blend in with the original fir panelling, most of the new windows feature wood interior frames and mullions left unpainted in natural fir.

Throughout the house, the furniture is a mix of old and new. “I like classic Canadiana pieces, new modern seating and good

CONTINUED ON PAGE 82

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**“ONE OF THE GOALS WAS TO BRING A MIX OF CLASSIC COUNTRY PRINTS, GRAPHIC MODERN ELEMENTS AND ARTISANAL ACCENTS TO EACH ROOM” — Lynda Reeves, designer**

Another favourite sight line, the corner of a guest room with antiques and naïve art. **Desk lamp**, Soho Home.



WEB

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CONTINUED FROM...

## A RETURN TO FORM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 47

We also saved on flooring: we re-stained the existing hardwood floors and used quarry tile in the kitchen, terrazzo tile in the family room and linoleum in the kids' bathroom. Mid-century houses were meant to be attainable for everyone.

**DH:** Yes, one of our biggest saves was the quarry tile. At less than \$5 per square foot, it's very affordable, and it's what you might have found in mid-century houses. But by the time we'd gone through all the samples, the tile had been discontinued, so owner Emma had the very last available flat shipped to Blaine, Washington, and rented a truck to pick it up.

**H&H:** *What was the biggest splurge?*

**ES:** The cedar millwork, wall cladding and dining bench, which has the feeling of being carved out of solid wood.

**H&H:** *What do you love about the new space?*

**ER:** There's a beautiful moment when you stand in the family room and look toward the kitchen, where the terrazzo floor meets the quarry tile, and the blue grasscloth and cedar wall meet the cork ceiling — it's where all the materials we've chosen to work with come together seamlessly.

**DH:** The new fireplace in the family room is a favourite feature. It was fun to inject a vintage feel with brick veneer tile made on the West Coast. Owner Emma found the blue sofa and, with the blue grasscloth wall and cork ceiling, there's so much richness and warmth.

**ES:** I love the vanity in the kids' bathroom, with its custom red powder-coated faucet and handles. Sometimes, a finished project can feel like a showroom, but Emma's ability to weave in the vintage, the new and her own personal objects feels so natural and true. **H&H**

CONTINUED FROM...

## IT'S IN THE MIX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 58

reproductions like the Addison Round Jupe extension table in waxed oak from RH," says Lynda. "It's new, but the finish has a great patina, and it marries well with the simple black bentwood chairs, and the modern Fontaine pendant and sconces by Aerin.

"The sideboard was a good surprise," she continues. "We couldn't find an antique piece shallow enough for the space, so we took a chance on a Crate & Barrel reproduction of a simple country sideboard and it looks perfect. Over it, we hung an assortment of decoupage plates by John Derian. Over time, as new plates are released, our client will add to it. She's an artist herself and some of her paintings have been hung, with more to come, I hope. These are the personal things that give a room both singular style and soul."

The effort to keep the house practical meant finding great bedding that can go straight from the dryer onto the bed — no ironing required. Kiska bed linens fit the bill perfectly. The charming prints and soft hand feel make them favourite choices for an elevated country look.

"I love great sight lines," says Lynda. "One of my favourites in the house is the view from the living room through to the 'kids' dining room', where you can see the fir window frames against the soft, blue-green walls."

"I think Lynda struck a brilliant balance between a home that's comfortable enough for young children and their parents, but elegant enough for my adult friends," says the client. "It works very well on a sophisticated level, and I'm tremendously proud of it. I don't think that's an easy combination to strike." **H&H**