

CANADIAN

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Cooking: Easy
Middle Eastern Meze

HOUSE & HOME

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SMALL *is Beautiful!*

MYTH vs. REALITY:
HOW TO GO BOLD
WHEN SPACE IS TIGHT

PERFECT FIT:
SHOE QUEEN SONJA BATA'S
INSPIRING CONDO



LABOUR *of* LOVE

DESIGNER OLIVIA BOTRIE
SHARES THE STORY OF HOW
SHE HELPED HER PARENTS
CREATE THEIR DREAM HOME.

As told to **KATIE GOUGEON**
Photography by **ANGUS FERGUSSON**





Matching love seats suit the small space perfectly and they help demarcate the living area in the open-concept main floor.

Designer Olivia Botrie added graphic patterns throughout, like these Lee Jofa drapes, to keep the space dynamic. The black casement windows are modern but refined. **Windows**, Ridley Windows & Doors; **drape fabric**, Lee Jofa; **drape sewing**, Your Sweet Home; **pillows**, candelabra, Elte.

OPPOSITE: Homeowners James and Maureen Botrie love fireplaces, so incorporating them was at the top of the reno wish list. Botrie went bold with an oversized mirror that's as wide as the hearth and makes the space feel bigger. The open shelving helps break up the expanse of wall, and the family photos and travel treasures give the home a more collected, cozy feel. **Fireplace**, Marsh's Fireplaces; **rug**, Weavers Art.



Homeowner Maureen Botrie (left) with daughter and designer Olivia, a partner at Barbara Purdy Design. **Flooring** (throughout), Trends & Trades.



WHEN MY PARENTS, Maureen and James Botrie, sold our family home and downsized to a condo, I told them they weren't going to like it. They love gardening and DIY projects, which are more difficult in a condo. I couldn't see them being happy without somewhere to putter around outside.

As it turns out, I was right: after two years of making a go of condo living, they were back to searching for the perfect empty nest. It wasn't long before they came across a 1,400-square-foot, two-bedroom home in Toronto's East End that was just right. The house had remnants of a bad '80s reno, so it needed some work, and by "some work," I mean we gutted the place: new walls, new floors, new third bedroom, new everything.

Even though they're no strangers to home improvement, my mom and dad have always said they're not great visualizers, so they asked me — dotting daughter and partner at Barbara Purdy Design — to spearhead the renovation. Our biggest challenge was the time line: they purchased it in July 2012 and wanted to move in by Christmas — and, as an added bonus, I was pregnant throughout the whole process! To work as efficiently as possible, we planned out every detail in advance. We had full drawings and did our contractor consultations during our preclosing visits, so that the day they took possession we started demolition.

Our main objective was to create a home that was tailored to suit their needs, especially in the kitchen. My parents love to cook together, so it had to be big enough for both of them to have their own workstations. They also have a lot of gadgets and serving platters for entertaining, and because

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OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT: Botrie chose upholstered chairs for the dining room to keep the couple's frequent company comfortable, and to soften the hardwood table. Maureen found the crystal chandelier at Patina Antiques and had it hung in the dining room of their old condo. Botrie loved it and was determined to make it work in the new space. A series of beautifully subtle sketches fills up the wall, along with a salvaged metal gate piece from The Door Store that James jokingly calls "architectural garbage."

Botrie chose it because the shape echoes the pattern on the rug. **Chairs**, Palette Furniture; **rug**, Weavers Art; **architectural prints**, D&E Lake.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Easy-care Viatera quartz countertops are durable, which is perfect for these avid cooks. James and Maureen are self-proclaimed neat freaks — they use the double sink to both wash and hide dishes, so no "sloppy-looking" stacks will ever be seen on the counters. **Viatera quartz by LG countertop**, York Fabrica; **tile**, Stone Tile; **sink, faucet**, Roman Bath.

“WE NEEDED TO FIND A MIDDLE GROUND BETWEEN THEIR TWO AESTHETICS: TRADITIONAL AND MODERN”

To make room for extra cabinets and counterspace, the old back entry was moved from the left of the sink in the kitchen to the raised mudroom, which now contains a desk. Botrie ran the cabinets all the way to the ceiling for an extraclean look, and to eliminate the "dust collector" up top. White oak flooring and a graphic rug help warm up the white space. **Rug**, West Elm; **desk chair**, Elte.

ne couple felt they'd never really had a luxurious bedroom, so Botrie created a space that they would actually enjoy spending time in. Although James and Maureen put a lot of faith in their daughter's designer instincts throughout the process, she still had to convince them that a dark colour on the walls (Benjamin Moore's Templeton Gray HC-161) would feel cosy not somber. In the end they loved it! The glam chandelier from Circa Lighting was another item that they couldn't picture working until they saw how stunning it looked in the peaked space. **Bed**, Crate & Barrel; **bedding**, West Elm and Lucca; **drape fabric**, Threadcount; **drape sewing**, Your Sweet Home; **nightstand, lamp**, RH Restoration Hardware; **bench, pillows**, Burnett.





GET THE LOOK

A faceted pendant adds sparkle and is a fresh alternative to a traditional chandelier. *Ice faceted ceiling light. Glass; antique brass. 17" h. x 6½" d. \$755. At Elte.*



A curvy leather chaise is a handsome and luxurious piece. *Oviedo chaise. Leather; chrome. 32" h. x 24" w. x 59" d. From \$2,295. At UpCountry.*



Complement graphic patterns with lush velvet. *Vintage Blossom in Dove by DwellStudio, \$26/yd.; Luxury Velvet in Tuscany Rose, \$268/yd. At Robert Allen.*



Add organic texture with a sculptural wood candleholder. *Driftwood candelabra. 18" h. x 16" w. \$249. Through VivaTerra.*



TOP: Having all the bedroom storage on one wall makes for easy organization. Botrie used the dramatic paint colour in varying finishes on the walls, trim and custom cabinets to create a cocoon-like feel, as well as on all the doors of the second floor. The ultramodern fireplace is a nod to James' preferred aesthetic and adds a nice contrast to the traditional cabinetry. **Fireplace**, Marsh's Fireplaces; **chaise**, Elte.

ABOVE LEFT: The main bathroom is quite small, so the large-scale white subway tile on the wall was chosen to make the space feel light and airy. The

wall-mounted spigot over the sink creates more counter space on the vanity. **Tile**, Stone Tile; *Viaterra quartz by LG countertop*, York Fabrica; **fixtures, faucets**, Roman Bath; **shower curtain fabric**, Robert Allen; **shower curtain sewing**, Your Sweet Home. ABOVE RIGHT: Bluestone tile laid in a herringbone pattern was used in the mudroom and in the front entry because it's hard-wearing and easy to clean. The worn wood bench was brought back to the city from the family cottage, where it was used as a sunroom coffee table for years. **Floor tile**, Sالتيلو.

This classic armoire provides ample storage and traditional charm. *Ermitage wardrobe in Bleu Lavande. Limewood; beech. 77" h. x 45½" w. x 21¼" d. Approx. \$4,795. At Grange.*

