



Forever HOME

STORY **NANCY BELGUE**
PHOTOGRAPHY **MAX WEDGE**

The chef's kitchen has double islands with creamy taupe Cambria quartz countertops. The lower cabinets are dark cherry wood in a Café Noir colour to coordinate with the stunning range hood and server. The appliances, including a six-burner gas stove, are from Reis Appliances. Lighting is from Limelight & Electric.

FOR MANY YOUNG COUPLES, THE CHALLENGE OF BUILDING A HOME THEY CAN SEE THEMSELVES LIVING IN FOREVER MIGHT BE A DAUNTING PROSPECT. NOT FOR THESE HOMEOWNERS. FROM THE BEGINNING THEY HAD A VISION THAT SAW THEM THROUGH EVERY TWIST AND TURN IN THE BUILDING PROCESS.

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“I feel like we spent a lot of time planning,” says the homeowner. “And once we were ready to go, every time a decision came up we were able to react quickly. There isn’t really anything we would change.” That’s an impressive statement given the number of decisions that go into designing, building and decorating a brand new home. It’s a testament to the couple’s organization and confidence as well as their willingness to bring in the professionals when professional advice is called for.

Choosing the right builder was one of the keys to such a successful outcome and **Marcovecchio Construction Ltd.** more than lived up to expectations. “Our family had previously done business with **Nick Marcovecchio**,” comments the homeowner, “so we knew we were in good hands. He was great to work with and really helped bring the right people together to build not just a great team but a great house. They were very accommodating throughout the entire process and were able to resolve issues as they arose.”



LEFT: The dining area is a favourite place for the couple to gather with friends and family. **ABOVE:** Some kitchen cabinets are white with grey glaze, which gives them a weathered look and provides a fresh contrast to the cherry wood.



The couple spent many hours combing through images online as well as looking at houses in and around the county. “We realized that the coastal look and houses with thick white trim were a recurring theme and knew right away that we wanted to incorporate those elements,” they say. Working with John Gillis of John Gillis Architecture, the couple were able to perfect their vision of the stone and shingle Nantucket look they were so attracted to.

With the basics covered, they broke ground in May 2016 and the charming four-bedroom, 3,500 sq. ft. home began to take shape. Although the homeowners made most of the decisions involving flooring, cabinetry and countertops themselves, they did involve a designer to help with refining the details and adding final touches to bring things together in a cohesive way. “We looked into a few different designers in the area and really liked the package that **Jodi Mason (Urban Home)** had to offer. She provided her consulting services and was always available if we needed her. It was nice to know we always had a professional to bounce things off. A good example of her expertise

was in the way she advised us on the scale of lighting throughout the home. Jodi helped us choose appropriately sized fixtures for each space. That kind of attention to detail can make a huge difference in how things look in the end.” Clearly the collaboration was successful. From the gracious foyer to the mudroom, Jodi and Urban Home designer **Philip Chouinard** made sure every detail and design choice works perfectly with the others.

The light-filled foyer opens to the main living area and spans two floors. The dark fiberglass front door with frosted fanlights and transom gives the space a traditional yet contemporary style, as do the cream porcelain tiles (**Palazzi Bros. Tile & Granite**). Wooden steps that are stained the same colour as the door create a subtle dividing line between the two rooms. Bench seating provides a casual place for visitors to drop their coats and a series of mirrors with a brushed gold finish adds a touch of glamour.

One of the most dramatic architectural features in the home is the two-storey, grey and cream stone fireplace wall (**Santerra Stonecraft**)

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The large wagon-wheel light fixture, leather armchairs with nail head detailing and sheepskin covered bench add a sophisticated yet rustic vibe to the great room.



LEFT: Designers Philip Chouinard and Jodi Mason of Urban Home. **BELOW:** Dark wood floors continue into the master bedroom, which is decorated in shades of cream and grey. The cream line bench from Urban Home fits perfectly in front of the oversize window.

that serves as the great room's focal point as well as a clever break in the open-concept floor plan. "We really like having a double-sided fireplace (**Life Styles by the Fire Box**)," say the homeowners. "It draws you into the home but also creates a feeling of separation that we really like."

The custom-made, built-in bookshelves (**BetterMade Cabinets**) are the perfect place to display photographs, art and special mementos. A large, wagon-wheel light fixture adds to the sophisticated yet rustic vibe. In front of the fireplace, a sheepskin bench creates an organic feeling and adds warmth and texture. A crushed-velvet, down-filled sectional completes the look and is where the couple curls up to watch the fire and read a good book on cold winter nights.

The custom kitchen by BetterMade Cabinets offers double islands as well as an eating area. The homeowners love to cook and love to entertain. They and a group of three other couples host dinners every other week, rotating between each other's homes. And, since the homeowners both have families in the area, the kitchen is one of the most used rooms in the home. *Continued on page 28*



feature



LEFT: No detail in the en suite was overlooked. The his-and-hers sinks, cream and grey porcelain tiles and large soaker tub with chrome fixtures all add to the luxurious feeling. **BOTTOM:** A glamorous space, the bathroom truly makes a statement.

But for sheer glamour and “boudoir bling” it would be hard to surpass the master bedroom en suite. “We wanted a feature wall,” they say. Mason helped choose the diamond-shaped marble tile that is inset with crystal, the elegant accessories and dressing table area with acrylic chair. The master bedroom looks out an oversize window onto the pool and serves as a reminder of all the fun the couple had during their first summer in the home. A side door provides a walkout to a perfect jewel of a sitting area, which is a favourite spot for coffee in warmer weather.

Whatever the season, the homeowners couldn't be more thrilled with their home. With the help of a talented group of professionals, they've created the perfect space to be for years and years to come. **OH**



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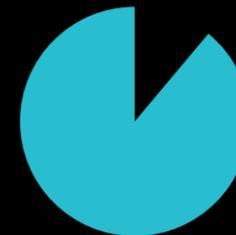
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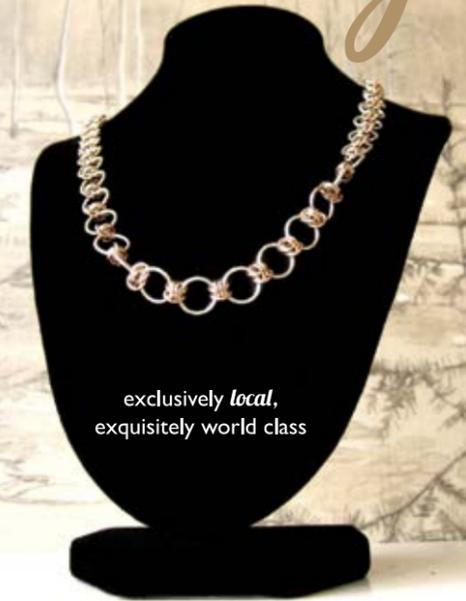
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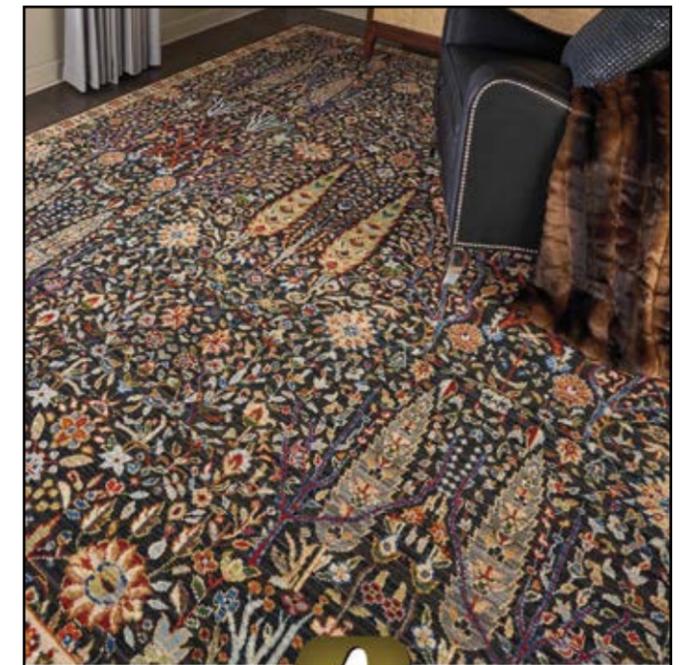
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