

POETRY LIVING

ISSUE
NO. 5

FALL
2025



**Building
A Better
Homebuying
Experience**

AN INTERVIEW WITH
THE VP OF CLIENT
EXPERIENCE & WARRANTY
AT POETRY LIVING

**CONDO
ETIQUETTE
101**

**Our Guide
To Picking
Paint Colours**



Poetry Living is a well-respected builder of new low-rise, mid-rise and high-rise communities in and around the GTA.

COMPLETED COMMUNITIES

- Parkside
Alliston

- View In Vaughan
Vaughan

- View In Vaughan 2
Vaughan

- Abbey Lane Towns
Markham

- CityPointe Commons
Brampton

- Ellis Lane Phase 1
Caledon

UNDER CONSTRUCTION COMMUNITIES

- CityPointe Heights
(1st release)
Brampton
- Condominium
Occupancy
Septmeber 2025

COMING SOON COMMUNITIES

- CityPointe Heights
(final release)
Brampton
- Condominium
Coming Soon

- Ellis Lane Phase 2
Caledon
- Singles
Now Selling

- The Valley
Woodbridge
- Luxury Singles
Coming Spring 2026

- Trent Meadows
Norwood
- Singles
Coming 2026



ABOUT THE DÉCOR STUDIO

Design is in the details, which is why we also offer everything from doors and railings to plumbing fixtures and door handles. Our helpful and knowledgeable staff will be there to [guide you through](#) the process of designing the home of your dreams.

Every new Poetry Living homeowner will be welcomed to our state-of-the-art facility featuring over 3,000 sq.ft. of inspiring vignettes and selections to ensure your home is personalized to your family’s needs and budget. Our design consultant will be with you throughout the process to help you feel confident and comfortable. From structural changes to colours and finishes, we are here to help.

Building a Better *homebuying* Experience



AN INTERVIEW WITH SYLVIA KASPAREK,
VP OF CLIENT EXPERIENCE & WARRANTY

In far too many cases, buying a new home is a stressful experience. That’s why Poetry Living is re-engineering the entire client experience. **Sylvia Kasparek** was brought on to form a new department whose entire purpose is to not merely serve customers, but to develop a process oriented around anticipating their needs and delivering on the builder’s promises. We spoke with her about how she’s doing that and what it means for Poetry Living homeowners.

By Tristan Bronca



Q Tell me a bit about your background and how you landed in your current role.

A I’ve been in the industry over 15 years now, but I’ve worked in customer service my whole life. Poetry Living has a flagship high-rise project — CityPointe Heights — that is up for occupancy and there was an opportunity to create a new client experience. I’ve been developing all of the systems, policies, and procedures, from the ground up.

Q Could you explain in simple terms how this new initiative makes the experience better for buyers?

A We’re trying to make sure the homeowner has the easiest transition possible. Right now, actually as we speak, we have staff members walking every single home at CityPointe Heights to verify that the homeowner’s colour selections have been properly installed. From there, we do a “pre-PDI”, which is essentially a quality control inspection done internally by our staff. After that, we hire a third-party inspector to go through the home with the homeowner.

Once the homeowner comes to pick up the keys, we do a move-in inspection. That’s something that developers don’t typically do. It ensures people feel comfortable with all the mechanical systems, including water shutoffs, anything like that. We also give them a tour of the building and answer any questions that they might have regarding warranty. It’s a one-on-one experience that’s about an hour long.

Q I understand part of your role has been hiring the new client experience team. What does your ideal hire look like?

A I always say I can train everything but a personality. As long as somebody is willing to learn, willing to grow, and is interested in the home warranty process and in making sure that homebuyers are satisfied, I can assist with everything else.

Q Apart from the move-in inspection, is there anything unique about the way that Poetry Living does things from a client experience perspective?

A We look at every home as if it was our own. We could go based off the Tarion Home Warranty Guidelines (CPG) but we try to go above and beyond. And that is an instrumental mentality for each and every staff member.

Q Which speaks to the culture at the company...

A It starts from the top. We have weekly meetings together, where we brainstorm new ideas. We have email templates in order to ensure that we’re delivering the same message over and over again. A big thing, too, is that we call it a “home.” It’s not a “unit.” It’s not a “suite.” It’s your home.

Somebody could be a tenant today, but a homeowner tomorrow. I have seen instances personally where people actually end up buying on the next project because they enjoyed the experience they had as a tenant and the quality of home we deliver.

sylvia kasparek



Q What is one impression that you want homeowners to take away from their experience?

A That we genuinely care — about how their home looks, their impression of us. You know, word of mouth is always the best advertisement, right? So our work is never done.

Q What do you have planned for the future of the program?

A There's a lot of new technology out there. We have implemented AI software at CityPointe Heights, so people have 24-7 support. We've developed the database of frequently asked questions, but the AI also learns based on the feedback it receives. We're constantly testing it. We're implementing new deficiency tracking technology as well. In this industry, the numbers don't lie. So not only the deficiency numbers, but the volume of emails, volume of calls — those are all indications of what we can improve on.

Everything in our line of work is anticipating the next move of the homeowner. I'm anticipating what they're going to ask about, I'm anticipating their responses to make sure that we are already catering to them. I've also gone through multiple home purchases myself — I've bought from various developers — so I look at my experiences with them to see how I can perfect things.

Q I am kind of curious about that. Have you ever had a really exemplary customer service experience? Or a really terrible one that has played a role in your work?

A I haven't had exemplary. I've had mediocre. And I've witnessed friends and family have bad experiences. Developers have a real problem in setting the right expectations for the homeowner. Especially first-time homeowners — they don't know what to expect when it comes to the warranty process.

For example, when there are deficiencies, there's a certain amount of time allotted to repair it. Sometimes deficiencies might not be rectified right away. It depends on the severity, depends on the orders, it depends on the shipments, depends on the manufacturing. We live in a society where everybody wants everything done yesterday, and we always try to do that. But if we're held back, really reinforcing the policies and making sure we set the right expectations makes the difference.

Edited for length and clarity

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At Poetry Living, creating an exceptional client experience means communicating clearly, and showing genuine care every step of the way. Our team works closely with construction, sales, and décor teams to keep all aspects of the occupancy process organized, accurate, and customer focused. We combine our specialized knowledge of the warranty process with a thoughtful, people-first approach. At the end of the day, we believe that behind every home is a story, and our job is to listen, connect, and provide personalized solutions that leave a lasting, positive impression.



LIZANDRA MUNDIM
Client Experience Senior Administrator



KAYLA SATAUR
Client Experience Coordinator

“

An exceptional client experience is about being present, proactive, and personal. I work closely with homeowners, trade partners, and our site team to review warranty items, coordinate service, and ensure quality standards are met. I conduct in-person inspections with homeowners and ensure the overall experience is smooth and supportive. With the added support of CityPointe Heights AI, our 24/7 virtual assistant, homeowners always have access to reliable information and support — anytime, anywhere.



NOW SELLING

A Collection of 30' & 36'
Detached Homes at Chinguacousy,
Just North of Mayfield Rd.



2 EXQUISITE MODEL HOMES WILL BE AVAILABLE TO TOUR

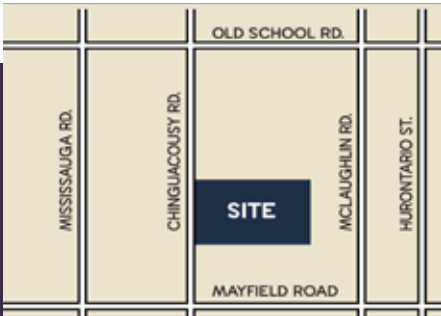
More Space to **Explore and Enjoy**

Spread over 700 square kilometres, the beautiful Town of Caledon is host to a number of heritage sites, relaxing spas, specialty boutiques, restaurants and cafes. An environmentally conscious community, Caledon sits in the southernmost reaches of the Headwaters region of Ontario and is home to many trails and conservation areas that provide more room to breathe. Hike, jog, cycle, stroll, and explore more at Ellis Lane.



Actual Model Home

- Features & Finishes**
- 1. Energy Star qualified home.
 - 2. All kitchens feature extended upper cabinets.
 - 3. Quartz kitchen countertops.
 - 4. Stainless steel undermount sink.
 - 5. Free standing soaker tubs as per plan.
 - 6. Oak staircases throughout.
 - 7. HRV System (Heat Recovery Ventilator).
 - 8. Smart Living Package.



REGISTER NOW AT
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SALES OFFICE & MODEL HOMES
12 Neil Promenade, Caledon
T. 905.595.9139 • E. ellislane@poetryliving.com

It's Time to Start Buying *Better Furniture*

BY ADELIA GUERRISI

THERE'S A PLACE FOR FURNITURE FROM IKEA AND
WAYFAIR BUT THAT PLACE IS NOT 'EVERYWHERE'

I want classic furniture made with good materials. I do not think this is too much to ask, but these days it seems to be harder and harder to find.

I just moved into a new home. In the time I've spent furnishing it, I've learned a lot about what I don't want. For example, I don't want furniture that I'm going to have to fix or replace in the next five years. I don't want to pay almost \$2,000 for a polyester rug because it's machine washable (you know how much spot cleaner I can buy with the \$800 I'll save?). I don't want to pay a massive premium for furniture from upscale brands that is well-made but costs twice as much as a similarly well-made piece from a retailer you've never heard of. I don't want to deal with brands whose price tags seem to have more to do with "white glove service" than the quality of their furniture. I do not need the benefits of a "club membership" to buy a couch that — I hope — I will not have to buy again for a while.



Just to be clear, I do believe there are certain times where retailers like Ikea or Wayfair, for example, can be the best option. Not everything has to be whittled out of cherrywood by a Mennonite (although, if you find something like this, you should seriously consider it). The problem is that we now default to the same handful of retailers for all our furniture. We all have the same ottomans, wardrobes, bed frames, sofas, and storage solutions. Quality and character have become casualties of convenience and cost.

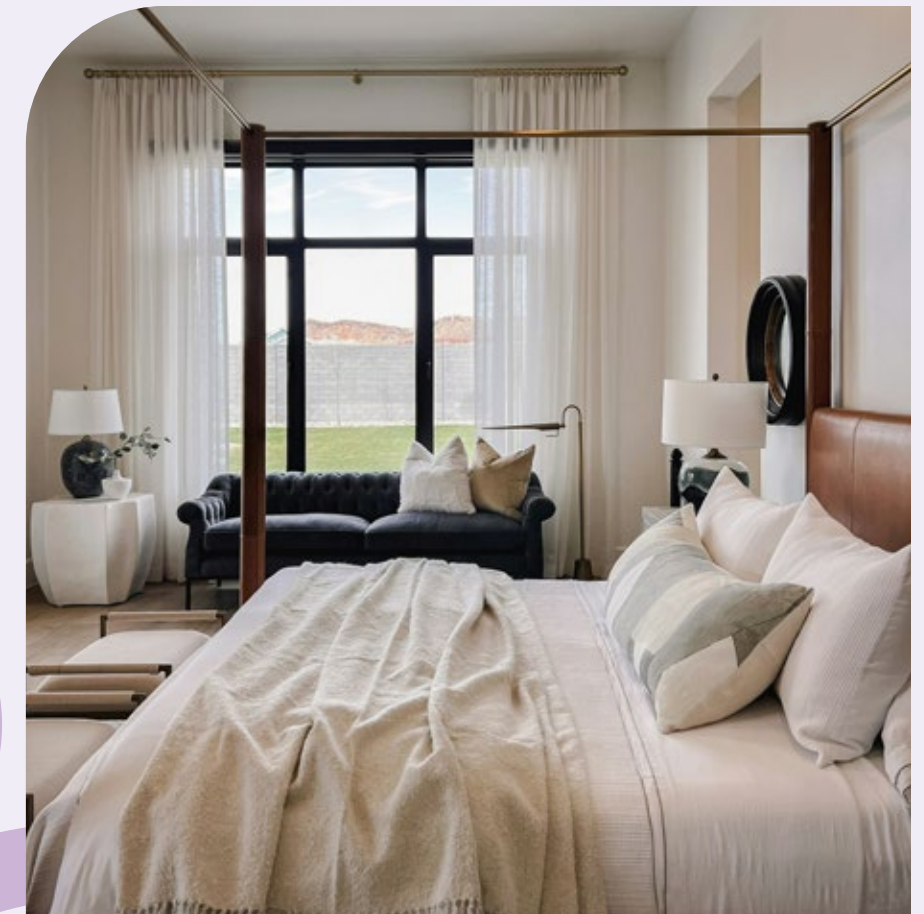


There are so many retailers like this across the GTA. If you're feeling more adventurous, you can also find great pieces at estate or content sales. We found a hand-woven Persian rug at one of them for just \$100. Then there are antique stores, vintage markets, and other dealers: Housebound Interiors, A Room in Paris, Jacaranda Tree & Co., A Changing Nest, Aberfoyle Antique Market, and the four-floor antique market on the 400 in Innisfil. You may not find bed frames or couches but if you're looking for unique accent pieces, lighting fixtures, side tables, even wardrobes, tables or chairs, it's worth a visit. Facebook Marketplace, especially if you're willing to do a little refurbishing, is also worth your time. Sometimes the best way to know if a piece will last is to buy furniture that already has. Just remember to look at it in person before you commit to it.

Lastly, take your time. You don't need to live on a mattress on the floor, but for the key purchases, start looking early. Your home's style is built over months and years, not through a series of space-filling purchases.

Which brings us to online shopping. We all know selection can be limiting when shopping in person, and the vast virtual stockrooms of the internet have convinced us that we don't have to settle. We can find exactly what we want for a good deal. The problem is that you don't always get what you want online — or even what you ordered. How many times have you received an order only to find that the colour or size is slightly off, or the feel is flimsier and cheaper than expected? Shopping online is the great gamble. Sometimes you win. But how many returns are you willing to go through, or how many times are you willing to settle, before realizing that maybe buying everything online isn't the best bet?

So, what is the solution? In my experience, it involves doing a little extra legwork. Talk to family and friends about where they bought their favourite furniture and take your time to visit these places. We went to The Chesterfield Shop in Vaughan after a family member suggested it, and while the website isn't great, we had an amazing experience. Their pieces are hand-made in Toronto with solid wood frames and real down filling. Plus they had a massive showroom filled with a huge selection. We ended up buying a couch that looked exactly like the one we wanted from a high-end retailer but the quality was so much better for a fraction of the price.





Experience The Connected Home.



At Poetry Living, we think carefully about the experience of living in one of our homes long before you get your keys. That’s why we’ve designed a series of solutions to ensure your home is well connected for your comfort and convenience.

Enjoy smart security systems, enhanced internet connections, front-door intercom, whole-home sound systems, and more.



Built For The Future MEETING ENERGY STAR STANDARDS

Poetry Living is proud to be an Energy Star-certified builder. All of our homes are built to this internationally recognized standard for energy efficiency. That means modern building practices to seal the building envelope, above-standard insulation including in the basement, and state-of-the art windows, ventilation systems, and high efficiency appliances.

[CONTACT OUR TEAM TO LEARN MORE](#)



Additional Ethernet Ports

Smartphone, appliances, tablets, TVs and more. In a Poetry Living home you’ll never worry about bandwidth with specially structured wiring systems. Plug and play in almost any room.



Hardwired Security System

The reliability of a hardwired alarm system with the convenience and simplicity of a wide range of wireless devices, including a range of sensors and detectors connected to your mobile app.



Whole Home Sound Systems

Enjoy seamless, high-quality audio with optimally placed speakers for an exceptional listening experience.



Security Cameras

Enjoy peace of mind with full colour, AI-enabled security cameras, with on-site storage for all your security footage.



Enhanced WiFi

Enjoy a boost to your wireless network at home with built-in access points.



Intercom

Answer the door from anywhere with your smartphone, and enjoy HD video and reliable two-way communications.



Central Vacuum

A built-in, quiet, convenient and durable solution to keep you home tidy.

Your Month-by-Month Guide to Furnishing Your New Condo

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE HOUSEWARMING READY FROM THE MOMENT YOU MOVE IN — HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED RIGHT AWAY AND WHAT YOU DON'T.

One of the most stressful moving pieces (pun intended) of new condo ownership is deciding what to actually put in your new home; what you'll bring, what you'll buy, where you'll get it, and in what order.

A lot of us feel like our new place should be housewarming-ready within the first week or so, but in our experience, furnishing is best done gradually. That's why we've created a checklist of what you'll need in the first three months, and a few tips to help you navigate this exciting time.

BY PAUL TAMBAKIS

Before Your Occupancy: Plan Well

You can start developing a vision for your new place well before you move in. Browse through designs and key furniture pieces (see below). It's occasionally helpful to select a theme or design style to emulate. For example, if you're going for a contemporary look, you should probably stay away from that cozy floral armchair.



The First Month: The Starting Points

This first month is all about getting in the major pieces of furniture so you can live comfortably while you decide on the rest. These first pieces are the anchoring points for their respective rooms.

- Bedframe & Headboard
- Key Storage Elements (Wardrobes, etc.)
- Couch(es)
- Coffee & Side Tables
- Entertainment Consoles (TV stands, etc.)
- Dining Room Table & Chairs

WHAT IF I ALREADY HAVE MORE THAN THIS?

If you're picking up furniture from friends and family, or you find a second-hand item you love, of course you want to take advantage — in fact these pieces often have the most character, and become the anchoring pieces you build your décor around. You can also touch-up or refinish pieces, and with time you can phase out or replace pieces that don't work with the style you develop.

MEASURE & SKETCH

Use your floorplan to establish the dimensions of your condo. We recommend using a sketch to begin to establish where different pieces should go and what size they should be. Keep those dimensions handy. Always bring a measuring tape when furniture shopping. Scale in your new condo is key, and keeping track of your measurements is the first step in making sure your new furnishings fit properly.

SHOULD I PAINT BEFORE OR AFTER MOVING DAY?

If you’re set with your key pieces of furniture and you’re going with a neutral colour, then feel free to paint before moving day. Otherwise, we actually recommend you paint after you’ve moved these first pieces in. This way, you’ll have a better idea of how everything will come together.



A Few Design Tips:
Balance, Scale, Texture

These are a few design principles that are often overlooked:

BALANCE

This is all about the visual weight of each piece and how it compares with the rest of the room. For example, if one side of your room has several pieces of furniture, but the other side is empty, the space will feel imbalanced. It doesn’t just apply to furniture — you can adjust the balance of your coffee table decorations, accents, or wall art.



Once You’re Done That:
Complete the Look

After you have (at least) those first pieces and you’ve spent some time feeling out the space, you’ll be ready to fill it in. Start with the medium sized pieces, then you can use the small accents (plants, pictures, pillows, blankets, etc.) to tie all the furniture together.

- Accent Tables (Ottomans, Additional Seating, etc.)
- Rugs
- Lamps & Lighting
- Artwork & Decorative Items (Plants, Pillows, Art Pieces, etc.)

SCALE

Make sure to select pieces that are well-scaled to their respective rooms. A very large sofa will make a small living room feel even smaller. If a room doesn’t feel quite right, scale might be the reason why.

TEXTURE

Texture is an element that many home decorators don’t think about. You can contrast smooth leather surfaces with a fuzzy throw blanket, or juxtapose glossy metals with rough, wooden accents. Playing around with texture will add a new dimension to the look and feel of a space.

The Final Release at CityPointe Heights



The first residents are now moving in.

CityPointe Heights launched its first 500 suites and sold out all of them in less than four weeks. Limited suites now remain in the final release.



The new condo community, located at The Gore Road and Queen Street East, is on the border of three of the GTA’s fastest growing cities: Brampton, Vaughan, and Toronto. The mixed-use community features 657 suites across two towers and a nine-storey podium.

Residents will enjoy exclusive access to luxe entertaining spaces, a state-of-the-art fitness and yoga studio, and a rooftop terrace on the 10th. The ground floor also features a vibrant community space, with a range of shops and services.

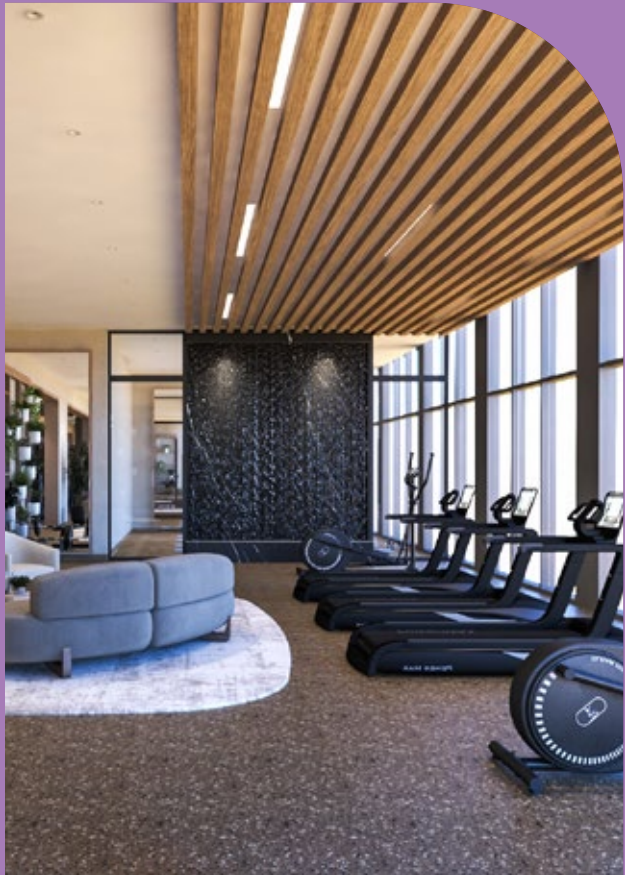


Condo Etiquette 101

A FEW TIPS ON BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

BY LIANA SHOUKAS

If you’ve ever had a bad neighbour, you already know it’s a headache. That’s especially true in a condo. There is even evidence to suggest that bad neighbours can take a chunk out of your property value when it comes time to sell — as much as 10%, according to some surveys.



On the flipside, building a community where the residents feel invested in making it a great place to live makes it, well, a great place to live. So, as the first residents move into our landmark high-rise community at CityPointe Heights, let’s review the basics of condo etiquette.

1. Be Mindful of Noise

You are of course free to entertain your guests and enjoy your home whenever you want. We just ask that you don’t put our exceptional modern soundproofing to the test. Be mindful of large gatherings, loud music, or noisy work, especially after-hours.

2. Share the Shared Amenities

CityPointe Heights has fitness facilities, terrace, and entertaining spaces. Your condo board will have designated procedures for booking these spaces when you need them for as long as you need them. Respecting those rules — by following booking protocols, not overstaying, and cleaning up after yourself — ensures everyone can enjoy the amenities fully.

3. Pick Up After Your Pet

They are part of the family, and we’re sure they really are very well behaved off leash. But we ask that you leash pets in common areas, if only out of respect for neighbours who may not be as comfortable around our beloved roommates. And we know accidents sometimes happen on the way outside, just make sure you clean up after them.

4. Take Out the Trash...Properly

Don’t leave trash in hallways or prop open garbage room doors. Separate recycling and compost. And if you notice there’s an issue with the chute or the disposal area, let building management know so it can be fixed. Don’t wait for your neighbour to find the same problem.

5. Keep the Common Areas Clear

Avoid leaving personal items like shoes, mats, or delivery packages outside your door. That also extends to your parking spot — it’s yours, but it’s not a storage area.

6. Respect Balcony Boundaries

Avoid hanging laundry over railings. You don’t want to have to knock on your neighbours’ door seven storeys down to retrieve a wet bathing suit from their balcony. Also, if you’re going to plant a balcony garden, please ensure water doesn’t run off. Your downstairs neighbours will appreciate it.

7. Smoke Responsibly

One of the most common causes of fire in condo communities is lit cigarettes discarded from balconies. You could face a substantial fine if you’re caught. And please don’t smoke in the stairwells either.



8. Treat the Whole Building Like Home

Attend condo board meetings to stay informed about upcoming changes, and shared concerns. Your input matters and it ultimately shapes the community.

Those are the big decisions, but the little ones matter too. Acknowledge your neighbours. Give them a heads up if you’re doing work or having a party. Clean up messes even if they aren’t yours. Take care of this place — all of it, because the common spaces are part of your home too. Building a community begins with the little things.



Decorate Like the Model

OUR DESIGN DECISIONS INSIDE THE ELLIS LANE
MODEL HOME MIGHT HELP YOU MAKE YOURS

BY CAROLINA OLIVEIRA

Staring at a blank wall and not sure where to start? Overwhelmed by all the Pinterest boards and clashing aesthetics? We’ve been there. If you’re looking for real-life inspiration, our Ellis Lane model home in Caledon is a great place to start.

Our designers were kind enough to walk us through some of their styling decisions, proving that a stunning home doesn’t have to be complicated.

“In this model we opted for a mix of natural woods and organic shapes. The more geometric feel of the console table and side tables is complimented by the softer organic feel of the coffee table creating a nice balance.”



**Greek Style Cement
Head Planter**
Home Depot
\$44

**Gold Metal Oval
Twisted Hammered
Ring Sculpture**
Home Depot
\$34

Lark Pillow
Urban Barn
\$20

**Cut Velvet Archways
Pillow Cover – Dark Olive**
West Elm
\$110

Yarrow 97.5" Hatch Platinum
CB2
\$5,499

The curved silhouette of the scalloped couch adds an organic feel to the space. It's upholstered in hatch plain weave in platinum, a soft neutral tone that blends perfectly with the rooms light and airy palette.

ACCESSORIES

When it comes to styling shelves, our advice is simple: don't overdo it. If you have a grouping of books or picture frames, you want to create a sense of balance and symmetry.

Mircea Lounge Chair
InStyle Home & Rugs
\$1,195

Continuing with the theme for the furnishings, the pillowy contours of the curved ivory lounge chairs creates a sense of comfort with just the right contemporary flair.

Iolite Concrete Coffee Table
Must Société
\$1,990

Soft and sculptural, the coffee table's shape adds dynamic touch to the space. It's a standout that still feels versatile, the kind of piece that pulls a room together.

Side Tables: \$1,123 each
Console: \$2,689
Salma Modern Furniture Canada

To ground the room, our designers chose a set of clean-lined side and console tables. The console works especially well as a statement piece under the window, framed beautifully by natural light.

My House, I Say

BY ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

My house, I say. But hark to the sunny doves
That make my roof the arena of their loves,
That gyre about the gable all day long
And fill the chimneys with their murmurous song:
Our house, they say; and *mine*, the cat declares
And spreads his golden fleece upon the chairs;
And *mine* the dog, and rises stiff with wrath
If any alien foot profane the path.
So, too, the buck that trimmed my terraces,
Our whilom gardener, called the garden his;
Who now, deposed, surveys my plain abode
And his late kingdom, only from the road.

1850 - 1894

Iconic Home Recipes from Iconic Chefs

From Michelin-Starred Techniques To Deceptively Simple Comfort Foods

BY ELIZABETH PIETRANGELO

If you’ve just settled into your new home, you probably fit into one of two categories. One, you’re excited to start entertaining, having your friends and family over, showing them around, and treating them to a nice meal. Or, two, you’re exhausted from the move, you still haven’t quite finished getting all those boxes put away, and you’ve been living on take-out for the last few weeks.

Well we’ve got good news — for both of you. We’ve put together some simple but very delicious recipes from some of the most acclaimed chefs in the world. These are iconic recipes that are simple and perfect to make whether you’re looking to wow your guests or unwind and indulge after a long day.

JULIA CHILD’S COQ AU VIN

Julia Child revolutionized American cuisine by making niche French recipes approachable for the home chef. Her coq au vin — tender, braised chicken simmered in a velvety red wine sauce, enriched with crisp bacon and aromatic herbs and vegetables — is the epitome of rustic French comfort food; rich, deeply savoury, and elegant enough to impress anyone at your table.



Image via Leite’s Culinaria Blog

INGREDIENTS

- 4 Ounces of Thick-Cut Bacon
- 2 Tbsp of Unsalted Butter
- 2 ½ Pound Chicken (or 4 Thighs and 4 Drumsticks)
- ½ Tsp Salt
- 1/8 Tsp Pepper
- 3 Cups Red Wine
- 2 Cups of Chicken Stock
- ½ Tbsp Tomato Paste
- 2 Cloves of Garlic
- ¼ Tsp Thyme Leaves
- 12-24 Pearl Onions
- ½ Pound of Mushrooms
- 3 Tbsp of All-Purpose Flour
- 2 Tbsp Softened Butter
- Fresh Parsley Leaves

METHOD

Begin cutting your bacon into lardons and cooking in hot butter until browned. While that’s cooking, wash your chicken and pat it dry all over. Season with salt and pepper and brown it in the hot fat that was left from the bacon for a few minutes. Deglaze your pan with wine — the original recipe also calls for brandy, which you flambé if you’re feeling fancy — then, once the alcohol smell is gone, cover with stock. Stir in tomato paste, garlic, onions, herbs, and cooked bacon lardons and simmer. When nearly complete, sauté your mushrooms in butter for 4-5 minutes. After 30 minutes, remove your chicken and veggies and place with your mushrooms in a casserole dish. Let the remaining cooking liquid reduce for 5-10 minutes. Then, whip together your butter and flour into a smooth paste and stir it into your reduced cooking liquid until the sauce coats the back of a spoon. Pour your sauce over your chicken and veggies, garnish with parsely, and serve with potatoes or crunchy baguette.

Image via The Endless Meal Blog



JOEL ROBUCHON’S POMMES PURÉE

Named “Chef of the Century” in 1989, there are few chefs more iconic than Joël Robuchon, and there are no recipes more iconic than his pommes purée. Far from your average mashed potatoes, this incredibly rich and velvety side has become a staple in Michelin-starred restaurants the world over. Despite its haute-cuisine reputation, it’s surprisingly easy to make at home. It’s all in the technique.



Image via Munchery.com

INGREDIENTS

- 2 Pounds of Ratte Potatoes
- 1 Pound of Butter
- ¾ Cups of Full-Fat Milk

METHOD

Boil the potatoes in their skin for 20 minutes, then allow them to cool slightly before peeling. Pass the potatoes through a ricer and then, for an extra silky texture, a fine drum sieve. Repeat a second time to replicate Robuchon’s technique. Warm your milk and butter and fold into your potatoes until they reach the desired consistency. You’ll never look at mashed potatoes the same.

ANTHONY BOURDAIN’S MORTADELLA SANDWICH

Anthony Bourdain’s mortadella sandwich is a perfect encapsulation of his philosophy about food: that the most unforgettable dishes are often the simplest. This sandwich is the type of dish that Bourdain celebrated wherever he travelled, not because it was fancy, but because it was authentic and, of course, delicious.

INGREDIENTS

- ½ Pound of Sliced Mortadella
- Provolone Cheese
- Mayonnaise
- Dijon
- Sourdough or a Kaiser Roll

METHOD

Fold the mortadella slices on top of each other and fry in stacks of two in a pan until a golden crust develops around each. Once the crust appears, flip each slice and place your provolone on top and cover to melt. Spread the mayo and mustard on your toasted slices of bread, and serve warm.



Image via Grilled Cheese Social

MARCELLA HAZAN’S BOLOGNESE

There is no dish that more perfectly captures the spirit of homestyle Italian cooking than Marcella Hazan’s legendary bolognese. From the chef who popularized authentic Italian cooking techniques internationally, Hazan’s recipes are known for their precision, simplicity, and deep respect for tradition. Her bolognese is a masterclass in these values. Unlike quick, tomato-heavy sauces, Hazan’s bolognese is all about layering subtle flavours slowly.



Image via A Beautiful Plate

INGREDIENTS

- 1½ Pounds of Pasta
- ½ Cup Chopped Onion
- 2/3 Cup Chopped Celery & Carrot
- ¾ Pound Ground Beef
- 1 Cup Whole Milk
- 1 Cup White Wine
- 1½ Cups Plum Crushed Tomatoes
- Grated Parmigiano Reggiano Cheese

METHOD

Sauté your onions in olive oil until softened, about 2 minutes, then add your celery and carrots, and cook for another 6 minutes. Add your ground beef, season with salt and pepper, breaking up the meat as it cooks until browned. Add your milk and simmer until absorbed. Next, add salt and white wine and cook until the wine evaporates. Stir in the crushed tomatoes and reduce the heat to a simmer, letting the sauce cook for around 3 hours, stirring occasionally. Cook your pasta to the package instructions or “al dente” (slightly firm, “to the tooth”) if fresh, and combine with sauce and let it sit for a few moments before serving. Serve with plenty of freshly grated Parmigiano Reggiano.

MOCKTAILS TO MAKE YOUR DAY (OR NIGHT)

A few of our favourite non-alcoholic options to indulge before or after your meal.



Appletini

A sweet start to your evening

Start by rimming your cocktail glass with **granulated sugar**. Then, in a cocktail shaker, fill with ice and combine ¼ **cup of apple juice**, 1 **tbsp simple syrup**, and ½ **tbsp lemon juice**. Shake well until chilled, then strain into your rimmed glass. Garnish with crisp **apple slices**.



The Sweet Adeline

A more fragrant hot toddy stand-in

Pour ¼ **cup of pomegranate juice** and 1 **tbsp cinnamon syrup** into a warm mug. Add an **orange-and-spice** tea bag to roughly ¾ **cup of hot water** and steep according to the tea’s instructions before removing the tea bag. Stir well and garnish with a **cinnamon stick**.



Cinnamon Pear Delight

Your next signature Autumn drink

Start by adding ¾ **ounces of pear nectar**, ½ **ounce of cinnamon simple syrup**, and ½ **ounce of lemon juice** to a shaker filled with ice. Proceed to shake until the outside of the shaker starts to feel cool. Strain into a rocks glass over fresh ice, top with 1 **ounce of ginger ale**, and garnish with a **rosemary sprig** and **pear slices**.

The Poetry Guide to **Picking Your** **Paint Colours**

WE BREAK IT DOWN ROOM BY ROOM

With the right approach, your paint choices can transform the character of any room. It's your opportunity to personalize your home into one that reflects your style.

But there are practical considerations for finding the right aesthetic. How each room will be used, how you'd like it to feel, as well as factors like lighting and size are all important. That's why we've put together a room-by-room guide to picking your paints along with accent choices.





BY MICHELA BLASI



The Kitchen

The Hardest Working Room in the Home





Kitchens with limited light benefit from light-reflecting palettes like warm white, soft sage green, with accents like brushed gold hardware. Larger kitchens with abundant natural light can handle bolder choices like navy blue, crisp white, with more adventurous accents like copper fixtures. Low ceilings benefit from warm tones like butter yellow and cream paired with chrome accents, whereas high ceilings can embrace deeper colours like charcoal gray, marble white and matte black.

-  **Simply White:**
OC - 117 Benjamin Moore
-  **Silver Satin:**
OC - 26 Benjamin Moore
-  **October Mist:**
CC - 550 Benjamin Moore
-  **Hale Navy:**
HC - 154 Benjamin Moore

The Living Areas

Where You Unwind

Cozy living rooms work best with warm, reflective tones like cream and soft blush, paired with brushed gold details that amplify available light. Open-concept living areas with big windows can handle moody palettes like deep emerald, ivory, paired with more dramatic accents, like black iron. Traditional spaces with eight-foot ceilings benefit from classic combinations like warm gray and white, paired with brass fixtures, whereas loft-style rooms with soaring ceilings can embrace bold contrasts like burgundy and cream, paired with copper hardware.

-  **Ivory White:**
925 Benjamin Moore
-  **First Light:**
2102 - 70 Benjamin Moore
-  **Calm:**
OC - 22 Benjamin Moore
-  **Edgecomb Gray:**
HC - 173 Benjamin Moore





The Bedroom

Your Personal Sanctuary




Compact bedrooms or those with limited morning light thrive with soothing palettes like soft lavender, warm white, and rose gold accents that create a serene, airy feel. Master bedrooms with abundant natural light can embrace deeper, more luxurious tones like dusty blue, cream, and matte brass hardware. Bedrooms with slanted ceilings work beautifully with light, dreamy colours like pale pink and ivory with silver details, whereas bedrooms with vaulted ceilings can support rich, cocooning shades like deep plum, soft gray, and bronze fixtures.

-  **Abalone:**
2108 - 60 Benjamin Moore
-  **Santorini Blue:**
1634 Benjamin Moore
-  **Lavender Secret:**
1415 Benjamin Moore
-  **White Dove:**
OC - 17 Benjamin Moore

Trim, Accent Walls, and Hallways

Your Transitional and Bold Spaces

The spaces between your rooms tell a story too, so hallways, trim, and accent walls deserve thoughtful colour consideration to create flow throughout your home. White or cream trim works beautifully in homes where natural light is at a premium, while homes with abundant windows can handle bolder choices like dark charcoal trim. For hallways, consider light neutrals like warm white, soft gray, and matching trim to maintain flow between rooms. If you're considering an accent wall, be bold: think deeper tones like navy, forest green, or burgundy.





-  **Hudson Bay**
1680 Benjamin Moore
-  **Gardenia**
AF-10 Benjamin Moore
-  **Dinner Party**
AF-300 Benjamin Moore



The Bathroom

Energizing and Spa-Like

Powder rooms or windowless bathrooms need bright, crisp palettes like pure white or soft mint, paired with polished chrome fixtures to feel fresh and clean. Master bathrooms with skylights can embrace calming combinations like sage green and warm gray, paired with brushed gold hardware. Bathrooms with shower-tub combos work well with classic pairings like white, navy, and brass details to create timeless appeal, whereas walk-in showers can handle bold choices like charcoal tile, cream, and matte black fixtures.

-  **Silver Sage:**
506 Benjamin Moore
-  **Pale Oak:**
OC - 20 Benjamin Moore
-  **Alabaster:**
OC - 129 Benjamin Moore
-  **Spring Mint:**
2040 - 70 Benjamin Moore

A Word on All The Different Whites

Why are there so many different white paints? The short answer is that no single shade of white works in every home — each can be used for different effect. All paint colours are created by mixing hues, and the dominant colour creates undertones that dramatically change how the final shade appears in your space. Warm whites carry red, orange, and yellow undertones for a cozy glow, while cool whites have "hints of green, blue, and violet for a fresh, clean feel. Popular options like Simply White OC-117 bring warmth to living spaces, while Chantilly Lace OC-65 offers crisp contrast for trim work. Since lighting and surrounding elements affect how colours appear, always test samples in your actual room rather than trusting store lighting. Cool whites with blue undertones can make small spaces feel larger, while warm whites throughout create an airy, relaxed atmosphere.

-  **Chantilly Lace**
OC-65 Benjamin Moore
-  **Cloud White**
OC-130 Benjamin Moore
-  **Simply White**
OC-117 Benjamin Moore



THE VALLEY

W O O D B R I D G E

40' & 45' LUXURY SINGLES
COMING SOON

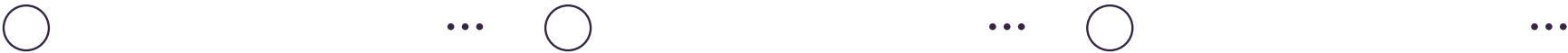
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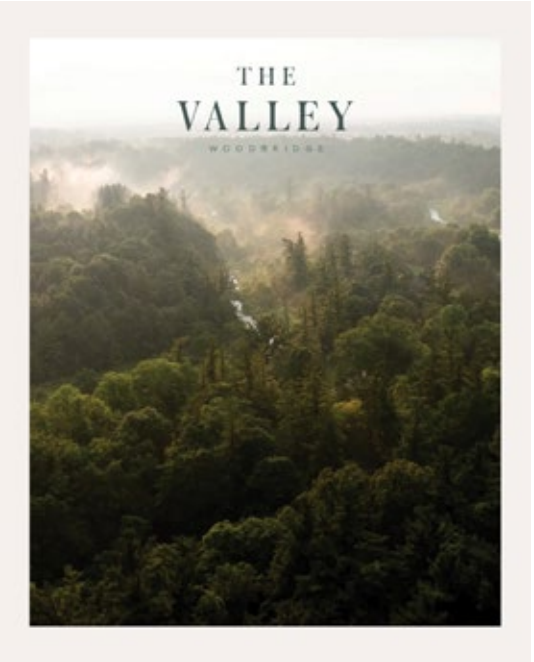
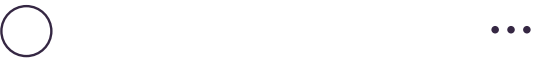
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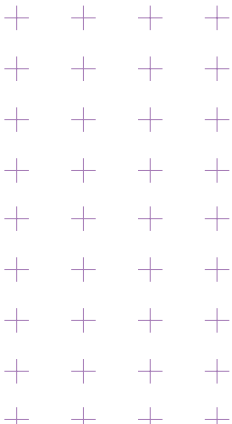
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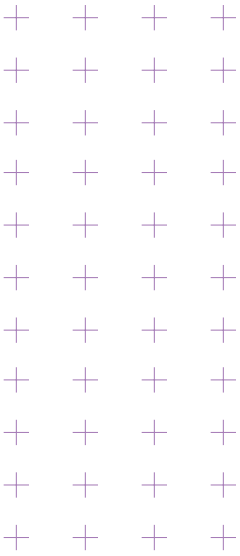
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