

MODERN COMFORT

A once-formal Vancouver family home is given new life with contemporary yet relaxed touches and an array of eclectic decorative accents.

by **MONIQUE VALERIS** Photographs by **EMA PETER**

MIX TILES AND TEXTURES.

The kitchen is the hub of the home. Cabinets with unlacquered brass hardware, a teal island topped with quartzite and zellige backsplash tiles add texture.





GO DARK IN SMALL SPACES.

In contrast to the home's overall neutral palette, designer Stephanie Brown clad the office in Sherwin-Williams' Grizzle Gray. The cool charcoal color complements the grasscloth accent wall.



MEET THE HOMEOWNERS

When you're part of a large blended family, home truly becomes a haven. That's why interior designer Stephanie Brown (stephaniebrowninc.com) didn't think twice about helping the Meikle-Tough family turn a formal postmodern property, originally built in 1991, into a comfortable open-concept abode designed for creating memories. Brown's clients share six children: five adults who typically visit on the weekends and one high schooler who is still under their roof. "They have a very small family during the week, and then the young adults come back home with their partners for family dinner on Sundays and suddenly there are 12 people in the house," Brown says. "They were looking for a house that could be warm and cozy from day to day, but welcoming and flexible enough to accommodate times the whole gang was present."



The family enjoying quality time.



Make lighting the jewelry of the room.

The dining room's five-piece modular chandelier from Roll & Hill, artfully suspended above the dining table, showcases a playful use of geometric shapes. "The light fixture brings in that modern touch, while the detailed hardwood flooring inlay and the wood ceiling beams speak to the traditional aesthetic," says Brown.



Maintain order with open shelves.

A polished area dedicated to cooking essentials such as small appliances, oversized pots and baking supplies was nonnegotiable for the family. With the help of professional organizer Sherry Borsheim of Simply Productive, open shelves in rich teal—the same shade as the kitchen island—were installed “to make sure the walk-in pantry would be super functional and curated,” says Brown.



TAKE A RISK WITH FLOORING.

A high-traffic mudroom is the perfect spot for bold flooring like these concrete tiles from Ann Sacks, which balance the floor-to-ceiling cabinets.

MIX NEUTRALS.

Gray, white (variations of Benjamin Moore's Simply White) and beige brighten the family room and allow colorful pillows and a bold ottoman to catch your eye.



GET THE LOOK

Family Room Upgrade

Transform your space in an instant!



FAUX LARGE LEAF RUBBER PLANT, \$100, WORLDMARKET.COM



NIVOS TABLE, \$249, ARTICLE.COM



RELIEF [1] CANVAS PRINT BY ALYSSA HAMILTON ART, \$110, SOCIETY6.COM



GRAY SOLID WOOD UPHOLSTERED ACCENT ARM CHAIR, \$158, HOMEDEPOT.COM

Tile halfway up the bathroom wall.

Think of this kind of wainscoting detail as a backsplash for your shower. “The handmade ceramic tile has a wonderful imperfect quality to it, and the glaze catches the light, which helps the room feel bright and expansive,” Brown says.

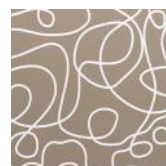


GET THE LOOK
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WALLPAPER IN
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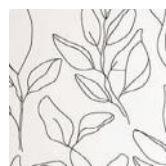


Install dramatic wallpaper.

The whimsical powder room was moved from the middle of the house to a more private space that presented the opportunity to go bold. “We looked at dozens of wallpapers but kept coming back to this one,” Brown says of the abstract design, which pairs well with the traditional pedestal sink. “The faces almost feel like calligraphy, and the wallpaper is a happy medium between modern and classic.”
For a similar graphic feel, try these options:



DOODLED WHITE LINES
PEEL-AND-STICK
WALLPAPER BY
ITSJENSWORLD, \$119,
SPOONFLOWER.COM



FLORAL LINE
ABSTRACT WALLPAPER,
TIMBERLEACO.COM
FOR PRICING

BIGGER ISN'T ALWAYS BETTER.

The primary bedroom was originally much larger. Reducing the size and installing a grass-cloth wall covering made it feel cozier and more luxe.

