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Celebrity Designer GLEN PELOSO, Principal of **Glen Peloso Interiors**, has successfully designed over 300 residential and commercial projects around the world in the last two decades. Glen makes regular guest appearances on various television and radio shows across Canada and is a regular guest speaker at home shows. Glen is Canadian Home Trends Magazine's National Design Contributor, as well as a design columnist for The Toronto Star's Saturday New in Homes section. **TIP** Advice I received - "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail". Advice I give - "The three most important things about design are "plan, plan, plan!"
glenpelosointeriors.com



EVELYN ESHUN Interior Designer **Evelyn Eshun**, a graduate from Ryerson University, has been involved with design over the past 14 years, collaborating with Clients on their residential projects. Evelyn has been a regular design host for many years on several design shows like "Take This House & Sell It" on W Channel and prior appeared on "The Decorating Challenge" among other various on air appearances. Evelyn dissects all aspects of the design process in order to create interiors which ultimately provide her clients with the best quality of life and personal expression. **TIP** Do not do anything 'just because', have a reason for the placement of every item. evelyneshun.com



ERICA GELMAN, Principal of **Erica Gelman House Of Design** specializes in both large and small scale residential design projects. Known for enhancing and creating new possibilities in every space of your home. **TIP** Purchase the best of what you can afford and if an item speaks to you, make it work. house-of-design.ca



LAURA STEIN Principal and CEO of **Laura Stein Interiors**, an award-winning firm specializing in custom interior decorating and design for residential clients. Dedicated to creating exceptional, distinctive, and uniquely personal interiors for her clients, Laura's focus is on fresh, lifestyle-based design infused with comfort and understated luxury. **TIP** Always think about scale. The biggest mistake people make is buying furniture that is too big. Scale isn't just the physical dimensions, but also how something feels visually. How do you get the right scale? Start with a plan!
laurasteininteriors.com



HEATHER SEGRETI An accomplished Interior Designer for over 20 years, her background in both commercial and residential design complement each other bringing innovative ideas to each project. Heather's formal design background and accredited training have shaped her refined Design aesthetic. **Segreti Design** is a full service Interior Design Firm with a current focus on large scale residential projects from concept to completion. **TIP** Never look at the price. First look to see if you like the item. Price is something that is negotiable. You can always find something comparable if the price is over budget. If you are indecisive, it is not the right time to buy. Step back and wait a few days. All the pieces fall in place when you execute a project with patience and perspective. segretidesign.com



EILEEN MARSHALL, owner of **Eileen Marshall Design** a company that offers a full range of services; specializing in renovations and custom homes. Eileen's philosophy is to create elegant and inviting interiors whilst promoting a healthy and comfortable home for each and every family member. **TIP** Use your intuition and rely on your gut instincts. However, if you have wavering doubts, always take small steps before you commit to large investments. For example, if you are colour scheming your home, always colour test. If you are purchasing furniture, take time to plan your purchases to the scale of the room. A little groundwork will avoid major mistakes. When in doubt, hire a professional. eileenmarshalldesign.com



KAREN SEALY owner of **Sealy Design Inc.**, is an award winning designer who is equally at ease in a hard hat or heels. With formal training in interior design and a degree in business and psychology, she is well prepared to create fabulous spaces that meet emotional and functional needs, look and feel great, and stay on track and on budget. Karen is a regular décor expert on CityLine and Host/Designer of HGTV's Summer Home. **TIP** Don't ever go overboard with a single trend because if you do your entire home will look the same, which can be boring and costly to change when the trend dies out and you grow tired of the look. sealydesigninc.com



JO ALCORN, Design Specialist and owner of **whitewash & co.** has designed an eco friendly furniture line W&C found online and recently a lighting line that can be purchased in stores across Canada and the U.S. Jo is no stranger to the design TV world, she is also an environmental advocate and teacher to future designers. **TIP** There are no rules. Design is art and a true artist cannot live within guidelines and regulations when creating a masterpiece. whitewashco.ca

Formal *yet* Friendly



EVELYN ESHUN DESIGNED THIS KITCHEN TO BE BOTH BEAUTIFUL AND FUNCTIONAL, WHILE MAINTAINING ITS FAMILY FRIENDLINESS

Text Evelyn Eshun | Photography Amanda Calabrese



Creating a formal yet friendly custom kitchen is no easy feat, the goal in this project was to do just that and make it family friendly as well. I always encourage homeowners to create a wish list which outlines their ultimate goals for their dream kitchen. What is important to you? The functionality, the look? The style? The cost? The answers to these questions will give you a guideline toward your goal.

Our challenge in this home was an enviable one. We had to make this large space inviting and functional to fit the homeowner's needs. Entertaining, China storage and a desk area were all on their wish list.

I love bright kitchens, and this one is no exception. The gorgeous maple walnut stained island, covered in a stunning slab of Statuarrio Marble, adds a sense of formality and class to this space. We used quartz on the perimeter area of the counter where it has to work a little harder to prove its durability.

We always try to create an island in our kitchen designs. It is the best way to squeeze in useful storage and working surface. I like to have a functional element in the island, either a sink or a stove. In this case, we had a secondary sink with lots of space for prep and sitting. Remember that your island is usually thirty six inches and your bar will be forty two inches. A bar area like the one in this kitchen, disguises a messy counter.

When designing an island I also like to use barstools with low backs. These standard twenty-four inch barstools offer a low profile back that doesn't obscure the view of the kitchen.





Incorporating a dining table brings family and warmth to any kitchen. We designed and manufactured a table with a quartz tabletop and a solid wood base. We hung a handsome dining room chandelier over the table and it instantly brought pizzazz to the room.

As a Designer, I love the process of solving various challenges and creating a functional and aesthetically pleasing space. No matter what your challenges are, whether it may be budget, architectural restrictions or product availability, kitchens are a place where you can express yourself and raise the value of your home. My best advice is to plan, plan, and plan some more before you begin your project and hire a qualified team to help you execute your investment.

Use two different counter surfaces for added interest. **Invest in a quiet dishwasher**, you won't have to escape the space every time you do dishes. **Consider an induction stove** for safe and easy cleaning. **Buy a hood vent** which has at least an eight hundred and fifty CFM capability, you will appreciate the ventilation when you are cooking. **Natural materials for countertops** will always have the risk of staining, if you are concerned with this, stick to quartz and other manufactured materials which are much more durable. **Spend as much as you can** on a quality faucet, as you will turn it on and off around five thousand times a year.

Get the Trend

Countertops
 Ceasarstone Col. Raven
 Calcutta Marble Polished
 Marble Plus
www.marbleplus.ca

Barstools
 Swaim available at Import Temptations
www.import-temptations.com

Flooring
 Vanilla Creame Marble 24 x 24
 Marble Planet
www.marbleplanet.ca

Designed by
 Evelyn Eshun
www.evelyneshun.com

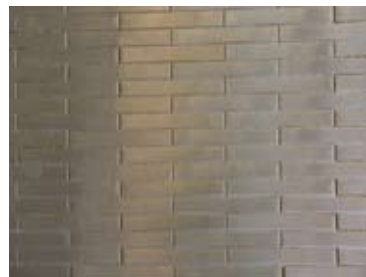
Photography
 Amanda Calaberese

GET THE TREND

Decorator's White CC-20
 Benjamin Moore
www.benjaminmoore.com



Ventana Single Tier Chandelier
 Robert Abbey
www.jonathanadler.com



MMXSM07 - Stainless Brick Pattern
 Saltillo
www.salttillo-tiles.com

Kitchen Table - Custom Made with
 Ceasarstone And Wood
 Emanuele Furniture Design
 (905) 669-6268



Silver Lining CL 3171W
 Benjamin Moore
www.benjaminmoore.com

A Deluxe Downsize

Text Glen Peloso | Photography Larry Arnal

"Keeping an area darker and out of focus by highlighting the area you are using, creates the illusion of more space..."

When we started working with this couple, it was clear this kitchen would be a drastic change now that they were downsizing. Essentially our job was to figure out how we were going to squeeze a large four bedroom house into this newly built town house. The first place to start was a good purge of all elements that were no longer useful. Like all small spaces, one of the biggest issues is storage. Here, we decided that extending the kitchen into the dining room made good sense as the dining room might seat ten but the kitchen didn't have enough space to be able to plate a meal for ten people. We had the cabinets for the dining room made in the same detail and finish as the kitchen in order to pull the two rooms together. This gives the illusion that both rooms are larger, as we visually attribute some of the kitchen to the dining room and vice versa. With the cabinets extended into the dining room, we were still able to get a round table suitable for four to six people. As well, with the added seats at the bar, the space can now accommodate a larger group. One of the mistakes that people make with smaller spaces is planning for those few occasions when the seating capacity for groups is going to be larger than normal. As a general rule, if you are creating a seating arrangement where you will need more seats less than five to ten percent of the overall days in the year, then design for regular seating capacity and make slight alterations for those special occasions. This is your home, and it should be designed with your needs top of mind.



The next challenge was a full wall that visually broke up the two rooms at the end of the counter top dividing the dining room and kitchen. While that wall was useful to contain some of the electrical wires to feed the lights in the room and running upstairs, those could easily be diverted to the opposite wall which allowed us to remove that wall completely and open up the space. With that wall gone, the view of the kitchen improved and the overall space seemed larger. The other advantage was being able to extend the countertop over what would have been a wall and increase the useable countertop space in the kitchen. The homeowner likes to bake and having the extra countertop to roll out dough was a huge advantage to the previously cramped space next to the sink.

When it came to lighting the space, we decided not to hang pendants over the kitchen island as not to compete with the fantastic dining fixture. Because the kitchen would be used for preparing meals and the more precise alchemy of baking, we needed to ensure that there was adequate pot lighting. In the living room we used pot lights to illumine the built-in cabinets on either side of the fireplace. The combination of lighting fixtures used, which are naturally placed on dimmers, provided a suitable amount of light for the whole space. As a side note: dimmers allow you to create zones in smaller areas. Keeping an area darker and out of focus by highlighting the area you are using creates the illusion of more space, simply because it's hard to see the parameters clearly. Perhaps once the meal is prepared and is being served, you can bring the lights down on the living space and the kitchen and focus the attention on the dining area. The other thing to note is that low lighting can do wonders to make people look fantastic which is perhaps the biggest reason I advocate for dimmers!

When it came to the living room, we wanted to provide storage and display for the space. We created a floor to ceiling, dark stained, wall-to-wall cabinet, closed at the bottom and shelved in various sizes at the top. We chose a dark stain so that there was distinction between the three rooms. To further emphasize the differences we created shelves of varying sizes which stood in stronger contrast to the more traditional kitchen. We painted the front of the fireplace in a dark chocolate brown to have the wall fade and the elements of art, accessories and books on the shelves be our feature as opposed to the wall colour. In the dining room, we painted the same chocolate brown colour behind the large beveled edge mirror placed in the centre of the cabinets. The mirror provides the dining room with a sense of formality while making the space appear larger. The reflection in the mirror also showcases the living room and the mimicked paint colour pulls the two sides of the room together and creates cohesion.

What we were finally left with, was a functional space that worked well for our newly downsized couple.



Get the Trend

Dining/Kitchen Area

Dining Room Table
Sears
www.sears.ca

Dining Chairs
Structube
www.structube.com

Art
Customer's Own

Countertop
Mondial
www.mondialgranite.com

Wall Letters
Customer's Own

Mirror
Aspects Art & Mirror
647-988-4597

Bar Stools
Structube
www.structube.com

Kitchen Backsplash
Weston Tile
www.westontile.com

Chandelier
Prima Lighting
www.primalighting.ca

Living Room

Sofa
Crate and Barrel
www.crateandbarrel.com

Arm Chairs
Crate and Barrel
www.crateandbarrel.com

Rug, Art, Accessories
Customer's Own

Coffee Tables
Crate and Barrel
www.crateandbarrel.com

Paint
Benjamin Moore
www.benjaminmoore.com

Designed by
Glen Peloso Interiors
www.glenpelosointeriors.com

Photography by
Larry Arnal
www.arnalpix.com

Family Living

Text Erica Gelman | Photography Larry Arnal



Often when we meet homeowners with young children, they always seem to describe their living spaces as “taken over by their kids”, they go on to proclaim how much they desire to live in a stylish home with “grown-up” décor but can’t accomplish the look with toys scattered around the house. We’ve heard the statement far too many times to ignore it. Which brings the question, why do young parents believe they can’t live in a tastefully decorated home? As a designer, I know it’s possible to overcome the challenges of toys, video games, bikes and Barbies, and I can show you how with a few great tips.

When we first met the homeowners, a young couple with an adorable two year old daughter, they too, like most parents felt their home was strictly catered to children rather than a grown up environment. They lived in an open concept home that allows you to see the kitchen, family room and dining room all in one area. Open concept living is an appealing design feature; however it can also be a decorating challenge for most. The main objective in open concept design is to plan for visual barriers that will break up the space and distinguish each area for its function.

Like most families with young children, books and toys typically find themselves sprinkled around the floor, so naturally, we decided to design a large wall-to-wall built-in unit with vertical and horizontal storage. Built-ins not only give families the opportunity to hide the essentials but it also allows children to have their own storage compartments. If you keep cabinetry low enough for the kids to get in and out of, they can easily reach for their belongings on their own. It also worked perfectly with the homeowners’ elongated walls. If you have an oversized room, we recommend filling the space with a few large furniture pieces, rather than multiple smaller ones, this will make the space feel spacious. In addition to proportion, we also suggest furniture to work double duty. We designed a large custom ottoman which could easily act as supplementary seating or the perfect foot stool. We also integrated a chaise in the space; it acts as a comfortable read with your kids but also sits multiple people for adult entertaining.

In the dining room, the homeowners went from a bistro table with four stools to a large custom banquette, easily accommodating up to eight adults but also an ideal spot for family meals. The banquette seats and chairs were





both upholstered in a durable, high performance vinyl for effortless clean up and worry-free mess. When dealing with fabrics used essentially for young children be mindful of the durability and maintenance - how easy it is to get stains out because let's face it, spills are inevitable.

We set out to find ways to maximize space, increase seating and turn this family house into a home. The homeowners were adamant about the idea of a lived-in space, nothing that looked untouchable or too formal. They really wanted to project family living in a place of serenity. We kept the tones light, bright and consistent and although we didn't repeat any patterns we incorporated the same character throughout the space. If you are thinking of redesigning your home, start with the way you want it to feel rather than how it's going to look. It's possible to merge both young family living with well-designed spaces, it just takes planning and careful consideration to detail.

Get the Trend

Sofa, Ottoman, Dining Chairs
 Custom Designed by Erica Gelman
www.ericagelman.com

Lighting & Side Tables
 Union Lighting
unionlightingandfurnishings.com

Sofa, Ottoman, Slipper Chairs Fabric
 Joanne Fabrics
www.joanefabrics.com

Accessories
 Crate & Barrel
www.crateandbarrel.ca

Banquette Fabric
 Vinyl Seats - Robert Allen
www.robertalldesign.com
 Seat Back - Designer Fabrics
www.designerfabrics.ca

Designed by
 Erica Gelman House of Design
www.ericagelman.com

Photography by
 Larry Arnal
www.arnalpix.com

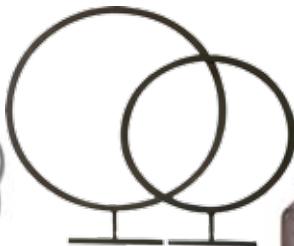


PEMA LEAVES 8x10, Wool & Silk Area Rug ELTE
www.elte.com

GET THE TREND



12" 3 Light Mini Sphere Pendant
 Union Lighting and Furnishings
www.unionlightingandfurnishings.com



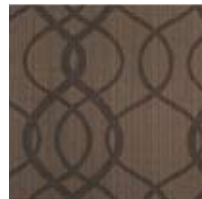
Circler Stands
 Crate & Barrel
www.crateandbarrel.ca



JASPER
 Joanne Fabrics
www.joanefabrics.com



PAT
 Joanne Fabrics
www.joanefabrics.com



DRAMA
 Joanne Fabrics
www.joanefabrics.com



Cole Slipper Chair
 Van Gogh Designs
www.vangoghdesigns.com



Colleen Chaise
 Van Gogh Designs
www.vangoghdesigns.com