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EDITORIAL

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
SHOULD OLD
ACQUAINTANCE
BE FORGOT?

FINANCE

ARE YOU PREPARED
FOR EMERGENCIES?
THE REAL WAY TO
BUILD A FUND

SUITE SUCCESS

THINK BIG IN SMALL
SPACES: METALLIC
FIXTURES, AND HOW
TO LIGHTEN UP

HEALTH & FITNESS

NOT GETTING THE
FLU SHOT CAN
HAVE SERIOUS
CONSEQUENCES



Gold

Falling in Love All Over Again

By Linda Mazur

Photographs courtesy of www.vandabath.com

Linda Mazur is a nationally publicized designer and Principal of Linda Mazur Design Group. With almost two decades of experience, this in-demand multi-disciplinary design firm is known for creating relaxed stylish spaces and full-scale design builds within Toronto, the GTA and throughout Canada.
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Always a distinctive element of design and décor, metallic finishes are easy to incorporate into any space and often can be the heart of the design itself. Metals can inspire creativity or simply be the finishing touches to your space. This year we've been falling in love all over again with all shades of gold. It's been one of the hottest finishes in everything from fabrics, paint and wallpapers to furniture, bathroom fixtures and tiles.

If you're starting to get flashbacks to the shiny yellow brassy gold of decades past, put those thoughts out of your head. What I'm talking about are the golds of today. We have such an array of options, from the sophisticated champagne gold finish to the softly textured finish of brushed gold. One of today's most popular "gold tones," and one of my personal favourites, is unlacquered brass.

Unlacquered brass has an attractive look and feel all its own. It is warm, less formal than polished nickel and less typical than chrome. This unparalleled finish is organic and is sometimes referred to as a "living finish." Due to the absence of the lacquer, this durable solid brass finish is allowed to naturally age over time and develop a beautiful patina of colour and texture unique only to itself.

As a designer, I find that this ever-evolving finish is beyond adaptable. This gold highlights a beautifully aged, slightly antiqued finish that is warm, modern and sophisticated, works in a rustic-inspired space, yet offers an old-world charm. When designing spaces for my clients, I find I'm drawn to unlacquered brass for bathroom fittings, lighting, cabinet hardware and accessories.

Create an upscaled yet comfortable décor for yourself by adding richly textured gold silk cushions to the room. Fabric is always a great way to punch up any space you're designing. With so





many patterns and textures to select from, you're sure to find something to complement any décor style. A company I always like to turn to when designing spaces is Alendel Fabrics. They have a wide array of fabrics and have now introduced wallpaper. Wallpaper has lately been on the upswing of design and décor. Consider sprucing up a monochromatic room by creating an accent wall – yes, accent walls are en pointe once again. Select a geometric patterned paper in a metallic gold colour with a slight sheen; in low light the sheen will look exceptionally lovely.

In a kitchen or bathroom, one of the hardest working elements are faucets. They sustain a lot of daily use and abuse, so choosing the right one means looking beyond simply good looks. Consider functionality and durability, as well as a finish that is timeless. Unlacquered brass is the perfect addition to your kitchen or



bathroom renovation; look to incorporate it into lighting, cabinet hardware or faucets. The right selections can make the difference between a moderately successful design and renovation or a truly remarkable one. Victoria + Albert is one company that always delivers impressively designed, high-quality bathroom faucets in a wide selection of styles that is sure to complete your bathroom renovation on a high note.

The colder seasons ahead are the best for encouraging metallic inspiration in your design and décor. Everywhere you look you see the warm glow of golds, so don't shy away from gold. Become inspired and fall in love with it again!

