

SPRING 2017

# Home

M A G A Z I N E

A SHOWCASE OF HOMES AND LIFESTYLES ACROSS CANADA

*Finding  
your  
Bliss*

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MATTE  
IS THE **NEW**  
**BLACK**

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VISTAS OF  
BLUE SEAS**

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# The Power of *Fabric*

By Linda Mazur

**Fabric is a wonderful little secret in the world of decorating. It's both inspirational and a great place to start when designing any room. Beautiful lush velvets, richly woven silks, and bold yet unassuming linens, when combined with wonderful patterns and amazing colours, create inspired, tailor-made living spaces.**

Fabrics can add personality to your space and transform it with colour, texture, and patterns. They bring warmth and softness to your designs, highlighting architectural features, and creating interest. A bold statement can be made by adding powerful patterns and rich colours, or a subtle aesthetic can be created in that same space with soft calming neutrals, which are more about texture. It's important to think about durability, care, pattern intricacy, and colour; when making your selections.

The durability of a particular fabric is determined by the "double-rub count". Fabrics are tested by the number of times a machine can pass back and forth over it before wearing down. I tend to stay away from the lower rub counts for residential use and don't upholster in a fabric less than 12,000 double-rubs to be safe. However, these fabrics can be great for a low-usage piece of furniture like an occasional chair. There are many fabrics available today that are high performing with anti-microbial, stain, and moisture resistant features. These are very forgiving and fantastic for high-traffic homes, especially those with kids and pets. One of my go-to fabric suppliers that never disappoints is Alendel Fabrics. They are always introducing new decadent fabric designs saturated with colour and inspiring, yet classic patterns that blend beautifully into any space.

While durability is important in fabric selection, what's equally important is pattern intricacy and colour. As a designer I love playing with colours and patterns. However, when blending several different patterns you must pay attention to scale. Start by blending together a minimum of three fabric patterns. Combine large, medium, and small-scaled patterns together while varying between floral, stripes, geometrics, and solids; and don't forget about balance.

With so many options, be bold in what you choose for your home. Furniture and custom drapery can be a sizable purchase so when scanning over the endless possibilities, select wisely. I recommend timeless patterns to enhance the longevity of your investment, ones that can easily be punched up with trending colours for a bit of fun.

Spring can be a great time to refresh your space with the introduction of colour and texture to your décor. Use fabric, with all its great attributes, to add new life to your home. Toss cushions, or layer light airy sheers with some gorgeous side panels in a robustly textured velvet or linen to add some warmth to the room. Whether you love stripes, ikats, florals, or toiles, there are hundreds of possibilities to make your home come alive with fabric.



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 Greater Toronto Area and throughout Canada.  
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