

APRIL 2019

# HOUSE & HOME

THE MAGAZINE OF HOME & STYLE

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STYLING TRICKS  
TO UPDATE YOUR  
LIVING ROOM

*Plus* **NEW-BUILD:  
FROM THE GROUND UP,  
ONE COUPLE'S STORY**



# A young couple brings their dream kitchen to fruition with colour and pattern.

Text by EMILY EVANS | Photography by MAXIME DESBIENS



## THE BIG MOVES: STEP AND REPEAT

Just like a perfectly executed dance routine, kitchen layouts require a sense of flow and lots of rehearsal. "Once we come up with a kitchen layout, I ask homeowners to move around virtually in the space and pretend to use it — making meals, baking, cleaning up — so we can organize the space according to their specific needs and see what's missing," says designer Jean Stéphane Beauchamp.

**Pendants,** Luminaire Authentik; **stool,** Décor Maria.

## THE BACKSTORY

"Multicoloured" isn't a term thrown around often in kitchen design these days, but for Sébastien Paquet, a landscape architect, and Anne-Marie Comeau, a high school science teacher, that's exactly what they were after. The couple, who have a toddler, Frédérique (pictured) and a three-month-old, Charlie, wanted their 200-square-foot kitchen and dining area to be filled with blue — there are now five different shades on the cabinetry alone — and they knew just who'd be up for the vibrant task: designer and friend Jean Stéphane Beauchamp. Sébastien had worked with Jean Stéphane for a number of years in Montreal before moving to Laval, Que., and, despite the suburban locale, he and his young family didn't want to lose their urban sense of style. "We're attracted to eclecticism and don't like absolute minimalism," he says. "And I wanted to do something fresh and dynamic yet timeless," adds Jean Stéphane. Taking on some of the labour themselves (they built the kitchen cabinetry) also allowed Anne-Marie and Sébastien to keep their renovation budget out of the red and into the blue.



## THE BIG MOVES: EMBRACE THE UNEXPECTED

Jean Stéphane advises homeowners to be open to surprises. "Kitchens take time to put together, and we make adjustments along the way," he says. "We really liked the porcelain tile behind the stove; it looks contemporary but fits with the age of the house."

**Blue tile, La Tullerie; countertops, Céràgrès; bird artwork, Arthur Quentin; runner, Rowntree Antiques.**

**WOW FACTOR:**  
*Custom brass-plated handles*

### THE DETAILS

- 1 THE DESIGNER:**  
Montreal's Jean Stéphane Beauchamp
- 2 THE OWNERS:**  
Sébastien Paquet and Anne-Marie Comeau
- 3 THE LOCATION:**  
A late mid-century suburban home in Laval, Que.
- 4 THE CHALLENGE:**  
Inject colour and enhance flow in the kitchen and dining area



## KITCHEN OF THE MONTH

### THE BIG MOVES: BRING ON THE BANQUETTE

Adding a banquette to this eating area was a clever space-saving trick. It allowed for built-in storage in the otherwise dead space over the stairwell and freed up room for a full-size dining table (made by Sébastien using reclaimed wood from a local duplex built in 1868). **Tablecloth, napkins, Qui Dort Dine; pendant** by Tungstène Creative Lighting. **Décor Maria; dining chair, Kanvass; interior cabinetry colour, Blue Spa** (2052-40), Benjamin Moore.

**WOW FACTOR:**  
Red oak  
herringbone floors

### ELEMENTS OF THE LOOK

1. Dome Collection One-Light LED pendant. \$417. At Robinson Lighting & Bath Centre.

2. Hexagon Mosaic tile. \$22/sq ft. At Salttilo Imports.

3. Tunisia cement tile. \$7/tile. At Salttilo Imports.

4. Jute Ticking Woven rug. Approx. \$294. Through Dash & Albert.

5. Bentley Stripe dishcloth. \$7/set of 8. At Linen Chest.

### THE BIG MOVES: PACK IN THE PRETTY

"We put a lot of thought about storage into every kitchen, but having places to show decorative items really punctuate the space," says Jean Stéphane. Old laboratory bottles and glass beakers are personal touches that nod to Anne-Marie's science background. **Light grey backsplash tile, Centura Tile; wooden spoons, Arthur Quentin.**



Produced by Lauren Petre (Elements of the Look). Photography by Donna Griffin (flexible, Toronto)