

# CANADIAN HOME trends

*real life*

## RENO IDEAS FOR

EVERY ROOM IN YOUR HOME



**CHECK OUT!**  
This stylish makeover  
on page 74!



## basement OVERHAUL

DISPLAY UNTIL **October 31, 2018**

RENOVATIONS 2018 \$5.50



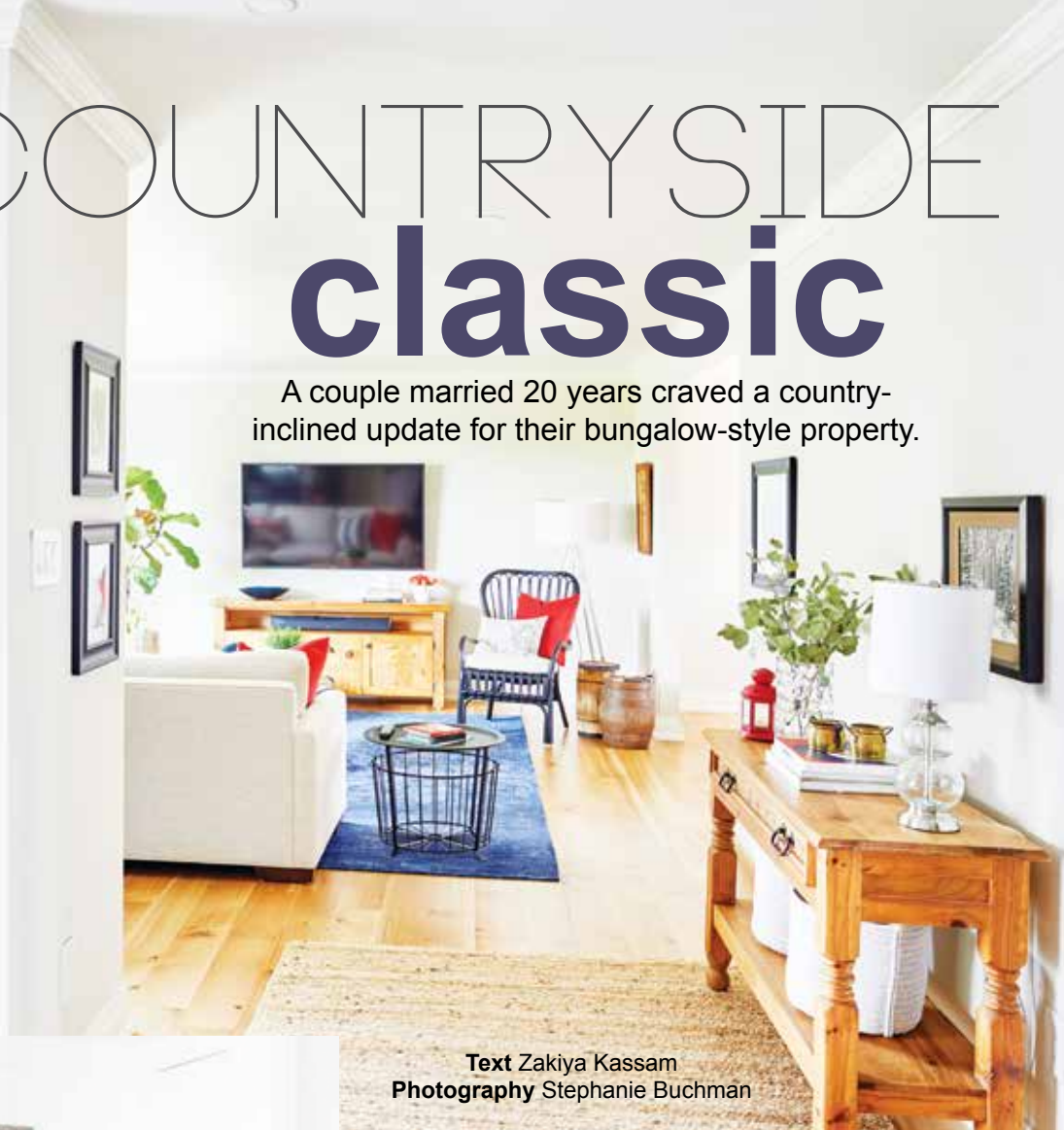
PM 41438018



Watch us on TV  
or On Demand at  
[MarcAndMandy.com](http://MarcAndMandy.com)

# COUNTRYSIDE classic

A couple married 20 years craved a country-inclined update for their bungalow-style property.



**Text** Zakiya Kassam  
**Photography** Stephanie Buchman



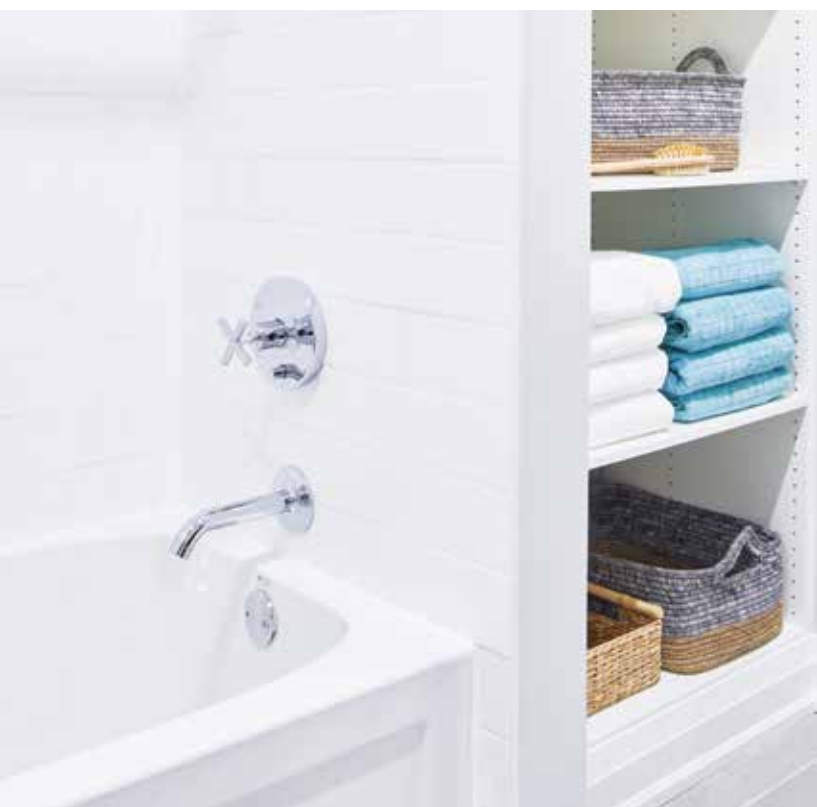
**A**FTER 15 YEARS OF COUNTRYSIDE LIVING, BRAD AND LORI, THE OWNERS OF A TREE-SHROUDED ACREAGE, reckoned they were well overdue for a home renovation. With over 3,000 square feet, four bedrooms, three bathrooms, and a lower level walk-out to work with, the project promised to be a sizeable one. The couple enlisted the expertise of award winning Toronto designer, Rebecca Hay, of Rebecca Hay Design Inc., to help them realize their home reno goals. Suffice to say, she was up for the task.

"When the homeowners approached my company they knew that their home needed an update and wanted something fresh," says Rebecca. "They wanted improved functionality in the front entrance, as well as all new furnishings to bring their 1970's style basement into the current decade."

Beyond updating the home, the couple hoped that, post-reno, the property would better reflect their personalities and pay homage to Brad's childhood. "As Brad grew up on a farm we wanted to include elements of the farm and a bit of a rustic feel," says Lori, "but we had no idea how to do it without looking too country."



**Space Designed by** Rebecca Hay, [www.rebeccahaydesigns.com](http://www.rebeccahaydesigns.com); **Photography by** Stephani Buchman, [www.stephanibuchmanphotography.com](http://www.stephanibuchmanphotography.com); **Pillows, Ottoman/Pouff,** Rebecca Hay Design Custom, [www.rebeccahaydesigns.com](http://www.rebeccahaydesigns.com); **Living Room Carpet,** Dominion Rug, [www.dominionrugtoronto.com](http://www.dominionrugtoronto.com); **Sectional Sofa,** Rebecca Hay Designs Custom, [www.rebeccahaydesigns.com](http://www.rebeccahaydesigns.com); **Black Arm Chair,** IKEA, [www.ikea.ca](http://www.ikea.ca); **Dining End Chairs,** Rebecca Hay Designs Custom, [www.rebeccahaydesigns.com](http://www.rebeccahaydesigns.com); **Vintage Map,** Client's Heirloom, Framed by Rebecca Hay Designs, [www.rebeccahaydesigns.com](http://www.rebeccahaydesigns.com); **Bathroom Faucet,** Kohler, [www.kohler.ca](http://www.kohler.ca); **Hardwood Floors,** Mercier Wood Flooring, [www.mercier-wood-flooring.com](http://www.mercier-wood-flooring.com); **Bar Kitchen Cabinetry,** IKEA, [www.ikea.ca](http://www.ikea.ca); **Bar Backsplash Tile,** Olympia Tile, [www.olympiatile.com](http://www.olympiatile.com); **Pendant Wood Light,** Wayfair, [www.wayfair.ca](http://www.wayfair.ca); **Bathroom Penny Tile Floor,** Creekside Tile, [www.creeksidetile.com](http://www.creeksidetile.com)



In the entrance to the home, it's obvious that the designer bore in mind the couple's penchant for wood elements and rustic design. The reimagined mudroom features an original painting on barn board by Canadian artist, Robert Colebrook Keirstead. The piece was owned by the couple beforehand. "It fits in beautifully with the new entrance design. Now everyone thinks it's brand new as they never noticed it before," says Lori.

The color scheme in the upper level living area is congruent with the minimalistic tone of the mudroom, featuring classic white walls and vibrant pops of blue and red. When asked what prompted her to go minimalistic, Rebecca cites the surrounding scenery: "We wanted the great views to be showcased, so we kept the colors minimal throughout."

Following suit, is the elected furniture. "By keeping the main pieces of furniture mostly neutral there is always the opportunity to update the color scheme seasonally or as your tastes change over the years," says the designer, referring to the custom couch in the upper living area.

The homeowners cite the custom couch as one of the pricier elements to the redesign. "We wanted one that fit the room, would stand the test of time, and was more than



"TEXTURE IS EVERYTHING IN DESIGN. WITHOUT TEXTURE, THE DESIGN FALLS FLAT. I LOVE TO LAYER TEXTURE AND PATTERNS INTO A SPACE TO CREATE INTEREST AND A COHESIVE OVERALL DESIGN."

*REBECCA HAY, DESIGNER*





just a showpiece." Along with the couch, the homeowners splurged on the rug in the living room, Canadian-made hardwood floors, and the rebuilt stone fireplace on the lower level walk-out.

The expansive lower level was designed with the couples' affinity for entertaining in mind. It features a home gym, a bar zone, and the fun addition of a large chalkboard wall. "This was Rebecca's suggestion," divulges Lori. "Since we love to play cards with friends, we wanted an area dedicated to this. Rebecca and her team were very creative and used old barn boards we had from our parents' farm to frame out a large score board. We love it! We use it to keep score but also to write fun messages to our guests."

Light-hearted elements aside, Rebecca imparts that pulling off any design job boils down to trendiness, balance, and a little bit of math. "Decorating with color is a big trend right now, but finding the right balance of color can be challenging. A little trick that I like to use is the 60-30-10 rule: 60% of a dominant color, 30% of a secondary color, 10% of an accent color and you will never go wrong."