

celebrityspaces



Keeping it clean, cosy and without any clutter

Q: How would you describe your home in two words?

A: Livable and luxurious.

Q: Tell us about your home?

A: My home is an original detached Tudor inspired home in the centre of Toronto. It is about 4800 square feet and was built around 1910. Since purchasing the home, we have added an addition to the home to create a more open concept feel and modern layout. I have also decorated the home several times over the years. The kitchen was the most recent renovation for us. We have a lovely garden with a pool and lots of room for entertaining. We also have a sport court for our children to play. And as someone who enjoys being outdoors, I have made sure to maintain a generous garden for me and my family to enjoy.

Q: What attracted you to this space?

A: On our first visit 16 years ago, the home did not show well but I saw potential. It was really a diamond in the rough. At the time, every window had double layers of velvet drapery. The home sits a corner lot and the amount of natural light that was restricted from entering the home was staggering. I adored the street presence of the home and the open space around the home. I was determined to re-work the interior layout

to create a more modern style family home while still honoring the home's historic deep Forest Hill roots.

Q: Who shares this home?

A: I share this home with my husband, three daughters and two Portuguese water dogs.

Q: What is your favorite room and why?

A: My recently designed kitchen is now my favorite room. I enjoy the overall design details we created throughout the space. Like most other homes, the kitchen is the heart of our house. Most evenings and weekends, we all gather or pass through this space to cook, catch up or watch TV.

Q: How would you describe your decorating style?

A: My design style is a clean interior with not much clutter. The spaces I design need to be warm and inviting but not overdone. I tend to focus on working with natural materials and textural interest and infuse quality made furnishings, textiles and lighting whenever possible. I enjoy finding or happening upon a hero piece for every space. It could be something as simple as an accent pillow or as significant as a custom made cabinet. For themes, I believe less

is more. This approach allows key pieces to really shine in the space especially when balance and proportion are key considerations.

Q: What is your fondest memory in this home?

A: I have had so many wonderful times in my home, very difficult to pick just one! Perhaps enjoying our home throughout all the holidays each year and seeing our children grow up in such a great neighbourhood.

Q: What's the one item in this house you can't live without?

A: There is custom walnut art panel in my kitchen with satin brass inlay. I spent a long time laying out the line-work for this piece and it turned out so beautifully. It is my very favorite thing in my home, it is the hero piece in my kitchen. As a designer I understand the importance of natural light. I also love the natural light that floods through our windows.

Q: Weekends at home, what are you most likely to find you doing?

A: I am usually baking in the kitchen with one of my daughters or enjoying the garden in the warmer months. On the winter weekends, you might find me organizing closets or styling my fireplace mantle and coffee tables.



MARTIN SLOFSTRA
Editor, Home and Decor

Sara Bederman is principal designer for Sara Bederman Design and is known for creating stylish, thoughtfully curated and livable interiors.

Born and raised in Toronto, Bederman grew up in mid-town Toronto in a pretty residential neighborhood with mature tree lined streets and simple 1960s and 1970s style architecture.

"This neighborhood went through some major changes which I remember well," she says. "People started tearing down the original homes in favour of the new and uber trendy, though controversial, 'monster home'."

Maxing out lot coverage became the new norm as the original homes were demolished and new, massive homes took their place. "I would marvel at all of the construction as I walked to and from school, even at that young age, I found the construction, architecture and design all very fascinating. I would critique the exterior finishes with my Dad on our bike rides and there was lots of talk about how someone could possibly choose to live in such a large home."

Moving from the outside in, she recalls at the age of 12 trying to decide how to rearrange her bedroom furniture. "I felt I needed a change! There were not too many options in terms of a new furniture layout so I abandoned that initiative and quickly moved on to asking my parents if I could paint the trim in my room an accent color instead. They actually said yes!"

"I did the painting myself, it certainly was a lot more work than I had thought. Did I mention I painted it green? Yes, green!"

These days, Bederman is currently working on a number of projects including a chic condo space in downtown Toronto, a lux-



Designer Sara Bederman believes that less can often be more.

ury detached home in the Rosedale area as well as another semi detached home in the same neighborhood, to name a few.

Bederman also enjoys exploring other neighborhoods in Toronto. "Learning and exploring new areas is part of the fun and adds to the creative process."

As a designer, she "really enjoy creating spaces for clients that are not only stylish but reflect their personalities and most importantly enhance their everyday living experience. Spaces that create a sense of calm are always amazing to design. Life is so busy for most of us these days and it is a pleasure to create spaces where people can pause and enjoy times with friends and family."



Q: If your walls could talk, what would they say?

A: They would probably say the family is very noisy! With two dogs and three kids life can get noisy some days. But it is also very exciting. I feel very fortunate to be able to raise our children in such a great city.