

SPRING 2023

STYLE ■ COMFORT ■ IDEAS ■ REAL ESTATE

# ourhomes

BARRIE ORILLIA MIDLAND INNISFIL

## MODERN *comforts*



BACKYARD  
BIRDING

THE POWER  
OF PAINT

MULTI-GENERATIONAL  
*living*

NEW BUILD FOR  
A GROWING FAMILY

# Artful



STORY  
**SARAH ST.  
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## DESIGN

### TIPS ON CHOOSING AND DISPLAYING ART PIECES IN EVERY ROOM

Every design project starts off as a blank slate. It is exciting to watch the magic happen when bringing a space to life. There are a multitude of design considerations that determine its outcome: colour palette, texture, balance, scale and light – nothing is haphazard. Once a home is designed, built, furnished and decorated, nothing adds soul to a room like a piece of art.

It is the pièce de résistance and probably the design element that causes the most trepidation in clients. The “what, how and where” questions can overwhelm and lead to not choosing or selecting pieces that simply don’t work in a particular space. Sometimes, the art selection was perfect but the placement was not.

Here are some simple guidelines to help make the best choices and elevate every room in your home while reflecting your personal style.



PHOTO: KELLY HORKOFF

## GENERAL RULES TO KEEP IN MIND

Hanging pictures at eye level is the goal, and this generally means that the mid-point of the art piece should be 57 to 60 inches from the floor depending, of course, on the ceiling height and your room.

If you have several pictures you want to add to a room, hang your largest art piece first and then assess where smaller-scale pictures will work best. Use the floor and arrange them there so you can get an idea of how the art pieces will come together on the walls.

**TIP:** Never position an art piece in direct sunlight. This applies to all artwork and particularly works on paper. Even pieces behind glass will be damaged unless the glass is UV-protected.

## BEDROOM

This is the place where you can get the most personal with art selection and choose pieces that have a strong emotional connection. The bedroom is also your sanctuary and usually a place to unwind, so choose a calm and soothing colour palette such as blue tones or nature-inspired hues. Try landscapes and soft abstracts that complement your bedding and overall tones of the interior décor.



PHOTO: MIKE CHAJECKI

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## LIVING ROOM

The area above the sofa is an excellent place to hang an oversize piece. Here you can go bold or keep things neutral and play around with texture, such as high-gloss or coated canvas. The width of the piece works best when it is two-thirds the width of the sofa and hangs about four to six inches above it, which is enough space so that you can sit back and not hit your head on the art.

## KITCHEN

The kitchen is the hub of activity in the household; it is best to stay away from any type of glass framed art near the stove. Choose small frames with playful images of food or serene landscapes and think about layering art in the kitchen and pantry. Consider adding art to open shelving that breaks up the display of your favourite cookbooks and tchotchkes.



PHOTO: MIKE CHAJECKI

## DINING ROOM

Now this is the space where you can get really loud and colourful. Take the risk with oversize, vibrant, striking colour and graphics and feel free to add various mediums of art. In this particular dining room, the varying sizes of these mirror frames that together communicate elaborate mechanics adds visual interest and a powerful impact in a dining room. This is a brilliant focal piece and truly engages the eye and ignites a dialogue at dinner parties.

## BATHROOM

Serene tones and motifs are your best bet here to create an aesthetically pleasing and peaceful oasis. From the en suite to the powder room, selecting imagery with relaxing features is key. Find pieces that express the overall aesthetic and personal style. Whatever communicates calm waters to contemplate and help you relax and just be will work. This is a great spot for smaller scale art pieces.



PHOTO: MIKE CHAJECKI

**TIP:** Generally, a 24-inch piece of art fits perfectly over the toilet space and balances the wall area with the vanity. **OH**

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