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WITH
LUV.

EARTH,
WIND
&
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ON
FIRE

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T.DOT'S
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» condo living



Toronto-based celebrity designer and contractor **Melissa Davis**, is known for her appearances, creative design and reno work produced for various HGTV shows. Her work has been profiled nationally in print publications. With almost two decades of reno & design experience, her firm continues to service clientele throughout Ontario & GTA, specializing in value-adding ROI and resale consultations
melissadavis.com

MAD MEN LOFT

MEETS
HOTEL
STYLE

BY MELISSA DAVIS | @melissadavis



In my career as a designer I've had an eclectic portfolio of clients from Lords to pro athletes, with spaces ranging from basement apartments to sprawling estates. When professional hypnotist, Asad Mecci, asked me to makeover his dated bachelor pad, I knew I had a new contender for the most obscure.

This 860 square foot loft, located in Toronto's historic converted merchandise building, although dripping with true loft details like concrete ceilings and industrial fittings, was otherwise stuck in the 1990s. The homeowner, a performer who spends 50% of the time performing around the world, is as comfortable in a luxury hotel suite as he is at home. When approaching the design style for his own home he very much wanted to create the kind of clean uncluttered elegance you find in better hotels. He also had me watch a few episodes of *Mad Men* and HBO's series *Masters of Sex* both which are dripping with midcentury modern masculine style.

We started by stripping out all of the telltale loft materials of decades past, like the maple flooring, cherry cabinets and smoked glass dividers. A new warm but dark wood laminate flooring grounded the space and allowed a strong base for our new palette of rich deep wood, shades of grey and warm white. We pulled the wood onto the fireplace, wrapping all sides in $\frac{1}{4}$ " sheets, stained to match the floor, then flanked both sides with floating bookshelves. As an avid reader, we needed a library of sorts, but with this open concept the negative space was as important as the shelves themselves. Book benches were installed at a low 18" off the floor with the majority of his books creating a lovely band of colour and

Dark bronze lighting, black dining table and the charcoal grey sectional sofa add a deep warmth and needed contrast.



texture with the bonus of being within reach of the new vintage sitting chair.

The kitchen, in perfect condition was ideal for painting. The bank of uppers was raised to tidy the lines of the kitchen and the kitchen doors were sent out to be sprayed in a medium warm grey. New deco cabinet pulls reminiscent of a gentleman's cufflink finished them off. The dark granite counter was swapped for a light bright white composite from Granite Transformations with an undermount sink. Finally, an almost hypnotic fluid glass backsplash was installed in an irregular pattern, dry stacked to keep it tight and contemporary. An IKEA butcher-block counter was cut and fabricated in a parsons style for the island and Husky garage storage units slip below adding a fun homage to the raw loft itself.

Dark bronze lighting, black dining table and the charcoal grey sectional sofa add a deep warmth and needed contrast to the warm white used through the space on the walls. The north-facing bank of windows was casually dressed with simple cheesecloth, providing the perfectly imperfect softness and creating the most lovely diffused light through the day.

The resulting space is as polished as it is comfortable. It's the perfect place for my busy client to take leave in his own 'luxury hotel style suite' at home.