

NEW HOMES & CONDOS

CELEBRITY SPACES

A High Park haven for Davis

BY MARCY CORNBUM
Special to Postmedia Network

Melissa Davis is a Toronto-based designer and contractor (www.melissadavis.com). She has recently wrapped filming HGTV's *Income Property* and was the Art Director for the show *Open House Overhaul*. She also consults with real estate investors and homeowners on "how to get the maximum return on their investment through how they design and renovate it."

Davis grew up in the town of Portland, in south-eastern Ontario.

"It was a struggling farming community, which taught me the value of hard work."

Her Dad was an auctioneer's assistant. Davis and her parents "had a knack for finding treasures in piles of junk, fixing them up and using or selling them for a profit."

She learned "to appreciate the importance balance between beauty and practicality."

"Working in television

allows me to help a broad audience learn how to not just save money, but make money on their home renovations and design choices."

Davis is proud to admit that she has an "entrepreneurial spirit." She feels "lucky to be immersed in design (for the last eighteen years) and offering what she has learned back to help others. It is incredibly rewarding."

Davis invited *Celebrity Spaces* into her home.

Q: How would you describe your home in one word?

A: Tidy!

Q: Tell us about your home.

A: I live in a 650-square-foot condo. It has a view of the lake and High Park. I can jump on the highway to head to job sites far easier than when I was a bit more downtown.

Q: What attracted you to this space?

A: I appreciate when space is used efficiently and I loved the layout here. My son's room and my room are attached by the central washroom.

Q: Who shares this home?

A: My seven-year old son.

Q: How much time do you spend at home?

A: During the week, I'm only home the nights my son is with me otherwise I'm meeting clients or at industry events. Weekends we like to have one full day to hang out in sweats at home and the other is out and about eating pizza and enjoying the city.

Q: What is your favourite room and why?

A: I love the open living dining space. The table and bench area have become the hub for as much as it does in bigger homes.

Q: How would you describe your decorating style?

A: I tend to be more contemporary and almost masculine in my personal style. I prefer a lot of very clean pieces and mid-century modern. With this home I pushed myself to have more of a mix of more traditional elements like some of the artwork, or the antique table that houses the TV. I wanted it to be more feminine and contrary to the popular idea that spaces feel

smaller with larger furniture.

Q: What is your fondest memory in this home?

A: My son and I love to pull the duvet and pillows off my bed, make a platter of snacks and have a movie marathon.

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

A: Good bed linens. I recently treated myself to all new linens from AURA a fun company out of Australia. It's heavenly.

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

A: We love to go for walks on the beach. In the summer we walk into the park for dinner at the Grenadier Restaurant. As a country girl at heart having access to this green space is amazing.

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

A: They would tell us where all our missing Lego pieces, earrings and socks are hiding!

*Photography by
Jordan Prusky*



HGTV designer says her style is contemporary, preferring a lot of very clean pieces with a mid-century modern influence.