

CANADA'S

style at home

How to
REFRESH
Your
ROOMS
for
SPRING



FIND YOUR PALETTE

*Vibrant
Classic
Defiant
Jubilant*



COLOUR LIFE JOYFUL

**TAKE IT
SLOW**
*Recipes That
Help You
Savour the
Moment*





Live, Love, LOFT

After 23 years in a historic home with a neutral palette, interior designer Cori Halpern and husband Bryan Tenenhouse decided it was time for a radical change. "We fell for a modern loft inside a former toy factory," says Cori. "It had industrial 15-foot ceilings, exposed duct work, a wide-open floor plan and enormous windows." In short, it was everything their former home wasn't – a true blank slate. "I couldn't wait to start," says Cori. "My goal was to create

a light-filled, exuberant and joyous space."

Finding the perfect area carpet was her launching point. "When I saw the rug, I gasped – and so did Bryan!" It wasn't their usual style, but its intricate mix of blues, lilacs, purples and pinks reminded them of an impressionist painting. From there, Cori fashioned an ebullient palette of blue-greens, then layered in shades of pink, lavender and watery blues for a look that's equally jubilant and relaxed. She also custom-designed a host of new furnishings, recruiting their volume to showcase their hues, and then adorned the walls with art. "Most of the pieces

were the culmination of years of travel and had been collected without any attention to colour," says Cori. "When Elevator Digital and I created the gallery wall, it was as if each artwork had been waiting for this loft its whole life."

It's been almost three years since life in a traditional home gave way to this modern space in a former factory, and Cori reflects that she could not have anticipated how her design choices would impact their lives in today's challenging times. "It's been a year since the pandemic began, and even though we're here all the time, every single day in this place brings us joy."

Artwork and a joyful palette help to turn an echoing, empty condo in a former factory into an extraordinary, much-loved home.

TEXT BETHANY LYTTLE | PHOTOGRAPHY VIRGINIA MACDONALD

Layered Not Loud

"To create the feeling of an airy, light-filled exuberant space, start with white walls, then add in layers of colour, combining warm and cool tones in a variety of textures," says Cori. The rug inspired the room's hues. Its whispers of blue appear in the armchairs and are hinted at in the soft grey sectional. The pinks, lilacs, subtle greens and yellows are repeated in the sofa's bank of pillows. The rug's peacock blue

inspired the dining chairs. At night, a starburst chandelier casts a warm evening glow.

SOFA, ARMCHAIRS, Gresham House through Cori Halpern Interiors. **CUSHIONS, DRAPERY**, Drapes & More through Cori Halpern Interiors. **CUSHION FABRICS**, Memo Showroom. **PENDANT LIGHT**, Circa Lighting. **FABRICS**, Robert Allen Fabric; Memo Showroom. **RUG**, Weaver's Art. **COFFEE TABLE**, glass **SIDE TABLE**, Rita. **TRAY**, Elle MKL. **TROW**, Y & Co.



Cori & Company

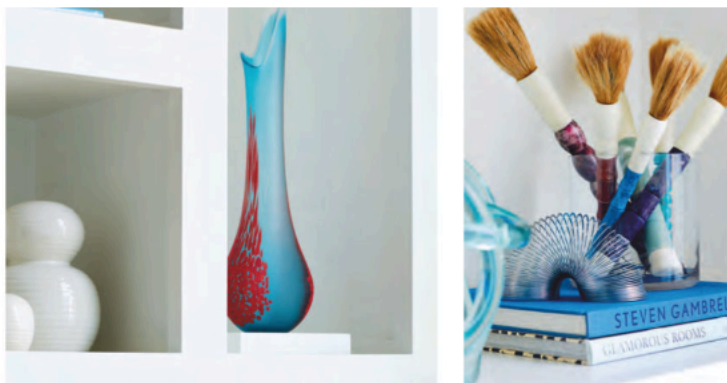
Cori and Bryan share the loft with adorable Bennett and Piper. Cori is seated on a linen bench upholstered in a stripe blend of silver metallic and blue-greens. Oversize white shelving is punctuated with objects that reinforce the aqua-inspired palette.

Table for Teal

The cool grey tones of a marble tulip table are paired with luxurious velvet seating. "Contrasting light marble with deep teal, and smooth stone with such a plush textile brings the best out of both," says Cori. The gallery wall was born of years of world travel, and an appreciation of

Canadian art. The grey and white cabinet is in keeping with the table's veining and the sofa's upholstery, and provides storage.

TABLE, Black Rooster. **CHAIRS**, Eternity Modern. **GALLERY WALL INSTALLATION**, Elevator Digital. **GALLERY WALL FRAMING**, PI Fine Art. Custom **BUFFET CABINET**, Cabinet Furniture Inc. with Cori Halpern Interiors. **BENCH UPHOLSTERY**, Regency Upholstery. **VASE** (on table), CB2. **BOWL** (on table), H&M Home. **TRAY, GLASSWARE, CB2, TEAL/GOLD VASES**, West Elm. **ART 'Coffee Cup' PHOTOGRAPH**, Kevin Viner; **FRAMING, INSTALLATION**, Elevator Digital. **GLASS VASES, LOVE KNOT, WHITE VESSELS**, West Elm. **Turquoise/red glass SCULPTURE**, Alexi Hunter.



"Nobody would accuse me of being a minimalist. To me, more layers are just so much more exciting."



Blue Skies

Soft blue armchairs with breezy brass frames shimmy up to a see-through glass drinks table. The lowering 15-foot windows bathe the room in daylight. "When choosing colours, always keep in mind how they'll look in both natural light and lamp light," says Cori. Fresh pinks, lilacs, blues and greens echo the hues in the rug's pattern, which was the inspiration for this room. The floor-to-ceiling storage shows off treasures, including a bouquet of calligraphy brushes from travels to Shanghai; a Slinky toy from their son, which alludes to the loft's history as the Irwin Toy Factory; a red-streaked artisanal vase; and an aquamarine glass love knot.

Better Together

Cori designed a pale grey sectional that serves as backdrop to cascades of colour. "Every pillow is like a work of art," says the designer. "Each is covered in a different fabric, but when you put them all together, the colours dance in a way that brings such joy." The art over the sofa is a beloved memento from China that happens to exude loft-friendly teal tones. "What's amazing is that we didn't buy it to match our decor. We just loved it, and it just happens it blends in perfectly," says Cori.



Curves & Corners

In contrast to the linear sectional and modern cut of the armchairs, the coffee table is smooth, rounded and organic looking. "Its warmth and heft bring balance," notes Cori. "Also, since getting to the terrace means walking through this space, it's nice to know there are no sharp corners to bump into."



Glossy Is Gorgeous

Cori designed the shiny lacquered night tables in vibrant turquoise. Their brass-ring hardware was chosen for contrast and warmth.



Tone on Tone

At the end of the main hall, four stairs lead up to the primary bedroom, which has no door. Not only is the space visible from elsewhere in the loft, it has 12-foot ceilings. "That meant that nothing in the room could be itty-bitty, including the colour," says Cori. The room's sea of rich teals and tropical turquoises includes a large painting by an artist from Quebec and a sculpted velvet headboard of regal proportions. For counterpoint, the pillows, made from some of Cori's favourite textiles, feature warm pink and purple tones.

Custom **BESIDE TABLES**, Cori Halpern Interiors with Cabinet Furniture Inc. **HEADBOARD**, Cori Halpern Interiors with Regency Upholstery. **HEADBOARD FABRIC**, Lee Jofa. Custom **CUSHIONS**, Drapes & More through Cori Halpern Interiors. **ART** over bed, Vivian Bergevin, Santini Gallery. **BEDDING, LAMPS**, West Elm. **TROW**, Y & Co.



Walls of Gold

"You just can't go wrong with metallic gold wallpaper," says Cori. And the same could be said of brass sconces. Here in the ensuite, those are paired with a bubbly print shower curtain in bouncy hues and a ceramic bath stool in robin's egg blue.

WALLPAPER, Tempaper; Hudson Valley **SCONCES**, Royal Lighting. Custom **VANITY**, Cori Halpern Interiors with Toronto Custom Concepts and Touchwood Cabinetry. **FAUCET**, Brizo. **CERAMIC STOOL**, Wayfair. **RUG**, Y & Co. **SHOWER CURTAIN**, Cori Halpern Interiors; **SEWING**, Drapes & More; John Derian **FABRIC**, Primavera Interiors through Cori Halpern Interiors.

Terrace Touches

On the 14-by-18-foot terrace, an oversize leaf-shape lounge-and-ottoman set is nestled among pink plantings in teal flowerpots and a multi-tone turquoise outdoor throw rug. These touches of colour keep the indoor palette continuous with the outdoors.

LOUNGE, OTTOMAN, Jardin de Ville. **PILLOWS**, Drapes & More through Cori Halpern Interiors; **FABRIC**, Kravet.



"People worry that if they choose a colour, they'll get sick of it. But these turquoise night tables show how fresh a room can look with colourful furniture."

Luster & Sheen

The bedside lamp bases have an opalescent glaze that creates a subtle rainbow effect. So even though the lamps are white like the walls, they don't recede. Cori likes using pretty ceramic bowls to catch jewellery and bring colour to the room at the same time.



“The concrete look of the countertops adds interest, but it’s neutral. This leaves lots of room for using colours on the walls in really expressive ways.”

Galley Gallery

Cori and Bryan’s art collection adorns the wall, linking this galley kitchen’s cooking zone with the greater living space. The vibrant hues in the art are accented by dishware in the loft’s signature teal tones. “It’s a kitchen that’s mini, but mighty,” says Cori. “Dramatic matte concrete-look countertops pay homage to the days when this was a factory. The sexy gold faucet was added for contrast.” The penny-round tile backsplash is white like the walls, but its texture is cheery and fun.

COUNTERTOPS, Caesarstone. **FAUCET**, Delta. **CABINET HARDWARE**, Berenson.

Powder Keg

The loft’s powder room is an explosion of colour and pattern. “My son chose the wallpaper. The greens and blacks are a departure from the rest of the home’s palette. But not everything has to be the same,” says Cori. The vanity features matte leather-look laminate, black hardware and a black faucet.

WALL COVERING, Tempaper. **MIRROR**, Uttermost. **FAUCET**, Brizo. **ART** (by mirror), Janet Taylor, Toronto.

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