

new home + condo guide

The first and only complete guide to pre-construction homes and condos



INSIDE: *SCANDINAVIAN URBAN DESIGN*
IS CREATIVE AND BOLD

WILL YOUR NEW CONDO
BE THE RIGHT 'FIT'?

COLOUR *your* WORLD

by PHYLLIS LUI AND
ALEEM KASSAM

Find out how you can learn to love decorating with colour

There's a definite art to bringing a burst of colour into a home's neutral palette. One of the most common hurdles we face in our profession as interior designers is fear of colour. Honestly, we've heard it all: "It's too bold; it's too trendy; it's too... colourful." To all those excuses, we say, 'you're not afraid of colour; you're just scared of the wrong colour!'

With that being said, here are some tried-and-true designer tips for choosing the perfect tone and shade, and how to incorporate it into your interiors to make your neutral rooms pop.

So, where do you start? Colour has been proven to have psychological effects on people. As you dive into the pool of paint swatches, think about how your top colour choices make you feel, and how you want to feel in your space. The same room can have a completely changed ambience in a new hue. For example, cool colours such as blues and greens draw out feelings of tranquillity, reliability and calmness. On the other hand, colours on the warm

side of the spectrum tend to act like stimulants. Reds, oranges and yellows are known to elicit feelings of excitement, warmth and playfulness. Consider this when making your colour choices. Keep in mind that colour resonates with different people in different ways. The short answer to the colour quandary is this: it's all about personal preference. If you love it, then it's right.

In this small but sweet urban space, we played with a combination of colours to bring out the homeowners' sense of

youth and modern fun. High ceilings, huge windows and neutral walls play perfectly with the complementary palette of warm greys peppered with pops of coral, blue and green – and a vibrant sunny yellow taking the spotlight.

To create a sense of continuity through the home, we used the same sunny shade of yellow in every room, albeit in small doses. It instantly draws attention and lends a wonderfully warm hint of sunshine to the otherwise cool and contemporary backdrop. The





cosy living room enjoys some yellow sofa cushions and some subtle, strategically placed, sunny accessories tucked away on the bookshelf. As you move through the kitchen, a yellow tea kettle perched on the countertop is just enough to catch the eye as you pass through. In the bedroom, we echoed the same shade in some pillows and a playful pillowcase that picks up pops of yellow. A modest sitting area is inviting and instantly alluring, though you may not immediately know why. (Hint: it's definitely the yellow!) We even carried our colour theme into the great outdoors, onto the balcony barbecue area, where a couple of yellow cushions invite sunny thoughts, even on cloudy days.

It's easy to introduce colour into a neutral space, despite common fears. Play around with different hues before you commit and remember, colour is subjective. You make the rules!



Award winning Interior Designers Phyllis Lui and Aleem Kassam are the principal designer duo for Kalu Interiors. For more than a decade this Vancouver-based design firm has become known for creating thoughtfully curated interiors that enhance and inspire how you live. The firm provides bespoke design services for clientele throughout Canada. kaluinteriors.com

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