



Compliments of **RE/MAX**

Do you have a small room or rooms that you'd like to seem larger? One solution is to de-clutter the space. But if you're not prepared to toss out your grandmother's antique furniture, it might be time to try some decorating tips that will help you make the best use of the space.

Here are some solutions to not only maximize the space you have but also to give it a larger feel.

GO LIGHTER ...

Paint the walls light or pale colors. This makes small rooms appear brighter and larger.

... BUT DON'T BE BORING

This doesn't mean that everything in the room should be off-white. Adding bold accents with varying patterns, prints and colors creates visual appeal and can distract the mind from the small space.

GO BRIGHTER

Adding more light can make all the difference – as long as it's done without adding objects to bookshelves, tables or floors. Think recessed lighting, wall sconces or skylights instead of floor or table lamps.

GO VERTICAL

Extend cabinets, wall units and bookshelves to the ceiling. This applies to kitchen cabinets as well.

UTILIZE WALL SPACE

Place hooks and magnetic strips on walls in the kitchen and elsewhere and use them to get pots, pans and other objects off tables and counters.

GROUP YOUR KNICK-KNACKS

When displaying items on shelves and tables, group them together to create empty spaces between collections. This neutral space gives your eyes a place to rest and creates the illusion of more space.

SIZE MATTERS

It's easy to pick that oversized chair or couch in a retail store's football-field-sized showroom only to get it home and discover that it's gargantuan. Measure both your space and the furniture before any purchase. Buying couches designed to hug the walls also is a great way to open up a room, and armless couches and chairs can create the illusion of space. Floor cushions are a great way to create seating without adding more furniture. They can be easily stored when not in use.

WATCH YOUR ANGLES

Shelves, tables, chairs and couches that stick out at the wrong angle in a small room can draw the eye and make it appear even smaller. Look for furniture with softer angles and remove pieces that don't fit.



FIND AND UTILIZE HIDDEN SPACES

Evaluate every room, closet, drawer, nook and cranny of your home to see how the space can best be utilized. Choose cabinets and drawers that come with built-in organizing inserts. Closets also can be organized in this way to make good use of every extra inch of storage. Buy furniture with hidden compartments or drawers for storage. The space under sinks is seldom used to its full advantage and a good place to add storage.

ACCEPT WHAT YOU HAVE

Every room in your home can be wonderful no matter what size it is, especially if you fill it with things you love. Sometimes it's better to just enjoy what you have and decorate it in a way that makes it feel like home.



Save money, such as Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn and Twitter have received rapidly into the mainstream, nearly 80% of Canadians now participate with a regular basis. Some have even started to use social networks that many others are now following their lead... social media can provide a way to connect that goes beyond the traditional... For many families, social networking has already become a central aspect of everyday life, often serving to bridge geographic and generational gaps.

how well are you connected?

A New Take on Togetherness
Family members and circles of friends can create and manage online profiles and then communicate or interact with each other in the same virtual space whenever they choose. Put simply, it has become much more convenient to stay in touch and maintain

Building Virtual Villages
Social media has also become a common tool for professional networking, political participation and continuing education. Individuals can ask for and receive advice or offer their own knowledge when they join online communities and discussion groups. This helps to create a sense of community and support.

Have you sent or received a friend request today?

The average Facebook member has 130 friends and is connected to 80 community pages, groups or events. The growing popularity of social media is a global trend that is difficult to ignore. Teens and young adults were the first to spend time socializing online, but their elders have recently discovered the benefits. Statistics show that adults over age 50 are the fastest growing category of social networkers. Join our various social media pages by visiting our 'Follow us' section on our website at www.theadvantageoftwo.ca



Home sales stay the course in 2010

By Year End, 2010 had managed to outstrip 2009 by a modest 0.7 percent in terms of sales. A total of 8,128 homes exchanged hands in 2010 with 6,587 detached homes (up 0.4 percent) and 1,541 condos (up 2.1 per cent), putting sales for last year on par with those of 2002 and 2003. 'Both of those years were banner years for real estate,' says Richard Thyssen, 2010 President LSTAR. 'Our Census Metropolitan Area took a hit with the Great Recession, but we bounced back. Holding our own over the past year is evidence that the sort of market stabilization that both CREA and CMHC forecast in the fall of 2010 is, taking place.'

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'A uniquely colourful decorating experience!'

Coupon is for 10% off

Benjamin Moore gallon of paint.

Coupon must be presented at this store at time of purchase.

Oh by the way, we're never to busy for you or your referrals

