

Gray™

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to see, and what to pack

MAGAZINE: PACIFIC NORTHWEST DESIGN

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In the living room, white walls and moulding create a fresh background for vivid **Osborne & Little** wallpaper in Arizona print, and vintage swimming lockers found at **Space Lab** serve as a space to hold a busy toddler's toys. A vintage Nelson Bubble Lamp (also from Space Lab) hangs unobtrusively in center of the room, adding light and glamour to the mostly modern space.



FAMILY-FRIENDLY, *modern chic*

A Vancouver, B.C., couple enlists interior decorator **Jennifer Scott** to create a contemporary, light-filled home for them and their son.

Written by RACHEL GALLAHER : Photographed by TRACEY AYTON



DESIGN TEAM
decorator: Jennifer Scott, *A Good Chick to Know*
contractor: Weststar Restoration and Contracting Services
custom woodwork: ShopWrong

life

with a two-year-old can get busy. So when a young couple in Vancouver, B.C., moved into a beautiful vintage apartment downtown, it's no surprise that the wife wanted clean rooms and toddler-friendly details in their new light-filled space. Interior decorator **Jennifer Scott** of **A Good Chick to Know**, the mother of a young daughter herself, understood exactly what the family wanted. Keeping the original details of the building—oak trim, crown moulding, and stained glass windows—Scott designed a sophisticated space full of cheerful colors, industrial touches, and plenty of creative storage solutions.

Before the design team jumped into designing the furnishings, they helped direct a major renovation.

Weststar Restoration and Contracting Services stripped the kitchen and washroom down to the studs, and updated both with bright white tones, classic subway tile, and shiny stainless steel details, as well as **IKEA** cabinets and reclaimed wood shelving from **ShopWrong**. New stainless steel appliances and a butcher-block island were added in the kitchen to provide space for meal prep. Vintage knob pulls were installed to dot the drawers and cabinets and create aesthetic harmony in the kitchen, as a contrast to the clean modern look.

Then the team got down to decorating. In a smaller home—the apartment is about 1,600 square feet—it's important to make every inch count. White walls (which appear throughout the project) reflect natural light from large windows and serve as a fresh

OPPOSITE: The colors are subtle in the living room, but texture packs a big punch. In a corner window nook, silvery gray pillows await an afternoon reader, while a Fiore pendant light from **CB2** stands ready for those extra-gray days; in the kitchen stainless steel appliances pick up the shine from the tiles, and a butcher-block workspace adds a rustic touch. **THIS PAGE:** Playful vignettes of objects pop up around the house, such as a vintage bar cart from **ReFind Home Furnishings** holds books, and a wire-backed shelving unit holds knickknacks—Jennifer Scott used mason jars for eye-catching organization.





THIS PAGE: In the office, a custom desk from **Clint Moroz** of **Space Lab** keeps company with two vintage chairs and a modern Satellite pendant from **CB2**. The Lava Dot rug, also from **CB2**, keeps things cozy. **OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** A vintage mint-green scale gets a new life as a bookkeeper. Texture and pattern mix perfectly in this unconventional book display; A **Caesarstone** top and bottom were added to this vintage vanity, and the Asunden basket from **IKEA** can hold multiple towels. The Lovers claw-foot tub from **Home Idol Building Supplies** is no longer available, but the old-world charm and bright white color palette are easy inspiration.



decor

"THIS FAMILY LOVES TO READ, SO WE PLAYED WITH THE IDEA OF USING BOOKS AS DECOR RATHER THAN TRYING TO FIND CABINETS AND PLACES TO STORE THEM ALL."

—JENNIFER SCOTT, A GOOD CHICK TO KNOW



background for neutral furniture and bright accents such as the coral-and-gray floral wallpaper from **Osborne & Little**. Behind the modular two-piece Pekoe sectional from **EQ3** (the clients wanted a room centered around quality time spent together, not a TV), Scott placed two vintage green shelves, then stacked a selection of the homeowners' books in horizontal stacks, creating a surprising pop of color and an unexpected visual twist. A vintage swimming locker provides storage—lower shelves are easy to reach; perfect for toys and tiny hands.

More antique details run throughout the home: hanging cut-glass light fixtures in the hallway, midcentury furniture, and a claw-foot bathtub. And mirroring her approach in the living room, Scott opted to use books as décor in a majority of the rooms, stacking them in thoughtful arrangements, or using colorful covers and spines for pops of color. (According to Scott, the family loves to read.) Of course, surfaces were kept durable yet stylish so the whole family can enjoy every room in the house.

"This project goes back to the ideas of creating a family home," Scott says. "Working in a smaller space can be difficult, especially if there are children, so we really wanted to create an aesthetically pleasing look that was still functional."

