

CANADIAN

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# HOUSE & HOME

THE MAGAZINE OF HOME & STYLE

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## THE MONEY ISSUE Master the Mix

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Vancouver, B.C.

# I fixed up vintage treasures TO CREATE A HOME THAT FEELS LIKE US

Designer **JENNIFER SCOTT** in conversation with **CATHERINE SWEENEY** | Photography by **TRACEY AYTON**



Homeowner and designer Jennifer Scott of Vancouver design firm A Good Chick to Know, with her daughter, Sienna, and "bat-dog," Biggy Smalls.



The layered yet light feeling in the foyer sets the tone for the rest of the house. Everywhere there are strong family connections and stories. Here, Jennifer's grandparents' crystal chandelier shines next to a photo of Hastings Racecourse in Vancouver, found for a steal at a thrift shop. Largest **artwork**, Zoë Pawlak; black **illustration**, Jamie Bizness; **bench**, Shop Wrong; agate **knob**, Anthropologie; framed **tile mould** (bottom), Space Lab.



OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Sienna's bedroom is decorated with her favourite colour: purple. **White drapes**, Ikea; **fringe drapes** (dyed), EQ3; **disco ball**, Trendybucks. • Jennifer uses statement pieces and artwork to create memorable vignettes like the desk area in the living room. **Desk**, Ikea; **artwork**, Zoë Pawlak; **lamp base**, Refind; **lampshade**, HomeSense; **stereo**, **record player**, Space Lab. • A vintage tin with a potted plant hangs in the bathroom. **Tin**, Space Lab. • Jennifer paired her grandparents' dining table with cork-topped stools for a laid-back look. **Stools**, Space Lab; **wall hanging**, Forage & Lace; **throw**, Örling & Wu. • To update the kitchen, Jennifer painted it white and hung an Art Deco-era pendant.

**AS A DESIGNER**, I believe every house should tell the story of who lives there. I want to walk into a home and have a great sense of who the owners are and what they value. My seven-year-old daughter, Sienna, and I have filled this house with family heirlooms and special things we've found over the years. I've mixed pieces from my grandparents' house with more modern elements, so it's truly a reflection of us now.

Our home has definitely been a labour of love. The first thing I did was paint everything white — and I mean *everything*. The walls, trim, doors and ceilings are all the same colour and even the same satin finish. (I didn't want to differentiate between any of it.) Doing so immediately brightened the house and muted some of the stronger traditional elements, like the heavy mouldings and trim. That modern twist really made it feel like our home.

The house is from 1905 and isn't too big: the main living space is about 1,200 square feet. There is so much joy in having a character-filled heritage home, but it's a challenge to work with the small rooms. We have high ceilings, which add to the sense of space, but there are truly just a couple of places to put the sofa, and the dining table can only go in one direction. Still, I love making my style work here. It's bohemian mixed with a bit of rock 'n' roll. And I have a huge affection for all things Moroccan. Shortly after we moved in, I took a trip there — the medinas, street life and architecture were so inspiring, especially the heavily layered textiles and striking colour combinations. I came home with many rugs, vintage wedding blankets and textiles, which I use to anchor every room.

By combining my creative vision with Sienna's interests and inspiration, I designed our dream girls' pad. Sienna is so much like me when I was young. She'll find a little trinket or crystal and put a lot of value on it, so we display those things. I have knickknacks from when I was a kid, and my mom can't believe I still keep them. Though I tend to like neutral palettes, our house reads as colourful, and that's because of all our treasures. The pieces we've collected represent a world of memories, from childhood to motherhood. Heart truly makes a home, and this home tells our story beautifully.

**TOP:** Throw pillows from a flea market cosy up a bench on the back porch. **Tables, rug, HomeSense; seat cushion, CB2.**

**BOTTOM:** A macramé wall hanging (which Jennifer made using wool yarn, a copper rod and feathers) decorates the cheerful red-pink front door. **Yarn, Michaels.**

**OPPOSITE:** Jennifer's living room has a bold Moroccan influence. Key pieces like the silk sofa and coffee table are from her grandparents' house. **Lamp, Refind; pink throw pillow covers, Value Village; faux-fur pillow, drum side table, HomeSense; side table (with flowers), The Eastside Flea; shelves, Ikea; poufs, Etsy.**



WE ASKED JENNIFER: *What did this room cost?*

- Inherited coffee table, mirror and down-filled silk sofa: \$0
- Moroccan textiles: \$200
- Moroccan rugs: \$1,100
- Two gallons of white paint: \$120
- Pillows: \$100
- Shelves: \$300
- Leather poufs: \$160
- Vintage floor lamp: \$300
- Accessories: \$600

**Total: \$2,880**







In the main bathroom, Jennifer went for a dramatic vinyl wallpaper in a deconstructed damask pattern and hung a picture of her grandfather sailing. **Wallpaper**, AnneStarr; **drape fabric**, Dressew Supply.



The garage was whitewashed to make a workshop for Jennifer. She kitted it out with a vintage Wassily chair and her favourite art. **Chair**, coral artwork, ReFind; horse artwork, Jamie Bizness; white frames, Ikea; **dresser**, Craigslist; vintage magazines, Space Lab.



Moroccan wedding blankets add texture and romance to the principal bedroom. Jennifer hung one on the wall and used a heavily adorned version on her bed.

**Pendant**, Anthropologie; **drapes**, EQ3; **salt lamp**, Whole Foods Market; **artwork**, ReFind.

## MONEY MATTERS STYLE SAVES



### 1. INDOOR HAMMOCK: \$160

The hammock hangs between the living and dining rooms, and adds loads of bohemian style. It's a beloved spot for mother and daughter to read bedtime stories.



### 2. METAL STOOLS: \$100

Jennifer updated four stools, originally from a Canada Post warehouse, by spray-painting them white. She found them at Space Lab, her favourite vintage shop in Vancouver's Chinatown.



### 3. OVERSIZED LAMP: \$75

When Jennifer found this oversized \$50 lamp at ReFind, it was orange and gold. A \$10 can of high-gloss white paint and a new \$15 shade from HomeSense turned it into a treasured piece.



The backyard is ideal for entertaining. To make a statement dining area on a budget, Jennifer pushed together two tables and four benches from Ikea to make an extra-long table that can seat up to 12 guests. Jennifer hand-dyed the tablecloth at an artist's workshop in Vancouver. Acrylic **stemware**, HomeSense; **napkins**, Anthropologie.