A FAMILY HOME IN MIDTOWN TORONTO SAYS YES TO BRILLIANT

By: Bethany Lyttle

This family home in midtown Toronto says no to bashful and yes to brilliant.

Okay, maybe a home can't be described as an extrovert. But, in the world of houses, this one – with its pink-hued razzle-dazzle entry rug, jubilant lighting and ultra-fab finishes – is definitely the life of the party. Huge windows keep the natural light dancing, and sleek black walls and cabinetry play bold backup to the home's fun chorus of pinks, lavenders, blues and reds. "This client is cool and funky. She loves colour and has hot pink highlights in her hair," says designer Jodie Rosen. "She also has three kids, ages 12 to 16." So, a fun factor was a must. Jodie's take? Why not elevate the fun-and-colour mood by embedding it in a super-tailored and classic, almost glamorous, aesthetic? Working with her team, Jodie used bold expanses of black, white and neutrals to create some large-scale wow moments, then layered in fresh hues at the end. "The client really trusted us to use our creativity, and I love how this house turned out. It's as fresh and fun as it is dramatic."



Photography Alex Lukey

"We pushed the limits with all-black cabinets," says Jodie. "The wood in the herringbone ceiling is repeated in the archways throughout the house." Facing south, the kitchen is a light box during the day. In the evenings, as the homeowner cooks with friends, soft light from black and gold globes warms the marble-look porcelain island. "The stools are cantilevered, so even though they're black, they look light," says Jodie. The channelled leather seats are edgy enough to look cool, and wipe-clean-enough to be practical for the teens who sometimes snack there.

STOOLS, Sunpan



Photography Alex Lukey

When it's mealtime, this table is where it all happens. "I wanted it to tie in with the black kitchen, but I also wanted it to look like a stand-alone piece," says Jodie. The top is black marble-look porcelain with warm-toned veining to match the diamond-tuft leather chairs. "The starburst fixture is a nice contrast to the smooth globes over the island," says Jodie.

CHAIRS, Sunpan.



Photography Alex Lukey

An inlay of pink onyx on the countertop of the island adds a whisper of colour to the walk-in closet. Rose gold hardware does the rest. A bench near the window offers a spot for changing shoes. Gold rods in a variety of lengths gives the "dripping" chandelier its graphic appearance.

BENCH, Sunpan