

all about **HOME**

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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR WINDOWS THIS SPRING



Ostaco Windows & Doors

By Sara Bederman

Wonderful windows! Is there anything more welcoming in a room? From a designer perspective, I doubt it. The source of light and views, windows become a natural focal point of any given space. In fact, when you ask people what they want most in their homes, “windows” and “views” will often be at the top of the list. It’s easy to understand why.

Let’s start with the obvious. Besides being more functional, naturally lit spaces feel “warmer”. Everything looks more vibrant and alive in the light of day. When you’ve got great windows, rooms appear larger - which works well for compact spaces. Even a small room is completely transformed by a window or two.

If you’re short on windows, work with what you’ve got - and add mirrors into the mix. Position a large mirror opposite your window, and you’ve just visually doubled your window area and outdoor views! Choose a mirror that complements the overall aes-





thetic of the space and draws attention to its reflection.

These days, windows come in a wide range of shapes, sizes and designs. Here are some things to think about when highlighting your windows.

FINISHING TOUCHES: Think of the window trim as the frame containing a beautiful piece of art. You want something that will complement the view, but also be a feature piece on its own merits. A contemporary trend is painting the trim work in a dark shade of grey or black, as an alternative to the traditional white baseboards, window and door frames.

Also, consider your window dressings. Are you leaning toward contemporary shutters

or blinds, or a classic curtain? When shopping, think about which type of window covering will best meet your needs for privacy. That will vary depending on whether this is a public space, like a kitchen and living room, versus a private space, like a bedroom or bathroom. Window hardware can also be a real statement piece, so be thoughtful in your selections.

SIZE & SHAPE: As they say, go big or go home. If you're adding windows, make them as large as allowed by the building code. Alternately, window walls have been trending for some time. This is a great way to maximize your views and natural light and offer direct access to the outdoors. **Ostaco Windows & Doors (ostaco.com)** has

a wide range of selections to choose from to suit your home's existing aesthetic - or to give it a whole new one!

ART & INSPIRATION: If you're graced with a fabulous view, why not make it something to be seen? Rather than hanging paintings or wall art that will compete with your windows, let the views do all the talking. In fact, you can take cues from those views to make a cohesive, harmonious decor statement. This can mean a marine-inspired colour palette; organic "woody" textures; or an "urban-chic" aesthetic.

If you're ever short on ideas, all you have to do is look out those windows and let the inspiration in.

Sara Bederman Principal Designer for Sara Bederman Design.

For over a decade, this Toronto bespoke design firm has been known for creating stylish, livable and thoughtfully-curated interiors. The firm provides residential design services for projects of all sizes. Sara Bederman Design works throughout Toronto, GTA and beyond. Sara Bederman Design works throughout Toronto, GTA and beyond.

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