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# BEAUTIFUL

## HOME & LIFE

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# NEW YORK CITY'S MOST WANTED

PICTURES JOHN GRUEN  
WORDS SARA BEDERMAN  
STYLIST ANNA MOLVIK

City living is often characterized by compromises. (Translation: less square footage.) Most urbanites are well-versed with terms such as "micro," "mini" and "minimal." Meanwhile here in New York's Upper East Side, size was not a concern.

**M**y clients are a professional couple, their two young boys and the family dog. Their goal was to combine two apartments into a single functional and fabulous dwelling. It was a tall order, but I'm always up to a challenge.

## FRONT FOYER

This is the first impression of your home, so make it a grand one! In the apartment's front entrance area, we opted for full-on "glamour." Walls were finished in faux eel skin wallpaper. Underfoot, soft white and grey vein cut marble tile. Brass-detailed furniture, hides and elegant glass sconces add rich, textural layers into the space.

## BATHROOMS

Regardless if your home is large or small, if the space is shared with one or eight, one thing is certain - the need for enough bathrooms. This home design tackled demand right from the get-go. The new floor plan included ensuite baths in all



The apartment became a haven from hectic city life,  
with a surprisingly light, bright and airy interior that looks and feels like  
a breath of fresh air.



bedrooms, as well as a large master suite complete with a walk-in closet and its own private bath.

### EAT-IN KITCHEN

Here's a real luxury when it comes to urban dwellings - the elusive eat-in kitchen. This kitchen is modern in style, with stainless appliances and contemporary, clean-lined cabinetry. Corian counters add warmth to this cool kitchen and bonus -it's a hard-working finish. The eat-in banquette boasts a table with a matching Corian tabletop, to keep a cohesive aesthetic in the kitchen. A gorgeous hand blown glass orb suspension light hangs above the banquette.

### CUSTOM CABINETRY

Custom anything is hot in homes these days. In an urban dwelling, custom cabinetry is a gift. In this home, I used custom cabinets to conceal the unsightly yet necessary radiators, which also added valuable storage space to the home. That's right, even large urban homes need smart storage solutions!





## FIREPLACE

A fireplace represents the heart of the home. It's where family and friends gather, share and... nap. It also becomes a wonderful point of interest in the space. This apartment features a vent less fireplace set within a beautiful custom mill work wall, with a surround is clad in marble. The walls flanking the fireplace are outfitted with custom shelving units, open for display.

**TIP:** Only collect and keep the things you really love - never out of obligation! You'll be proud to display your curios and happy to tell the stories behind them. Your displays will look intriguing and utterly chic.

Overall, this home is as true to it owners as it is to New York City. It's warm, welcoming and full of character. The ask - combining two separate apartments into one family home - became a great opportunity to incorporate all those little luxuries that take this space a step above. Living luxuriously doesn't necessarily mean going over the top.

True luxury is about having what you need, and getting it with style. My clients love their new home - even the family dog. *BH&L*



## ABOUT SARA BEDERMAN

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

