

## Modern Entertainer

A Vancouver couple looking to downsize found a new home in this warm, contemporary loft designed by Jamie Deck of Shift Interiors. Multifunctional lighting and an impressive buffet make it ideal for both entertaining and everyday living.

## Design & Dine

Three designers take on three dining rooms to create a trio of inspiring looks.

**Use harmonizing colours.** To make a space feel larger, stick to two or three colours that work well together. If you have more than one colour of wood, consider colour-staining them to match, as Deck did with the table and buffet.

**Find the main point of interest.** Choose an item that's important to you—perhaps a striking table or a unique light fixture—and design the room around it. Deck used one of the homeowners' favourite paintings as the foundation for this space.

**Put your millwork to work.** A custom horizontal unit can pull triple duty as a storage space, a buffet and a bar all at once. Perfect for entertaining, it acts as an extension of the kitchen when guests are over.





## Casual Comfort

Designer David Nicolay captured a young family's casual, relaxed lifestyle in this modern Point Grey home. Neutral colours and classic materials set a solid foundation for the dining area, allowing the homeowners' personality to shine through in the details.

**Put your personality on display.** Add some character to a space by showing off a personal collection, art pieces or platters and dishes on open shelving.

**Keep your materials consistent.** Create contrast by choosing pieces that are the same type of wood but have different finishes. Here, Nicolay mixed sleek white-oak millwork with a distressed oak table by E15, using neutral concrete flooring to anchor the look.

**Light up the room.** Choose a light fixture for more than just its decorative possibilities. This semi-translucent Moooi pendant light emits a glow over the whole room, rather than just casting light downward.





## Waterfront Whimsy

This Yaletown waterfront condo is a regular getaway spot for an Edmonton-based family. Designer Angela Robinson pulled from Vancouver's beachy surroundings and blue skyline to bring a West Coast vibe to their home away from home.

**Get in the right frame of mind.** When creating a collage wall, reframe or custom-frame your art and photographs. Different frame styles give off an eclectic vibe, while compatible colours and finishes keep the look from appearing too random.

**Weigh your lighting options.** While heavier materials like brass make a space appear more serious, lighter materials—like the thin, twisted wood veneer on this Link suspension light—complement this room's bright, fresh look.

**Use your accent colours strategically.** In spaces with neutral finishes, incorporate bright pops of colour in versatile pieces—like chairs, which can be easily changed over time to keep a space looking current.

