

Tricks of the condo décor trade

Top local interior designers who stage condos and show homes offer up their best tips

By Michelle Hopkins

An oversized pendant light, vases filled with fresh cut flowers, and a cluster of photographs positioned in just the right spot. When interior designers decorate or stage a

condo, the colours, design, style, lighting, size of rooms, and location are all taken into account.

West Coast Condominium asked some of Vancouver's busiest interior designers to show us around a local condo or show home they staged, and share their savvy design ideas that make for imaginative, elegant, and sophisticated condo living.

Kendall Ansell Interiors – Kendall Ansell, principal

Condo at 1199 Seymour St., Vancouver

In the heart of downtown, this condo's interior was inspired by the luxurious W Hotel in New York City.

"The W does a good job of bringing inviting greys into its hotel so that it looks chic," says Ansell. "By layering warm grey textures and fabrics you create a very classic look that doesn't seem to date itself."

Ansell also likes to introduce a dash of whimsy to the décor, such as a mirrored cube table, glass desk or the mix of industrial pieces as a way of offering homeowners a chance to think outside the box.

Her goal for the overall appearance of

the show home was to create a casual, yet elegant look that also reflects the stunning west coast topography.

"We know that Seymour Street, being between Granville Street and Yaletown, is usually for someone looking to enjoy the night life of the city," she adds. "The apartment reflects a chic, sophisticated person."

When decorating a smaller space, she suggests people stay with light colours, an open concept and pieces that can be moved around easily.

"For instance, the large ottoman in the living room can be added to the sofa to make a sectional," says Ansell.



Shopping guide

- Bar stools: *Pottery Barn*
- Sofa, lamp, ottoman, coffee table, bed, bedside tables: *The Living Lab*
- Rug, desk and console: *West Elm*
- Art, pillows, bedding: *HomeSense*

“When decorating a smaller space, stay with light colours, an open concept and pieces that can be moved around easily”





“work/live homes.”

“There are residences that suit every lifestyle,” Rizzo says.

Homes will feature gorgeous Italian-imported, dual-tone kitchens with premium appliances, elegant quartz countertops and full-height backsplashes. Spa-like bathrooms will boast European faucets and Italian cabinetry, and every home will have air conditioning for summer comfort. For the ultra-discerning, Solterra’s exclusive Private Collection residences on the top eight floors will offer upgraded finishes and details throughout, Rizzo says.

Building amenities will include an outdoor landscaped terrace with a barbecue and dining area, fire pit, lounge areas, outdoor movie theatre, putting green and children’s play space. Other planned amenities include underground parking with optional electric vehicle charging stations, bicycle storage, car wash area, dog-washing station, fitness gym, indoor hot tub, steam room, a guest suite and a party room.

Sales begin in mid-November, with prices starting at \$298,900 for one-bedroom homes and \$468,900 for two-bedroom homes. For more information or to register for VIP previewing starting in early November, call 604-294-8989, email info@milanoliving.ca or go to www.milanoliving.ca.

