



Homes-Extra.ca

Kids in a decor candy store

It's going to be your home — make sure you know how you want it to look like



GABRIELLA TESOLIN
GUEST COLUMN

Building your new home can be an exciting and rewarding experience. When you visit the builders Décor Studio you will find a variety of standard and upgrade options to choose from. You may feel like a kid in a candy store among all the samples of hardwood flooring, kitchen cabinets, granite countertops, tiles and more.

Builders have a dedicated team of knowledgeable Décor Centre Consultants available to assist you with any questions you may have and will guide you through each step of the process. Decorating magazines, websites and model homes can also assist you in deciding on the numerous options available to you, to customize your space.

To make sure the Décor Studio Consultants knows your style, come prepared with questions, sample pictures from model homes or magazines, along with pictures or samples of existing furniture. This will help décor consultants guide you in the selection of finishes to complement your style and surroundings.

Many Décor Centres will allow you to visit ahead of your scheduled appointments to review the numerous selections available to you. Homeowners can then begin to narrow down their selections and work within established budgets. Don't forget to take along a copy of the reference manual provided by your builder outlining all of the upgrades possible.

In choosing your features and finishes for your new home, think about your current needs, and consider adding selections that will contribute to the resale value of your new home. Décor Consultants recommend homeowners invest wisely and focus on adding upgrades throughout the home and pay particular attention to the upgrades in the kitchens, baths and entertainment areas.

When visiting the builders Décor Studio you should plan for a minimum of 2 appointments to select your finishes. The first appointment usually covers the electrical and plumbing and the second to select their suite finishes. It's important to avoid distraction during the appointments and arrange for a sitter if you have little children while in the process of designing your new home, if possible. It's recommended to limit the amount of family members and/or friends when making the selections for your finishes. Bring along a camera to take photographs of your selection to share with friends and family.

At each Décor appointment homeowners will be asked to sign an Agreement confirming the selections authorizing the builder to proceed with the construction of their new home. Once these selections are finalized, builders will require payment for upgrade options added and provide details of payment schedules.

Additions or deletions to the home may or may not be allowed after the Décor Studio appointments are completed since they may be subjected to additional charges for re-opening a file. Décor Studio Consultants should clearly explain builder's policies and their processes so that homeowners understand expectations during their meeting.

Being prepared for your meeting will help make your needs clear and will ensure that you will be happy with the end result in your new home.

Founded over 90 years ago, multi-award-winning Monarch is Canada's oldest and most experienced builder with referral rates much higher than industry standards. Monarch purchasers have the confidence of buying nearly a century of experience and excellence.

For an overview of Monarch's condominium projects, visit www.monarch-group.net

— Courtesy of Monarch Corporation.

Gabriella Tesolin is Senior Design Studio Consultant Hi Rise Division

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We also noticed that our son, who suffers from asthma, has had far fewer problems and is able to breathe better during the night. We believe that this is the direct result of the Heat Recovery Ventilator system, a standard feature that positively affects the way that air is circulated in our new home.

Our thanks to the professionals at Durham Custom Homes for their outstanding innovations – we absolutely love our new home.”

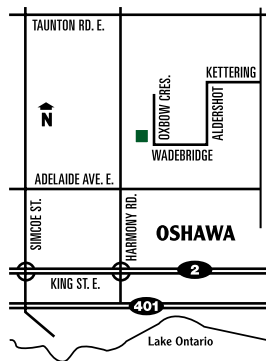
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