

CANADIAN

APRIL 2012

Crispy Duck Salad  
with Orange and Endive

# HOUSE & HOME

CANADA'S MAGAZINE OF HOME & STYLE

## Freshen Up for Spring

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The lounge by Piero Lissoni at IDS 2012.

## Best of Show

Lynda Reeves dissects the secrets of one great room.

**One of the great joys of life** — for deco hounds like us — is the thrill of walking into a room that makes your heart race. Sometimes I spend days roaming design stores in the great cities, visiting designer showrooms and trade shows in vain, hoping for such a moment. This year's Interior Design Show here in Toronto just a few weeks ago had one room that did it for me.

Designed by the famed Milanese architect Piero Lissoni, the room was a collage of sparkling glass, rustic leather and raw wood, all in a bright white shell. The effect was dazzling, but unlike most concept rooms done just for show, this room felt utterly livable — perfect for an open-concept living-dining space.

As we all do with memorable rooms, I dissected it, wanting to understand exactly why it worked so brilliantly, and to understand the effect of each styling trick. And tricks there were, from the vintage book-lined walls, to the strategically placed "artifacts," all carefully designed to thrill the eye. I wanted to know what was expensive and what could be done for less while still achieving the same effect.

First the shell: walls painted by the Toronto-based custom art studio Moss & Lam were white-white. The colour, specified by Lissoni Architects, was Benjamin Moore's Super White (02). It's a favourite designer colour. Use it when you want a true architectural white.

The floors were wide random-plank Douglas fir by Moncer Specialty Flooring ([moncer.com](http://moncer.com)), wire-brushed and finished with Scandinavian white natural

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Ugandan milk jugs from Snob.

B.C. craftsman Brent Comber designs cocktail tables from red cedar stumps.



African plates from Snob bring handmade beauty to a modern space.



Great styling trick: old paperbacks stripped of their covers and stacked artfully in custom cabinets.



**IPAD-EXCLUSIVE VIDEO**  
Lynda shares the secrets to achieving Lissoni's look.