

GREAT ESCAPES

PRODUCER CATHERINE THERRIEN

TEXT JENNIFER HUGHES

SUMMER ESSENTIAL

INDICATES MUST-HAVES FOR THE ULTIMATE IN COMFORT AND ENJOYMENT OUTDOORS.

We Canadians know how to take advantage of the outdoors when the warm weather hits. And these five spaces, ranging from tiny balconies to spacious decks, are indicative of this very notion. Here's how these creative homeowners made the most of it all.

modern rustic
400 sq. ft.

polished casual
98 sq. ft.

bold minimal
104 sq. ft.

cheerful eclectic
625 sq. ft.

bright contemporary
350 sq. ft.



400 sq. ft. modern rustic

When Toronto realtor Kara Reed moved from a big house with a full backyard into this urban condo, some sort of outdoor space was on her must-have list. The 400-square-foot rooftop terrace now acts as her oasis when she's too busy to get up to her Muskoka cottage on summer weekends. An extensive redesign by Terry Ryan of Cubic Yard Design saw plenty of wooden planters installed, lush greenery brought in and a new outdoor kitchen area with a built-in barbecue and cabinetry. And thanks to views over sprawling green space, "I don't feel like I'm in the middle of the city," says Kara.

DESIGN, Cubic Yard Design, yd3.ca; Chelsea Gray HC-168 **CABINETRY PAINT**, Benjamin Moore; teak **DINING TABLE**, large white **PLANTERS**, Design Within Reach; **DINING CHAIRS**, Tusch Seating; **SOFA, ARMCHAIRS, LOUNGER, END TABLE**, Restoration Hardware; **TOSS CUSHIONS**, Carol Reed Interior Design; round **MIRROR**, letter **K WALL ART**, Fresh Home & Garden; hanging wire **LANTERNS**, Quince Flowers.

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Chenille Seed-stitch **THROW** in Ash, \$77, Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com.



FOR A LOOK INSIDE KARA REED'S CONDO, SEE PAGE 128



ABOVE A basket filled with cozy throws is a staple for cool nights spent enjoying a drink or two and watching the sunset.

ABOVE, RIGHT A low planter box next to the barbecue holds fresh herbs and small veggies for adding to the many meals homeowner Kara Reed serves on the terrace. Sleek white dining chairs act as a counterpoint to the rustic table and several other wood features.

RIGHT An ample work surface allows Kara to easily mix drinks and prep food while guests lounge just a few feet away in the living space.

BELOW, RIGHT A built-in stainless steel barbecue, plenty of cabinetry and a small dishwasher, wine fridge and sink just inside the terrace landing make entertaining and cleanup a cinch.

BELOW Toss cushions in muted yellows and greys bring the comfort of the indoors out.



Wood strapping was applied to much of the terrace's concrete structure to lend texture and warmth.

A long planter of yew creates a hedge-like backdrop, while oversized planters with Japanese tree lilacs add fragrance and a lush leafiness to the space.

In a clever move, Kara had custom metal trays made to fit overtop of the lounge when it lies flat, creating a coffee table for setting down drinks and hors d'oeuvres.

The contemporary rustic persona of the space comes from natural Western red cedar decking and cladding and chunky teak furnishings with durable outdoor fabrics.

PHOTOGRAPHY: DONNA GRIFFITH (LEFT/RIGHT); RYAN BRONK (TOP MEDIA (THROW))