

Issue N° 2, 2023

# designlines

your guide to design in Toronto



## The Reno Diaries

Five top-to-bottom makeovers

free

+ kitchen ideas, local art and shops





**TOP** White cabinets feature triple-step shaker fronts that mirror the fireplace surround in the adjacent family room. Pendants, Union Lighting. **ABOVE** Pullout surfaces add additional counter space and are strong enough to support small appliances.

## Highly Entertaining

The challenge facing the designers of this new-build in Kleinburg? How to take a blank canvas and give it form and purpose. "The space was too big and the finishes were quite plain," says Shima Radfar of RZ Interiors, who led the redesign with partner Bahar Zaeem. "We had to create different zones." Lowering the ceiling around the perimeter of the work area created a cove framework up-lit by dimmable LED strip lighting. Wall sconces and additional accent lighting similarly add definition, highlighting different zones, from the coffee bar all the way back to the full-service prep kitchen. Despite its formal appearance, all of the materials were selected for their practical qualities, a key consideration for the homeowners, who are avid cooks and love to host. To wit, the counters, backsplash and island use a marble-look-alike porcelain that can handle a red wine ring. "The right material was a major focus and concern," says Radfar. "We needed to make sure that down the road, it can hold up to everyday use." Adds Zaeem: "Our forte is creating spaces that are highly detailed, but very minimal looking. It's always done in a way so that nothing is bothering your eye." Perhaps only guiding it. R-ZINTERIORS.COM

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