



# LIVING AND WORKING BY DESIGN

Where nature and business merge to create a successful partnership

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Out of necessity, many busy executives or small business owners work from home. Therefore, a home office should communicate to clients who and what a business stands for.

We all know that the energy level of our physical environment influences our focus and productivity. A home office, in particular, represents one's work ethic and business culture.

Besides it representing your business, it is a space that should also inspire productivity. In order to create a balanced design that complements the existing interior while styling a space for the serious-minded to get their job done without distractions, we focus first on establishing a healthy environment.

Understanding how a client functions in their home office is fundamental to creating a cohesive and successful space.

## 5 PROS OF WORKING FROM HOME

- ➔ Establishing a home office improves resale value
- ➔ No commuting positively impacts environment
- ➔ Improves the quality of life for everyone who uses the space
- ➔ Offers control over privacy and minimizes interruptions
- ➔ Home office can be styled to personal taste and needs



Starting with the physical location in the home to selecting ergonomically correct furniture, we consider how to prevent eye strain, repetitive strain and back injuries too.

Since many face-to-face meetings are held in this office, it was important to have the home office near the entrance, allowing clients to attend without having to traipse through personal living space.

Your home office may not need to be convenient to the entrance but you should at least consider a main-floor location. An office in the basement seldom offers the positive energy needed to inspire the work that has to get done. In today's market, a stylish home office is a real estate "hot button" that's high on a homebuyer's wish list.

An octagon-shaped business space was designed with large picturesque windows overlooking the conservation area. It only made sense to echo the natural elements through the use of bird's-eye maple on the walls and ceiling, and staining the white-oak floors to match.

Complementing the wood with natural-fibre textiles,

such as linen draperies, silk roman shades, linen-upholstered chairs and a wool rug, adds warmth while softening the room's acoustics. We also added botanical air filters by way of plants—they literally breathe life into a space, completing the healthy, natural theme.

The desk was positioned for optimal exposure to the natural light and favourable views of the conservation space. Window coverings help control light and privacy, while a desk lamp relieves eye strain and creates warmth to a space.

Built-in shelves are an elegant way to store books and awards, while the cabinet houses files and utilitarian necessities, such as printers, wireless routers, and office supplies. We used reflective accessories and art to visually stimulate and trigger creativity.

Ultimately, your office should be an extension of you, your inspirations and your business. It should enable you to concentrate rather than distract you; a space you look forward to going to every day. ♦



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