

**26** 5-year fixed mortgage rates  
PROVIDED BY RATESUPERMARKET.CA

BMO	CIBC	HSBC	ICICI	ING	RBC	Scotiabank	TD	Broker
5.39%	5.39%	5.49%	5.89%	3.99%	5.39%	5.39%	5.39%	3.99%

Rates may vary by province; check RateSupermarket.ca for the best rates in your area.

**RateSupermarket.ca**  
Canada's rate comparison website

# Metro Homes



## Reflect

Reflection in the round, this Horn Wall Mirror is encased with pieces of natural horn. West Elm, \$79, westelm.com.

EMERILLI, FOR METRO CANADA

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5-year variable mortgage rates  
PROVIDED BY RATESUPERMARKET.CA

BMO	CIBC	HSBC	ICICI	ING	RBC	Scotiabank	TD	Broker
2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	3.00%	2.05%	2.15%	2.25%	2.15%	3.00%

## Batten down **the bedroom**

Homes in Style

JENNIFER HILL  
for Metro Canada

Typically hiding behind closed doors from those invited over for tea — the bedroom is the most personal space in the house.

"A bedroom is the place where we spend a great deal of time and it's a place of refuge," said Jacqueline Glass, editor of *Reno & Decor* magazine.

"It's the room that friends and family members see the least, so people can just close the door. But I think it has changed a little bit — people are more proud. The bedroom is now taking on a little bit more dominance."

Whether with bed made and pillows aligned or sheets disheveled and begging to be jumped in, the bedroom is the place you

start and end your day, the place to hide, cry or ponder life while cozy and relaxed.

"Bedrooms should be soothing," said Glass, who runs design company Jacqueline Glass and Associates. "With gorgeous linens and lots of Euro shams and a beautiful fabric headboard for the bed you can create a space that is beautiful and inviting to be in."

**"Bedrooms should be soothing. With gorgeous linens and lots of Euro shams and a beautiful fabric headboard for the bed you can create a space that is beautiful and inviting to be in."**

Jacqueline Glass

Glass said to build the bed up, giving it height and amplifying the coziness factor.

"Take a feather mattress that you lay on top of your mattress, mattress protectors that are quilted, 500 thread-count sheets for that luxuri-

ous feel, and a down duvet a size larger than the cover. Stuffing it in (will make the bed appear it is) bigger. It keeps all plushy and luxurious."



Cuddle up cozy with this Sheep Throw, made from 20 per cent polyester, 80 per cent acrylic with a polyester lining. Available in white, beige and Mack. Urban Barn, \$95, urbanbarn.ca.

Organize and display each piece with style using the chrome plated metal Bijou Jewelry Tree, with a variety of hooks and a tray at the bottom. Urban Barn, \$20, urbanbarn.ca.



This chic Foand Mirror Table Lamp dazzles over a shapely wood-construction base, topped with a white textured cotton shade for glamorous illumination. West Elm, \$495, westelm.com.



Inspired by blackbird silhouettes, these decorative Sculptural Birds add a playful touch to a bedroom bookshelf. Cast of aluminum with a bronze finish. Detailed with oversized feet for whimsical appeal. Pottery Barn, \$29-\$35, potterybarn.ca.



Small lamp, big impact. This Round Uplight Table Lamp has a simple silhouette, rendered in natural materials, hand-hammered metal or bone, and topped with a textured white cotton shade. West Elm, \$59, westelm.com.

## Simple solutions for life's cleaning quandaries

They are the cleaning jobs around the house that can drive even the most ardent neat freak a bit batty — the vase you can't properly wash or the tile grout that isn't as fresh-looking as it once was.

In *Real Simple Solutions*, the editors of *Real Simple* magazine are sharing some of their wisdoms, tricks and easy ideas to not only take the elbow grease out of cleaning, but also simplify everyday life using products you already have around the house.

Among their advice is how to use an everyday fabric-softener sheet for more than just preventing dryer cling:

**DRUMMER SCENERY** If fabric-softener sheets make your clothes smell nice in the dryer, just think what they could do in your dresser. Slip a few fresh ones between folded clothes.

**THREAD DETANGLER** To stop thread from twisting and



Use a fabric-softener sheet to get rid of static cling.

knitting up, run the threaded needle through a fabric-softener sheet before starting to sew.

### REAL SIMPLE Solutions

Real Simple Solutions (\$24.95) is available at **Indigo** and **Chapters**, visit chapters.indigo.ca.



Here are some *Real Simple Solutions* hints on how easily-found household products can be used to make cleaning easier.

#### LINT ROLLER

Old Use: Fuzz eliminator

New Use: Lamp-shade duster.

Supporting the inside the shade with your free hand, run a lint roller up and down the outside to remove dirt.

#### DENTURE TABLETS

Old Use: False-teeth freshener

New Use: Vase and decanter cleaner. When residue clings to unreachable spots inside a vase or a decanter, fill the container with warm water and drop in one or two denture-cleaning tablets for every eight ounces of warm water. Let the fizzy solution sit for the time specified on the product's box, then rinse.

#### ELECTRIC TOOTHBRUSH

Old Use: Smile polisher

New Use: Tile scrubber. Dip an old, retired toothbrush head into a solution of all-purpose cleanser and water, and use it to scrub tile grout, bathroom fixtures, and any other nook or cranny a large brush can't reach.

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