

CANADIAN

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HOUSE & HOME

CANADA'S MAGAZINE OF HOME & STYLE

Spring Decorating

MIXING COLOURS AND PATTERNS

4 Stunning Bathrooms
PLUS: How much a new one will cost

**Editor Cobi Ladner's
Backyard Haven**

The New Italian Cuisine

Design
WINNER





Author Carrie McCarthy's (left) style statement is Refined Treasure. Co-author Danielle LaPorte's is Sacred Dramatic.

Shop for your Style

The notion that a stylish home is just about fashionable furnishings is as outmoded as matching bedroom sets. The most inspiring interiors reflect the people that inhabit them. So how do you decorate if you like rustic farmhouse tables, collect mid-century lighting and prefer punk to jazz? In *Style Statement*, out this month, Vancouver consultants Carrie McCarthy and Danielle LaPorte help you find out through questions aimed at summarizing yourself in a two-word statement (see below). Use it to steer decisions on everything from buying pillows to choosing a perfume. Little, Brown and Co., 2008, SC 256 pages, \$28 — K.B.



Personality Check

DOES YOUR HOME REFLECT YOUR STYLE? CONSIDER THESE FIVE QUESTIONS.

1. What's the intention of your home? Your space should reflect your values. Is home a place to sleep between adventures or do you want it to bring comfort? Is it place to play, relax or be inspired?
2. Through fabrics or photos, your home reveals who you are. What do you want it to express? What are you passionate about? What matters to you — travel, family, beauty?
3. How do you want your space to feel? Luxurious, quaint, private?
4. Where do you feel most at home? At a café in Paris? At dinner with friends? Watching *Annie Hall*? When crafting a space, ask yourself what you really love and why.
5. When do you feel completely out of place and why? Knowing what to avoid is as important as knowing what propels you.

Elements of a Style Statement

- The first word describes your core nature and represents 80% of who you are

- Use this to guide choices on structure, building materials and major furniture

- Other examples: tailored, organic, graceful, understated, timeless, innovative

FEMININE DRAMATIC

- The second word is your creative edge and denotes 20% of your identity

- This word brings a space to life and should drive choices in colour, pattern and accessories

- Other examples: cosy, fusion, lavish, minimalist, visionary, fluid, earthy

STYLE RESOURCE

In with the old

With granny chic and afternoon tea back in vogue, starting a trousseau is downright trendy. Just in time for summer weddings, Montreal boutique **Bleu Nuit** has revived this bygone tradition, though it's no longer for the newly engaged alone. Whether you're planning nuptials or just a first house or apartment, it's a chance to get your linens in order. The store's trousseau service keeps track of wish lists for bed and bath linens, throws and even pajamas, then reserves them for a determined amount of time (an advisor stays in touch about what's been bought). As a final frill, opt to embroider the lot with a personal monogram. RIGHT: Anne de Solène bedlinens. Bleu Nuit, Montreal (514) 843-5702 or www.bleunuit.ca — E.S.

