



Casa Blanca lilies, red roses, chartreuse Brazilian berries and assorted evergreens add festive flair. A red wall sets off the fireplace; boxwood in oxidized-metal containers line the mantel. The graphic lines of the table, along with the elegant moulding, influenced floral designer Grace Lewicki's choice of a square vase.

With the help of an interior designer and a floral designer, a Toronto home is treated to a holiday look that suits its laid-back style to a T

*“You spend just as much
why shouldn’t you dress*



Andrea Cleghorn Moore's style is anything but fussy. Her Toronto home, decorated in collaboration with interior designer and family friend Lara Neal, features a relaxed collection of contemporary pieces and understated antiques set against a muted backdrop of rich creams and tans, with the occasional lively shot of red. So when it came time to decorate for the holidays, she wanted a look that would be consistent with her home's laid-back, livable style.

The solution was to go back to nature: evergreens, pinecones and floral arrangements in simple, often graphic containers. Andrea and Lara turned to Grace Lewicki of GeniusLoci Fine Flowers to design

Sisters Brenna, 3 (left), and Keighley, 4, enjoy milk and cookies at the breakfast bar, which divides the kitchen from the family room. With its Shaker-style cabinetry and granite counters, the kitchen is decorated with evergreen branches in planters on the windowsill, and an arrangement of lilies, roses, holly leaves and viburnum berries on the island.





“Because Andrea’s home is decorated in a neutral red, we wanted a simple look; nothing elaborate —

*time in the kitchen or home office, so
up these rooms for the holidays, too?"*

LARA NEAL





Lots of people decorate their main floor for the season, stopping at the top of the stairs. But because Andrea, her husband, Greg, and their children spend time upstairs (and with a brand-new baby boy, Fraser, the bedroom sitting area is Andrea's favourite spot these days), the holiday theme was continued into the master bedroom and study. Grace created smaller arrangements for the night tables, while the coffee table features a tray of candles and pinecones.

For Andrea, one element resonates most: the smell of cinnamon and cloves, along with the scents of lilies, roses, freesias and freshly cut evergreens. "You don't have to spend a million dollars to have a wonderful holiday setting," she says. "It's the smells that make you nostalgic."

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Freshly cut evergreens adorn the sitting area of the master bedroom, where the home's signature reds soften into pale salmons. The entire house, including the master bathroom, highlighted by a trough sink and hotel-style storage, is the work of interior designer Lara Neal. For the holidays, red guest towels join the white ones used year-round. In the master bedroom, a tiny silver vase of white roses, freesias and galax leaves works beautifully next to a chrome-base table lamp.

A FLORAL HOLIDAY

Whether you hire a floral designer (there's usually no extra fee for an in-home consultation) or do the job yourself, Grace Lewicki of GeniusLoci Fine Flowers offers these tips for decorating with flowers and greenery.

Choose a colour scheme and style consistent with your decor and personal taste. **Opt for specific, simple elements** like natural evergreen boughs and garlands, dried fruit or berries and magnolia or viburnum leaves, and repeat them from room to room. The arrangements don't have to be elaborate to be festive. **Don't restrict yourself to traditional Christmas flowers:** lilies, roses and other fragrant flowers are not only beautiful but will also add a special touch. **Create a more streamlined look** with simple yet striking square glass or metal containers. **Don't just decorate one or two rooms;** create a scheme for those areas you spend time in, such as the kitchen and bedroom. **Find greenery in your backyard.** Snip sprigs of yew or juniper berries, gather pinecones or spruce cones or even freshly cut boughs from evergreen trees. Dogwood and corkscrew hazel branches are lovely in holiday displays, too.



*palette with hits of
that's not her style”*

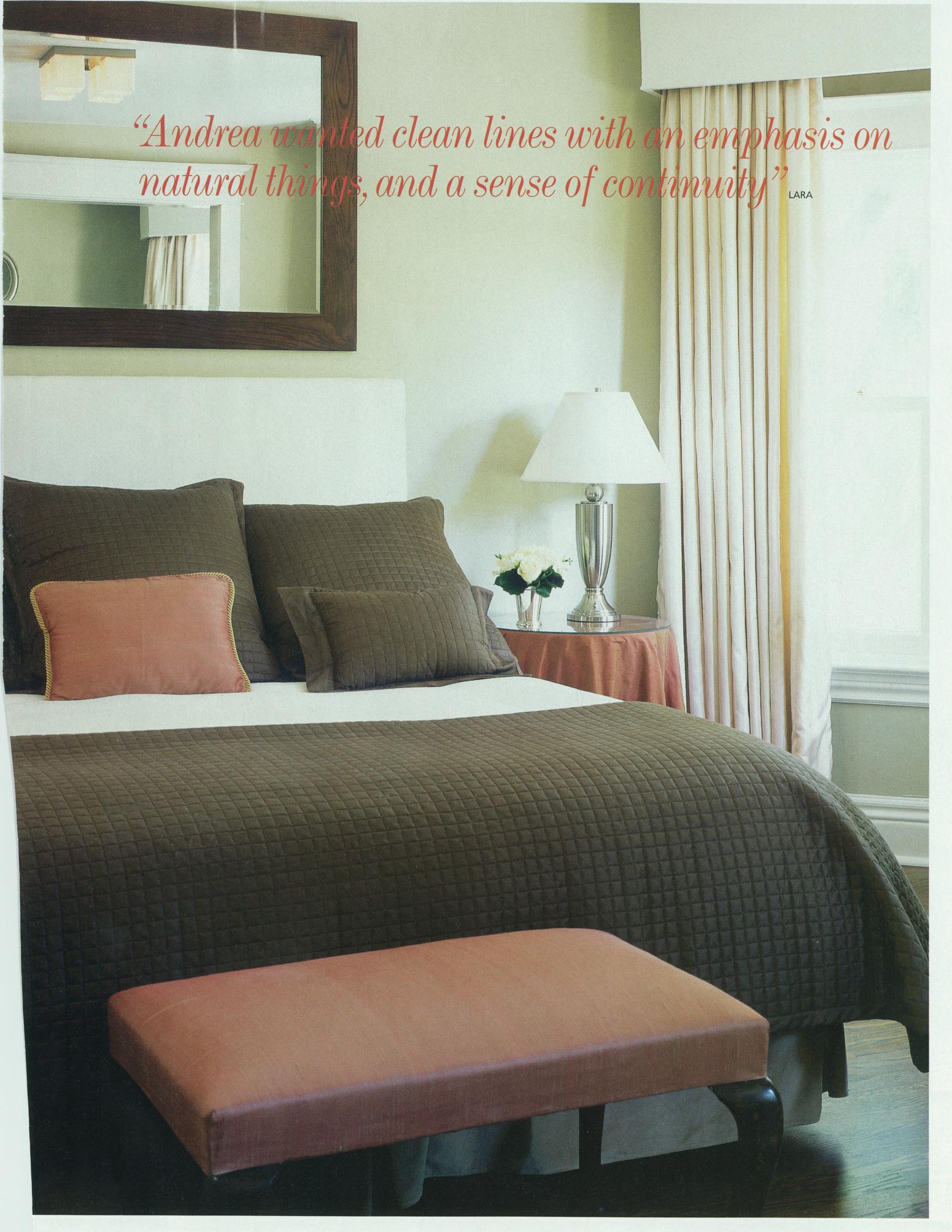
LARA



the arrangements that form the basis of the look. "They wanted a simple colour scheme, so we combined red with white and chartreuse accents and lots of natural greenery," Grace says.

A relatively small range of colours and types of flowers was used and repeated from room to room to pull the look together. Lush arrangements of lilies, red roses and pale green berries crown the dining room table and the island in the kitchen, while small evergreens in metal containers emphasize the clean, contemporary lines that Andrea loves. The family room Christmas tree is similarly restrained with red, silver and gold balls and tiny lights.

Dressed in red, silver and gold balls and lit up by tiny white lights, the Christmas tree picks up the colours of the living room's heirloom Persian carpet. A small tree in an oxidized-tin container was reserved for the desk in the Study. As a final touch, the regular white lampshade was traded in for a pretty red one. The red box is from the DeFo Gallery.



“Andrea wanted clean lines with an emphasis on natural things, and a sense of continuity”

LARA