

SLEEK & SOPHISTICATED

LET  
THERE  
BE

*White*

A real estate developer's modern home – boasting a city-chic kitchen – is the essence of sleek serenity.



The kitchen's two-level island offers opportunities to sit both bar and table height. The streamlined seating perfectly suits the white Corian countertops and unadorned cabinetry.

**ARCHITECTURE**, Audax Architecture; **CONTRACTING**, Green-Gold Construction; Super White PM-1 **WALL PAINT** (throughout), Benjamin Moore; Scavolini **CABINERY**, Dekla; **FLOORING** (throughout), Relative Space; Eames **DINING CHAIRS**, Design Within Reach; white **NESTING TRAYS**, Elte.

# THE 411

## ON THIS ALL-WHITE KITCHEN

### OVERALL STYLE

White + sleek, stylish elements = modern Scandinavian.

### FAVOURITE FEATURE

The open-concept plan, which makes the kitchen easy to navigate.

### BIGGEST CHALLENGE

Perfectly lining up the countertop and backsplash so that the structural glass railings would fit seamlessly. "When it all came together, it looked wonderful, but if anything was slightly off, it would have been a disaster," says Jonathan.

### MOST BUDGET-FRIENDLY PURCHASE

The large stainless steel sink was less expensive but identical in quality to some of the top brands.

### BEST SPLURGE

The full-height glass-front Sub-Zero integrated wine fridge, which fits 147 bottles.

### KEY ELEMENTS



Magis Steelwood **COUNTER STOOL** in Natural & White, \$499, Quasi Modo Modern Furniture, [quasimodern.com](http://quasimodern.com).

Super White PM-1 **PAINT**, Benjamin Moore, [benjaminmoore.ca](http://benjaminmoore.ca).



Punches of canary yellow make a sunny scene and break up the monochromatic palette in the kitchen. The upper cabinetry comprises boxes reminiscent of geometric artist Piet Mondrian – some rectangles are jaunty yellow while others are a wood

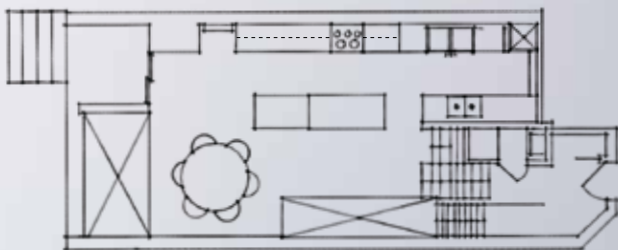
tone that riffs off the grey oak plank flooring.

Magis **STOOLS**, Quasi Modo Modern Furniture; **GLASSWARE**, Williams-Sonoma.

**OPPOSITE** "I was able to create a place exactly as I wanted it to be," says homeowner Jonathan Goldman, pictured in his Toronto house.



### FLOOR PLAN



Everyone has an opinion about all-white interiors – and by white, we mean crisp enough to camouflage those famous Royale kittens.

While all-white decor makes some people want to splash the walls with colour, others find it calming. Jonathan Goldman, a Toronto real estate developer, sees white as the perfect backdrop for his lifestyle: super-contemporary and super-tidy. “You have to be a very clean person to live with all this white,” says Jonathan, a triathlete who shares his newly renovated 3,700-square-foot home with a collection of bicycles.

He moved into this detached split-level abode in 2013 from an old Victorian that he also gutted. “I don’t mind moving,” says Jonathan. He gets great satisfaction from overhauling a space while respecting the original builder’s vision. “I don’t think of it in terms of going modern or traditional,” he says. “I go for the best version of what’s there.”

Before the redo, the house was a ’70s relic, complete with



the space was once divided into three small rooms due to a pass-through, but Jonathan had that knocked down during the reno. Now, sleek white lower cabinetry runs seamlessly along one entire wall toward the picture window in the dining area, which floods the kitchen with natural light. A beautiful matte Corian backsplash and countertops finish off the look. "I staggered the levels of the island so that it's both bar and table height," says Jonathan. The streamlined kitchen looks so sparse you wouldn't expect it to be outfitted with hidden recycling and garbage bins, double wall

ovens, a gas range, a flat-screen TV, a dishwasher and a full-height wine fridge.

But don't let the sleekness fool you, says Jonathan of the space's overall aesthetic. "I like super-modern design, but I also like having a real fire." Indeed, seeing him in his home, slightly bearded and in jeans, one can envision the person responsible for chopping then stacking the logs in the floor-to-ceiling nook next to the living room fireplace. So, he's a real estate developer, designer, triathlete and lumberjack? Just like an all-white house with ample personality, people can really surprise you.

peachy-beige carpeting. It felt dark, choppy and cluttered, but Jonathan saw its potential. Leaving the building's unique seven split levels intact, he had one level stripped to the bones to create a bright spacious open kitchen and dining room. Looking down from the top level – the master bedroom – one gets an impressive yet stomach-churning view to the bottom floor, some 50 feet down.

The interior design itself is Jonathan's own doing, right down to the details: from picking the finishes and furnishings to ensuring there was an iPad hanging in the foyer so he can immediately access his sound system when he walks through the front door.

The result is a resplendent modern home, which is best toured at a museum-goer's pace. Stop to admire the open-concept Scavolini kitchen and Mid-Century Modern dining area, located just a few steps up from the front entrance. Occupying the entire floor,



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Mid-Century Modern furnishings, including Wassily armchairs and a Barcelona lounger, look classically elegant in the sunken living room on the lowest level. To keep the space sharply black and white (not soot grey), the entire wall around the fireplace is protected with an innovative thin ceramic architectural surface called Laminam.

Laminam ceramic **ARCHITECTURAL SURFACE**, Stone Tile International; Barcelona **LOUNGER**, Wassily **ARMCHAIRS**, Design Within Reach; cowhide **RUG**, Elte.

**OPPOSITE, TOP** Jonathan kitted out the kitchen with a full-height wine fridge. "I really love

it," he says. "How could I build this kitchen without it?" Beyond, on the next level, a compact office nook is functional yet unobtrusive.

**WINE FRIDGE**, Sub-Zero and Wolf; Ghost **CHAIR**, Elte.

**OPPOSITE, BOTTOM** A large picture window floods the ethereal dining area with light. White walls are minimally adorned with a trio of shadow boxes filled with 150-year-old French pieces, including a corkscrew, razor and menu. The dowel-legged Eames chairs bring the warmth of wood to the space.

Saarinen **DINING TABLE**, Eames **DINING CHAIRS**, Design Within Reach; black **CANDLESTICKS**, Elte.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

