



## McNicol Interior Designs

Interior architecture, design and decoration

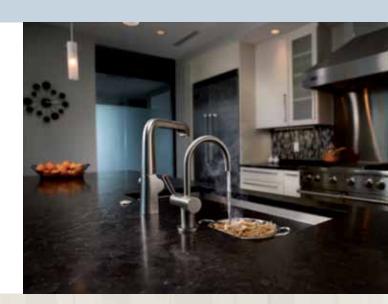
Biography

ulie McNicol is a residential interior designer who graduated with Honours from the International Academy of Design and Technology, after completing a four year economics degree at McGill University. She is a member of A.R.I.D.O. (Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario) and has obtained her N.C.I.D.Q. certification (National Council for Interior Design Qualification). She has been in the design industry for 8 years and continues her dynamic career as proprietor of her own company, McNicol Interior Designs (www.mcnicolinteriordesigns.com).

# 5 Tips to Surviving a Renovation

Living through a renovation can be stressful, but there are five tips you can consider that will help the process go smoothly.

- 1. Set a realistic budget. The most common mistake homeowners make is operating at their maximum budget allowance and not saving extra for those unexpected costs or splurge items. A realistic budget should be 80% of what you can actually afford, leaving 10% for surprises (even the best contractors can't know what hides behind walls) and 10% for decorating once the project is completed.
- 2. Determine your desired timeline for completion. Keep in mind that delays often happen, regardless of how well you've planned. Materials get backordered, bad weather can delay exterior work and trades people may get sick or require extra time to make sure the job is done properly.
- 3. Hire construction experts for anything that you are unsure of. It is always best to hire licensed professionals because they are bonded and insured. You want to hire someone who works with a formal contract and can provide references. If the price seems too good to be true, it probably is. Select someone with whom you can communicate clearly about all aspects of the project. Write down a list of questions as you think of them; such as, "What payments do I have to make and when?" "Am I coordinating the trades or will that be their responsibility?". Contact local associations for referrals if you don't know where to start.
- 4. Be realistic about living through your renovation. Can you segregate yourself to another area and be comfortable? Do you need to move out for a little while? Keep in mind that most contractors and trades keep construction hours of 7am to 3 or 4pm. Will this be disruptive to you or your family members? You should also consider dust levels and how they may affect children, pets and people with respiratory difficulties. Moving out during a renovation is often a good idea. It also means the job site can operate more efficiently if you and your family are not in the way.
- 5. Finally, and most importantly, you should carefully consider the design aspects of your project. Are you creating something that will look dated in five years or can it be easily adapted to current trends as they change? This is where hiring professional interior designers, decorators and/or architects are a good idea. Not only can they help you define your style, they can mediate between you and the contractor/trades thereby alleviating a lot of the renovation stress. These professionals typically cost only 5% of the total renovation budget and they make sure that your visions for your renovation become a reality.





## **Our Value to You**

Since 1984 Taps has provided bathroom and kitchen fixtures to home owners, architects, designers, and home builders alike. Taps Bath Centre, a Wolseley Company, is Canada's most fashion forward luxury bath and kitchen plumbing showroom. Taps has become the industry leader by providing one of the largest selections of plumbing fixtures, faucets, kitchen sinks, and accessories from quality brand names, and by displaying the latest trends and cutting-edge styles. Whether you are building a new home, or remodeling a room, Taps will help simplify the decision making process. Our proven reputation for knowledge, expertise, and commitment to training our team of sales and customer service specialists has helped us attract and retain customers since our inception. Taps is continuously evolving to stay ahead of the market trends and meet the ever changing needs and demands of our customers. By carrying the largest selection of the newest and most advanced products, and maintaining and increasing our unsurpassed knowledge and expertise, we provide service excellence that is unparalled in the industry.

You can be rest assured that you will be taken care of from the very moment you walk into one of our luxury showrooms. Our consultants will give you their undivided attention and make the experience lasting and memorable, while simplifying the process of home building or renovating.

Regardless of your budget, our showroom consultants will provide solutions for your unique project needs without compromising our high standards of service. Our showrooms are specifically designed to showcase a wide range of vignettes to provide you with better visualization of the products in a home-like setting. You will be inspired by the freedom of choice offered through our large product assortment. Never before have there been so many exciting and innovative products available for your bathroom retreat or the hub of a busy kitchen. Whatever project you are embarking on, whether it is a total renovation or simply updating an existing space, Taps makes it easy to create your perfect oasis.

Create your own personal bath or kitchen environment by visiting one of our locations in Toronto or Mississauga. You are welcome to come in and browse our vast array of styles and designs any time. While we are always more than happy to schedule time for you, no appointments are necessary. We are here to service your every bathroom and kitchen need. You can order at your convenience by calling our toll free number. With over 10,000 products representing scores of leading manufacturers from around the globe, there's no better place to shop than Taps!

#### Our Showroom is Your Showroom.

Make everyday life a little more special. It is not just everyday life, it is your life. It is how you choose to live. It is time spent on things that are important to you – whether it is preparing a meal for close friends or the nightly ritual of a splash in the tub with the kids.



#### **Showrooms**

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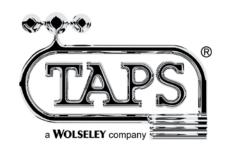
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# **Environmental Consciousness**

Taps Bath Centre is a leader when it comes to providing sustainable products to our customers. We recognize the importance of sustainable living, and as such we are committed to supporting sustainable products and value the preservation of our natural resources.

With the largest green product assortment, Taps Bath Centre can cater to any design preference within any budget.

Taps is dedicated to understanding how sustainable living is impacting you and how we can meet your needs. Our knowledgeable showroom consultants are experts on the newest green technologies and design concepts; we will provide you with numerous green options that will fit any style preference and building requirement.

With excellent vendor relationships, we can choose to carry only the most superior and high quality green products. In our showrooms you will never have to sacrifice style or choice for environmental savings.

Our green actions are not limited to only our luxury showrooms; environmental policies and corporate social responsibility are implemented at every level of our business. We work in partnership with our vendors to ensure effective environmental supply chain management and actively promote the sustainable sourcing of products, and material waste management. An environmental management system has also mandated carbon management, resource efficiency, pollution prevention, and the reuse of packaging materials in our warehouses and distribution centres.

We are confident that, together with you, we can shape the industry, support our communities, and set the standards in sustainability and green building. We will continue to exercise our outstanding social responsibility and lead the industry with our commitment to sustainable practices. This is the ethical leadership that will not only ensure our future success together, but also a future for generations to come.



"It's not sufficient to do things better, we need to do better things."

> Mark Shayler, Eco Designer (2011)







lear and straight silhouettes are elements that define and firmly established today's modern aesthetic. For people in search of a tailored cosmopolitan design, Grohe offers Eurocube, Sena Cube, Euphoria Cube and Essentials Cube. All work cohesively to create a pure minimalist bathroom that is modern and timeless.

As the "Cube" name suggests, the geometry of these four new bath and shower lines incorporates precision-crafted pure forms and flawless, mirror-like surfaces. Providing aesthetic consistency throughout the bathroom, the new Cube designs are a meticulous balance of style and functionality. Influenced by modern architecture, they fuse bold geometric shapes with advanced engineering.

Across the range, the cut-out detail on the lever handle reduces the perceived volume of each piece, while highlighting the minimalist appeal of the collection. Eurocube offers cutting-edge, geometric styling at an unbeatable price.



www.grohe.ca www.grohecatalogue.ca







nmatched attention to detail. Superior craftsmanship. From finely detailed, handcrafted SteelArt® sinks to the natural warmth and beauty of SILGRANIT®, the elegant artistry of Blanco products are celebrated worldwide for their unmatched quality and timeless beauty.

While stainless steel is still the most popular material choice for the kitchen sink, the coloured sink market has been steadily growing. In recent years, this growth has picked up substantially with the popularity of SILGRANIT®, a patented material made by Blanco and composed of 80% natural granite. Highly durable and scratch resistant, SILGRANIT® is the leading coloured sink material in Canada.

One of the hottest kitchen faucet styles is the aptly-named, Semi-Pro. Traditionally used by professional cooks or for commercial applications, it is fast becoming a favourite in the home. They are ideal for rinsing vegetables and cleaning your sink bowls.

### **BLANCO**

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The perfect harmonization of minimalist style and maximum performance makes the Franke Peak sink truly innovative for the contemporary kitchen. Each element is fashioned to excel in both form and function to create complete design symmetry.

Franke 16 gauge Peak family of sinks stand apart from the rest with unique square drain covers, drain lines in the bottom of the bowls, and an integrated shelf within the bowl for use of a grid. Peak's linear profile, commercial finish, and dual function grids deliver the great looks, superior quality, intelligent design and function you've come to expect from Franke.

Aesthetically pleasing and remarkably functional, the Peak sink collection brings unparalleled style and utility to any kitchen.



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e-imagine freestanding bathtubs with greater style and comfort.

With the popularity of freestanding bathtubs resurging, extensive customer research led MAAX Bath Inc. to create three new models with contemporary designs and greater interior comfort for bathrooms and budgets of all sizes. Each bathtub features clean and sleek modern lines, improved ergonomics for more relaxing soaks and the option of vivacious colors that create artistic bathroom centerpieces anyone can enjoy.

Among them, the Ella freestanding bathtub provides an innovative take on a venerable classic.

The oval-shaped Ella features an elegantly fluted apron, giving bathers added shoulder room. This beauty, which compliments traditional or contemporary furnishings, comes with a unique and delicately embossed pattern lacing around the center for a touch of gentle sophistication.

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ow would a daily spa experience improve your life? Choosing the right water products is the first step in creating your own personal oasis of well-being. Today's bathrooms become a refuge from the hectic pace of everyday life. An intimate place where you can uplift, unwind or simply get away.

With a wide range of bathroom faucet collections, full-body shower systems with steam, chromatherapy and aromatherapy, free-standing bathtubs, washbasins and accessories, Aquabrass offers an amazing source of inspirational and made-to-measure solutions.

Proudly Canadian, all Aquabrass products feature high-performance materials; functionality and sleek esthetic styling that pleases all senses. Most are designed for quick and easy installation in new or existing bathrooms of virtually any size or style.



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irabelle's Key West collection carries a proper presence through its thoughtful design. Key West's rich detailing and balanced lines offer traditional style to our toilets, lavatories, faucets, accessories and lighting. Key West is a collection that rewards with its refinement. Savour your accomplishment with the addition of a Key West soaker, air, or total massage tub.

Our consoles and lavatories allow your bathroom's personality to shine, from the dramatic to the divine. With a wide variety of sizes, shapes, and finishes, Mirabelle lavatories offer the design flexibility that you want, with the functionality that you need.

The kitchen is the heart of any home. An expression of your personality. A place where beauty and simple elegance come face to face with the realities of Tuesday night dinner. Mirabelle kitchen faucets are available in a wide range of styles from traditional to contemporary to complement your design sensibility, and make your kitchen work for the way you live.

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t's time to buy a new tub. You want something stylish and comfortable. Introducing the Edge freestanding composite tub from Victoria + Albert, a striking tub with a clean, sophisticated look.

The Edge Collection is designed to make smart use of limited space. The generous depth of the bath provides a luxurious soaking experience, while its overall footprint consumes proportionally little space and the double-ended design has room for two. The Edge 45 Vessel Basin is designed for his-and-hers double basin bathrooms and smaller cloakroom settings.

The Edge Collection is crafted from 100% ENGLISHCAST® – a durable, naturally white material rich in volcanic limestone, hand-finished by craftsmen with a glossy finish that won't creak or flex, warm to the touch and easy to clean.

## victoria albert

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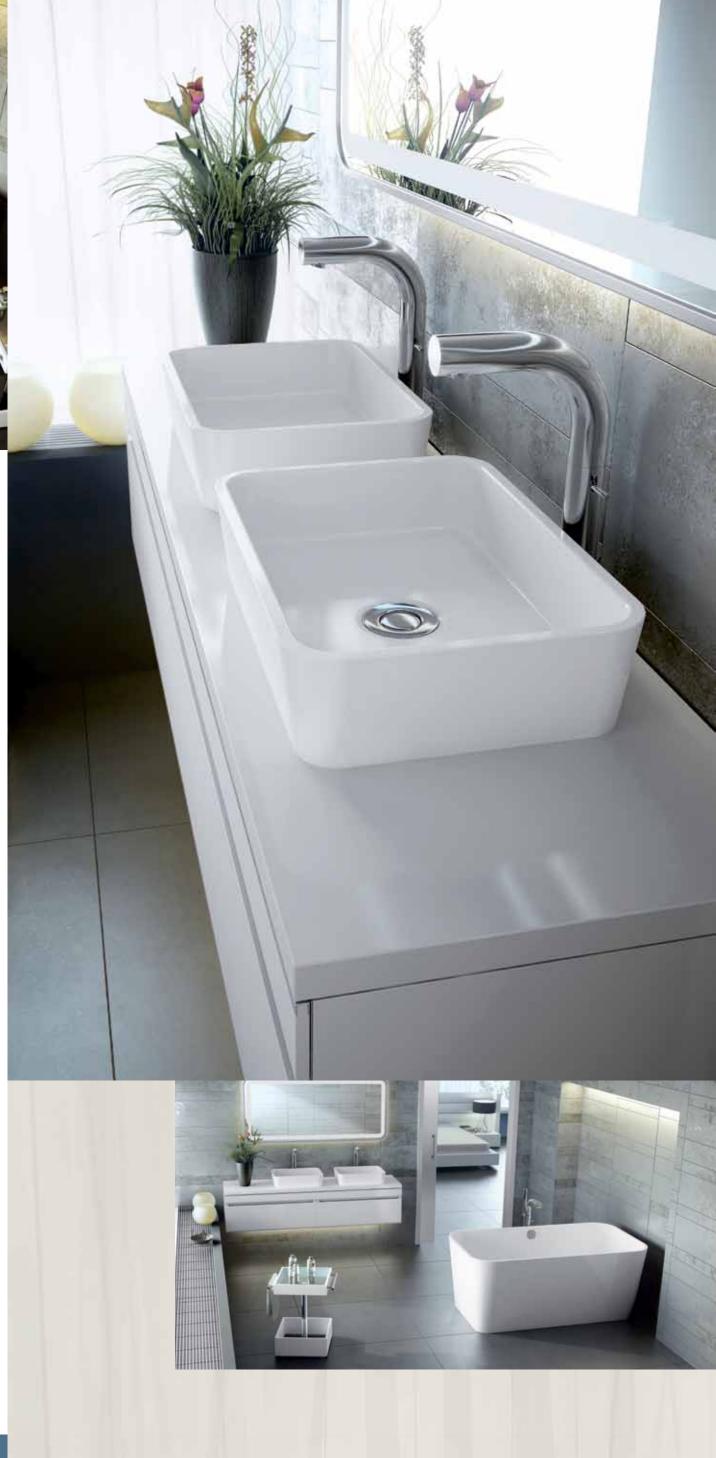
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Pever hesitating to break new ground, and always ahead of the curve, Rubinet is proud to introduce a fresh innovation; the new R 10 series.

The crisp clean curvatures that form every spout, handle, showerhead and accessory, feature a textured insert for a unique touch of sophistication. Choose from over 20 finishes, or take your originality one step further and create your own custom split finish.

The variety of installation options allow for any personal preference: wall mounted, deck, floor, ceiling or hand held can all be fitted accordingly.

Whether you are lathering your hands, washing your hair, or hanging a towel, the R 10 series will definitely shower you in style.

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The InSinkErator Indulge™ Modern Instant Hot Water Dispenser sits right on the edge of your kitchen sink; the perfect complement to your faucet. Ready to dispense hot, near boiling, 93°C (200°F) water at your command. So simple. So useful. Once you use it you'll love it. Instantly.

What can you do with this instant hot water dispenser? What can't you do? Blanch vegetables, warm an ice cream scoop, serve the perfect cup of tea or gourmet coffee, loosen bakedon food and prepare a hot compress. But it doesn't stop there. The uses are endless.

The Indulge Modern blends efficiency and style into a gallery-worthy work of art for the kitchen. Available in Chrome and Satin Nickel.

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If you have never considered installing a GARBERATOR® Food Waste Disposer, it's time to take a second look. Garberator disposers provide a convenient and environmentally friendly alternative to transporting food scraps to landfills.

The Evolution Excel® Garberator Disposer provides the ultimate in kitchen convenience. Installed under the sink and activated with a wall or sink top switch, it grinds everything from table scraps to bones in minutes.

Equipped with MultiGrind® technology to grind more kinds of food waste and SoundSeal® technology for quieter operation, nothing grinds more with less noise. The Evolution Excel® provides the ultimate in performance.

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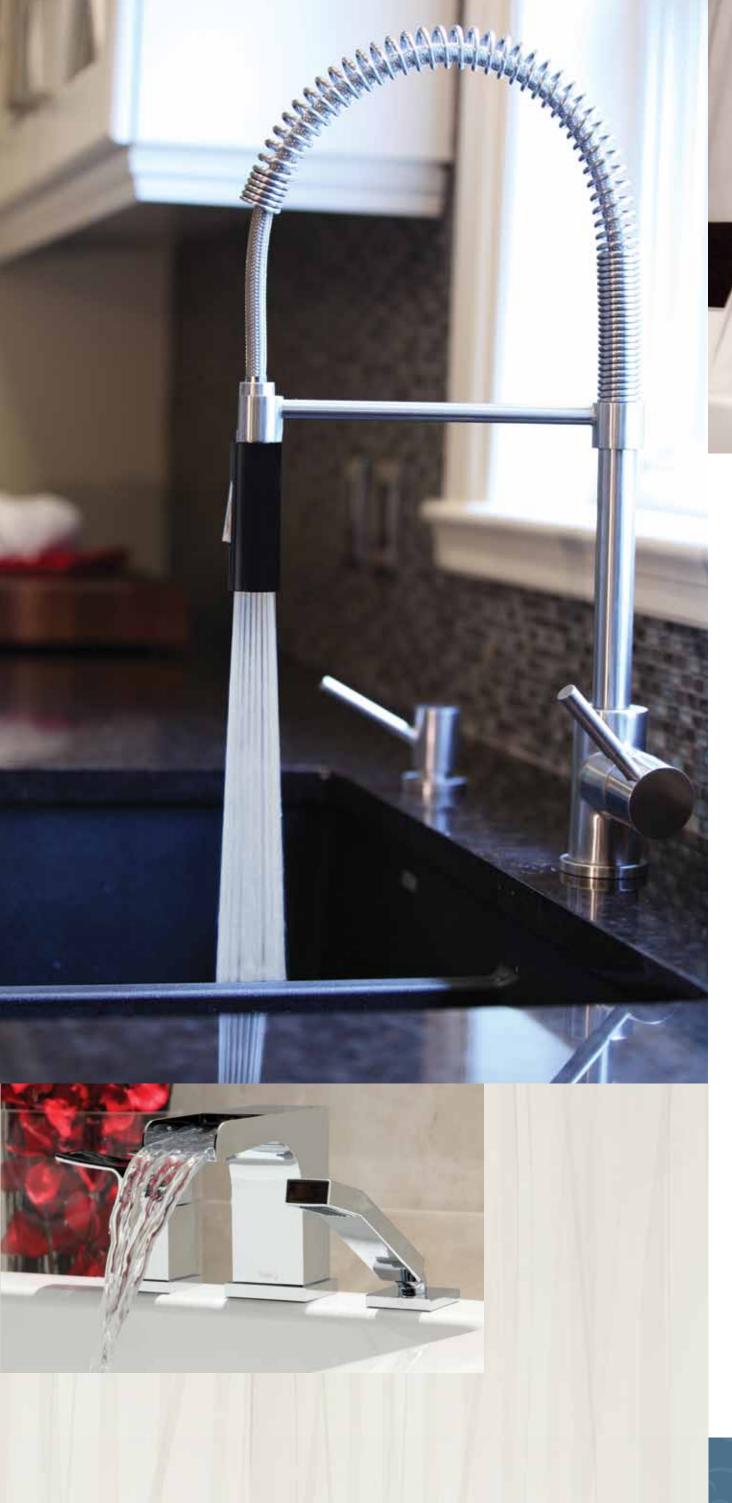
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t Riobel, we understand the enthusiasm that surrounds home design and renovation projects. This understanding is the foundation of our company's mission: to provide the best selection of faucets, shower systems and accessories on the market. Our products are made to match the style of your home.

The world of design has an evergrowing fascination for open-spout faucets. These trendy and elegant mixing faucets are reminiscent of a cascading waterfall at the centre of a relaxing natural setting. The SA11 from the Salomé collection and the ZOOP17 from the Zendo collection will add flare and elegance to your bathroom, no matter what your style.

The Bistro faucet is a "must-have" in your kitchen. The chic high arch and the splash of colour at the nozzle are increasingly popular features. This kitchen faucet is the perfect match: elegance and functionality at its finest.



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What I dream of is an art of balance.

Henri Matisse

You will find that deep place of silence right in your room, your garden or even your bathtub.

Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

