

## MY FAVOURITE ROOM

# Linda Crammond's dining room

On a working stint in London in 1981, Toronto-born money-market trader Linda Crammond fell in love with Knightsbridge and was so inspired by the central-London neighbourhood's drawing rooms and country-house hotels that she resolved to become an interior designer. Crammond trained in Chelsea at the design firm Rachel Jameson-Till, but, nostalgic for the Canadian wilderness, she returned to Toronto in 1994 and purchased a two-acre waterfront property on Fairy Lake, near Huntsville, Ont., using it to launch her eponymous interior-design business. Crammond renovated the cottage herself, building an addition on stilts to create what she calls a Muskoka room, even though it's more of an homage to Hilton Head Island, S.C. – palm trees and all. Of her favourite space in the house, she says, "I always wanted an ocean-view room and this is the next best thing."



PHILIP CASTLETON

**1. THE MOOSE**

"I got it on the Muskoka Artists Tour and I'm sorry that I don't remember the artist. I love the colour and of course the fact that it is a moose. Northern Ontario is all about the moose."

**2. THE PINEAPPLE**

"This was a housewarming present from a colleague. It [symbolizes] hospitality, which is perfect since I love to cook and entertain."

**3. THE CATHEDRAL CEILING**

"It's cedar, like the walls, and I had it made to order. The biggest challenge was having it built without a beam

across the top. But we got it done."

**4. THE CANDLESTICKS**

"These I bought down at Palmetto [Dunes in Hilton Head, S.C.], where my stepson had been enrolled in the Golf Academy. I fell in love with the semi-tropical beauty right on the Atlantic Ocean. The palmetto [tree] is on the state flag, so I went palmetto crazy."

**5. THE DINING SET**

"The table, chairs and sideboard are from Windsor House. They are made in Canada and finished in Toronto. I try to buy local and Canadian when I can. The dining table has two extension pieces

that can clip on either end for a crowd. The sideboard holds wine glasses and palmetto-themed serving dishes. It has lighting in the upper [shelf], which looks lovely in the evening."

**6. THE NAPKIN HOLDERS**

"They are shaped like Muskoka chairs. Everyone around here has them."

**7. THE LAMPS**

"They are also palmetto [designs], purchased in Toronto at Elte."

**8. THE COFFEE TABLE**

"It, too, is from Windsor House and has a drawer that you can open from either

side. It holds board games, which we play on rainy days."

**9. THE CHAISE**

"Along with the sofa and chairs, this was purchased in Huntsville. I selected Kravet Sunbrella fabric for the cushions so they wouldn't fade or rot in the sun. The fabric is also easy to wipe down if there are any spills."

**10. THE OTTOMAN**

"It's wicker, and I got it at Veranda in Huntsville. We use it as a table, a chair and an ottoman and move it around a lot. It's really quite versatile."

– DEIRDRE KELLY

## THREE OF A KIND

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The C-Table Lamp designed by Robert Abbey has a brushed-chrome finish and a dimming switch for instant ambience.

\$214 (U.S.) through [www.wayfair.com](http://www.wayfair.com).



The luxe features of the Bond Desk Lamp include a brushed-brass arm and shade and a solid white-marble base.

\$900 (U.S.) through [www.dwellstudio.com](http://www.dwellstudio.com).



The first lamp made by British product designer Charlie Bowles, this chrome-plated steel-armed model with a cotton-covered cord is available in yellow, black and grey.

\$1,009 at Design Within Reach ([www.dwr.com](http://www.dwr.com)).



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## DESIGN: ASK DEE DEE TAYLOR EUSTACE

"The cover and body of my barbecue are weathered and rusty after a few years of hard use. How can I make them look ship-shape? Can I paint them?"



This is when I call Mr. BBQ Guy, also known as Terry Witzel, president of Onward Manufacturing, a company that makes barbecues for Broil King, Broil-Mate and other big players in the field. He asks whether the lid and cart are cast aluminum, porcelain, painted or stainless. If they're cast, you can sand and paint them. If they're stainless, clean them with an oil-based stainless-steel cleanser or WD-40. If porcelain, use glass cleaner. Hopefully, the barbecue will state somewhere on its body what it's made of. (The other day at the cottage, I was asked to indicate whether my boat's engine was two- or four-stroke before it could be filled with gas. I had no idea. Fortunately, it was written on the engine hat.) If all that sounds like too much work, he says, give the old one to your ex and buy yourself a new one and, when it arrives, start using a barbecue cover so you won't be in the same mess a few years down the road.

Architect and interior designer Dee Dee Taylor Eustace appears on *The Real Designing Women*, which airs Saturdays at 4 p.m. ET on HGTV. Follow her on Twitter: @ddtaylordd. Have a design dilemma? E-mail [style@globeandmail.com](mailto:style@globeandmail.com).