

# Wilo in STONEY LAKE

After spending youthful summers at her family's cottage in Peterborough, Ont., an architect builds her own country retreat across the lake along with her own family memories.

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Why build a boathouse if you can't leap off it? The sounds of happy splashing are heard all summer long from homeowner and architect Dee Dee Taylor Eustace's cottage on Stoney Lake in Peterborough, Ont. DESIGN, Taylor Hannah Architect, taylor-hannaharchitect.com; CONSTRUCTION, Montclair Construction.



This tranquil screened-in porch - or "Stoney Lake room" - as Dee Dee calls it, got an exterior-style wall treatment, while the luxe furnishings are fitting for a formal interior.

Navy TOSS CUSHION, Crate and Barrel; printed TOSS CUSHION FABRIC, Tello; ARMCHAIR FABRIC, Maxwell Fabrics.



**TIP**

TURN FORMAL DINING CHAIRS INTO BAR STOOLS WITH STAINLESS STEEL LEG EXTENSIONS.



CONSTRUCTION, BURTON CUSTOM HOMES, BURTONHOMES.COM; MEXICON.NET & BOB McLENNAN, McLENNANCUSTOMHOMES.COM; YAHOO.COM

Whether it's the lake-scented air or the calming trees, something about cottage country instantly disarms. Perhaps this accounts for the unlikely pairing of

**OPPOSITE** With white plank walls that could be on the side of a boat and chrome light fixtures that look more like portholes on a ship than pendant lights, the kitchen feels like an upscale version of a captain's scullery.

**Whirlpool CC-910 CABINETRY PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **CABINETRY CONSTRUCTION,** Ellis Fine Cabinetry; **PENDANT LIGHTS,** Restoration Hardware.

**BELOW** Reused from a previous project, the elegant dining chairs were updated in a nubby white fabric and blue vinyl to tie in with the nautical colour palette.

**RUG,** Elte; **PENDANT LIGHT,** Restoration Hardware.

Dee Dee Taylor Eustace's mud-caked knees and manicured fingernails. "I love the outdoors! I horseback-ride, water-ski, paddleboat, golf, fish – I'll even put the worm on the hook!" says the Toronto-based interior designer and architect, whose customary urban threads are Christian Dior and Gucci. In the city, she's a stylist (she just finished taping her new show, HGTV's *The Real Designing Women*, and is also a regular contributor to the Style section of the *Globe and Mail*), but from late May until Thanksgiving, the mother of two can be found in flip-flops at her Stoney Lake cottage enjoying the sights and sounds.

The secluded Peterborough, Ont., getaway is about two hours northeast of Toronto and the ultimate refuge from the city: a private two-acre island with 1,800 feet of beguiling shoreline and a nautical-nuanced interior made for lounging with a book or simply gazing at the placid portraits of lake, sky and trees framed in each unadorned window.



**ABOVE** White snapdragons and a pitcher of lemonade make a refreshing vignette – just tote the nailhead-adorned tray to the deck for an alfresco afternoon.

Wooden **SPOON, PITCHER, TEA TOWEL,** HomeSense; **TRAY,** ChairTableLamp.



**LEFT** Even in her country casuals, Dee Dee looks glamorous on the porch of her breathtaking blue-shingled cottage.



“ I like to pretend I'm marooned on an island and I can't go anywhere. ”

DEE DEE TAYLOR EUSTACE, HOMEOWNER



Find out who inspires Dee Dee, where she likes to shop and more! Visit [STYLEATHOME.COM/DEEDETAYLOR](http://STYLEATHOME.COM/DEEDETAYLOR).

**OPPOSITE** In the screened-in porch, fancy furnishings look whimsical against grainy Douglas Fir floors – the perfect juxtaposition of outdoors and in.

White **TOSS CUSHION FABRIC**, Télio; navy **TOSS CUSHION**, Crate and Barrel; **TRAY**, West Elm.

**BELOW** “I love layering,” says Dee Dee of the pillow-piled bed in the master bedroom, its headboard and bedskirt lending a more formal vibe. “The gold, black and white flower pattern is so graphic and happy.”

**TABLE LAMPS**, Global Views; Manuel Canovas **HEADBOARD & BEDSKIRT FABRIC**, Primavera; **NIGHTSTAND**, Ellis Fine Cabinetry.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

The stately furnishings, from the nailhead-detailed Louis XVI-style dining chairs to the Baroque flourishes of the armchairs on the screened-in porch, are tempered by sweeping vistas of the lake.

“I first came to Stoney Lake when I was one week old – I grew up here,” says Dee Dee. “I had my first boyfriend here. I taught swimming,” she says, pausing with a comedian’s perfect timing. “I hit many rocks.”

Dee Dee’s parents still own that cottage on the mainland, where her family, including two siblings from New York City and California, spends summers sharing stories and meals. “It’s the one place in the world where we come together,” says Dee Dee. She wants her own children, Jake, 17, and Rachael, 12, to experience their own rites of passage, making memories to last a lifetime. “They love, love it here,” says Dee Dee. “They drive around in tin boats, sail and swim.”

But after having all the family fun on the mainland, she’s glad to return to the private island getaway that’s all her own: “I like to pretend I’m marooned on the island,” Dee Dee says with a laugh, “and I can’t go anywhere.”



**TIP**  
HEAVY BRONZE SCONCES BY THE BATHROOM VANITY BLUR THE LINE BETWEEN INDOORS AND OUT.



**ABOVE** A mahogany vanity topped with marble was custom made for the master ensuite. “The wood is lacquered, like you’d see in a boat,” says Dee Dee.

**VANITY**, Ellis Fine Cabinetry; **SCONCE**, Sescolite Lighting.

**LEFT** Simple yet sophisticated, the pairing of the ornate rug and striped settee works because of the similar gold tones in both pieces.