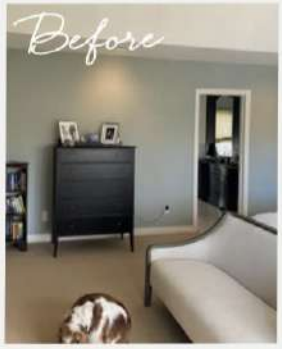
Refined & Elegant

SHONDA PIERCE and Michael Partridge had tackled other renovations in their circa-1988 midtown Toronto home, but they couldn't put this project off any longer. "The bathroom finishes were dark and depressing, and it had no functional lighting," says Shonda. "In the bedroom, the furniture was lost in the room, and the vaulted ceiling was screaming for a light fixture." They tapped Tommy Smythe and Lindsay Mens of TOM Design Studio (*pictured above*) for the principal suite makeover. The duo would normally

In the bedroom, architectural distinction was added with surface-applied moulding and built-ins. ***Wallpaper*** *by Quercus & Co.,* ***bed linen fabric, accent pillow fabric,*** *Memo Showroom;* ***bench,*** *Vintage Fine Objects.*

Design **TOM DESIGN STUDIO**
Photography **PATRICK BILLER**
Text **WENDY JACOB**

Produced by Stacy Begg. Floor plan illustration by Nikki D'Alessandro/Styling by TOM Design Studio



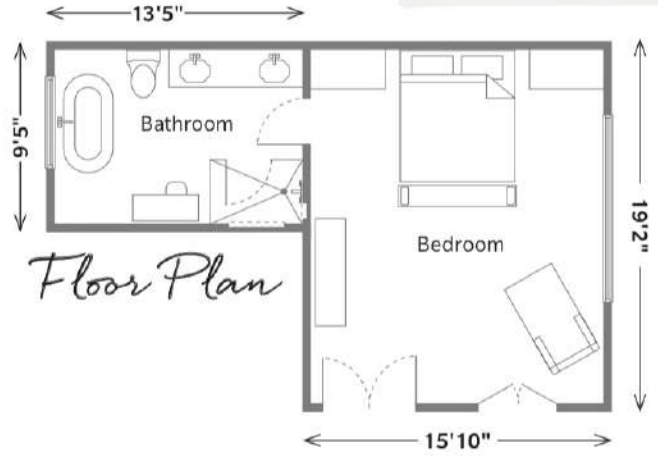
complete a two-room reno like this in 12 weeks, but because of supply chain challenges during the pandemic, it took nine months.

The designers kept the same footprint in the bedroom, but they audited the storage and upped the electrical so there was more lighting. The major change was injecting character into the builder-basic envelope via millwork and raised panelling.

"We added elements that would deliver a dream ensuite with real luxury," says Lindsay of the bathroom upgrades. Though the shower orientation stayed the same, the tub was repositioned and fluted details were repeated on the vanities. "The door spends more time open than closed in an ensuite bathroom, so you're experiencing the spaces together visually," says Tommy. "If the two rooms don't have a connection, you've failed the assignment."

Shonda is excited to spend time in the rejuvenated space. "The chaise is a great spot to read with a cup of tea and cosy blanket," she says. "Everything about the rooms invites you to linger and enjoy."

ABOVE: Lindsay came up with the nuanced colour palette of three different shades. ***Mirror,*** *Decorum Decorative Finds;* ***table lamp,*** *The Door Store;* ***dresser,*** *LD Shoppe.*
FAR RIGHT: "Who doesn't love a chaise?" says Tommy. "Plus, it doubles as a place to lay out your outfit." ***Chaise,*** *Lee Industries;* ***rug,*** *Allan Rug Co.;* ***painting*** *by Amanda Clyne.*



Floor Plan

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TOP LEFT: The fluted portions on the vanity have drawers for hair dryers and brushes, and open via touch-latch. ***Faucets*** *by The Rubinet Faucet Company,* ***sinks*** *by DXV, Canaroma Bath & Tile.*
BOTTOM LEFT: The floor tile is square-cut Calacatta marble. "We wanted the discipline of the grid; it adds modernity to the traditional references," says Tommy. ***Wall tile, floor tile,*** *Saltillo Imports;* ***fixtures*** *by The Rubinet Faucet Company, Canaroma Bath & Tile.*

ELEMENTS OF THE LOOK

- Vaulted ceiling
- Surface-applied mouldings
- Built-ins with open and closed storage
- Tonal palette
- Articulated sconces
- Calacatta marble tile
- Custom-painted tub
- Fluting details

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The custom-painted tub was a splurge. Antique sconces and the scalloped blind are softening touches. *Vintage Murano* ***sconces,*** *Residential Lighting Studio;* ***tub*** *by House of Rohl,* ***tub filler*** *by The Rubinet Faucet Company, Canaroma Bath & Tile.*