Make life easy in your home

Then you set up and organize your home, it makes sense to do it in a way that makes life easier: spare lines, roomy divisions, easy access, practical storage. These are the features that make any home a pleasure to live in.

The entryway: your home's way of saying hello

The entryway sets the tone and announces the style of your home. Recently we've seen a return of the "mud room," a concept that makes the entryway more practical and functional. Racks, hooks and shelves provide lots of space to store coats, umbrellas, scarves, boots and dirty shoes, and easy-care floor coverings reduce the headache of keeping the area clean.

The office: a must for today's busy families

Today the home office has truly come into its own. Often doubling as the family library, this is a bright room with big windows and lots of ingenious storage arrangements for books, papers and office accessories. It should be warm, inviting, inspiring. Make sure to install a multifunction plug for the phone, fax and internet. Having a powder room nearby is another great idea.

The kitchen: the heart and center of the home

No longer the exclusive domain of the lady of the house in her starched white apron, the kitchen has become the centre of today's home, where all the members of the family gather to cook, do homework, read the mail, hang out with friends or just chat. This new daily reality influences the way the room

should be set up and designed. Counters of varying heights will accommodate little ones and adults alike. A lunch counter is the perfect spot for breakfast or homework. An office corner gives you a handy spot to keep books and a computer for consulting online recipes. If space permits, a "real" pantry provides a nice touch with plenty of space for packaged goods.

The laundry room and the bathroom: two separate rooms, two separate functions

The washer and dryer have a place of their own in the laundry and ironing room, freeing up space for the latest rave in bathroom appliances. How about a big glassed-in shower with a molded bench? The sink is tucked away behind a door, and the tub - equipped with jets for a whirlpool effect, of course - is comfortably molded and shaped for relaxation.

The home theatre: make way for entertainment!

The home theatre, born of the marriage of technology and cocooning, is the ultimate necessary accessory in today's modern home. A closed space, soundproof and dark, the room has a remote dimmer for the lights, a small fridge, and cushy armchairs comfortably spaced before a giant screen set into the wall along with the audio-visual equipment and speakers. Let the show begin!

Want more information? Contact your local RONA expert. We'll be more than happy to help you find the answers to all your questions. Or go to www.rona.ca for practical advice and lots of handy tips.

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