

BUNCH OF HOT AIR

There are times when you might want to know if the airflow from your furnace, bathroom exhaust fan or clothes dryer exhaust is working properly.

Here is a simple test from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. Take a simple plastic garbage bag and tape the mouth to a bent coat hanger, or a home-made ring of cardboard, to keep it open.

Crush the bag flat and place it over the register or

exhaust fan — and count how many seconds it takes for the bag to inflate. If the exhaust fan inflates a standard bag in less than two seconds, you have the rated exhaust flow for the fan.

A small garbage bag of 66 by 91 centimetres should inflate in two seconds, indicating airflow of 35 litres per second. If it takes 10 seconds, the flow of air into the bag is just 10 litres per second.

For a large bag (79 by 119 centimetres), inflation in two seconds will mean 100 litres of air flow into the bag per second; if it takes 10 seconds, just 20 litres of air per second flows into the bag.

If the measured air flow from a forced-air register is less than 10 litres per second, the furnace is delivering only a small amount of heat to a room.

— Kathy McCormick

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FROM PAGE J7

BATH: Doubled

Built at the back of the house where the original bathroom and sitting porch with skylight once stood, the bathroom has now doubled in size to about six-by-six metres.

Like a Roman bath gone industrial, the focal point of this room is a massive poured concrete tub, the material studded with aggregate composed of bits of glass, steel and ceramic.

Splashes of colour lighten the scene in the form of three paintings by artist Louise Markus, the owner's ex-wife, and from the large oval forms near the outer windows created by sculptor Jordi Alfaro, who also fashioned ceramic holders along the walls and rounded ceramic cabinets around the perimeter of the bath.

All are made in a smooth white finish, to contrast with the rough concrete and oxidized steel, the darker elements in the room.

Alfaro also made the ceramic stool that sits in the bath itself, etched with drawings by Jai Granofsky, an illustrator. "My mother calls it 'a modern-day Ming vase,'" said Granofsky, who is overseeing the final stages of work on the house, while his father, a computer animator turned musician, is on a photographic expedition in India.

Babou is given pride of place in the room, honoured by dozens of British bulldog figurines the family collects.

They are displayed in the recessed shelves designed expressly for that purpose. The space, says Granofsky, is one of his favourite haunts in the house.

The raised sink in opaque tempered



Photos, Allen McInnis, Montreal Gazette
The shower pours water from the ceiling into the concrete bathtub.

glass sits on a long cabinet made in ash wood around a steel frame by boat-builder William Hansen, who works with Genova and his apprentice architect, Edgardo Pastrana.

Above the countertop, an ornate wooden door from India has been buffed to a sheen and now serves as the bathroom mirror.

Genova is enthusiastic about working with local and recycled material. "I've had years of practice looking at forms and shapes in industrial scrap," he says.

This project has used recycled wood to do the forming, scrap steel, concrete with scrap aggregates and locally harvested ash wood for walls and ceiling.

"The concrete is all aggregate, the steel comes from huge industrial waste collectors and re-made into sheathing for the walls, naturally oxidized, so it has a patina," he says. "Even the glass block wall is framed with extruded recycled plastic."

All of this low-energy architecture started in the 1970s, but then, nobody cared, Genova says. "I've stockpiled industrial material for a long time, and now I want to use some of those features, with industrial artifacts and local material. The idea is to use the raw material as simply as you can."



The skylight lends even more light and design flair to the bathroom.

MONTREAL GAZETTE

COOKING AT THE QUAYS



Photo: Cara Casey

Cooking at the Quays In Inglewood

Cara Casey

"As you can tell, cooking is a passion of mine," says Wayne Bullock as he points to his belly.

His favourite channel is the Food Network and his idea of a good night-in includes experimenting with recipes, always making sure to add the "Wayne flavour," each time.

A divorced, 50-something business analyst for a software company in downtown Calgary, Bullock was tired of the suburban lifestyle and the endless chores that went along with it.

"I did not want to do yard work anymore. I've done enough yard work over the years," he says.

After attending salsa lessons at The Quays, (cooking isn't his only passion,) Bullock decided that he needed some extra help getting a groove on the dance floor.

"Being as I'm a white guy, well... we can't dance that well so I needed some private lessons."

His instructor, Theresa Tucci, is also a resident of the Riverside Quays and suggested he come over to the dance studio located in the complex.

It was love at first sight.

Bullock couldn't believe the amenities just in the gym area which includes a bistro stocked with fresh culinary delights.

He immediately booked a full tour of the building and was impressed by what he saw.

"I was blown away by the inside of the building," he says. The amenities include a theatre and games room and I love the fact that I don't have to worry about losing all of my toys because I can just use these toys."

Mike Sali, a representative of Statesman Developments says that when downsizing, you shouldn't have to lose the pleasures that you have grown accustomed to.

"Many of our home owners are moving from a larger home into the Riverside Quays community to allow for a worry free lifestyle of travelling and maintenance freedom. We believe that they should not have to give up their home gym, their home theatre, billiards room or entertainment areas. This is why Statesman includes all of these amenities and more to make their new home and lifestyle a beautiful way to live."

After seeing all that the Riverside Quays had to offer, Bullock bought a one-bedroom Terrace condo and is excited to move in a couple weeks.

Bullock says that his condo is an investment because of the neighbourhood.

"I think that Inglewood will be the new Kensington. It's eclectic. I bike so I like Kane's Harley Davidson. Also, I love the cooking and knife shops. Nectar has the best

desserts! These are all of the things I'm interested in," Bullock says.

The Riverside Quays shuttle was another amenity that sealed the deal for Bullock.

"I work downtown and the shuttle is great. In my current place,

I walk downtown. I'm not very keen on public transit so this is perfect."


Wayne loves to throw dinner parties and invite his friends over for a good meal.


"Cooking is fun but I must stay... eating is more fun!" he says.



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