

The Kingsway

March 2024

# LIFESTYLE™

Magazine

MY FIGHTING  
FAMILY  
A BOOK REVIEW  
PAGE 10

TAKE A  
WALK IN  
GREATER TORONTO  
PAGE 2

CHOOSING THE  
RIGHT FIREPLACE  
BY JESSICA CINAMMON  
PAGE 16

complimentary  
copies to select  
residences in  
THE KINGSWAY

\$9.95 CANADA



9 771234 567898

12

# Fire It Up

By Jessica Cinnamon



**T**he definition of “home” typically includes “warmth” in some capacity – whether it’s a warm aesthetic, a cozy physical touch or a welcoming ambiance. And in my design experience, it’s usually a combination of all three. Perhaps one of the easiest ways to satisfy your craving for a warm home is by adding a fireplace.

Regardless of the season ahead, a fireplace is a desirable addition to any home – and I’d even argue, a great feature in most rooms. Whether it’s in a more traditional setting, such as a living room or family room, or a less-conventional placement such as the kitchen, a bedroom or bathroom, a fireplace is a great way to add instant heat and drama.

## Choosing a fireplace

When choosing a fireplace, explore all your options, from wood-burning to gas and electric, each with its own pros and cons. Do your research. After all, this is a long-term investment, with many factors to consider.

Wood burning fireplaces are the OG – a classic option, delivering flickering light, heat, sound and a smell that can’t be duplicated. With that being said, wood-burning fireplaces are also far more involved when it comes to installation and investment, often requiring major structural work and a chimney built of masonry, which may not be a viable option in some homes.

Gas fireplaces are a popular choice for many homeowners today, much more affordable to install than their wood-burning counterparts. In truth, gas units may even improve your home’s energy efficiency and reduce your utility bills. A gas fireplace can be installed virtually anywhere in your home, and with the simple flick of a switch, you can heat an entire room in minutes.

Lastly, electric fireplaces are a great plug-and-play option for condos or houses where a gas line is not possible.

Electric fireplaces have come a long way in terms of their design attributes, offering a realistic flame and the sound of crackling logs,

## Styles for Miles

As important to your fireplace’s function is its style, I often remind my clients that the fireplace should complement your home’s overall aesthetic. Remember, the fireplace will be the focal point of the room, so pay thoughtful attention to details to the firebox and surround, the trim, mantel, chimney and the wall around it, to ensure a seamless addition.

The mantel is a great place to infuse your unique style preferences, in terms of the mantel itself and your chosen décor around. Adding in added touch of unique stone can create an impressive look and depending on the details, can compliment a variety of different decor styles, whether classic, contemporary or something in between.



Stephani Buchman photos

Jessica Cinnamon is the founder of Toronto based Jessica Cinnamon Design Inc. The firm is a multi-disciplinary design company that provide complete bespoke residential design services throughout Toronto Ontario, the GTA, Cottage Country, Chicago, and Los Angeles.

[jessicacinnamondesign.com](http://jessicacinnamondesign.com)