



discarded the idea of heavy drapes and instead capitalized on the views and light from the 18th-floor windows.

**By Corinne Abalt**  
staff writer

As soon as she stepped inside the large apartment on the 18th floor of North Park Towers of Southfield, Eve Garvin knew it was for her. She saw right past the black and white tile flooring and the smoked mirror on practically every foot of wall space.

***'I like to do the unexpected . . . I'm a firm believer that you can make anything work if you play with it.'***

— Eve Garvin  
interior decorator

She would turn it into a light-filled penthouse with sunshine colors and eclectic ambience. Garvin, a successful interior designer, said she has done many homes for her and her husband, from Michigan to Florida, but this is first time an apartment has been their permanent residence.

With the cooperation of the management, natural wood floors were put in, most of the mirror was removed, the walls were repaired and painted and the heavy drapes were taken down. The view of Southfield from 18 floors up, night and day, is something the Garvins thoroughly enjoy.

Garvin turned a study next to the living room into the dining room and the dining room next to the kitchen became a charming breakfast room.

She had a long counter with cabinets made for the back wall of the breakfast room. She likes to entertain and with this, she can serve a buffet and have lots of places for guests to eat. Next spring she'll fill a small patio off the breakfast room with potted plants and flowers.

She replaced the mirror and dark wall covering in the foyer with vanilla ice cream string wall covering. Directly ahead her new dining room, in shades of mustard, has an inviting country French look. Garvin used a striking wall paper border on

the plain light walls to repeat some of the colors she used in the room.

Saying with a mischievous smile, "I like to do the unexpected," she noted that she had put her grandmother clock in the dining room although such is more common to a front hall or foyer.

"I'm a firm believer that you can make anything work if you play with it," she said noting that a coromandel screen in the hall has, during its tenure with her, been a focal point in a living room and a bedroom.

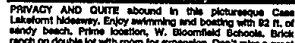
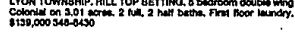
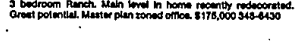
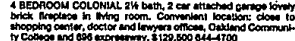
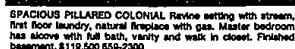
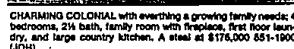
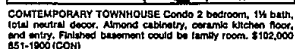
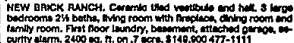
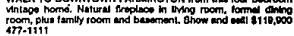
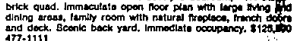
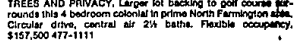
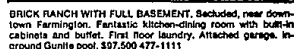
In the large living room of the new apartment, Garvin has many of her favorite oriental pieces and family mementos. She likes to make a small gallery area of family photographs, for instance, rather than scattering them hither and yon. She recalled she had saved a piece of the chintz when she had her sofa covered, too small for a pillow, but big to throw away. This time, it was just enough to cover the gold-colored curtains in the living room window. This small coup quietly and ingeniously ties the colors of the room together.

Each area has an identity, but it always in harmony with the rest, so there is a pleasant, but not overworked continuity.



The cabinets along the wall are actually kitchen cabinets, which Eve Garvin felt would work beautifully in her new breakfast room. With a Formica top added, they make an ideal place for serving a buffet.

**Staff photos by  
Jerry Zolynsky**



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