Crisp whites and a stretch of windows give this dining space a breezy feel.

> Informal dining rooms lend themselves to playful artwork. This linen map of Garibaldi Park is mounted on a plywood backing and fitted with a Plexiglass cover.

Even a small dining room can have a fireplace if it's not overpowering. This flue-less example is made by Ecosmart Fire and can be moved from room to room. You can still have chandeliers in smaller dining rooms. The organic tendrils in the Mod 2097 by Flos keep things light.

The Condo Sage UBC Designer Merike Lainevool Dining Room 60 square feet Designer Tip Simple, white, architectural drapes allow your dining room to easily shift gears. This one can handle both casual lunches and intimate dinners.

If you have a strong table base (like this round Cassina table), choose chairs that won't obscure it, such as these Slab chairs by Tom Dixon.