

A Car Factory Receives a Domestic Revamp

MICHIGAN LOFT BY VLADIMIR RADUTNY ARCHITECTS
CHICAGO, IL, USA
AUTOMOBILE WAREHOUSE → MEZZANINE APARTMENT



Exposed brick walls; blonde timber cladding; and black, gray, and charcoal accents merge under the cavernous concrete ceiling of this century-old structure. Once an automotive assembly warehouse and showroom, the early 20th-century Chicago structure underwent a prior conversion into a domestic residence, but its layout functioned poorly. To rectify this, Vladimir Radutny Architects refined and updated the interior. At the entrance, a cocooning timber-clad transition zone provides a warm welcome and removes the starkness from the warehouse aesthetic. In the living area, the home opens to lofty, double-height ceilings featuring theatrical suspended lighting. The “sleeping cube” is clad in black steel and lined internally with wood paneling, and is situated further from the exterior walls for greater noise and temperature control. The architects’ restraint in tonal and material palette—paired with a selection of quality furniture and materials—has encapsulated the spirit of an ideal industrial conversion.

(Above) The entrance provides a warm, timber-clad welcome. (Left) Hanging pendant lights and a black-painted structural column accentuate the lofty height of the ceiling.

