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EDITOR'S *LETTER*

DESIGN & DECORATION

At this time of year annually, we celebrate great design, colour confidence and, quite simply, the joy of decorating! It's said that good design is invisible, that when things just work the way they're supposed to, you don't even notice them – like a drawer that slides closed gently and never catches little fingers, or a stand mixer with a setting that can whip eggs into the perfect meringue consistency. It's about the little details you don't consciously address until something doesn't work the way you expect it to. Which means that great design is often unnoticed, unsung, completely invisible. This idea led us to ask ourselves – are some of the design principles we're living by, such as that of the kitchen triangle (where the active cooking, cleaning and prep zones are positioned just a footstep or two apart) actually outdated, or do these old rules still apply? Find out in our kitchen design story on page 150.

Of course, design is not just about appliances or layout; design is also at the heart of great decoration. A finished room tells a story, and when it's told well, you don't notice all the individual elements that make it up. Imagine 'Living In Colour' (page 39), our inspired feature on how to use Pantone's Colour Of The Year, 'Classic Blue', with a random yellow cushion in the mix – it just wouldn't work. Instead, it's a symphony of blue: soothing, calming, modern yet timeless.

Also this month, we're exploring five incredible homes, each with a particularly strong style point of view: see them from page 53. If I had to pick a favourite, I'd go with the coastal bohemian home of Amanda and Brad in the Byron Bay hinterland (page 84). It's a dream idyll that also functions really well as a family home – good design in practice.

I hope you enjoy the issue!

Sarah

SARAH BURMAN, EDITOR
Contact me on Instagram @sarahjburman

COVER LOOK

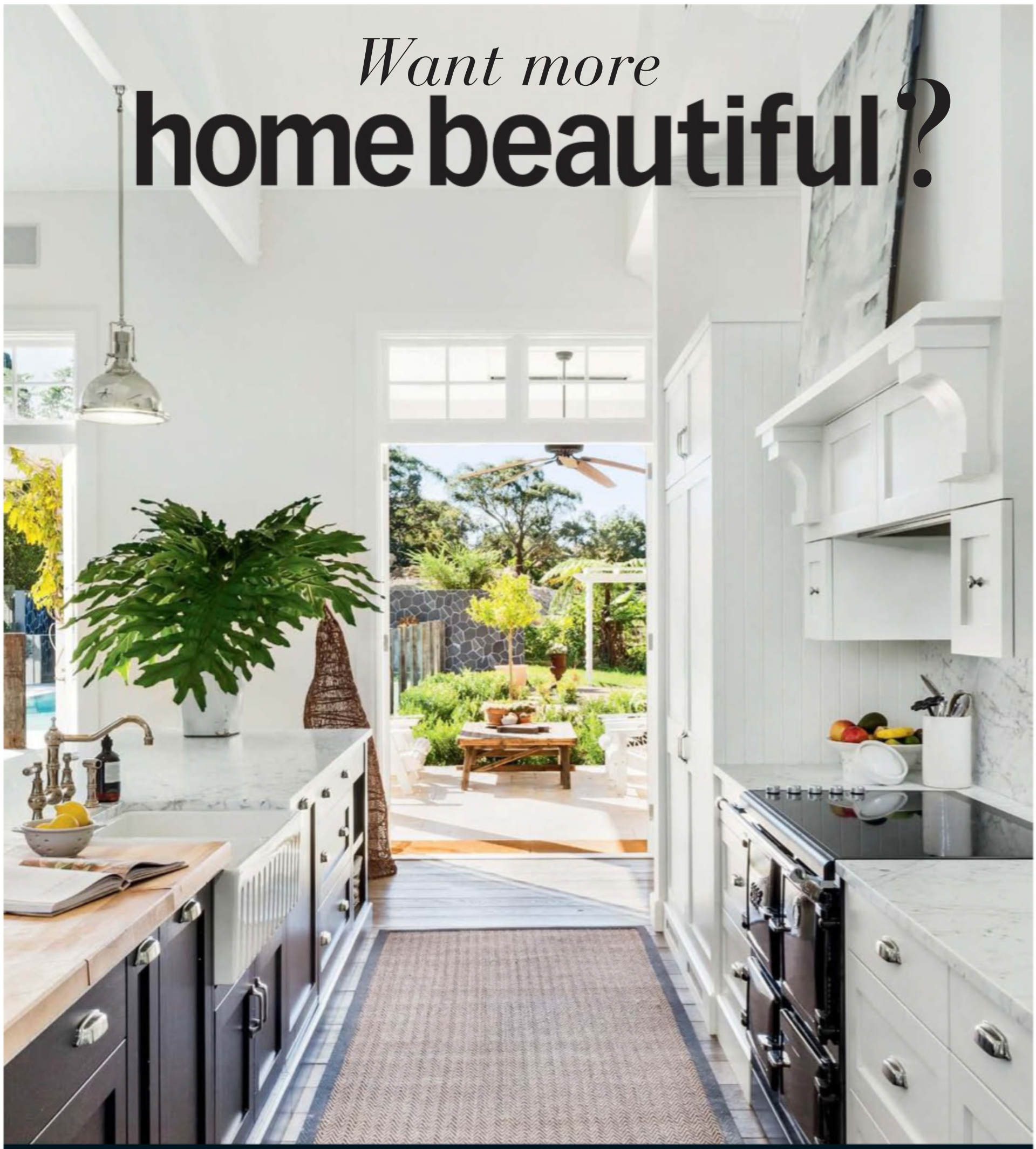
WITH LOFTY CEILINGS, SOPHISTICATED DESIGN CHOICES AND A SOOTHING BLUE AND WHITE PALETTE, THIS HOME, LOCATED ON AMERICA'S EAST COAST, IS *HB*'S COVER GIRL THIS MONTH.

Photography:
Costas Picadas/GAP interiors
Interior Design:
Mabley Handler Designs

LOVE TRIANGLE *pg 150*
Does the go-to kitchen layout still work best?

INTO THE BLUE *pg 39*
The power of colour is celebrated when blue takes centre stage.

PHOTOGRAPHY (TOP RIGHT & BOTTOM RIGHT) **BRIGID ARNOTT** (CENTRE RIGHT) **GAGGENAU**



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@pacificmags.com.au

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HOUSE TO home beautiful

PLANNING A RENOVATION?

WE WANT TO HEAR ABOUT IT!

There's nothing quite as exciting as embarking on a renovating project or planning your dream home from scratch. And we'd love to see what you have in mind! The team at Home Beautiful *would like to share your renovation journey, and perhaps lend a hand along the way! Be it just one room or an entire new home, your project might well be the next* House to Home Beautiful.

IS *YOUR* HOME NEXT ?

Tell us more at *homebeautiful.com.au/reno-tell-all*

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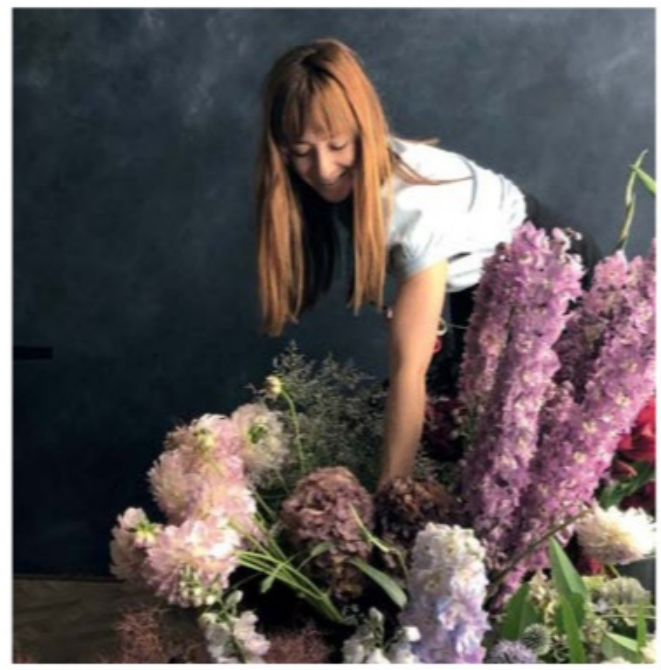


BEHIND THE SCENES This issue, our colour-filled decorating story (from page 39) was brought to life with beautiful blooms from floral stylist Sophie Rothwell (above) of Muscari. Visit muscari.com.au.

OUT AND ABOUT

The *HB* team was lucky enough to get a sneak peek of the latest range from Beaumont Tiles (right) at the QVB's stunning champagne bar, Reign, in Sydney. The event also marked 60 years of tile style for the family-run business.

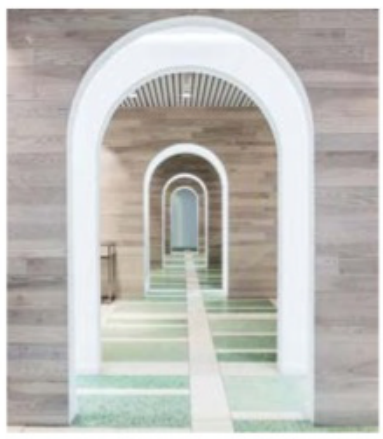
MOST LOVED: INSTAGRAM POST

Turns out we aren't the only ones in need of a relaxing weekend under a shady palm. This outdoor oasis in Sydney designed by Stritt Design and Construction (and photographed by Simon Whitbread, right) was our most liked Instagram post this month.

WE'D *love* TO HEAR FROM YOU! SEND AN EMAIL TO HOMEBEAUTIFUL@PACIFICMAGS.COM.AU TO LET US KNOW WHAT YOU *think about* THE LATEST ISSUE OF *HB*

TOP 3: *instagram accounts*

REFRESHING YOUR INSTA FEED FOR SOME HOT NEW DESIGN INSPO? HERE ARE THE ACCOUNTS WE'RE DOUBLE TAPPING THIS MONTH:



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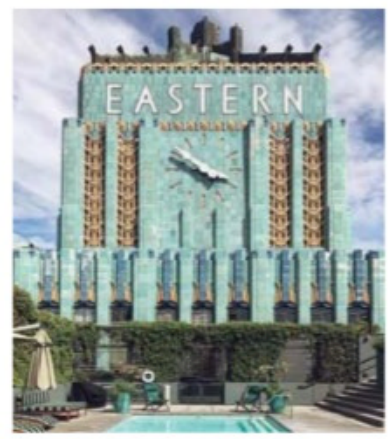
@IHAVETHISTHING WITHFLOORS



@ACCIDENTALLY WESANDERSON

Season two of The Daily Home Edit *podcast has arrived! Tune in for life-changing tips and tricks, from how to bring hotel style home to choosing art you will love forever.*

PHOTOGRAPHY (TOP LEFT) IMOGENE ABADY

designer appliances

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INSIDE OUR NEXT ISSUE...

DREAM HOME *special*

40 *pages of AMAZING IDEAS!* Create the perfect family home with tips, budgets and real-life inspiration.

MAY ISSUE ON SALE APRIL 6

THE EDIT

SHOP | DISCOVER | DECORATE | STYLE | EXPLORE

COLLECTION:
Arc by Lightly

Playful yet tailored design brings personality to any desk. In celebration of its 15th anniversary, design brand Lightly has added a new Arc collection, including chic trays that are perfect for holding stationery or jewellery. Arc tray, from $40, lightly.com.au.

IN THE KNOW:

WHAT'S HOT

OUR ROUND-UP OF THE LATEST DESIGN NEWS, SHOPPING AND DECORATING

Edited by KAYLA WRATTEN

SPIRIT OF FLORENCE

SEVEN DESIGNS FROM THE ARCHIVE OF CREATIVE ICON FLORENCE BROADHURST HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO LIFE AS CANVAS ART BY FLORENCE BROADHURST FABRICS. INSPIRED BY THE FRAMED SILK SCREENS FLORENCE USED TO PRINT TEXTILES, THE ART RANGES FROM FLORALS TO GEOMETRICS. '4 COLOUR PALM' FRAMED CANVAS ART, $299, FLORENCEBROADHURSTFABRICS.COM.

DESIGN AFICIONADOS CAN NOW SHOP *international and local* FURNITURE, LIGHTING AND ACCESSORIES AT DESIGN STORE CULT'S REIMAGINED E-COMMERCE WEBSITE. SHOP ONLINE AT CULTDESIGN.COM.AU.

Amalfi dreaming

The Amalfi Coast brings to mind visions of salty swims, tumbling cliffs and Aperol Spritzes. Graphic designer Patricia Braune's latest range of textiles and wallpapers is influenced by this captivating Italian destination. 'Olivia' (above left) and 'Positano', from $98/m, patriciabraune.com.

PRETTY PEBBLES

THESE INCENSE HOLDERS MASQUERADING AS BUBBLES OF GLASS ARE BEYOND CUTE AND STILL LOOK SUPER CHIC WHEN NOT IN USE. 'LE GALET' GLASS PEBBLE, $29, MAISONBALZAC.COM.

MOROCCAN MAGIC

HB contributor and interior stylist Julia Green has released her first homewares range, inspired by her visits to Morocco. "I collected not only memories, but also handmade and colourful homewares and textiles," she says of her collection, which includes cushions, cutlery and rugs. See greenhouse interiors.com.au.

MIX AND MATCH

WE ADORE THE CONCEPT BEHIND 'BLEND' BY FRAGRANCE LABEL THE AROMATHERAPY CO, WHICH INSPIRES CANDLE LOVERS TO PAIR CANDLES TOGETHER TO CUSTOMISE A LAYERED SCENT. WE RECOMMEND THE 'CARAMEL VANILLA' WITH 'BLACK RASPBERRY' SOY WAX CANDLES, $24.95 EACH, THEAROMATHERAPYCOMPANY.CO.NZ.

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HIDDEN PLACES: INSPIRED TRAVELLER'S GUIDE

WRITTEN BY SARAH BAXTER, ILLUSTRATED BY AMY GRIMES (WHITE LION PUBLISHING, $29.99)

Hidden Places delves into 25 off-the-grid destinations around the globe, from forgotten cities through to secret sanctuaries, to give readers an enticing glimpse of rarely experienced places.

BOBBY BERK X MAX SPARROW

DREAMING OF GIVING YOUR HOME A MAKEOVER, *QUEER EYE* STYLE? NETFLIX INTERIORS GURU, BOBBY BERK, IS BRINGING HIS FURNITURE LINE DOWN UNDER WITH THE DESIGN BRAND MAX SPARROW. "I BELIEVE MY DESIGN AESTHETIC WILL RESONATE WITH AUSTRALIAN LIVING," SAYS THE TV STAR, AND WE AGREE – HIS STYLISH RANGE EXUDES URBAN LUXURY. VISIT MAXSPARROW.COM.AU.

PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE & OPPOSITE, CENTRE) **ARMELLE HABIB**, STYLING **JULIA GREEN**

1 CARNIVALE FLAIR

The 10th exhibition of French artist-designer Hervé Van der Straeten was aptly named 'Fun Ride,' with a focus on bringing the whimsical spirit of funfairs to furniture. 'Cristalloide', made of iridescent stainless cubes for a rainbow effect (below) and sherbet yellow 'Zappy' (right) are just two of the outrageous and original consoles that make up the furniture collection. Visit vanderstraeten.fr/en/.

2 DESIGN DEBUT

The future for Greenkiss, the latest eco-friendly interior brand to hit the global design scene, is bright. The Italian brand's delightful debut includes a 20-piece capsule collection (including the 'Niko' sofa, below) that pays homage to the planet, as the sustainable furniture is made from recycled, regenerated or ethically produced materials.

PHOTOGRAPHY (TOP RIGHT& BOTTOM MIDDLE) **ANNE-EMMANUELLE THION**, (HEADSHOT) **VINCENT DUCARD**, (RUG) **NODUS**

GLOBAL REPORT:

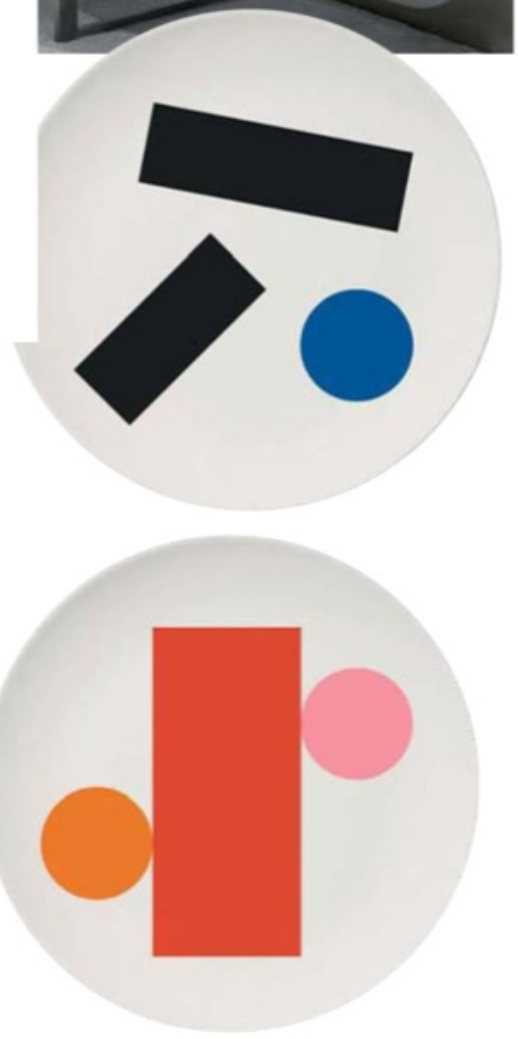
MAISON & OBJET

WE REVEAL SIX OF THE HOTTEST FINDS FROM THE 25TH INSTALMENT OF THIS TREND-SETTING PARISIAN DESIGN FAIR

Edited by KAYLA WRATTEN

3 UP AND COMING

Receiving a Rising Talent Award for her colourful sculptures and carpets (including the Tufty Junior rug, above right), French designer Laureline Galliot, pictured, redefines innovation. Training as a textile colourist before studying design in Paris, she fuses the digital realm with reality by using an iPad and virtual reality software to paint in 3D, at laurelinegalliot.com.



4 TRENDING TABLEWARE

Art-inspired plates from Darkroom London prove that tableware will be statement-making in 2020, darkroomlondon.com. >

THE *binding theme* FOR 2020 IS '(RE)GENERATION', AS THE FAIR EXPLORES MILLENNIALS' DESIRE TO SEE *sustainability* AT THE FOREFRONT OF DESIGN.

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5 FAMILY AFFAIR

Spanning an impressive five generations of the Roset family, French furniture brand Ligne Roset honoured its artisanal heritage at the fair while continuing its dynamic designer collaborations, showing creative couches, chairs and tables. The brand's exclusive retailer in Australia is Domo, domo.com.au.

From top: 'Asmara' settee; 'Lewa' coffee table; 'Hemicycle' sofa, all Ligne Roset.

"CURVED LINES ARE MORE EXAGGERATED THAN EVER, EMBODYING *movement and fluidity*"
- *FIONA GOULD*, HB *STYLE EDITOR*

6 MICHAEL ANASTASSIADES

This honour is a homecoming for London-based lighting designer, Michael Anastassiades, who presented his first collection at Maison & Objet in 2007 after launching his eponymous label. With thin arcs defining his luminaire language, the Cypriot designer's success should come as no surprise, michaelanastassiades.com.

Designer of the Year

The 'Agora of Philanthropists' bench seating designed by RF Studio hit the notes of earth shades and multi-functionality.

5 MINUTES WITH: NEALE WHITAKER

ON HIS RETURN FROM MAISON & OBJET, *HB* CHATS WITH THE INTERIOR STYLE GURU AND LUXAFLEX WINDOW FASHIONS BRAND AMBASSADOR

What were the biggest emerging trends across fabrics, colours and textures at Maison & Objet Paris?

Neale: "Top of that list would be sustainability – almost a prerequisite – closely followed by multi-functionality that acknowledges more of us than ever before are living in smaller spaces. My favourite word – the French 'bricolage' – describes a trend towards mixing styles and eras, shapes and textures to create truly individual interiors. I also noticed an emphasis on natural fibres such as rattan, jute, wicker and abaca, on earthy shades and on ceramics. The concept of artisan-made is still very strong, and Art Deco seems to be the era that keeps on giving... Maison & Objet is about seeing trends in production and applied directly to homewares. It feels like a real taste of what we will be seeing in our favourite homeware stores in the months to come."

What's your advice for bringing these trends into our homes?

"Most of these trends are quite neutral and can be mixed easily into almost any existing decor scheme. Introduce a rug in natural fibres, a rattan-backed chair, or a group of ceramic vessels that share similar shapes or colours [such as the vases, below, that Epure showcased at the fair]. Don't be afraid to mix colours, textures and shapes."

What are your predictions for the three biggest interior trends that will define the decade ahead?

"I divide trends into 'micro', here today and gone tomorrow, and 'macro', the ones that have a defining influence on the way we live. Design and technology will become inextricably linked; there will be a growing emphasis on sustainability and products with energy efficiency, such as Luxaflex window furnishings that will regulate home temperatures due to their innovative design." HB

PHOTOGRAPHY (TOP RIGHT & HEADSHOT, BOTTOM LEFT)) **ANNE-EMMANUELLE THION**, (MIDDLE LEFT) **BEN ANDERS**

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DESTINATION STYLE:

HOBART

WE EXPLORE THE WORLD'S MOST EXCITING DESIGN DESTINATIONS

Words ALIX CLARK

Australia's southernmost capital is a bastion of cool that goes way beyond its lowest temperatures. The finish line of our most famous annual yacht race, host of The Taste Of Tasmania Festival and home to the nation's edgiest museum of art, Hobart and its surrounds are also rich in history (did you know the city was settled years before Melbourne?), breathtaking landscapes, mouth-watering produce and super-stylish places to eat, shop and stay. Read on for our guide to the very best finds in Hobart.

SHOP

1. Miss Arthur Home Goods

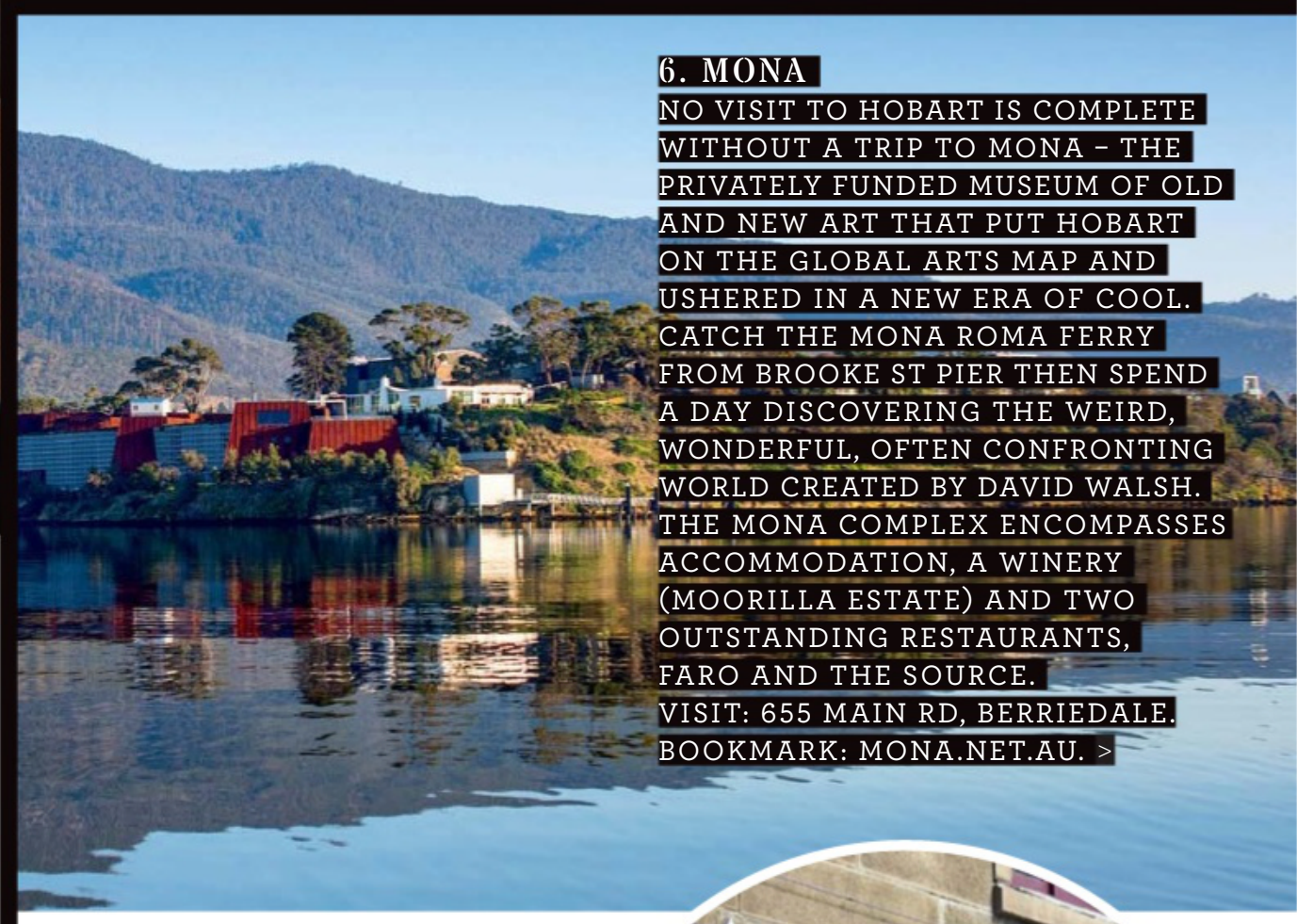
Not so long ago, this neat-as-a-pin store was a rundown mechanic's workshop. Now, it's bright, light and filled with carefully curated items to bring a little joy to your housework. Located in New Norfolk (half an hour north-west of Hobart), next to big sister store The Drill Hall Emporium, Miss Arthur stocks items such as Sibella Court's The Society Inc soap dishes and Merchant & Mills haberdashery, as well as lust-have brooms, feather dusters, string shopping totes and cast-iron cookware.
Visit: 15 Stephen St, New Norfolk.
Bookmark: facebook.com/missarthurhomegoods.

2. TOKO

WHILE YOU'RE OUT ADMIRING THE GEORGIAN ARCHITECTURE OF HISTORIC BATTERY POINT, SPEND SOME TIME IN TOKO, A TINY HOMEWARES STORE ON HAMPDEN RD. SOME OF THE MONOCHROMATIC GOODS ON OFFER ARE SOURCED FROM TASMANIA – SUCH AS JENSON JEWELLERY DISHES AND MARK KNIGHT CERAMIC MUGS. OTHER ITEMS ARE FROM BALI, WHERE THE OWNER HAS A HOLIDAY VILLA, AND HAVE A DEFINITE COOL COASTAL VIBE. VISIT: 46 HAMPDEN RD, BATTERY POINT. BOOKMARK: @TOKO_STORE_.

"IT HAS ALL THE UPSIDES OF A MODERN CITY AND NONE OF THE DOWNS"

~ ALIX CLARK, HB *CONTRIBUTING WRITER*



6. MONA

NO VISIT TO HOBART IS COMPLETE WITHOUT A TRIP TO MONA – THE PRIVATELY FUNDED MUSEUM OF OLD AND NEW ART THAT PUT HOBART ON THE GLOBAL ARTS MAP AND USHERED IN A NEW ERA OF COOL. CATCH THE MONA ROMA FERRY FROM BROOKE ST PIER THEN SPEND A DAY DISCOVERING THE WEIRD, WONDERFUL, OFTEN CONFRONTING WORLD CREATED BY DAVID WALSH. THE MONA COMPLEX ENCOMPASSES ACCOMMODATION, A WINERY (MOORILLA ESTATE) AND TWO OUTSTANDING RESTAURANTS, FARO AND THE SOURCE.
VISIT: 655 MAIN RD, BERRIEDALE.
BOOKMARK: MONA.NET.AU. >

DINE

3. Port Cygnet Cannery

Jump in your hire car and drive 50 minutes south to the picturesque village of Cygnet, then drop in at the recently opened Port Cygnet Cannery. Formerly an apple shed on the shores of the river, the cannery has been revitalised and is now home to a cafe, restaurant and winery. Enjoy a cinnamon bun then wander the main street of Cygnet to hunt down antiques and local crafts.
Visit: 60 Lymington Rd, Port Cygnet.
Bookmark: portcygnetcannery.com.

4. Templo

You'll need to book ahead to enjoy a meal by chef and co-owner Matt Breen at this small but perfectly formed restaurant on the edge of the Hobart CBD. With just 20 seats, the atmosphere here is always convivial and we recommend the shared table as a great way to meet fellow diners.
Visit: 98 Patrick St, Hobart.
Bookmark: templo.com.au.

EXPLORE

5. Salamanca Arts Centre

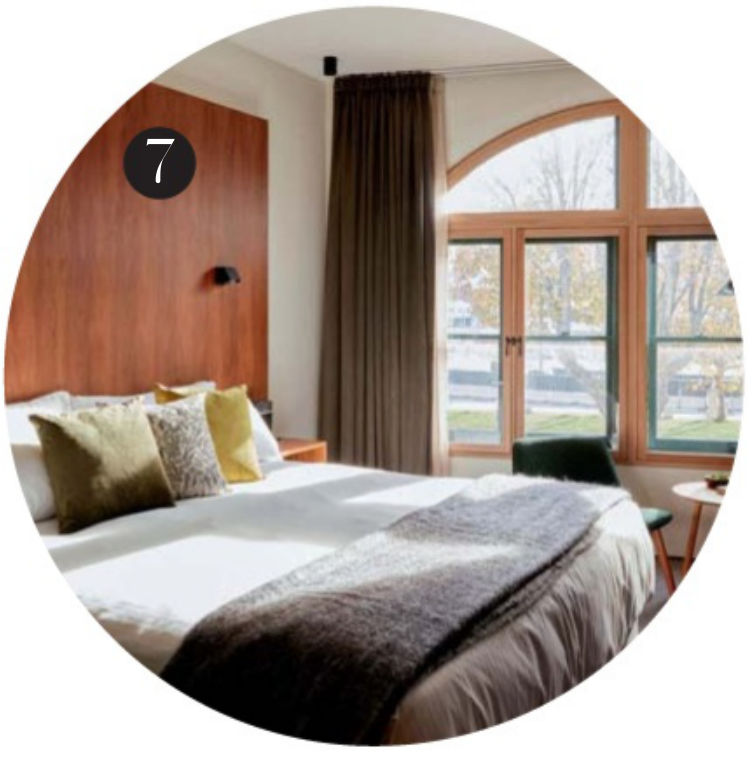
If you need a break from the hustle and bustle of Saturday's Salamanca Market, check out the galleries of the Salamanca Arts Centre in the old bond stores at the south end of Salamanca Place. Aspect Design has been trading for more than 40 years and features exclusively Tasmanian art, homewares, ceramics and custom-made timber furniture.
Visit: 77 Salamanca Pl, Battery Point.
Bookmark: salarts.org.au.

PHOTOGRAPHY (OPPOSITE, BELOW LEFT) **TOURISM TASMANIA/KATHRYN LEAHY.** (BELOW RIGHT) **KISHKA JENSEN.** (THIS PAGE, MIDDLE RIGHT) **TOURISM TASMANIA/KATHRYN LEAHY & ROB BURNETT,** (BELOW RIGHT) **TOURISM TASMANIA/KATHRYN LEAHY.**

STAY

7. Moss

Hobart is not short on history and Moss hotel in the heart of Salamanca Place is the perfect place from which to soak it up. It's situated in former sandstone warehouses that once housed whalers, traders and publicans, and each of its rooms is unique and luxuriously appointed with local mini-bar items, handmade furniture and soft furnishings. Room prices start from $190.
Visit: 25 Salamanca Place, Hobart.
Bookmark: mosshotel.com.au.

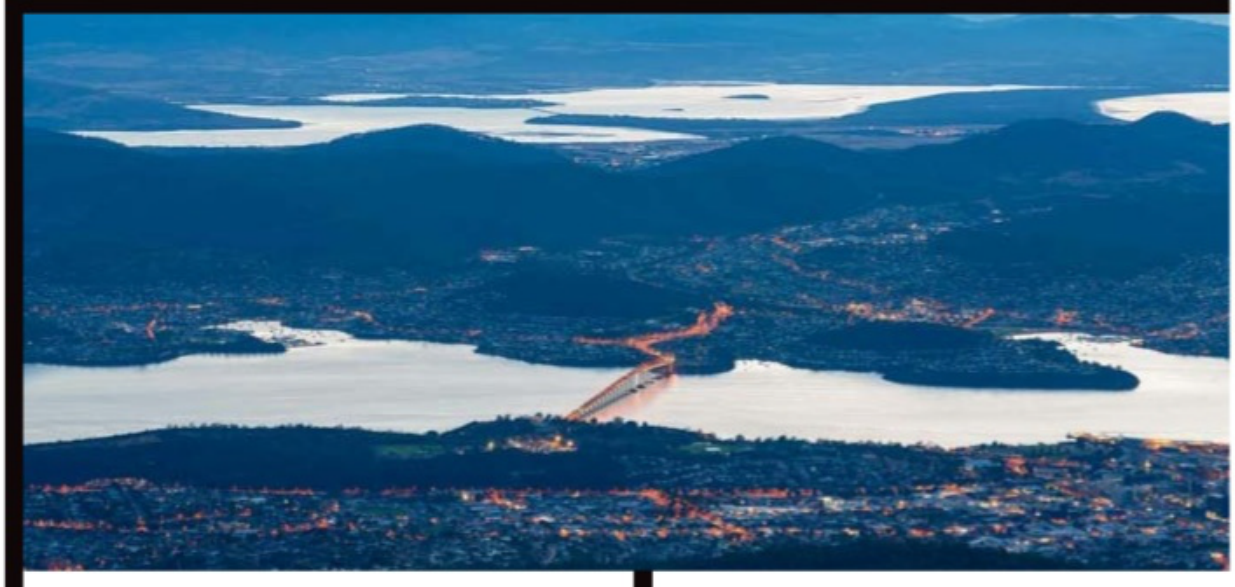


8. SLOW BEAM

HIGH ON THE SLOPES OF WEST HOBART (JUST 10 MINUTES FROM THE CENTRE OF TOWN) SITS SLOW BEAM – A MODERN ARCHITECTURAL GEM CREATED TO OFFER LUXURIOUS ACCOMMODATION FOR COUPLES OR SOLO TRAVELLERS. FURNISHED AND DECORATED WITH WORKS BY ARTISTS AND DESIGNERS INCLUDING GRANT FEATHERSTON (FURNITURE), ESTHER STEWART (PAINTING) AND ANNA VARENDORFF (SCULPTURE), THIS WELL-STOCKED ABODE CAPTURES SWEEPING VIEWS OVER THE CITY AND SURROUNDING BUSHLAND. WHOLE HOUSE PRICED FROM $470. VISIT: ADDRESS IS PROVIDED AT TIME OF BOOKING. BOOKMARK: SLOWBEAM.COM.

"YOU'LL NEVER WANT TO LEAVE THIS LUXURIOUS DESIGNER TREEHOUSE"

~ ALIX CLARK, HB *CONTRIBUTING WRITER*



PHOTOGRAPHY (CENTRE RIGHT) **LUKE TSCHARKE**

WHAT TO PACK

Expect big blue skies in Hobart in March and April, but it can certainly get chilly so don't forget your 'Tasmanian tuxedo' (also known as a puffer jacket). You'll also need a pair of comfortable walking shoes for seeing the best of the scenery and, if you've been itching to wear a beanie and chunky scarf, this is your chance. It's all about layers here as the weather can change quickly and frequently.

HOW TO GET THERE

Direct flights are available from all capital cities except Darwin. It's less than two hours' flying time from Sydney (a return flight in late April will cost about $300). Pick up a rental car from the airport so you'll be able to explore beyond the city itself. Alternatively, bring your car with you and catch the *Spirit of Tasmania* ferry from Melbourne to Devonport (a three-hour drive from Hobart). Visit spiritoftasmania.com.au.

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TREND:

GO GINGHAM

THE PERENNIALLY CHEERFUL PATTERN RETURNS IN RICH HUES TO ENLIVEN INTERIORS

Compiled by JOHN MANGILA

SHOP IT

1. *Gingham* ***duvet cover*** *in Fuchsia, $239/single, Society Of Wanderers.* **2.** *Tassel* ***throw*** *in Marmalade Toast, $269, Kip & Co.* **3.** *'Tattie Tartan'* ***cushion*** *by Anna Spiro, $450, Fenton & Fenton.* **4.** *'Maelle'* ***bath sheet*** *in Lemon, $89, Sage & Clare.* **5.** *'Gingham'* ***tote****, $118, The Outnet.* **6.** *'Patch'* ***rug*** *in Mint/Grey, from $999, The Rug Collection.* **7.** *'Jilly'* ***cup*** *in Gingham Plaid, $70, Jill Rosenwald.* **8.** *'Lucia'* ***armchair****, $2275, Coco Republic.* ***Stockists, page 187***

Gingham girls: looks from Ulla Johnson (top) and Lee Matthews (left) on the runway.

"CLASSIC GINGHAM HAS A *playfulness* THAT WILL LIFT YOUR DECOR - AND MOOD" ~ *FIONA GOULD,* HB *STYLE EDITOR*

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WISH LIST

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TO OUR SHOPPING CART

Styling JOHN MANGILA

SHOP IT

1. *'Benjamin'* ***buffet*** *in Dark Teal, $3105, Globe West.* **2.** *'Everly'* ***pendant*** *light, $4265, Boyd Blue.* **3.** *'Untamed Valencia'* ***wallpaper****, $205* (USD$137), Drop It Modern.* **4.** *Evie* ***napkin*** *in Navy, $39.99/ set of 4, Linen House.* **5.** *Tom Dixon soft* ***cushions****, $340 each, Top 3 By Design.* **6.** *High back 3.5-seater* ***sofa*** *in Plateau, $3890, Saarde Home.* **7.** *Ferm Living 'Desert'* ***lounge chair****, $569, Urban Bureau.* **8.** *'Confetti'* ***planter****, from $189, Design By Them.* **9.** *SMA Ceramics stoneware* ***bud vase****, $90, Chinaclay.*

Stockists, page 187

"SOFT FURNISHINGS IN *autumnal* TONES HAVE ME DREAMING OF COSY NIGHTS IN" ~ *SARAH BURMAN,* HB *EDITOR*

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CREATIVE COLLECTION:

MATERIAL GIRL

IT TOOK PAIGE MILLER A DECADE TO FIND HER TRUE PASSION. NOW, THE SELF-CONFESSED 'UPHOLSTERY NERD' COULDN'T BE HAPPIER

Words & Styling KYLIE JACKES Photography JOHN DOWNS

AT A GLANCE

Who: *Paige Miller from The Dusty Road Upholstery.*
What she does: *Reupholster furniture and upholster new custom pieces.*
Where: *Byron Bay, NSW.*
Why she does it: *"I love working with my hands, being creative, thinking creatively and collaborating with clients and other creatives, to transform furniture with upholstery."*
Visit: *thedustyroad.com.au*
Follow: *@thedustyroad*

At just 50 square metres, there's not a lot of space to move about in Paige Miller's workshop, where she runs her business, The Dusty Road Upholstery. Tucked underneath a gallery in Byron Bay's bustling Arts & Industrial Estate, the tiny space where Paige often works late into the night transforming furniture, is filled with fabric stacks, samples and a hefty industrial sewing machine and overlocker. While it swelters in summer and is a squeeze when crammed with pieces in progress, the workshop is her happy place. "For me, it's a dream to immerse myself in a craft which is so transformative," she says.

Having dabbled in a variety of things, such as an environmental science degree, marketing, hospitality, long stints travelling, and television production, Paige finally found her creative side when she moved to Byron Bay eight years ago, and fell in love with upholstery.

"It was like falling down a rabbit hole and finding myself in Alice's wonderland filled with possibilities," she explains. Paige landed a job as a PA for acclaimed artist David Bromley and his wife, Yuge, which opened her eyes to many artistic applications, the most fascinating of which for her proved to be upholstery. "David would find interesting antique furniture pieces and get them reupholstered in an old canvas, a paint-splattered drop sheet or vintage rugs, and the result was incredible," she says.

What followed was a three-year self-guided apprenticeship of sorts. The first challenge was learning how to sew on an industrial machine she'd bought for $500, which turned out to be a lemon. "It made it a very rocky start, but over the years I've discovered skills I never knew I had, like persistence, and that I can lift and wrestle furniture twice my weight," she says.

An eager student, Paige sought out experience wherever she could, with several local upholsterers generously sharing their knowledge and offering her work. The Bromleys also commissioned upholstery projects she'd tackle while studying books on the topic, watching You Tube tutorials and Googling. "By that stage they'd moved to Daylesford [Victoria], so I'd go down there for stints and lock myself in a studio full of chairs, and just sit for hours working things out, practising and making mistakes. It was a really good way to learn and I'm so grateful for David," she says.

Since launching her business two-and-a-half years ago, Paige has carved out a niche not only reupholstering furniture, but also working with interior designers and architects on fit-outs for local restaurants and accommodation providers, creating everything from custom bedheads and joinery through to banquet seating. "There's infinite possibilities with upholstery and always something to learn, which is why I love it," she says. "I can't imagine doing anything else." HB

"I'M STILL LEARNING. THAT'S WHAT I LOVE ABOUT UPHOLSTERY. YOU CAN'T BECOME A MASTER OVERNIGHT. IT'S A DAILY PRACTICE" ~ *Paige*

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: *A finished piece ready for collection; samples from Paige's fabric collection: "One of my favourite parts of the job is sourcing the right fabric for a project," says Paige (opposite); a completed daybed in green velvet in a client's home; an Italian-designed circa '90s chair, reupholstered in boucle fabric by Elliott Clarke for local clothing store St Agni; Paige at work on her machine: "Although challenging and unforgiving to work with, velvet and leather always looks amazing," she says.*

BEAUTY:

RISE AND SHINE

LIGHT UP YOUR COMPLEXION WITH OUR PICK OF VITAMIN-C INFUSED SKINCARE

Styling FIONA GOULD Photography BRIGID ARNOTT

"STIMULATE COLLAGEN AND GET YOUR *glow* ON WITH THIS POWERFUL ANTIOXIDANT"

~ FIONA GOULD, HB *STYLE EDITOR*

1. *Direct Delivery Vitamin C antioxidant* ***serum****, $165, DMK.* ***2.*** *B Triple C Facial balancing* ***gel****, $130, Aesop.* ***3.*** *Potent C Bright & Plump* ***moisturiser****, $106, Peter Thomas Roth.* ***4.*** *The Inkey List Vitamin C* ***serum****, $18, Sephora.* ***5.*** *Ole Henriksen Banana Bright* ***face primer****, $49, Sephora.* ***6.*** *Dr Dennis Gross C+ Collagen deep* ***cream****, $110, Mecca.* ***7.*** *Radiance C Defensive antioxidant* ***mist****, $39, Ella Bache.* ***8.*** *Fresh Pressed 7 Day System* ***booster****, $45, Clinique.* ***9.*** *Pixi Vitamin-C Caviar* ***balm****, $46, Adore Beauty.* ***10.*** *Vitamin C* ***suspension****, $9.80, The Ordinary.* ***Stockists, page 187***

STYLING ASSISTANT **SAMANTHA POINTON**

LIFE INSPIRED

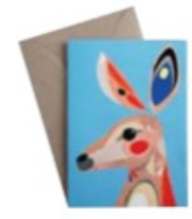
A COLLECTION OF HOMEWARES TO CELEBRATE THE BEAUTY OF OUR EXTRAORDINARY AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE

For Victorian artist Pete Cromer, inspiration is all around him in the Australian wildlife and plants that surround his home. He expresses his love of nature through the bold, playful and unique artworks that feature in his collaboration with Maxwell & Williams. Now, Pete's artwork has also been expanded into insulated drink bottles in his signature animal designs. The future looks bright for this successful partnership, so expect to see more beautiful creations to collect in the Maxwell & Williams range.

"The style of the range reflects everything that I love and my own home."
Pete Cromer

ART TO ENJOY

This longstanding partnership with Pete Cromer is part of Maxwell & Williams' commitment to supporting emerging and established Australian artists. Through these collaborations, Australians can own and enjoy beautiful art while also expressing their own style through a range of homewares created to bring joy to the everyday. These colourful, lively pieces are the perfect complement to the Maxwell & Williams White Basics collection, a classic that has become an everyday essential. Pete's work is also on items such as mugs, coasters, greeting cards, egg cups and tea towels with his birdlife and animal paintings in his signature graphic style.



ABOVE Pete Cromer Double Wall Insulated Bottles 500ml, **$19.95 RRP each. RIGHT** Pete Cromer Koala Mug 375ml, **$9.95 RRP.** Pete Cromer Kangaroo Greeting Card **$6.95 RRP.** Pete Cromer Galah Egg Cup **$5.95 RRP**

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"CURVED *lines* WILL SOFTEN YOUR SPACE WITH *stylish* FLAIR"

~ *FIONA GOULD*, HB *STYLE EDITOR*

9

8

10

TOP 10:

COOL CONTOURS

TAKE A SEAT IN STYLE WITH THESE TOP PICKS THAT ARE AHEAD OF THE CURVE

Merchandising FIONA GOULD

1. *'Mellow'* ***armchair*** *in Dusty Pink, $439, Vorsen.* **2.** *'Bismarque'* ***swivel chair*** *in Orange, $1299, Future Classics.* **3.** *Cafe Lighting & Living 'Tubby' swivel* ***armchair*** *in Black Plaid, $1789, Zanui.* **4.** *'Inkolo'* ***stool****, $589, Uniqwa Furniture.* **5.** *Harto 'Eustache'* ***bench*** *in Green, $2165, Trit House.* **6.** *'Theodore' scoop occasional* ***chair****, $2185, Globe West.* **7.** *'Luna'* ***chair****, $1540, King Living.* **8.** *Menu 'Afteroom' lounge* ***chair*** *in Cognac Silk, $2695, Open Room.* **9.***'Martini'* ***chair*** *in Rattan White Wash, $699, Oz Design Furniture.* **10.** *Christophe Delcourt 'Bol'* ***armchair****, $2395, DOMO.* ***Stockists, page 187***

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living in COLOUR

THE POWER OF COLOUR IS UNDENIABLE, ESPECIALLY IN THE HOME. HERE, WE EXPLORE HOW TO USE PANTONE'S COLOUR OF THE YEAR, 'CLASSIC BLUE', IN A WAY THAT IS BOLD AND CONFIDENT YET CALMING. THE SECRET? PAIRING IT WITH UPLIFTING HUES OF LILAC FOR A PALETTE THAT INSPIRES

Styling FIONA GOULD
Photography BRIGID ARNOTT

For product details, see page 49

GLORIOUS FLORALS IN RICH SHADES OF PURPLE ARE BALANCED BY AFFIRMING COBALT, CREATING A SENSE OF PLAYFULNESS AND CREATIVITY

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM BELOW LEFT: 'Pompeii' ***cushion*** *in Sangria, $122, Walter G. 'Malnion'* ***rug*** *200cm x 290cm in Turquoise by The Rug Collective, $289.95, Zanui. 'Bergere'* ***chair****, $3800, Parterre. Velvet rectangle* ***pillow*** *in Blush Pink, $89.95, The Lost And Found Department. 'Still Life With Flowers' in Pink* ***cushion*** *60cm x 60cm, from $160, Kerrie Brown. 'Siena' Palermo Sugarcane* ***fabric*** *in Mauve (used as* ***drapes****), $122/m, Materialised. Antique* ***wall paint*** *in custom colour by Ludi Braga Interior.* ***Florals*** *by Muscari. 'Lotus' marble* ***vase****, $520/large, Tara Dennis Store. Vintage gold bevel edge* ***mirror*** *with gilt rope twist, $399, and 'Martini'* ***table*** *with 50cm marble top in White, $1215, both Le Forge. 'Hue'* ***mug*** *in Purple, $9.95, Salt & Pepper. 'Prato' upholstery* ***fabric*** *in Bordeaux (ottoman), $158/m, Mokum Textiles. Texline* ***flooring*** *in Paris Blond, $35-$40/sqm, Gerflor. OPPOSITE, FROM LEFT: Eighteenth century Italian rococo* ***console****, $4800, The Vault. Carron Mademoiselle salad* ***bowl****, $225.95, The Lost And Found Department. Glasses, stylist's own. 'Dynasty' ginger chain* ***jar****, $54.95, Provincial Home Living. Carron Mademoiselle* ***vase****, $420.95, The Lost And Found Department. Japanese bulb* ***vase****, $59.50, The DEA Store. 'Mona' cone mini* ***vase*** *in Blue, $29, L&M Home.* ***Florals*** *by Muscari. 'Aubriet'* ***wallpaper*** *in Amethyst by Designers Guild, $825/panel, Radford Furnishings.* ***Stockists page 187*** *>

STYLING ASSISTANTS SAMANTHA POINTON, KATIE TURNER, ALYCE PERKINS

"A TABLE LAYERED WITH INDIGO PRINTS FEELS BEAUTIFULLY OPULENT – A FEAST FOR THE SENSES – OFFSET BY A BACKDROP AS RESTFUL AS THE NIGHT SKY"

~ FIONA GOULD, HB *STYLE EDITOR*

BELOW, FROM LEFT: Antique ***wall paint*** *application by Ludi Braga, using Obsidian by Porter's Paints. Stick back wooden* ***chair*** *handpainted in Jolie paint in Noir, $299, Tara Dennis Store. 'Conrad'* ***dining chair*** *(two displayed), $269.95, Provincial Home Living. Leather 'Edington'* ***chair****, $415, Gallery Homewares. 'Leeton'* ***dining table****, $2299, Provincial Home Living.* ***On table, from left:*** *P/Kaufmann's 'Inkwell' Arizona* ***fabric*** *in Blue (used as the* ***tablecloth****), $122/m, Materialised. 'Flocca' linen* ***tablecloth*** *in Fonda, $349, Hale Mercantile. 'Mantra' Greg Irvine* ***plate*** *(six displayed), $12.95, Maxwell & Williams, on top of 'Relic'* ***dinner plate*** *in Blue (six displayed), $14.95, Salt & Pepper. 'Barocco'* ***tumbler*** *in Aquamarine (five displayed), $109/set of 6,* ***dinner plate*** *in Thunder by Sthal, $59.50, and 'Rocco' stainless-steel 24-piece* ***cutlery set*** *(throughout table), $427, all from Casa E Cucina. Vintage urn, stylist's own.* ***Florals*** *by Muscari. 'Purismo' red wine* ***goblet*** *(three displayed), $99.95/set of 4, Villeroy & Boch. 'Artefact' footed* ***bowl*** *in Blue, $29.95, Salt & Pepper. 'Lineage'* ***candlestick holders*** *(two displayed), $125/set of 3, The Society Inc. 'Merci Louis' tall* ***candlestick holders*** *(two displayed), $79.95, The Lost And Found Department. 'Caviar'* ***bowl*** *in Granite (three displayed), $5.95, Maxwell & Williams. Ceramic v****ase*** *in Black (two displayed), $14.95, Tara Dennis Store. Philippines* ***fabric*** *in Woad (used as* ***curtain****) by William Yeoward, $315/m, Radford Furnishings.* ***Stockists page 187*** *>

FORGET FLAT COLOUR –PANTONE'S 'CLASSIC BLUE' COMES TO LIFE ON BOLD GEOMETRICS AND MODERN BOTANICALS

THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: 'Tip Toe' ***cushion*** *in Navy, $69.96, Eadie Lifestyle. 'Sandpiper'* ***cushion*** *60cm x 40cm, from $160, Kerrie Brown. 'Soho'* ***cushion*** *in Navy, $54.50, Eadie Lifestyle. 'In The Garden Of Double Happiness'* ***cushion*** *60cm x 60cm, from $160, Kerrie Brown. 'Chinese Floral'* ***cushion cover****, $85, Florence Broadhurst Fabrics. 'Malnion'* ***rug*** *200cm x 290cm in Turquoise by The Rug Collective, $289.95, Zanui. Mug and book, stylist's own.*

OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ***Florals*** *by Muscari. P/Kaufmann's 'Inkwell' Arizona* ***fabric*** *in Blue, $122/m, Materialised. 'Artefact' footed* ***bowl*** *in Blue, $29.95, Salt & Pepper. 'Barocco'* ***tumbler*** *in Aquamarine, $109/set of 6, Casa E Cucina. 'Mantra' Greg Irvine* ***plate****, $12.95, Maxwell & Williams. 'Relic'* ***dinner plate*** *in Blue, $14.95, Salt & Pepper. 'Flocca' linen* ***tablecloth*** *in Fonda, $349, Hale Mercantile. 'Rocco' stainless-steel 24-piece* ***cutlery set****, $427, and* ***dinner plate*** *in Thunder by Sthal, $59.50, both Casa E Cucina.* ***Stockists page 187*** >

THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: 'Mimosa Vine' ***linen*** *in Viola by Carolina Irving, $445/m, Tigger Hall. 'Lynette'* ***cushion cover*** *in Burgundy, $89.95, Eadie Lifestyle. 'Moana'* ***throw*** *in Elderberry, $109.99, Linen House. 'Reilly'* ***bed cover*** *in Fig, $309.95/queen, Sheridan. Stool, stylist's own. OPPOSITE, FROM TOP:* ***Wall paint*** *application in custom colour by Ludi Braga Interior. Floating antiqued landscape* ***wall art****, $35, Tara Dennis Store. 'Reclining Nude #2'* ***artwork*** *by Matilda Mitchell, $950, Art2muse. 'Alice'* ***bedhead*** *in Ellison Lavender Pink, $1930/queen, Heatherly Designs.* ***On bed, from back:*** *'Basix' standard* ***pillowcase*** *in Moro, $59, Hale Mercantile. 'Neve' European* ***pillowcases****, $49.99 each, Linen House. 'Chelsea'* ***cushion*** *in Preonze, $109.94, Eadie Lifestyle. 'Nimes'* ***cushion*** *in Elderberry, $49.99, Linen House. 'Luca'* ***cushion*** *in Aubergine 40cm x 60cm, $89.95. Eadie Lifestyle. Flocca* ***flat sheet*** *in Moro, $395/queen, Hale Mercantile. 'Reilly'* ***flat sheet*** *in Fig, $359.95/queen, 'Abbotson'* ***bed cover*** *in Plum, $499.95/queen, both Sheridan. 'Chevron'* ***throw*** *in Plum, $159.95, Kas Australia. 'Moana'* ***throw*** *in Elderberry, $109.99, Linen House.* ***Chair*** *painted in Noir, $299, Tara Dennis Store.* ***On chair:*** *'Drop'* ***vase*** *in Dark Lilac, $39.95, Villeroy & Boch. 'Tangier Memories'* ***perfume*** *by Teresa Helbig, $239, Farage. Jewellery box, stylist's own. Casamance 'Parmelie'* ***fabric*** *(used as* ***drapes****) by Zepel Fabrics, $394/m, Material World. Texline* ***flooring*** *in Paris Blond, $35-$40/sqm, Gerflor. 'Opulence'* ***rug*** *330cm x 240cm, $569, Temple & Webster. 'Bowman'* ***slides*** *in Lilac, $60, Wittner.* ***Stockists page 187*** *>

BELOW, FROM LEFT: ***Ribbon*** *in Purple, $2.99/m, Spotlight. 'Still Life With Flowers' in Blue* ***fabric****, from $170/m, Kerrie Brown (used as* ***base****). 'Aranda' subway* ***tile*** *in Blue, $99/m, Tile Cloud. Purple tile, stylist's own. 'Husk'* ***fabric*** *in Lilac (on wall), $110/m, Warwick Fabrics. Florence Broadhurst 'Slub' Palermo Sugarcane* ***fabric*** *in Plum (on wall), $122/m, and 'Grain' Palermo Sugarcane* ***fabric*** *in Aubergine (on purple box), $122/m, both Materialised. Purple ceramic bowl and glass vase, stylist's own. 'Zellige' terracotta* ***tile*** *in Purple 100mm x 100mm, $189/sqm, Teranova Ceramic. Ceramic* ***vase*** *in Black, $14.95, Tara Dennis Store. 'Avalon' gloss* ***tile*** *in Marina Blue, $98/m, Tile Cloud. 'Albert Park'* ***tile*** *in Matt Dark Blue, $99/m, Tile Cloud. Wash & Wear* ***paint*** *in the colours of Lilac Crystal Half (left box), $41.40/L, Punctuate (at back), $48.55/L, Diplomatic (blue at front), $48.55/L and Mystification, $48.55/L, all Dulux. Florence Broadhurst 'Chinese Key' in Palermo Sugarcane* ***fabric*** *in Aubergine (on blue box), $122/m, Materialised. 'Dolce'* ***fabric*** *in Ink (on blue box), $77/m, Warwick Fabrics. 'Blau'* ***vase****, $10/small, Salt & Pepper. Blue cup, stylist's own. 'Brixham'* ***fabric*** *in Cornflower, $88/m, Warwick Fabrics.* ***Painted wall*** *by Ludi Braga, using Obsidian by Porter's Paints.*

"A SUPERB SYMPHONY OF BRILLIANT BLUES AND OPULENT PURPLES – FROM GENTLEST LILAC TO VIBRANT VIOLET – ARE SET TO DOMINATE THE DECORATING PALETTE THIS YEAR"

~ FIONA GOULD, HB *STYLE EDITOR*

OPENER (BELOW & PAGE 39), FROM TOP: 'There Is Story Here But They Just Can't Read It' ***artwork*** *by Antonia Mrljak, $6200, Curatorial & Co. 'Bellewood Porcelain'* ***wallpaper*** *in Blue, $85/sqm, Scandinavian Wallpaper & Decor. 'Erosion' sheer* ***fabric*** *in Torrent by James Dunlop, $136/m, Mokum Textiles. Theodore 'Vogue'* ***sofa*** *in Cobalt Blue, $6805, Globe West.* ***On sofa, from left:*** *'L'été'* ***cushion****, $295, Parterre. 'Lynette'* ***cushion*** *in Burgundy, $89.95, Eadie Lifestyle. 'Emperor's New Clothes'* ***cushion*** *60cm x 60cm, from $160, Kerrie Brown. 'Chinese Floral' velvet* ***cushion*** *cover, $85, Florence Broadhurst Fabrics. 'French Portrait'* ***cushion****, $295, Parterre. 'Prato' upholstery* ***fabric*** *in Bordeaux (ottoman), $158/m, Mokum Textiles. 'Nomad' by Sibella Court, $60, The Society Inc. Timna Taylor* ***beaker****, $95, The DEA Store. 'Cheval'* ***side table*** *in Black, $395, Le Forge. Purple* ***candleholder****, $45, Mitchell Road Antiques. 'Camila' pear* ***vase****, $20, Tara Dennis Store.* ***Florals*** *by Muscari.* ***On floor, from left:*** *'In The Garden Of Double Happiness'* ***cushion*** *60cm x 60cm, from $160, Kerrie Brown. 'Malnion'* ***rug*** *200cm x 290cm in Turquoise, $289.95, Zanui. Texline* ***floor*** *in Paris Blond, $35-$40/sqm, Gerflor.* ***Stockists page 187***

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INSPIRED BY THE NORDIC LOVE OF DESIGN SIMPLICITY, THIS SCANDINAVIAN BARN-STYLE HOME IS WARM, INVITING AND AT ONE WITH ITS SURROUNDINGS

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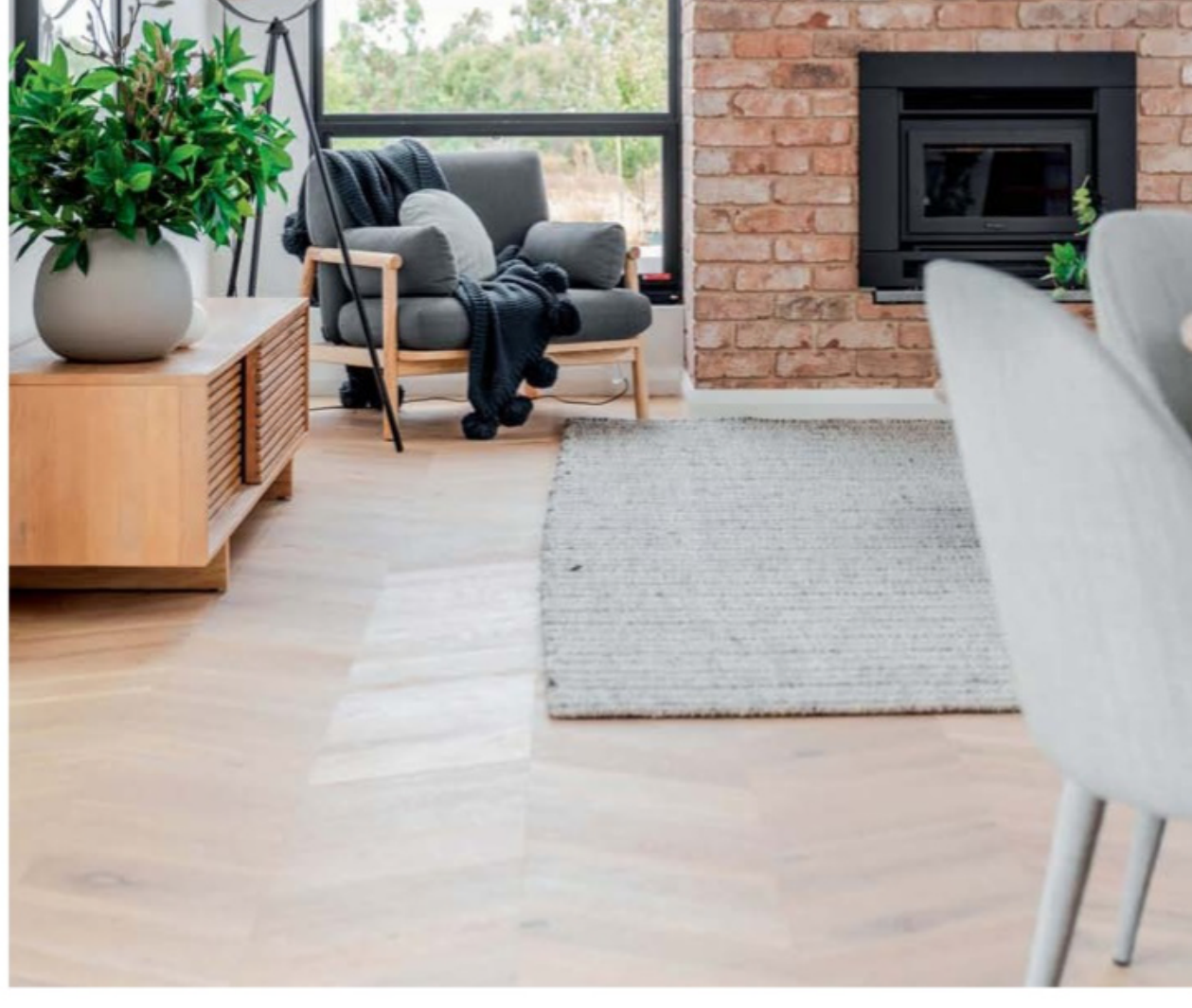
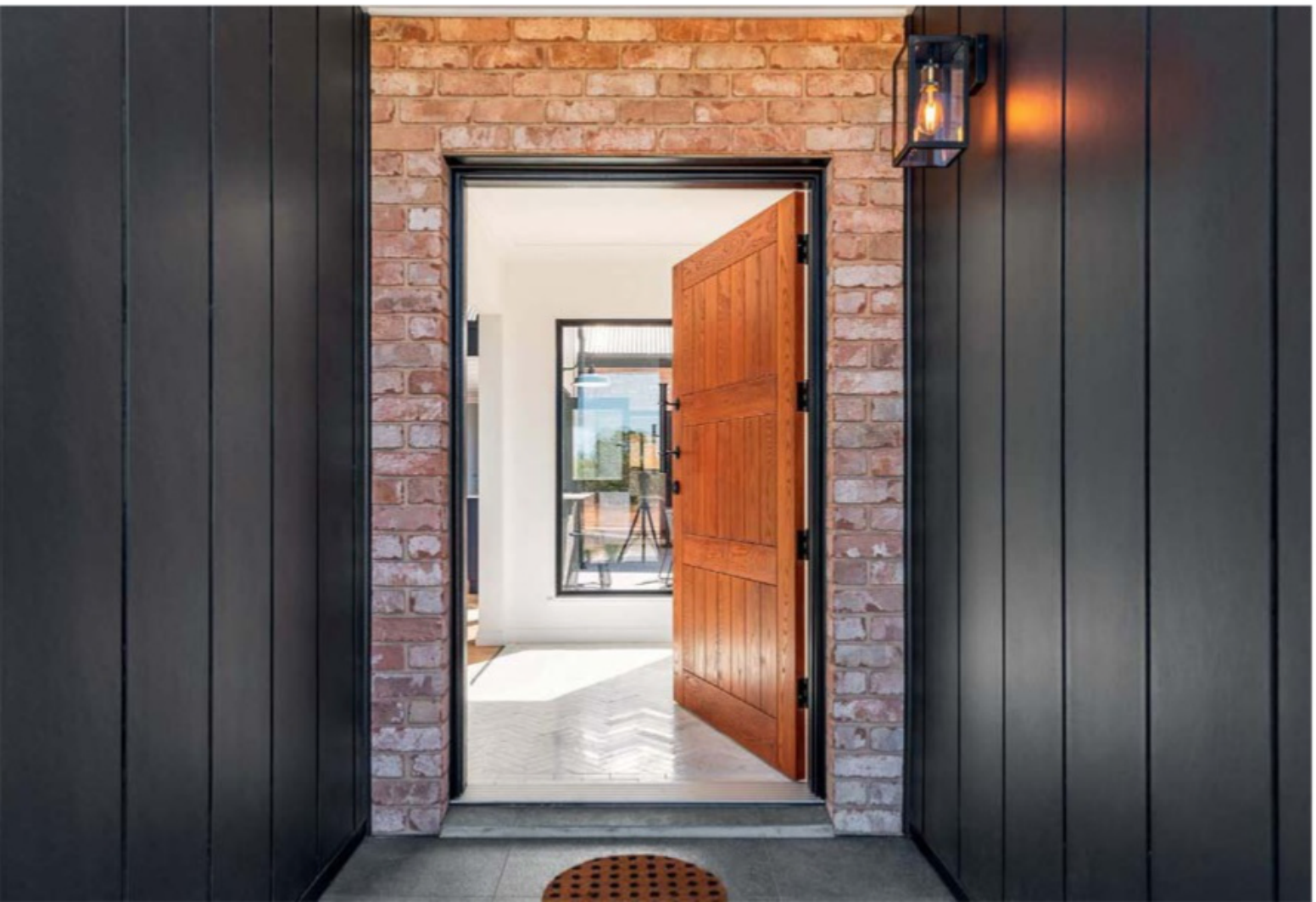
Standing tall on a large corner block in the picturesque Adelaide Hills, this striking home turns heads on a daily basis. Bearing the hallmarks of the Scandinavian Barn look, it was inspired by homes usually found on acreage with multiple linked pavilions. Its steeply pitched gable roof, dark grey vertical Stria cladding in Dulux Klavier and minimal eaves gives the home its clean lines, while a striking brick chimney with a raw, aged patina brings a contrasting textural element that flows from the exterior into the interior living space. The carefully chosen contrasting colour palette brings together light and neutral shades with a dramatic charcoal grey to create a striking exterior presence.

CONNECTED SPACES

The Scandi Barn look often brings natural materials such as stone and brick together with fibre-cement cladding to introduce warmth and create eye-catching accents. Custom home builders Aaron Martin Construction chose to use James Hardie Stria cladding vertically on the exterior of the home for its eye-catching deep shadow lines and versatility as a material, as well as its durability and low-maintenance requirements. This attention to detail extended to ensuring the indoor and outdoor living spaces connected seamlessly, with soaring windows in the main pavilion as well as a servery window from the kitchen leading to an outdoor living area that's made for relaxed entertaining. The result is a warm and inviting home that optimises its location and flows beautifully for comfortable living all year round.





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HOMES

THE STORIES, STYLE AND LOVE THAT MAKE A HOME BEAUTIFUL

FULL OF HEART *page 84*

Joie DE VIVRE

AN ELEGANT CITY DWELLING PROVED THE PERFECT BLANK CANVAS FOR AN UNFLAPPABLE INTERIOR DESIGNER ON THE HUNT FOR A CHIC AND CHEERFUL FAMILY HOME

Story MARION LECUYER & KARINA MACHADO Photography PAULINE LEGOFF/AC SCOFFONI

FUSS-FREE FLAIR Imbued in French chic, the home of Barbara and Nicolas has much to admire. In the living room (where Barbara is pictured with the couple's children, from left, Paul, Zoé and Romy), a sense of understated cool merges with classic Parisian architecture. A Louis XVI-style mirror commands – and expands – the space; for a similar design, trawl antique stores. A Ladislas Kijno painting injects colour, as does a 'Teorema' sculptural lamp (near the window), a tribute to Mondrian by Ferruccio Laviani. Plush PH Collection lounges (try the 'Albert' three-seater from Lounge Life) and a rug from Marrakech ensure the space remains family friendly. >

Growing up, Barbara was always willing to pitch in and help her parents renovate the old farm house they inherited. "I can still see myself as a child, a roll of paint in my hand, imagining what would become of this great white wall," recalls the interior designer. That readiness to roll up her sleeves, and the thrill of possibility that accompanies it, stood her in good stead when her search for the perfect family abode led her to a classic 19th-century Parisian home in need of a face lift – not to mention a kitchen.

Having just made the career switch to interior design after the birth of her first child, Barbara tackled the project with gusto. Featuring ceiling mouldings and diagonal parquet flooring in the Haussmann style – other hallmarks of this signature Parisian look include sandstone facade, angled roof and wrought-iron balcony – the three-bedroom apartment satisfied Barbara's criteria. "The work that had to be done was mainly rearranging and decorating," she downplays. So commenced a six-month renovation to realise her vision of a sophisticated home for a growing family, complete with a spacious, open-plan living and dining area. Other improvements included underfloor heating, a second bathroom, masses of built-in storage and a reconfigured suite for herself and husband Nicolas. With its "hideous" bathroom, "the parents' retreat at the end of the corridor was a negative point," recalls Barbara, who designed a stylish new ensuite for the space.

When she was ready to decorate, Barbara's mantra was "nothing too classical". Case in point: the hand-painted floor in the hallway. After

"I *love* THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE HOME, WITH ITS MOULDINGS, *high ceilings* AND FIREPLACES" ~ *BARBARA*

falling in love with a pattern she'd seen at the Grand Hotel Pigalle, she commissioned the artist, Alexandre Poulaillon, to replicate it in her foyer. The same adventurous spirit prevailed in her bedroom, where a plush, upholstered bedhead stretches from wall to wall. A walk through the home is every design lover's dream, with heirloom pieces, design icons and bargain finds showcased in the abode, where classics sit elegantly alongside flea-market treasures. A palette of neutral hues spotlights each exquisite piece. "My clients ask for so much decoration," remarks Barbara, who favours a mostly white and grey scheme, with the rare pop of blue and black. "I get tired of wallpapers, colours, etc. This is not the way I conceive an interior."

The vibe in the children's rooms is more playful. Here, Barbara selected wallpapers "I was sure I wouldn't grow tired of", and a more vibrant palette. After the birth of her third child, Romy, last year, Barbara created more space by incorporating a mezzanine level in her son's room, with elevated sleeping spaces for Paul, eight, and Zoé, five, above a dual study nook, which allowed for a nursery for the baby.

The transformation is a triumph for the fearless interior designer, as much as she might call it mere "rearranging". Unperturbed by a missing kitchen, Barbara not only built her dream cooking zone from scratch, she fashioned a warm, welcoming – and oh so chic – family home that is sure to set the standard for projects to follow.

KITCHEN Passionate entertainer Barbara had free rein to design every aspect of her kitchen, where a vast marble central island (left) conceals an array of functional drawers and storage. Barbara found the hanging globes at the Saint Ouen flea market, but Temple & Webster's 'Toledo 1' pendant echoes the look. A painting by German artist Peter Klasen (top left & opposite) carries through a modern touch from the living room, and lifts the space with its bright and graphic hues.

DINING Black feature walls define the cooking-and-eating zone (below) and are a striking contrast against the honey-gold warmth of the parquet floor, while bespoke cupboards, also painted black, provide ample storage for kitchen equipment. The Ligne Roset table extends to seat 12, perfect for the couple's dinner parties, and pairs elegantly with 'Conference' chairs from Knoll, with custom legs in black steel (try the 'Eva' dining chair from Coco Republic). >

PARQUET FLOOR
For a similar look, try weloveparquet.com.au.

HALLWAY

With a hand-painted floor by artist Alexandre Poulaillon (below), this foyer has immediate wow-factor, and the marvels continue overhead, where an exquisite chandelier (another only-in-Paris flea-market discovery) lights up the soaring space, and to the side, where the 'Le Cairn' sculpture by Danielle Lescot draws the eye atop a console Barbara also picked up from the Saint Ouen market (for a similar look, try West Elm's 'Industrial' storage open console).

MASTER BEDROOM

Painted in a calming shade of blue, Barbara and Nicolas' bedroom presents a departure from her trusty palette of white and grey. Dressed in navy (try the Vintage Washed Linen Old Navy quilt cover from Adairs), the bed enhances the restful scheme (below), while artworks by Cooby (above the bed) and Gerard Schneider add bursts of sunny yellow, as do the cushions (try Ikea's 'Fransine'). >

WALL COLOUR
For a similar shade, try Dulux Dewpoint Half.

WE LOVE...
a custom bedhead

Barbara doesn't like to sleep too close to the wall so she dreamt up this luxe bedhead. "I designed it longer than the bed. I thought it would make the room look larger. I'm not sure it does," she says. For a bespoke bedhead, try Heatherly.

"I LOVE THAT THERE'S A REAL *separation* BETWEEN THE SPACES, WITH THE BEDROOMS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE *home*" ~ *BARBARA*

ROMY'S ROOM With the addition of baby Romy to the family last year, Barbara had to do some quick thinking in order to make the three-bedroom home work for the family of five. By adding the mezzanine sleeping space to the elder children's room (left & opposite), she fashioned a dedicated nursery (above) that will eventually become the girls' room. For now, Romy has the run of the space, where floral wallpaper from Parisian company Bien Fait complements the gentle pink of the fireplace, one of four in the home (though only the one in the living room works). For similar decorative mirrors, try the gold 'Sunburst' iron wall mirror from Temple & Webster.

FLOOR PLAN

ILLUSTRATION KENZIEDESIGN.COM

PAUL & ZOÉ'S ROOM

As with her own bedroom, Barbara selected a serene blue for the children's sleep, play and study space (also opposite, below left), although this time, she went for a slightly brighter hue (try Dulux Baby Motive Quarter). Patterned wallpaper from Bien Fait and an ice-blue velvet chair (Luxo Living's 'Varinius' velvet accent chair is similar) tie the look together. >

LIVING & DINING

Barbara discovered this coveted Charlotte Perriand sideboard (below) at one of her regular haunts – an auction house (get the mid-century look with Matt Blatt's 'Olsen' sideboard). Needing scant decoration, the timeless piece is topped by a seemingly bewinged lamp by Maison Charles and little else. Art by Ladislas Kijno draws out the rich blues of the curtain in this vignette flanking the dining table.

The family gathers in the dining/kitchen area that captures the essence of the home's style – a heritage heart with a modern aesthetic.

CITY *CHIC* the details

WALLPAPER By Bien Fait. To get the look, see the range at Luxe Walls.

FLOOR Handpainted by Alexandre Poulaillon.

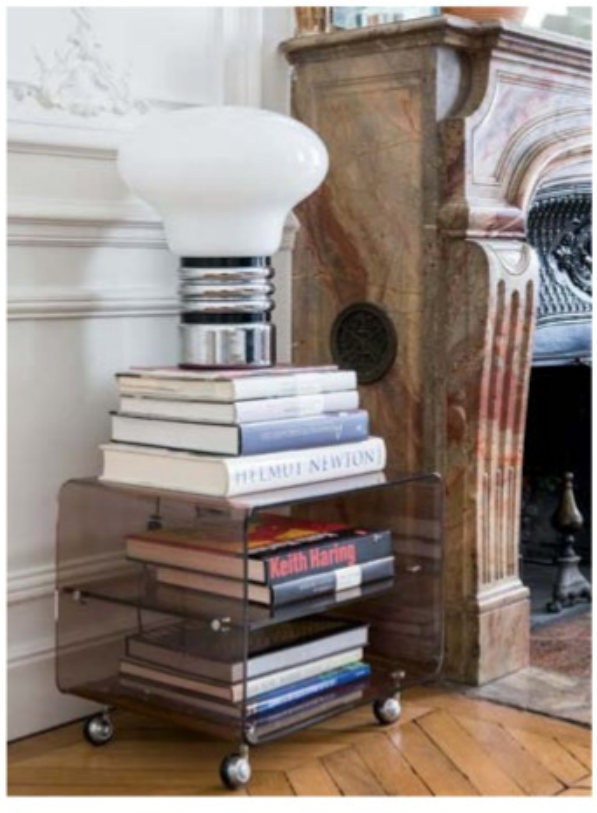
FLOOR For similar flooring, try weloveparquet.com.au.

INSIDE STORY
BARBARA & NICOLAS' HOME

WHO LIVES HERE? *Barbara, an interior designer and founder of Bachmann Interior Design; her husband, Nicolas, a private equity investor and director of Bachmann Interior Design; and their children, Paul, eight, Zoé, five, and Romy, one.*
WHAT PATH DID YOU TAKE TO BECOMING A DESIGNER? *Barbara: "I took a six-month course at the École Boulle in Paris."*
TELL US ABOUT A CHALLENGING MOMENT IN THE RENOVATION? *"To create the large open-plan living and dining area I wanted, I had to tear down a wall – reluctantly, because it was magnificent."*
THE BIGGEST RISK YOU TOOK DURING THE RENOVATION? *"The black walls in the kitchen, that was a big step for me!"*
WHAT ARE SOME KEY PIECES IN YOUR HOME? *"The 'Pipistrello' lamp from Gae Aulenti, the Eames fibreglass chair and pieces Nicolas and I have owned for a long time, such as the Taporo coffee table and two Starck armchairs that were a gift from my father-in-law."*
YOUR FAVOURITE SPOT IN THE HOME? *"By the fireplace is the perfect place to be together, play and read."*

SOURCE BOOK
INTERIOR DESIGN *bachmann-interiordesign.com.*

"I'VE NEVER BEEN SCARED OFF BY A BIG RESTORATION" ~ *BARBARA*



A vintage lamp crowns a stack of books on a wheeled mini-console in the living room.

The light-blonde tones in the kitchen parquetry pop against black custom cabinetry in the kitchen.

With its 3.6m ceilings, light floods the living room, spotlighting art by James Pichette.

ACTUAL PAINT COLOURS MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

THE RIGHT ANGLE

THIS CREATIVELY REIMAGINED HOME IN INNER MELBOURNE IS THE PERFECT FIT FOR A YOUNG FAMILY

Story JACKIE BRYGEL Photography ALEX REINDERS

TEXTURED TREAT Just a few kilometres east of Melbourne's heart, the transformed family home of architects Kate and Andrew and their three children (Matilda, eight, Xavier, six, and Ellie, three) marries bold colour with the timeless beauty of organic materials. Juxtaposed against the ceiling – clad in V-joint shiplap hardwood boards from Radial Timber Sales – the living room wall of exposed bricks makes an impression, as does the home's seamless transition between indoors and out. Natural light spotlights Ellie (pictured) as she enjoys a book, and a breeze, on the window seat.

LIVING ROOM DETAIL
Morning sun spills into the living room, where a window seat crafted from Likewood Clear Oak is an ideal spot to catch some warming autumn rays (below). Anchored by a rug from Hali, the King Furniture coffee table partners perfectly with an inky Anaca Studio 'Emi Pod' that works as an extra seat. The eye-catching lamp on the shelf is the Surface Sconce by Studio Henry Wilson from Hub Furniture. >

CLADDING
V-joint shiplap hardwood boards, Radial Timber Sales.

FAMILY ROOM "This is our living-family room," says Kate of their contemporary, open-plan hub. "We love the connection it has to the outdoors and to the dining area." As for the scene-stealing wall of glazed bricks (above), she explains they were a happy accident. "The bricks turned up on site as 'seconds' to be laid and painted over. But when we saw them, we realised it was an opportunity to sort the random colours into predominantly blues and greens – and the bricklayer was definitely on board. The wall is a punchy backdrop to our living area and always a talking point among new visitors to the house."

Thinking outside the box has always been the guiding principle for husband and wife architects Andrew and Kate. For the parents of Matilda, Xavier and Ellie, there's something irresistible about the delightfully unpredictable, so when it came to reinventing their own inner-Melbourne home, the couple – who met at university 15 years ago and run K+ARchitects – seized the opportunity. "There is definitely some quirkiness in the house," says Kate with a smile, "and I love those elements. I think it enriches your experience of the home and makes it memorable."

Indeed, a tantalising sense of the unexpected is palpable from the moment visitors step inside the semi-detached clinker-brick abode. Instantly, eyes are drawn to an 11-metre-long wall of glazed bricks in all shades of blue and green at the rear of the home. And that, it is soon clear, is just the beginning. "We wanted to create a surprising journey," says Kate, "a 'more than meets the eye' experience."

The couple was based on Victoria's rugged Surf Coast when they put in the winning bid on the house, built in 1940 on a compact 306sqm site for the Department of Housing. "In many respects, I'd given up on buying in Melbourne," she reveals. "We'd been the under-bidders – and had also been completely outbid – numerous times on other houses. I'd only seen this house once, and it wasn't a very exciting house to look at!" Adds Andrew, with a laugh: "The decor was pretty yellowish, but that was due more to the passage of time as opposed to any conscious decision to make it that way." >

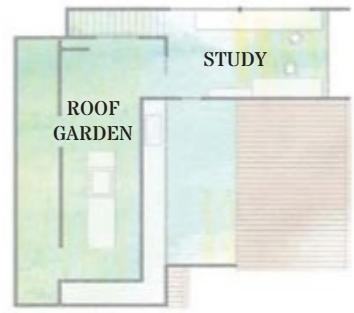
"IT WAS A GREAT FEELING TO HAVE BUILT A PART OF THE HOUSE WITH OUR HANDS" ~ *KATE*

KITCHEN The bright white island bench (above & right), combines Likewood cabinetry in White Wood with a Caesarstone top in Snow, which contrasts dramatically with the rear joinery in Likewood Clear Oak and a Caesarstone workbench in Jet Black.

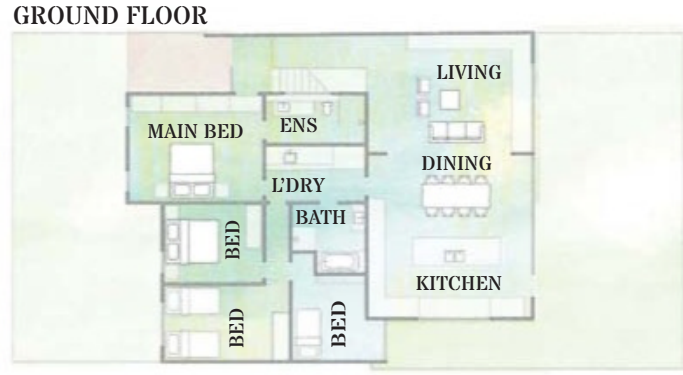
DINING "The table is big and solid, so it will withstand our kids," laughs Kate, of the custom-made Apparentt table and Merano chairs from Huset in faux leather (top right, enjoyed by Ellie and Xavier). "We opted for faux leather, as we understood it to be more hard-wearing than leather."

FLOOR PLAN

FIRST FLOOR



GROUND FLOOR



"WE HAVE SO MANY DIFFERENT PLACES TO RELAX" ~ *KATE*

The couple, however, was anything but deterred. "Both being architects, we knew the house had potential," explains Kate. "We wanted to put our own stamp on our home, so any place that was already renovated was off the list. We also knew we were going to be renovating on quite a tight budget, so it was always going to be a case of working with the footprint that we had."

With the home relatively tight on space, making the most of what they had was crucial to the couple, who introduced an abundance of open and concealed storage along with a raft of space-savvy – and sometimes unexpected – design features. There's the surprisingly expansive open-plan living and kitchen zone with double-height ceiling and clerestory windows offering sky glimpses, the stylish work studio on the new second level, and even a flourishing vegetable garden on the sun-drenched roof terrace.

And perhaps the best feature of all is the abundant natural light that permeates throughout the entire home. "So many inner-urban houses, particularly Victorian terraces, struggle with light," explains Andrew. "We really wanted to maximise it." Kate says, "I believe that natural light means everything to how a space feels," before adding, laughing: "We're not bats! We need light and we need plants. For me, it's that connection to the sky and nature throughout the home that impacts our happiness."

With the eight-month renovation behind them, the family has truly settled into what may well be their forever home – a house that provides the perfect fit for work, rest and play. "We're in a pocket of Melbourne that we just love," says Kate. "We're only a short tram ride into the heart of the city, and yet the Yarra River is also just a few minutes away. We feel we have the best of both worlds, and we'd be very happy to stay here for a long time."

MAIN BEDROOM What was once the living room is now Kate and Andrew's bedroom (top left & opposite), which features Linenshed mustard bedlinen, a grey quilt cover from Home Republic, throws from Southwood and a Hunting For George navy leather cushion dressing the bed, which looks out to the leafy streetscape. "We wanted to keep some of the room's original features, such as the mantle and floorboards, which are far from perfect but serve as a reminder of the old home," says Kate. The original painting above the bed is by an unknown artist.

BATHROOM The family bathroom (above) mixes earthy finishes with contemporary fixtures, including the Rogerseller 'C3 CX 55' washbasin. Signorino's sleek concrete-look Architect Resin tiles in Tokyo White encase the walls, while the 'Lyssna' timber stool by Tide Design is in keeping with the American oak joinery. "The bathroom is compact, but it works really well for the family," says Kate.

ILLUSTRATION KENZIEDESIGN.COM

WE LOVE...
built-in storage

Every corner of the couple's relatively petite bedroom has been put to good use. A particularly clever touch is the built-in desk, with shelves home to a changeable array of books, framed photos and other favourite collectibles. "This is a way of maximising storage without taking away any of the room's natural light," says Kate. >

"IT'S A SUN TRAP, SO I'LL EAT LUNCH OUT HERE SOME DAYS" ~ KATE

CLADDING
James Hardie 'EasyLap' panels in Monument.

ROOF TERRACE
Bluestone crazy pavers ground the private roof terrace (below), where the Eco Outdoor white 'Heaven' armchairs and a side table provide a lovely spot to linger over coffee and the weekend papers. "This was just a dark and dusty roof space before," recalls Kate. "I love that we're now able to use it in this way."

VEGIE GARDEN "Andrew wanted a vegie garden downstairs, but we ended up planting it up here on the roof terrace and it has worked really well," says Kate, of the verdant space (above, enjoyed by green thumb Xavier). "It's a fabulous aspect for growing vegetables. Our first season of tomatoes looked like they belonged in Jurassic Park!"

STUDIO In the new upstairs design studio (below), a replica 'Tulip' marble table from Matt Blatt is teamed with green Muuto 'Cover' chairs to produce a stylish work space. "We created this second level to give some separation from the rest of the family home for work," says Kate. "Clients can come straight up the stairs from the front door." >

ENTRANCE

First impressions certainly count at the home, where visitors – and even Miss Ellie – are met by an oversized timber door teamed with a black ‘D-Pull’ handle from The Lock And Handle.

Emphasising the home's connection to the outdoors was one of the most important considerations in the renovation, and is a definite hit for Xavier, below.

URBAN EDGE
the details

JOINERY
Likewood Clear Oak joinery.

FEATURE WALL
Coloured glazed bricks from Euroa Clay Products.

TILES Architect Resin tiles in Tokyo White, Signorino.

INSIDE STORY
KATE & ANDREW'S HOME

WHO LIVES HERE?
Husband-and-wife team Andrew and Kate from K+ARchitects; their children Matilda, eight, Xavier, six, and Ellie, three; plus Sketch, the miniature Australian shepherd.

DO YOU AND ANDREW SHARE A SIMILAR AESTHETIC?
Kate: "Yes, and I think that's why we work so well together. We complement each other in terms of our design style. We're both fairly minimalist, which this house is."

WERE THERE ANY HAPPY SURPRISES THAT PRESENTED WITH THE RENOVATION?
"The fact that the house is even more comfortable, thermally speaking, than we had anticipated."

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD DO DIFFERENTLY, GIVEN YOUR TIME AGAIN?
"I love everything. I really do! For our family, I feel we got it just right."

WHY NATURAL MATERIALS AND TEXTURES?
"With a more understated background, you can add colour with furnishings and artwork."

SOURCE BOOK
ARCHITECTS *K+ARchitects, 0439 822 750, kandar.com.au.*

"IT'S NICE FOR A NEW ADDITION TO STILL SHOW THE MEMORY OF ITS PAST" ~ *KATE*

Custom joinery and bespoke brass handles make an impact in the upstairs studio.

In the kitchen, a plethora of behind-closed-doors storage keeps clutter at bay.

The Anaca Studio 'Emi Pod' is a handy spot to sit (or place a cup of tea) in the living room.

ACTUAL PAINT COLOURS MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

colour

& CONFIDENCE

A VIVID PALETTE DEFINES THE FUN AND FEARLESS AESTHETIC OF THIS FAMILY HOME, WHERE THE SPACES PULSE WITH A PALPABLE SENSE OF JOY, LOVE AND HARMONY

Story & styling JESS BELLEF Photography SUE STUBBS

SPACE TO SHINE

Homeowner Robyn's unrestrained passion for colourful art and bold patterns is evident throughout the bright rooms of the Sydney home she shares with husband John and their children, Tom, 14, and Caitlin, 12. In the upstairs foyer, a duo of vivid artworks by John Smith (opposite, against 'Fingers' in Whisper wallpaper by Florence Broadhurst from Materialised) hints at what's to come. In this glamorous and grown-up formal lounge room (below), another Florence Broadhurst wallpaper ('Pagoda') "has pushed the boundaries and it has definitely paid off," says Robyn. >

Shades of white and layers of neutral fabric hold a perennial place in many homeowners' hearts, but the maven of this abode is passionate about interiors that are a dash more daring. "My girlfriends have Hamptons-style homes, and it's beautiful, but it's not me," admits Robyn, an accountant with a penchant for colourful art, show-stopping pendant lights and rooms that burst with boldness. "My house is not everyone's cup of tea, but I love things that are quirky and different. Interiors should be fun!"

The Sydney home that Robyn shares with husband John and their children, Tom and Caitlin, is definitely fun, but not at the expense of functionality. In 2017, they purchased the early 2000s-built house, drawn to its five bedrooms and multiple living spaces. "Our family was moving into the next phase of life," explains Robyn, "so we needed a home that allowed for our soon-to-be-teenaged kids to have their own spaces, and for John and I to have a separate space to relax in." The home on Sydney's upper North Shore gave the family the ability to spread out comfortably, however the rooms were bland. Robyn had visions of a to-die-for main ensuite that echoed the luxury of a five-star hotel bathroom, and a formal living and dining space that would set the stage for sophisticated dinners and cocktail parties.

Cue designer Sarah Comerford and her team at Home By Belle, and Pat Clarke from Dezign Kitchens. "Robyn is very visual and fantastic in the sense she knows what she likes," says Sarah, who orchestrated the home's revamp in stages (excluding the kitchen). Before the family moved in, Sarah's team made cosmetic changes, such as recarpeting and painting, while the bathrooms, kitchen and outdoor entertaining area were renovated in the following 18 months. Sarah's furniture selections complement Robyn's lovingly chosen artworks, and the statement pendant lights showcased throughout the home are perfectly proportioned. The addition of the striking wallpaper to the teenagers' retreat and formal space was a crowning moment. "It's always a fun night when we have friends over for dinner and drinks, so the room has to be fun too!" she cheerfully explains.

Colour and pattern aren't the only things that energise the home. The love and affection between the members of the family, including Goodie their golden retriever, fill the rooms. "Family is everything," says Perth-born Robyn, who grew up in a large, close-knit family. Laughter and easy chatter flow between Robyn, John and the kids when they are at home, and the fact they can easily retreat to their own quarters for quiet time enhances the harmonious atmosphere. Asked what this house was missing when Robyn first laid eyes on it, she exclaims, "It was missing love!" The couple had seen so many homes during their house hunt that they became attuned to this nuance. "You can tell when people take pride in their home, and you definitely notice when that's lacking," she notes. Judging by the care poured into revitalising this home, and the joy that's palpable when this family is together, there is no doubt that this functional and fabulous home is overflowing with the colour of love.

FOYER Robyn, Tom and Caitlin gather in the grand foyer (top left), where the impressive Carisbrooke 18-light pendant by Elstead Lighting evokes the monochrome shapes of the 'Dreamtime Abstract' painting from the Bunyara Collection from Designer Boys Art. Robyn chose the eye-catching pendant and her interior designer, Sarah Comerford, prompted her to upsize it. "We needed grandeur in this large space; anything too small would get lost," explains Sarah.

CASUAL DINING A cheeky bird print from Designer Boys Art looks over the home's casual dining space (left), where the 'Hampton' table from Interiors Online and Hans Wegner 'Wishbone' chairs from Replica Furniture are used daily. "It's open to the kitchen so we can be cooking and all chatting at the same time – it's an easy space," says Robyn. The bar cart from West Elm holds John's collection of sake vessels.

KITCHEN

"Clean lines and a fresh feel were musts for the couple's new kitchen, but they were worried a simple white kitchen might not create enough wow-factor," says designer Pat Clarke from Dezign Kitchens. Visual drama is created through contrast, as seen through the use of a Silestone Suede benchtop in Lagoon (below), with the island finished in Dulux Domino, and elegant pendant lights from Cosmo Lighting. Bar stools from Temple & Webster add a masculine touch that picks up on the flooring tones. >

FLOORING
Oak Valere Limed Laminate from Solomons Flooring in Willoughby.

WE LOVE...
statement walls

"Wallpaper takes everything to the next level," says interior designer Sarah Comerford. "Seeing glimpses of it from other rooms elevates the room you are in and adds dimension in every way." A print with a metallic finish, such as Florence Broadhurst's 'Pagoda' in Gold, as seen here, will bounce light and add depth. To view the Florence Broadhurst range, visit materialised.com.au.

FLOOR PLAN

FIRST FLOOR

GROUND FLOOR

ILLUSTRATION **KENZIEDESIGN.COM**
ARTWORK (THIS PAGE) ARTIST UNKNOWN

FORMAL LIVING

The couple like to entertain with flair, so Robyn made sure their formal spaces were treated with lashings of luxe (left). “I wanted a look that was high-end and adult — something with wow-factor,” she says. The circular ‘Central Park’ rug by Greg Natale from Designer Rugs highlights the sophisticated curve of the ‘Theodore Vogue’ velvet sofa in Cobalt Blue, which also complements the Elle Luxe round coffee table (both sourced from Globe West). The contours contrast with the clean lines of the ‘Brussels’ armchairs from Coco Republic, while West Elm’s ‘Swoop Arm’ chandelier and an abstract painting by Camilla Cicoria add further panache. >

“WHEN IT COMES TO HOME DESIGN, I CAN SEE THE BIG PICTURE” ~ *ROBYN*

MAIN BEDROOM
“I believe in creating focal points in a room – pick the players,” says interior designer Sarah. “You need to have the drama, but not go too over the top.” In the couple’s striking suite (pictured), the ‘Strand’ four-poster bed by Uniqwa commands attention, in unison with the Bamileke feather headdress by Safari Fusion over the bedhead. The Adairs cushion and throw in Rust inject spice while the Temple & Webster rug adds a splash of cool underfoot.

ENSUITE

"I love the layout of luxury hotel bathrooms and didn't want an open concept space for our ensuite," says Robyn. The shower and toilet are hidden behind dark frosted doors, allowing the resort-style Industrie Tapware bath, and the statement pendant by Cafe Lighting (below), to be the focal point of the room. Shimmering mosaics across the wall reflect light and increase the room's sense of opulence. >

TILES
Natural Stone Mosaics in Lava by Industrie Tapware.

BEDROOM NOOK

"This Camilla Cicoria artwork was the first art piece I bought for our home," recalls Robyn. "I saw it in the window of Martine Gallery and I just loved the colours." The throw in Mustard from Adairs (on the 'Albany' bench seat from Williams Sonoma) highlights the golden touches in the painting, while the Smart Strand Silk Natural carpet in Charcolette 989 by Harvey Norman creates a cosy, cocoon effect together with the moody wall colour.

WALL COLOUR
Paint in Domino by Dulux.

Tom (with Goodie) can often be found relaxing on the 'Vittoria Mia' sofa from Globe West in the upstairs living room. The teenagers' retreat is anchored by the striking 'Turnabouts' rug in Magpie by Florence Broadhurst from Materialised. The 'Hudson Round' coffee table from Globe West continues the circular theme.

FLOOR Oak Valere Limed Laminate from Solomons Flooring in Willoughby.

BOLD *BEAUTY*

the details

WALLPAPER
Florence Broadhurst 'Pagoda' in Gold from Materialised.

RUG
Greg Natale 'Central Park' rug from Designer Rugs.

INSIDE STORY

ROBYN & JOHN'S HOME

WHO LIVES HERE? *Robyn, an accountant; John, a fund manager; and children Tom, 14, and Caitlin, 12; and golden retriever, Goodie.*
WHERE DO YOU FIND INSPIRATION? *Robyn: "I am a big Pinterest person. I have a Pinterest board for each room of our house."*
WHAT DOES ART ADD TO A SPACE? *"Happiness and colourful energy. People always respond to the colour of the art in my home."*
YOUR FAVOURITE SPOT TO SIT IN THE HOME? *"Perched at the end of the kitchen island, with my laptop and a wine."*
DO YOU ACTUALLY USE THE FORMAL LIVING ROOM? *"Yes! You will often find John and I on the blue velvet lounge. It's very comfortable."*
ANY ADVICE FOR LIVING WITH A PET POOCH? *"I am covering Goodie's ears as I say this, but the next dog we get will have to be a non-shedding breed. I vacuum constantly!"*
NEXT ON THE UPDATE LIST? *"We are tweaking the formal living and dining room; we will repaint a sideboard that was handed down through my family, and a few special decor pieces are needed to finish the space."*

SOURCE BOOK

INTERIOR DESIGNER *Sarah Comerford, Home By Belle, (02) 9967 3336.*
KITCHEN DESIGN *Pat Clarke, Dezign Kitchens, (02) 9958 0711.*
FLOORING *Solomons Flooring in Willoughby, (02) 9958 2111.*

"WE ALL LOVE THIS HOUSE. IT'S OUR FOREVER HOME" - ROBYN

A dining table and chairs from Globe West feature in the elegant formal dining space.

A woven pendant light from Uniqwa and sculptural florals add textural contrast to the bedside vignette.

Clever lighting design on a vanity unit from Custom Display Solutions adds glamour.

ACTUAL PAINT COLOURS MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

FULL OF HEART

WITH CREATIVE FLAIR, A COUPLE TRANSFORMED A BASIC BRICK HOUSE IN BYRON BAY INTO AN IDYLLIC FAMILY HOME, IMBUED WITH MEMORIES AND A SENSE OF RUSTIC SPANISH CHARM

Story & styling KYLIE JACKES Photography LOUISE ROCHE

Before they'd even received the keys to their house, Amanda recalls climbing through a window with husband Brad to peel back the carpets and see what lay beneath. "We were dying to get started and make changes, because the house wasn't aesthetically pleasing in any way," says Amanda. "We'd bought because the block had two beautiful big old fig trees, plenty of space for the kids to run around and we really liked the area." Ten years on, the home in the Byron Bay hinterland is unrecognisable; a testament to the couple's wish to create a haven for themselves and children Phoebe, 17, Indiana, 14, Summer, 11, and Marley Rocket, nine.

Ripping out the carpet was only the beginning. "In the early days we'd put the kids to bed, put on the tool belts and begin knocking out internal walls, dismantling light fittings, chipping away where we could," says Amanda. "It was full on." The couple was determined to make the most of the 1970s double-brick home and its modest footprint – and over time they reimagined the entire layout, shifting the entrance, kitchen, living and dining areas. Two bedrooms were cleverly carved up to create three children's rooms and a bathroom, linked via a built-in veranda. New enlarged windows and doors throughout the house draw in abundant natural light and connect the internal spaces to the outdoors. A shed on the property was also converted to include a mezzanine level, two bedrooms, a bathroom and an open-plan studio from which Amanda runs her homewares business, Casa Bohemia.

The masterstroke? Rendering, inside and out, which set the tone for the home's distinctive style. "I've always loved European architecture, which ages well over time, and I really wanted the home to feel like it's always been here," says Amanda, of the hand-trowelled tactile finish. Whitewashed Mediterranean buildings inspired the gentle curves of flowing, formed concrete bench seats, alcoves and shelves, while feature floor tiles including travertine and patterned Moroccan encaustics define zones and add a rustic feel underfoot.

The home's interior is layered with sentimental pieces and finds the owner collected during her trips overseas, which complement the timber furniture, vintage light fittings and tactile textiles. "Now we've settled, I love the way everything has come together," she says. "It all ignites memories and reflects where we've been." As for the future, the next stage includes plans for an outdoor room, an extension of the couple's bedroom and a pool. "This is the only house we've bought and I think it will always be home," reflects Amanda. "Because we built it together it has a special connection to all of us."

HINTERLAND HAVEN Home is where the heart is for Amanda and Brad and their children (pictured from left) Phoebe, Indiana, Summer and Marley Rocket, plus their dogs Lulu and Coco. Fuelled by a passion for interiors and architecture, the couple transformed their orange-brick dwelling near Byron Bay into a Mediterranean-style retreat. "I thought the best option was to render it white and everything else just flowed from there," says Amanda. Evoking a Spanish *casa*, the home's rustic elements – which include courtyards laid with Chateau tiles from Jatana, recycled timber sleepers and wall sconces from Kasbah Imports – laid the foundation for the home's global feel and refreshing informality. >

KITCHEN Patterned Jatana tiles from benchtop to ceiling steal the show in the kitchen (below). “I love to use a feature tile wherever possible and black and white is just classic,” says Amanda, who also chose black Smeg appliances and black-framed windows, with sliding doors that lead to the verdant backyard. “It was really important to open the house up to the outdoors, which makes it seem so much larger,” she adds. An island bench topped in engineered stone, paired with rattan stools from Bisque Traders and a whitewashed timber stool, is a hub for informal family meals. A pair of Moroccan chandeliers from Ha’veli of Byron Bay completes the look.

FLOORING
Warm Ash Tumbled Travertine, laid in French Pattern, Beaumont Tiles.

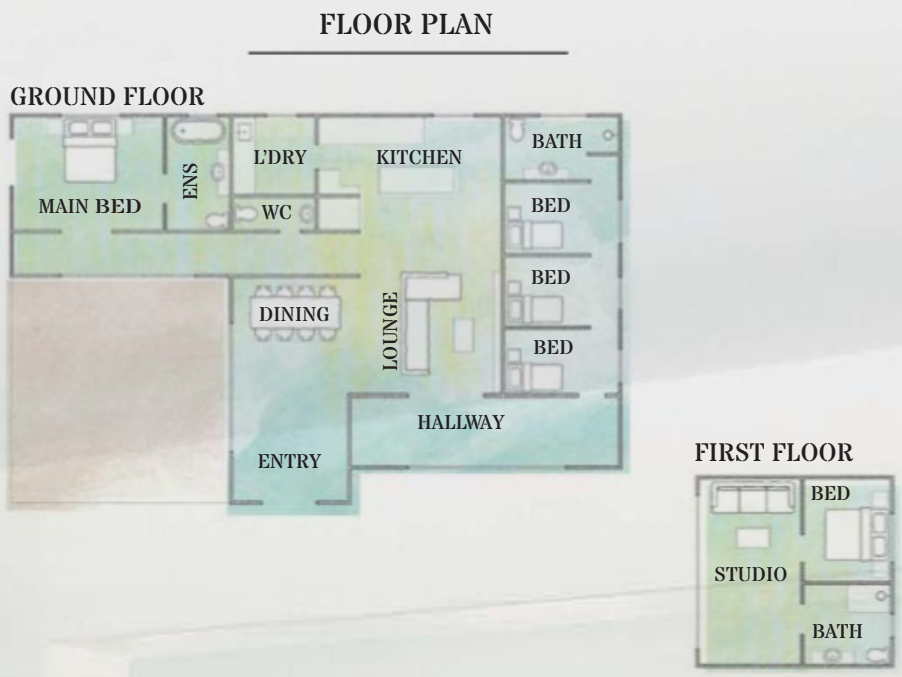
"EVERYONE THAT COMES HERE SEEMS TO *gather* AT THE KITCHEN ISLAND, WHERE YOU CAN SEE DOWN TO THE VEGIE GARDEN. IT'S SUCH A *relaxing* SPOT TO SIT AND TAKE IT ALL IN"
~ AMANDA

DINING ROOM Light streams through the dining area (top left), where an eclectic mix of seats includes the rendered bench topped with Casa Bohemia kilim cushions and a rustic timber bench from Island Luxe. Having fallen in love with the vintage timber dining table while living in Seattle, Amanda (pictured) had it shipped back to Australia. "When I'm drawn to something I get it and find a way to make it work," she explains. On the wall, a Kim Soo sconce is a decorative holiday memento from Bali. KITCHEN CORNER "I'm so inspired by the look and feel of Spanish villas," says Amanda, who pored over pictures of European farmhouses while dreaming up the custom rangehood (top right) tiled with Bijmat black handcut pavers from Surface Society. "The cabinet maker and tiler were reluctant to do it because it was quite heavy, so it took a lot of time and convincing, but we achieved exactly what I was after." Offset with a Smeg freestanding cooker, the Bijmat tiles also run around the kitchen ceiling like a cornice, framing the zone and defining the stunning splashback wall. DINING DISPLAY An Indian cabinet from Ha'veli (above right) is filled with sentimental pieces, including the vintage Turkish tea set bought on a Californian road trip, plus second-hand finds and ceramics made by the kids. >

HALLWAY Previously a veranda, this space was enclosed to create a hallway (above), where one end is the perfect width to accommodate a piano that has been in Brad's family for three generations and is often played by Summer (pictured). "The piano's been every colour and we received it orange," says Amanda, who quickly transformed the heirloom with a coat of Dulux Domino to complement the striking chequerboard tiles from Jatana on the floor. With an eye for detail, she ensured every element adds to the monochrome scheme, from the photo frames and concrete niches filled with white ceramics to the 'Glass Ball' gooseneck wall light sourced from Fat Shack Vintage. "By sticking to a few key colours, there's a sense of calm and cohesiveness throughout the house," she explains.

ILLUSTRATION **KENZIEDESIGN.COM**

LIVING ROOM "Although I'm a collector, it was important not to overcrowd our small house, so there are deliberate places for display," says Amanda. "I had to be mindful with six people and two dogs – we really fill the space, so the interior needed to be more minimal." An Ikea sofa and occasional chairs, dressed in linen slip-covers from Bemz and kilim Casa Bohemia cushions, create a serene space (below), warmed by the fireplace built by Brad's dad, Rocket, a retired stonemason. A Klaylife pendant and Bisque Traders ceiling rose add a sculptural element. >

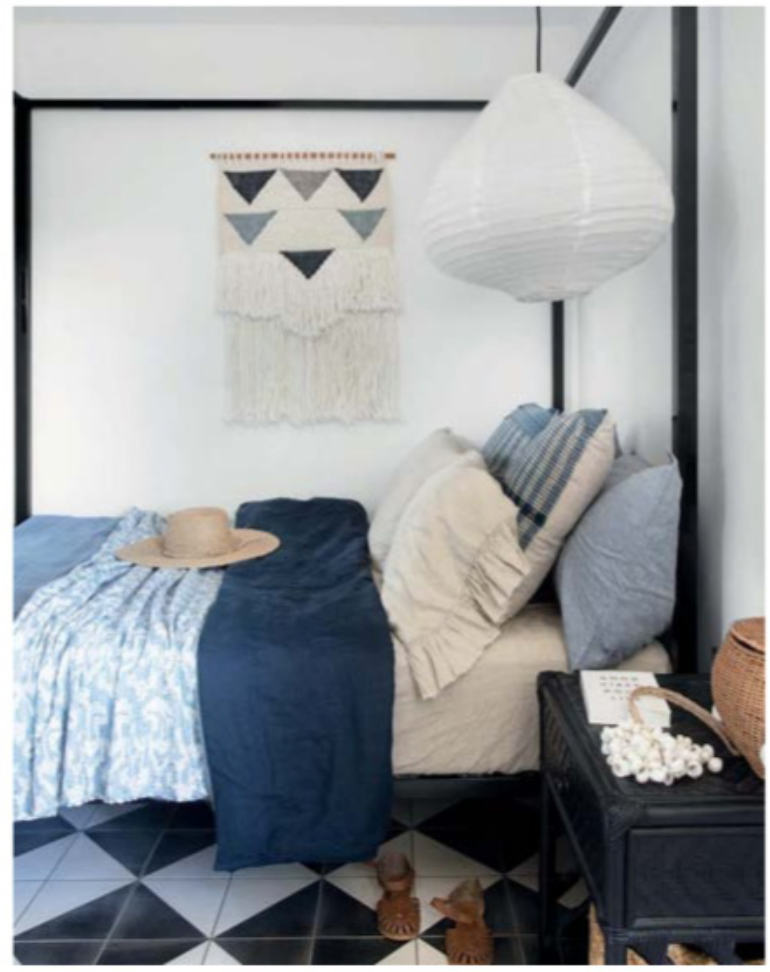


RUG
Storyteller vintage patchwork rug, Casa Bohemia.

MAIN BEDROOM The homeowners created a separate parents' retreat (below) by converting a shed that was formerly used to service trucks! Walls were insulated, lined and painted in Ecolour's Builder's White, infusing the room with a light, bright feel, while the oil-stained concrete floor was reborn using paint and softened with Turkish rugs. In keeping with the neutral palette, a Casa Bohemia Injiri Fur Jat 6 throw introduces texture and can be layered up or pared back to suit the seasons. Quick to spot potential, Amanda bought the vintage French chair when it was red velvet and dark timber. She revived it with white paint and flax linen to create a beautiful addition to the space.

WE LOVE... *french doors*

Painted in Dulux Domino, the rustic timber doors screen off an adjoining studio and are held open with a vintage maritime door stop from Ha'veli. "I've got a guy in Mullumbimby who finds vintage doors for me that we can cut in half and make into French doors," explains Amanda. For similar, try Gumtree or your local salvage yard.



"I LIKE A PARED BACK COLOUR PALETTE, LAYERED WITH DIFFERENT *textures, materials* AND RUSTIC IT WORKS IN THIS HOUSE WITH THE BEAUTIFUL NATURAL LIGHT THAT COMES IN"

~ AMANDA

BATHROOM In keeping with the rest of the renovation, the aim for the bathroom (top left & below right) was to create a space that felt rustic and established rather than shiny and new. "The design took shape around creating a bathroom without glass," explains Amanda. Grey handmade floor tiles in a moody hue from Surface Society contrast beautifully with a rendered wall used to partition the wet area, defined with Grey Arabesque feature tiles from Jatana. Brass fittings, including tapware from Ottoman Imports, a marble basin from Bisque Traders and a shower fixture sourced overseas contribute a warm, aged elegance (for similar try Abi Interiors). INDIANA'S BEDROOM The children's modest-sized bedrooms are furnished simply, yet stylishly, as places to sleep. In Indiana's room (top right), a steel-poster bed, sourced online, is layered in a mix of sumptuous textiles, including an I Love Linen quilt and pillowcases in Baby Blue Chambray, teamed with Ruffle bedding in Natural from Society Of Wanderers. The walls also showcase tactile materials, with the Network Rugs Scandi textured fringed wall hanging from Temple & Webster echoing the shapes on the tiled floor, while a cloth pendant from The Secret Room hangs above. For a similar bed, try graysonline.com. >

ENTRANCE The final piece of the layout puzzle was in relocating the entrance, then incorporating a new opening to fit a chunky vintage Indian door from Ha'veli. Underfoot, marble travertine tiles evoke a timeless look and feel, and are incredibly forgiving in a household of four children and two dogs. Used as a second living area (with coffee tables from Bisque Traders), the entrance (below) features formed concrete to serve multiple functions. The integrated day bed topped with Casa Bohemia vintage Japanese borrow cushions provides a spot to read; ledges display vintage jugs from Worn Store and Fossil Vintage, and cut-out arches conceal shoe baskets. "Our renderer was just amazing to work with," enthuses Amanda. "I encouraged little imperfections in the concrete, because it's that character which makes a home feel more comfortable and lived in."

COASTAL *VIBE*
the details

TILES
Bijmat black handcut pavers (used on rangehood), Surface Society.

SPLASHBACK
Moroccan Bazaar tile, Jatana.

INSIDE STORY
AMANDA & BRAD'S HOME

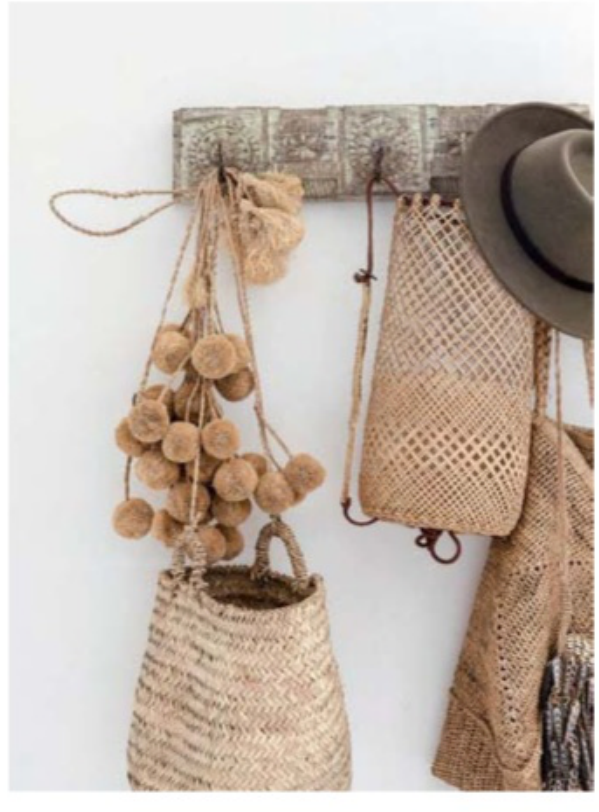
WHO LIVES HERE? *Amanda, founder of Casa Bohemia; husband Brad, a software consultant; and children, Phoebe, 17, Indiana, 14, Summer, 11, Marley Rocket, nine; plus, Pekingese Coco and Dachshund Luna.*
DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE? *"Rustic, travelled, warm, textural and welcoming," says Amanda. "I wanted to create a home where people feel relaxed and comfortable, and nothing is overly precious."*
BIGGEST SPLURGE? *"Probably the tiles. We have marble travertine throughout, a mix of amazing vintage and replica tiles. The bathroom floor tiles were handmade from Indonesia. I love the patina they develop over time."*
LESSON LEARNED WHILE RENOVATING? *"It's so important to stay true to what you imagined as there is always a way – you just need to find the right creative trades to make it happen with you. It's a really personal thing creating your dream space."*
BEST THING ABOUT WHERE YOU LIVE? *"We really love having the space here so our children can grow up together and be free to run."*

SOURCE BOOK
RENDERER *TMW Solid Plaster, Todd Wiley, 0403 135 452.*

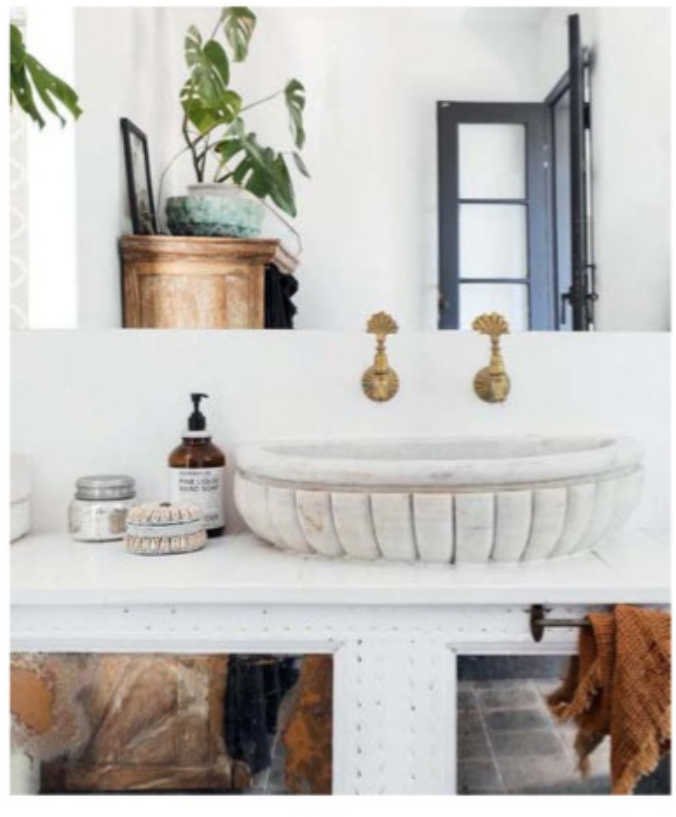
Marley Rocket and Coco sit by a Grand Wooden Teepee Hideaway from Plum. The pair enjoy roaming the outdoors, with its play areas, vegie garden and chicken coop.

Grey and Black Check Antique tile, Jatana.

"BUY THINGS THAT YOU ABSOLUTELY LOVE AND GROUP THINGS TOGETHER TO TELL A STORY" ~ *AMANDA*



A Ha'veli wall hanger with pompoms from Casa Bohemia and assorted natural baskets.



Vintage cabinet from Ha'veli, Ottoman Imports brass taps and a marble basin from Bisque Traders.

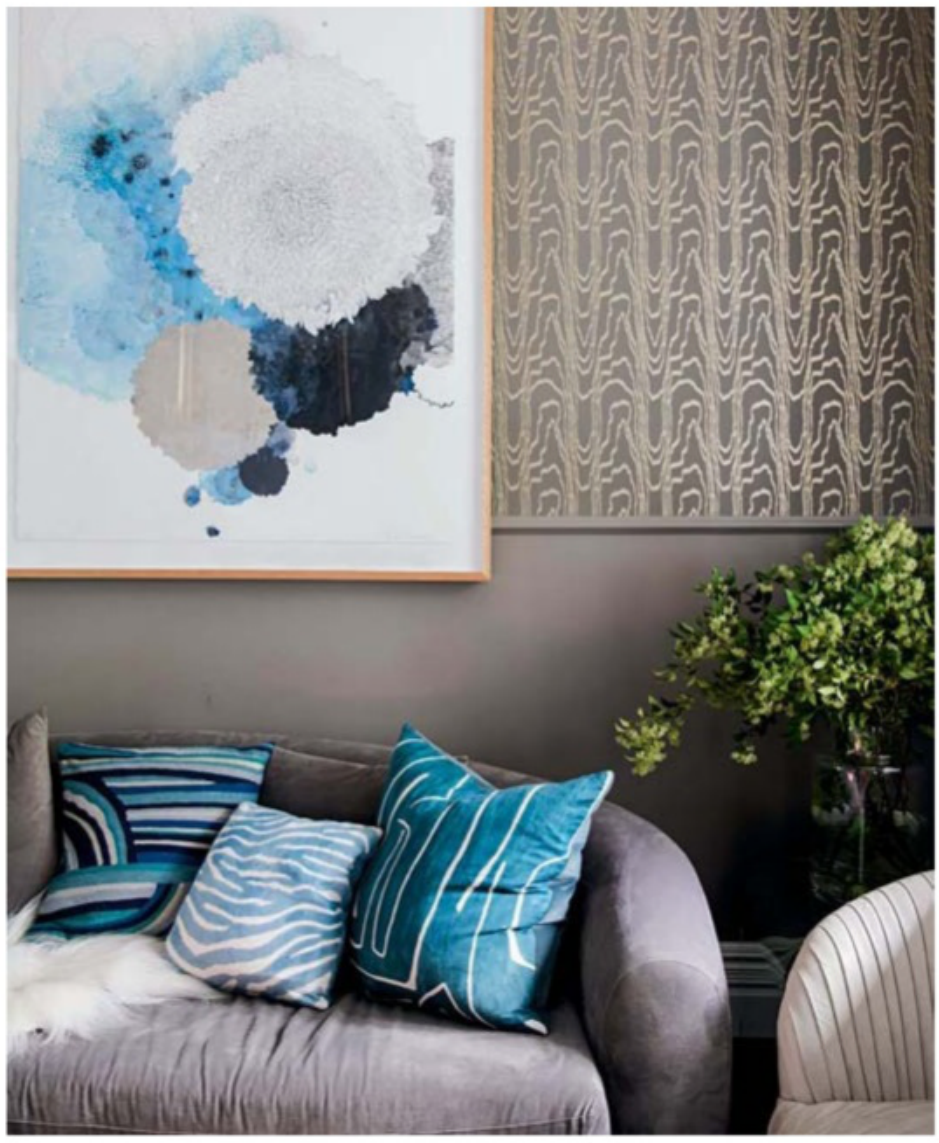
Beyond the kitchen, a hand-painted mural by Phoebe and Amanda upscales the laundry.

ACTUAL PAINT COLOURS MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

LICENCE TO THRILL

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IN YOUR HOME IF YOU HAD NO FEAR OF COMMITMENT? CHOOSING TO DESIGN ENTIRELY FOR HERSELF AND HER FAMILY, THIS INTERIOR DESIGNER DIALS UP THE DRAMA TO ELEVEN

Story ANNA McCOOE Styling FIONA GOULD Photography CHRIS WARNES



Here inside Sarah's fabulously fancy home on Sydney's north shore, the interior designer is "living the life". The founder and head designer at Mi Designer does glitz gorgeously. Her style is exotic and luxurious, classic and unpredictable, with pattern, texture and lustrous finishes raising the atmosphere to fever pitch. More maximalist than minimalist, she is drawn to tailored ornamentation, with brass, velvet and wallpaper her weapons of choice. To Sarah, the idea of resale does not factor into her process. Instead, she is steadfast in the courage of her exuberant convictions. "I've always been a strong believer in not settling for ordinary when you can have extraordinary," she says. "Why decorate for future owners? You wouldn't buy shoes to sell on to someone else."

Sarah and her husband Ben bought their 110-year-old house in 2004 for their family, which includes Baxter, 16, and Eliza, 13. The four-bedroom building was in a state, with peeling wallpaper and an overgrown garden. "But it had pressed metal ceilings, amber cut-glass doorknobs and there was an amazing 80-year-old wisteria bush out back," recalls Sarah. According to the building inspection it was in excellent structural condition, so the couple were called to action.

The pair did some initial work before moving in – and a few upgrades as the years went on – but bided their time for a major renovation, which took place over 12 months. New plans were drawn up with the help of friends at Sissons Architects, who usually do big commercial projects, but made an exception for the designer. Post-renovation, the house still has four bedrooms and sits on much the same footprint, but there's now a luxurious suite for the couple. Other additions include two extra bathrooms, a study and a terrace. "All I ever wanted in life growing up was a covered outdoor space and an Insinkerator," says Sarah. "It took me till my mid-40s, but I got there."

Across the new threshold, the home's bold, brave, tongue-in-cheek personality is established from the get-go, thanks to the Catherine Martin 'La Palma' wallpaper. "I wanted to set the tone of a happy house and a relaxed house – quirky but not too quirky," she says. "There's bananas at our front door so it's hard to take anything too seriously." The wallpaper also serves as a guiding light, setting the scheme for the rest of the home. For Sarah, its tones are more liberating than limiting. "You can be as brave as you like with your design when you have a palette in place. Everything comes back to those colours."

LUXE REDUX Sarah and Ben's renovated family home melds drama with classic period details, such as picture rails, ornate plaster work and wood panelling. On the terrace (top left), a 'Butterfly' chair from Kmart and stool from India stand out against the Besser blocks. In the formal lounge (left), Kelly Wearstler 'Agate' wallpaper sets the mood. "This is an adult space most of the time, used in the evenings, so I wanted a dimly lit feel," says the mother of two teens. Mokum 'La Palma' wallpaper by Catherine Martin is a favourite feature in the foyer (opposite), where an artwork by Rod Schubert is sympathetically framed. "This wallpaper would take me a long time to not love," says Sarah with a smile. >

ARTWORK (THIS PAGE) MELINDA SCHAWEL

FLOOR PLAN

GROUND FLOOR

LOWER GROUND FLOOR

TERRACE The kitchen flows to a covered outdoor area (top) where the family entertains freely and easily. The Beefeater barbecue was one of the only pieces the owner couldn't source in brass, but was worth the compromise. An 80-year-old wisteria grows along the wall, which was a feature that drew the couple to this house. The massive 12-seater table is a chic board room table that Ben scored when his company moved offices. "It will tarnish outside with time, but it's quite protected," says Sarah. The slip-covered chairs are from Coco Republic: "I just pull off the covers and throw them in the washing machine."

ILLUSTRATION KENZIE DESIGN.CO

KITCHEN "Gold and brass look beautiful on our skin and in our homes," says Sarah (pictured with daughter Eliza), who went to every effort to avoid chrome. "Sure, there will be a period in 10 years when we look back and say, 'What were they thinking?' But if you wait long enough it will come back." She specified a brass ABI Interiors sink, Brodware tapware in brass, along with the custom Qasair brass rangehood. She also ordered a Zip tap from the USA to get it in a golden hue. Even the chevron floor is inlaid with a brass edging tile, while the fridge, bins and dishwasher are integrated into the Polytec 'Thermolaminated' cabinetry in Tempest Woodgrain. Stools from Darcy & Duke add a textural touch of deep emerald. >

FLOORING
Timber and concrete look tiles, Di Lorenzo.

LOUNGE
The owner likes to mix high-end design with affordable pieces. In her luxurious lounge (below), she has paired a pendant from Beacon Lighting with Kelly Wearstler wallpaper, a Horgans side table and West Elm coffee table. Blue armchairs from Future Classics deliver a pop of colour that ties in with the Melinda Schawel artwork.

WALLPAPER
'Agate' wallpaper in Taupe Gold, Kelly Wearstler.

“MY IDEAL HOME WOULD ALWAYS HAVE A TAILORED FINISH BUT STILL HAVE SHINY ELEMENTS” ~ *SARAH*

DINING ROOM Staying in for dinner is an extravagant affair at Sarah and Ben’s home, where a mesmerising artwork by Regina Pilawuk Wilson presides over the scene (above). “I’ve always loved an oval table – it’s perfect for the room,” explains Sarah. The designer chose a replica Saarinen table from Replica Furniture, and paired it with velvet dining chairs from Coco Republic that are more spill resistant than they seem, thanks to an Eco Shield treatment, which guarantees a long, stain-free future. >

WALLPAPER
Grass cloth wallpaper, Boyd Blue.

"THE BEDROOM IS *calm and diffused*. IT'S SOFT BUT NOT OVERLY FEMININE"
~ SARAH

SARAH & BEN'S SUITE "Having this space to ourselves is like living in a hotel room," says Sarah of her bedroom, robe and ensuite. A big believer that sometimes design chooses you, she scored the last 20 metres of her discontinued Boyd Blue grass cloth wallpaper (top left) at a showroom sale. "I could only do one wall so I did the bedhead wall where I could lean over, touch it and appreciate the craft that has gone into it," she explains. An opulent 'Lulu' bedhead from Darcy & Duke and a Kelly Wearstler lamp from Circa Lighting in the USA enhance the air of glamour in this covetable retreat, where a soft wash of grey (Dulux Grey Baron) calms the mood and echoes tones in the Jai Vasicek print (above right). "I wanted the bedroom to feel like letting the air out of a tyre when you walk into it," she says. Never one to pull back too far, Sarah used Cynthia Rowley removable wallpaper in Zebra on the ceiling, along with a pendant from Cafe Lighting & Living. WARDROBE Venturing further into the zone reveals the stunning walk-in robe (top right), a favourite space for the stylish homeowner. Sarah specified the drawers at waist height as a way to create bench space above for display.

ENSUITE

Part of the master suite, behind the walk-in robe, the ensuite is Sarah's breathing space (below). "Walking into our ensuite is the thing I smile about most daily," she says of its soothing quality. True to the designer's style, the room is tailored with a bit of glitz in the mix, courtesy of the 'London' vanity by ADP, Brodware tapware and mirrors from Warranbrooke. "I wanted a pair of mirrors rather than a big sheet of glass," says Sarah, who opted for the ultra-luxe 'Currents' wallpaper in Gold Ivory by Kelly Wearstler. >

WE LOVE...
lighting from abroad

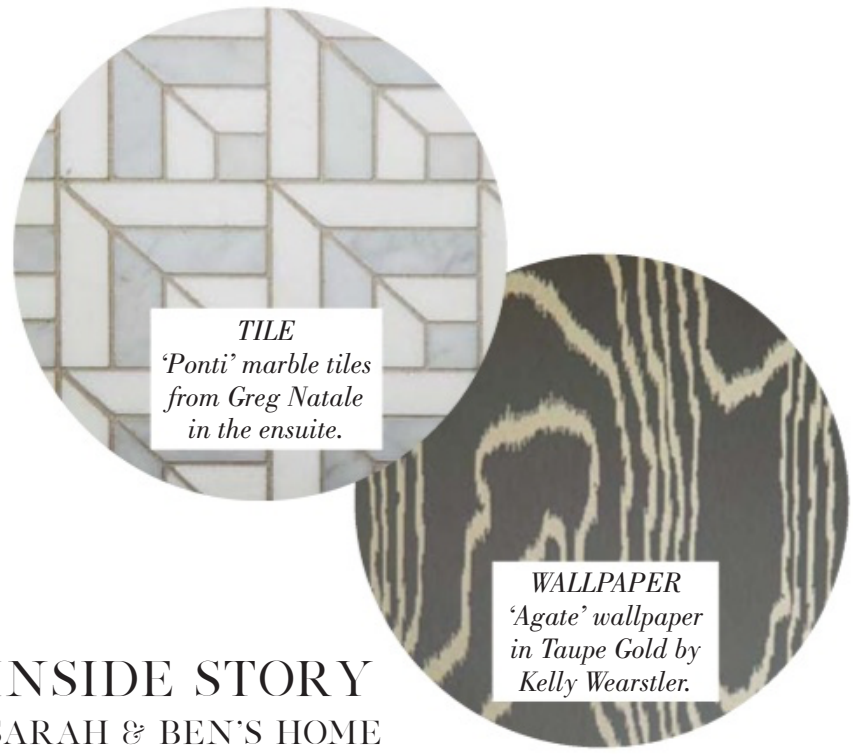
Don't be afraid to source lighting from the USA, says Sarah, who bought a 'Lloyd' wall sconce by Kate Spade from Circa Lighting for her ensuite. "I order direct and use Australian globes," she says. "You just need an electrician to sign off, and for lamps, just buy a $5 adaptor from Officeworks."

LAUNDRY

"When you have kids, the washing is the one job you never finish so the laundry should be a beautiful space," says Sarah. With mosaic floor tiles from Di Lorenzo and the walls in Dulux Precious Pink Quarter, the family's control centre lives up to this ethos (above). The Polytec benchtop in Calacutta D'oro pairs well with the Polytec joinery in Tempest Woodgrain and is glammed up with cut-glass knobs from Handle House. The 'Pink Palace' print by Little Ink Empire from Etsy recalls a recent trip to India.

CLASSIC *GLAMOUR*

the details



TILE
'Ponti' marble tiles from Greg Natale in the ensuite.

WALLPAPER
'Agate' wallpaper in Taupe Gold by Kelly Wearstler.

INSIDE STORY

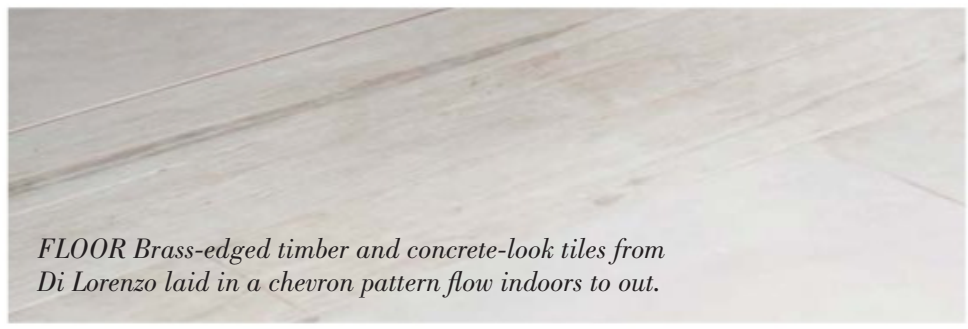
SARAH & BEN'S HOME

WHO LIVES HERE? *Sarah, an interior designer; Ben, a media adviser; and their children, Baxter 16, and Eliza, 13.*
WERE YOUR FAMILY GOOD CLIENTS? *"Very luckily, my husband is a great client, he was not afraid. I'd show him everything and for anything I thought might be contentious, I got Lucy [another interior designer from Mi Designer] to push through. Lucy was our design mediator. As interior designers, we mediate between husband and wife all the time. Our teenagers were harder, they are my biggest critics, but they usually got on board as they saw it all come together."*
YOUR STYLE? *"I have always been attracted to transitional design – the mix of traditional and contemporary. I love ornamentation, but for it to be quite tailored and I don't like anything too serious."*
FAVOURITE SPACES? *"The outdoor undercover area has expanded our entertaining. We have people over most weekends and I love hanging out in our bedroom. Sometimes we'll spend hours gasbagging in the walk-in in wardrobe with champagne."*
BEST BUDGET TIP? *"We mix high and low all the time."*

SOURCE BOOK

INTERIOR DESIGNER *Sarah Tilley, Mi Designer, (02) 8068 7508, midesigner.com.au.*
ARCHITECTS *Patricia Sissons, Sissons Architects, (02) 8904 1853, sissons.com.au.*
BUILDER *Neil Jones, Bluestone Homes, 0414 707 300, bluestonehomes.com.au.*

Baxter and Sarah chill out at the replica Saarinen dining table from Replica Furniture, teamed with dining chairs from Coco Republic (velvet treated with Eco Shield).



FLOOR Brass-edged timber and concrete-look tiles from Di Lorenzo laid in a chevron pattern flow indoors to out.

"ALL THAT GLITTERS IS GOLD. I LOVE IT" ~ *SARAH*

'La Palma' wallpaper in Gilver by Catherine Martin for Mokum makes a statement.

V-groove walls on the lower floor, where a daybed makes lovely use of the space beneath the stairs.

Winning Appliances' 'Pitt' cooktop; Silestone benchtop in Eternal Calacatta Gold.

ACTUAL PAINT COLOURS MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

PROPERTY

PROPERTY MYTHS

DO BATHROOMS REALLY SELL HOUSES? WE SEPARATE FACT FROM FICTION TO SELL YOUR HOME FASTER

IN ASSOCIATION WITH CENTURY 21.

Selling your home is a life-changing process that can induce a flood of questions and, quite often, a lot of confusion. It doesn't help that there are endless myths around what to do and what not to do to ensure a successful sale. To help separate fact from fiction, we asked Charles Tarbey, Chairman of Century 21 Australia, to debunk six popular property myths so you can cut to the chase and get your property sold.

SPRING IS THE BEST TIME OF YEAR TO SELL YOUR HOME.

Answer: FALSE

In strong market environments, there is no one time of year that is better for selling your home than others. Although sales have been consistent throughout the seasons, it is worth noting more people do tend to move during spring, however, the more properties that are on the market, the more competition you will face as a seller.

A SELLER SHOULD NEVER ACCEPT THE FIRST OFFER

Answer: FALSE

Holding out for a better offer can often work against the vendor's best interests. "I have seen so many examples of the first offer being the best and, when not accepted, the vendor was left taking a lower offer down the track," says Mr Tarbey. Always seek the advice of an expert. Your agent should be a trained negotiator and will know how to bring the highest possible offer from a buyer to a seller. They can then advise you when an offer is acceptable or not.

RENOVATING THE BATHROOM WILL INCREASE THE HOME'S VALUE

Answer: POSSIBLY

Just like the kitchen, the bathroom rates as one of the most important rooms of your home so a modest renovation will often do wonders. However, a full renovation is not necessarily advised, as there is no guarantee the monetary value gained will cover the cost of the upgrade. Instead, focus on ensuring the bathroom is well presented.

DEPERSONALISING YOUR HOME WILL HELP IT SELL QUICKER

Answer: TRUE

It's important to give potential buyers the opportunity to imagine their own lives in the property. Presentation is crucial so, if budget allows, engage a property stylist who can present your home with enough neutrality to appeal to a wide range of buyers. Decluttering memorabilia and removing personal objects, such as photographs, will make it much easier for buyers to connect to the property as a blank canvas they can build upon themselves..

ONLINE VALUATIONS ARE ACCURATE

Answer: FALSE

All appraisals, whether made in person or online, should only be used as an estimate of a property's value and never taken as gospel. As advanced as technology may be, when it comes to appraising a home, the results can be very inaccurate. An experienced agent will take the home's details and overall feel of the property into account when conducting a valuation, something an app or website simply can't do.

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DESIGN FILE

KITCHENS | BATHROOMS | EXPERT ADVICE | RENOVATE | CREATE

INTERIOR DESIGN **MARTYN LAWRENCE BULLARD DESIGN**

DESIGNER SECRETS *page 115*

IT'S ALL WHITE

WHITE PROVIDES A TIMELESS BASE FOR ANY INTERIOR SCHEME, HOWEVER THE RIGHT ONE IS OFTEN HARD TO FIND. HERE, WE'VE ASKED THE EXPERTS TO HELP SIMPLIFY THE SEARCH

Words KAREN SPRESSER

GETTING STARTED

Choosing the perfect white paint can often be a little overwhelming – pick up a colour chart and you'll see row after row of whites on offer, many somehow looking confusingly similar. According to interior designer Karen Akers from Designed by Karen Akers, there is a lot to consider when choosing a white, including aspect, lighting, furniture and what a room is to be used for. "You can paint the best colour white on the wall and then, if you flood it with the incorrect lighting overhead, forget it," she says. Get the white right, though, and it can help bring a space to life, providing a perfect backdrop for your decorating. According to Karen, it's best to go with what you're drawn to. If your natural colour palette is more towards the blue spectrum, then you'll probably like a cooler white. "If you want more of a cocooning effect, then pick one that has more of a warmer undertone," she suggests.

MATT OR SHEEN?

Matt and low-sheen are popular finishes for walls, with semi-gloss and gloss best suited to woodwork and trims. What you use where comes down to the look that you want to achieve. “We prefer matt on walls in interiors,” explains interior designer Suzanne Gorman from Studio Gorman. “A matt paint will highlight texture and we love the imperfections that are revealed – it gives a space a more layered and relaxed feeling. On trims we use gloss paint. It creates an interesting contrast in texture to the matt walls.” >

“IF THERE’S ANY SORT OF SHEEN LEVEL TO THE PAINT, THE LIGHT BOUNCES AROUND AND MAKES THE ROOM APPEAR BRIGHTER”

~ SERENA ELISE, INTERIOR DESIGNER, WHITE CHALK DESIGN

PHOTOGRAPHY (OPPOSITE) JOHN MANGILA

LIGHT WORK

Light – both natural and artificial, and direct and indirect – impacts how a white will look in a room. "The more natural light in the room, the warmer the space will be," explains interior designer Serena Elise of White Chalk Design. "If you've got a west-facing room that is going to throw off a lot of warmth, you're better off using a slightly cooler white, otherwise it may come across very yellow as the sun hits it. If there's a lot of greenery outside (such as in the living room, left), it's always a good idea to go a little cooler on the whites as green reflects a lot of warmth." A warmer white will help to brighten up a darker room and, for the kitchen, match your white with the undertones of your benchtop surfaces, as illustrated in the Studio Esteta-designed kitchen (below).

"STAY AWAY FROM ULTRA COOL WHITES IN RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS AS THESE ARE TOO CLINICAL AND NOT COMFORTABLE TO LIVE WITH"

~ SUZANNE GORMAN, INTERIOR DESIGNER, STUDIO GORMAN

PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE TOP LEFT) **BRITTANY AMBRIDGE/ OTTO/RAVEN & SNOW** (OPPOSITE) **JOHN MANGILA**

TOP WARM WHITES

PAINT
Natural White, Dulux

"IT'S A WARMER WHITE, BUT NOT TOO CREAM."

~ Felicity Slattery, Studio Esteta.

PAINT
Whisper White half strength, Dulux

"IT'S A WELCOMING WARM WHITE THAT CAN BE SUCCESSFULLY APPLIED TO MODERN OR MORE TRADITIONAL HOMES. IT'S A TRUE CHAMELEON AND A LONGTIME FAVE OF OURS."

~ Serena Elise, White Chalk Design.

PAINT
Alabaster, Resene

"A WHITE THAT HAS A WARM GREY NEUTRAL BASE. GREAT FOR NEUTRAL-BASED INTERIOR COLOUR SCHEMES LOOKING FOR A SLIGHT SOPHISTICATION."

~ Karen Akers, Designed by Karen Akers.

PAINT
Almond White, Porter's Paints

"THE SOFTEST WHITE WITH HINTS OF PEACH THAT GIVE A SOPHISTICATED, ON-TREND TWIST."

~ Suzanne Gorman, Studio Gorman.

PAINT
Snowy Mountains, Dulux

"A NEUTRAL WHITE THAT HAS A HINT OF WARMTH WITHOUT ANY YELLOW. FRESH BUT NOT COOL."

~ Suzanne Gorman, Studio Gorman.

PAINT
Black White, Resene

"WITH A LITTLE MORE BLACK IN THE TINT, THE RESULT IS THE PALEST SILVERY WHITE … PERFECT FOR WARMER ROOMS THAT HAVE MORE LIGHT."

~ Serena Elise, White Chalk Design.

TOP COOL WHITES

PAINT
Lexicon Quarter,
Dulux

"THIS IS A FRESH COOLER-BASED WHITE THAT IS MY GO-TO FOR A MORE MODERN SPACE. IF THE ART-GALLERY VIBE IS WHAT YOU PREFER, THIS IS YOUR ONE-STOP COLOUR."

~ Serena Elise,
White Chalk Design.

PAINT
Vivid White,
Dulux

"THE 'PURE WHITE' – THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST NEUTRAL-BASED WHITES THAT GIVES A VERY CLEAN CANVAS. THIS COLOUR IS SO CLEAN IT USUALLY REQUIRES THREE COATS TO GET AN EVEN COVERAGE COMPARED TO THE USUAL TWO."

~ Karen Akers,
Designed by Karen Akers.

"IF THERE IS A GREY TONE OR BLUE PAINT COLOURS, SELECT A COOLER WHITE"

~ FELICITY SLATTERY, INTERIOR DESIGNER, STUDIO ESTETA

PAINT
White On White,
Dulux

"IT'S FRESH, CRISP AND CLEAN, AND NOT TOO BLUE."

~ Felicity Slattery,
Studio Esteta.

IN THE TONE

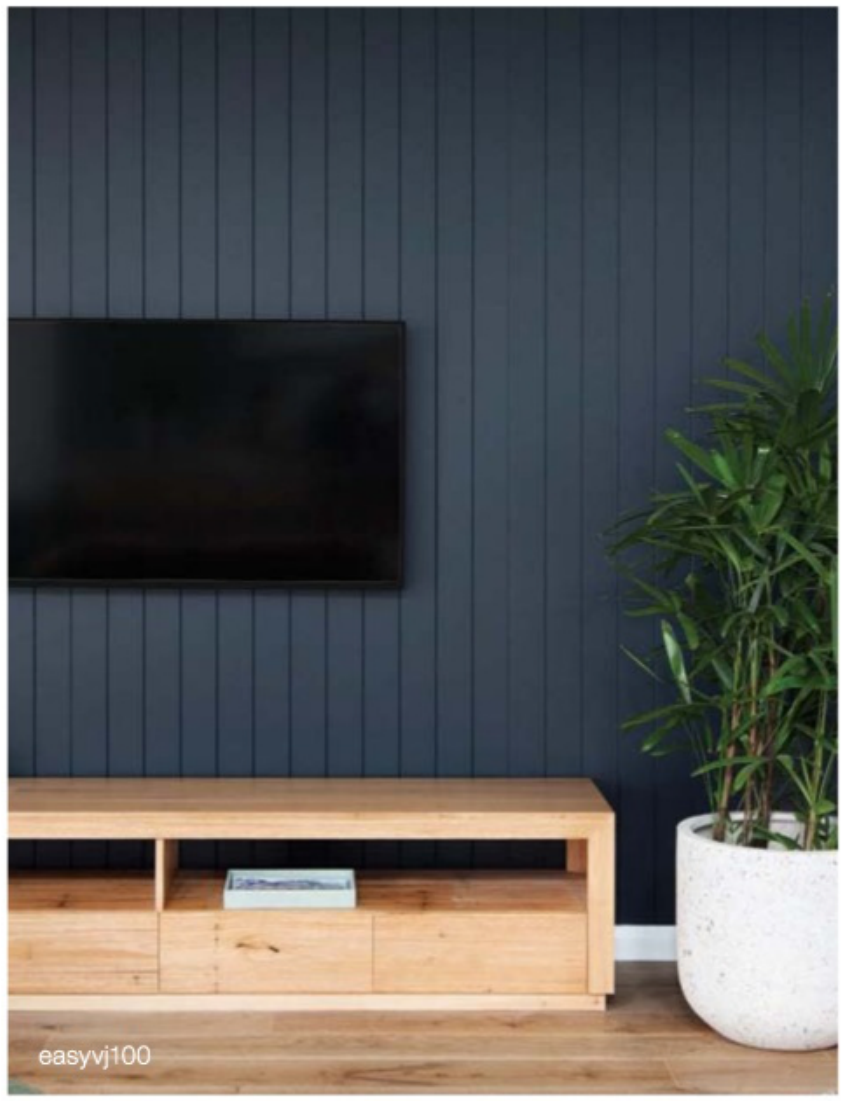
Look to your interior scheme and furnishings to decide what end of the spectrum to steer towards – warm or cool. The warmer whites present more of a cream/yellow undertone, while cooler ones have more of a blue/grey undertone. Whites with a warmer undertone will lend more of a cosy feel to a room, while those with a cooler undertone can give it a crisper and more modern look. "If we had a project with a lot of timber veneer, we would select a much warmer white to complement the warmer tones of the timber," says Felicity Slattery, architect and interior designer with Studio Esteta. "It really is dependent on the site, the lighting, the materiality – all those things define which white you go with."

"FIND THE WHITE THAT WORKS FOR YOUR HOUSE AND YOUR LOOK – WHAT FEELS RIGHT FOR YOU" ~ *LISA BURDUS, INTERIOR DESIGNER*

PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE FROM TOP) **CATH MUSCAT, SIMON WHITBREAD** (OPPOSITE) **JOHN MANGILA**

TEST IT OUT

The final step before committing to a white paint is putting it to the test. "Get sample pots, try it in the space, live with it, look at it at different times of day," suggests interior designer Lisa Burdus, of Lisa Burdus Design & Decoration. Don't just do a small wall swatch – most experts advise a space at least 1m x 1m. "Put your furniture up against it, put your artwork up against it and stand back and have a good look at it at different times of day," she says. "It's like buying a white shirt – there are so many variations of a white shirt you have to match it against your skin... this is the same."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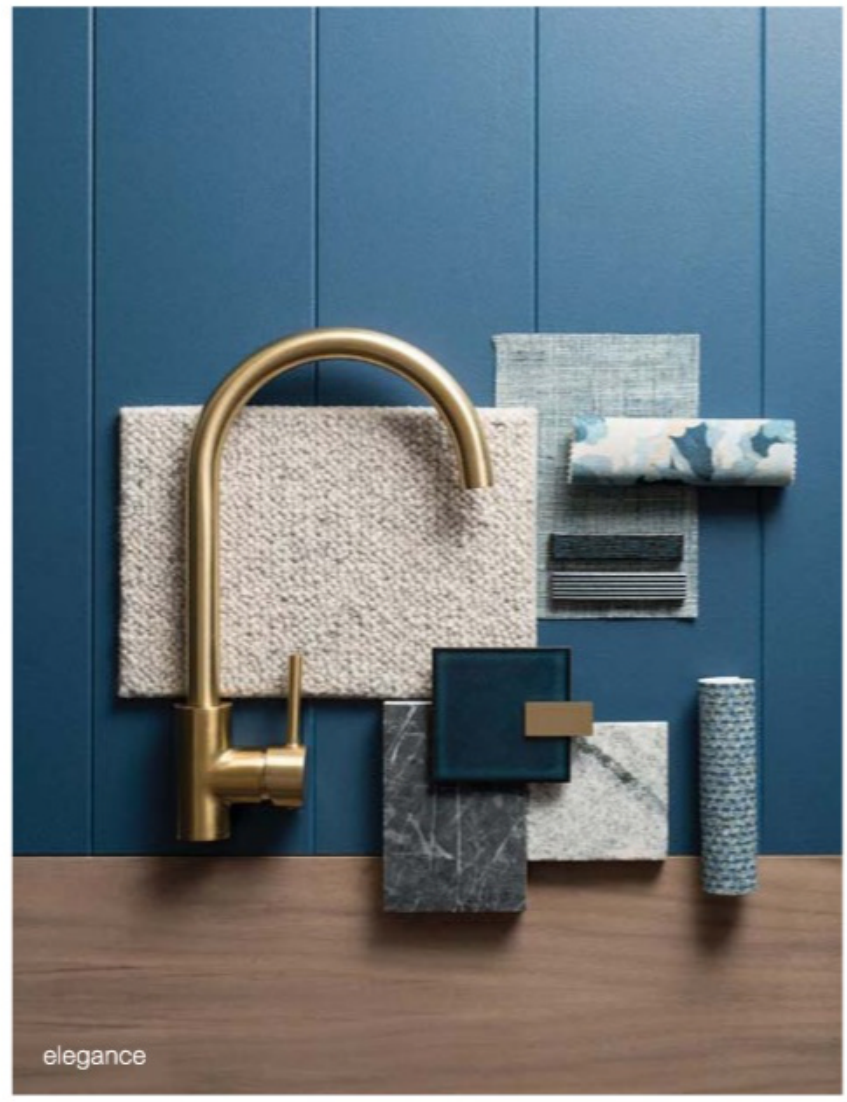
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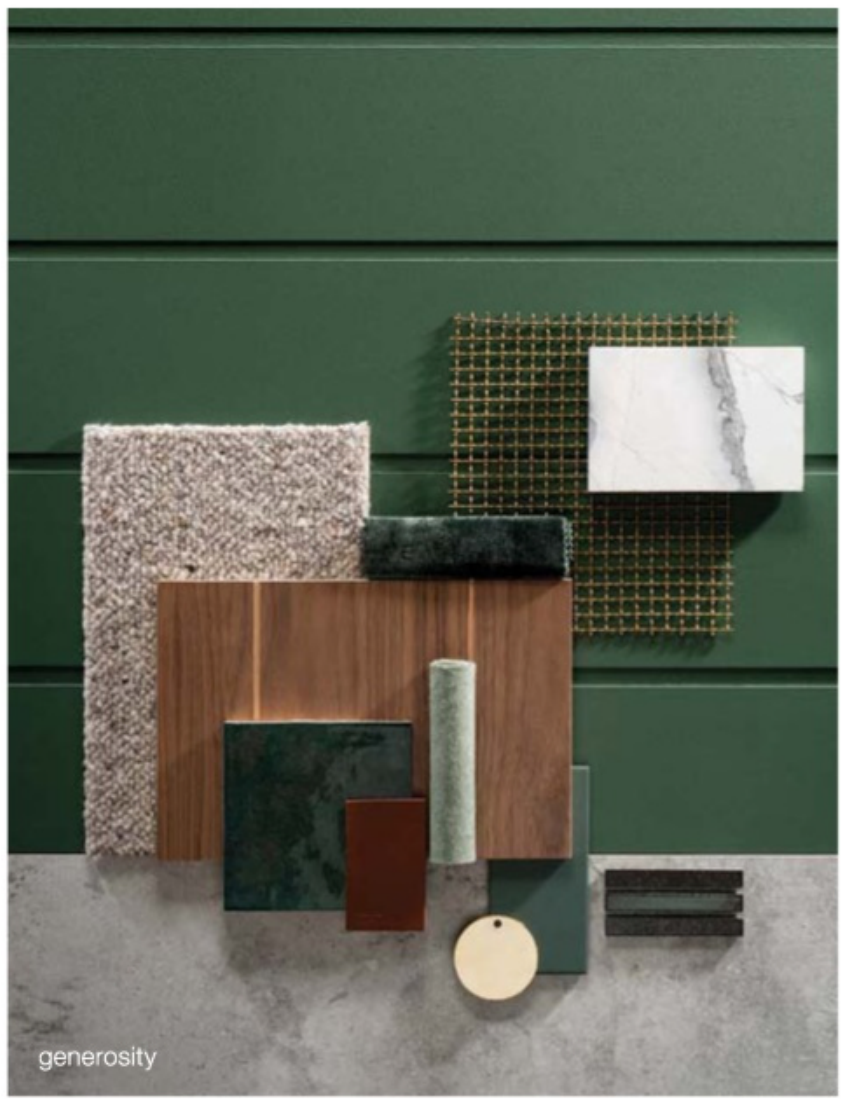
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We've curated a collection of the most exciting trends upcoming in 2020, visual definitions of personality and individuality.

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DESIGNER SECRETS:

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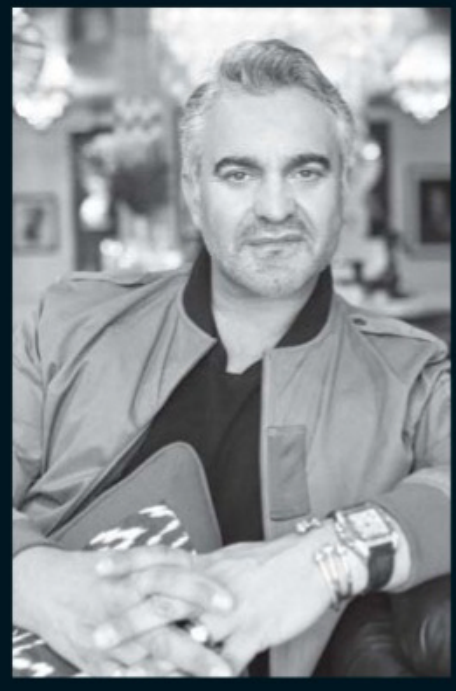
STEP INSIDE SOME INSPIRATIONAL INTERIORS CREATED BY FOUR OF THE GLOBE'S MOST NOTABLE DESIGN STARS

Story HOLLY BYRNE

ANNA SPIRO



MARTYN LAWRENCE BULLARD

MERYL HARE

TOM DIXON

ANNA SPIRO

WHAT'S YOUR EARLIEST MEMORY OF FALLING IN LOVE WITH DESIGN? *"When I was a young girl I loved reading my mother's fashion and interiors magazines. I would pour over the pages of inspiring images and dream of being as clever and as creative as the designers featured."*

HOW DID YOU GET YOUR START IN THE INDUSTRY? *"I was very lucky to get a junior position with Brisbane interior designer, John Black. I started working with John two weeks after I finished grade 12. It was my foot in the door."*

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE IN A SENTENCE? *"I am a pattern and colour loving maximalist with tradition and quality being the foundation of my work, however, I always throw an unexpected twist into the mix for good measure."*

WHAT'S BEEN THE BIGGEST DESIGN LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED? *"Investing in quality. I always encourage my clients to buy well-made, beautiful things that last."*

WHAT IS THE ONE STYLE RULE YOU LIVE BY? *"Be confident and trust your instincts. Magic happens when you have the confidence to dive into the deep end."*

WHAT ARE YOUR ALL-TIME FAVOURITE MATERIALS TO WORK WITH? *"Natural materials, always. However, I have been starting to embrace recycled materials as we move towards guiding our clients to be more environmentally conscious."*

IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE JUST THREE COLOURS FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE, WHAT WOULD THEY BE? *"Blue always and forever, but I can't stick to three. There are more than three colours in nature and I need all those colours in my life. "*

WHERE DO YOU FIND YOUR INSPIRATION? *"Everywhere! I keep my eyes wide open and often see things others don't. Sometimes when I'm working on a project and working with a particular colour, I start to see it everywhere on the streets. It's a very strange thing."*

ABOUT ANNA:

Colour, pattern and creativity are the pillars of an Anna Spiro design. The Brisbane-based designer's signature style can be spotted in cheerful bars, hotels and homes right across the country, from inner-city Melbourne dwellings to Cabarita Beach's most Instagrammed boutique hotel, Halcyon House.

PHOTOGRAPHY **TIM SALISBURY**

THIS PAGE: *A Queensland family enlisted Anna's help to transform this newly built beachside apartment into a luxurious weekender. "We wrapped the entire apartment in wallpaper, which created the most amazing atmosphere," she says.* **OPPOSITE:** *One of Anna's most loved projects, this old cottage on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula is filled with colour and character. "I was given complete aesthetic reign over the entire project and I feel that it's my best work to date," says Anna. >*

"I'M NOT AFRAID OF COLOUR OR PATTERN AND LOVE TO INCORPORATE BOTH IN LEAPS AND BOUNDS"

MARTYN LAWRENCE BULLARD

ABOUT MARTYN:

With a star-studded client list that spans from Cher to Tommy Hilfiger, Martyn Lawrence Bullard has well and truly cemented himself as Hollywood's hottest interior designer. The London-born LA-based creative has penned two books, starred in hit TV series *Million Dollar Decorators* and in 2017 opened the doors to his own atelier store in West Hollywood.

WHAT IS YOUR EARLIEST MEMORY OF FALLING IN LOVE WITH DESIGN? *"I started out at the age of 12 – I convinced my Dad to let me use my pocket money to go running around the local flea markets buying things to resell. I'd buy china and silver spoons that I thought were pretty, bring them over to my own stand and make them look prettier and sell them for more."*

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE? *"Eclectic. Worldly. I don't like to be pinpointed to having one style. I like to be many things. I like to be able to constantly keep changing and reinventing what I do and how I do it."*

WHEN YOU START A NEW PROJECT, WHAT IS THE FIRST QUESTION YOU ASK A CLIENT? *"You know I often do the reverse interview process with my clients. I give them a bit of homework. I ask them about their favourite restaurant, their favourite hotel. Where's their favourite place to go on vacation? What kind of car do they drive? Of all those weird little questions, the answers come back to you like a jigsaw puzzle fitting together to make sense."*

WHAT ARE YOUR ALL-TIME FAVOURITE MATERIALS TO WORK WITH? *"Well, I'm a huge marble fan. I love marble – I love natural stone. I love nature's beauty that you're able to extract and work with from that. In fabric, I love linen and I think it is this wonderful natural living material that can be very formal or very casual and I love that there's the juxtaposition – you can go either way with it."*

WHAT IS THE ONE STYLE RULE YOU LIVE BY? *"Never follow any rules."*

WHAT'S BEEN THE BIGGEST DESIGN LESSON YOU'VE LEARNT THROUGHOUT YOUR CAREER? *"Scale. All about scale. You know, the understanding of scale in a room is everything. If you have a small room, you don't have to put small furniture in it – quite often if you put larger pieces of furniture or a larger piece to anchor it, the space will feel bigger. But that's something you learn as you go along. It's almost a trial and error experience."*

WHAT IS YOUR BEST ADVICE TO A HOMEOWNER, TACKLING THE DESIGN OF HIS OR HER HOME RENOVATION? *"Well first of all, install dimmer switches everywhere 'cause lighting is everything."*

IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE JUST THREE COLOURS FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE, WHAT COLOURS WOULD THEY BE? *"Black, white, and green."*

PHOTOGRAPHY **TIM STREET-PORTER**

THIS PAGE: *The Pink Cabana at Sands Hotel and Spa in California is one of Martyn's most recognised designs.* **OPPOSITE PAGE: "***One of my great favourites [projects] has to be Cher's," says Martyn of the star's West Hollywood apartment. "I went to India and bought the facade of an old palace to create the walls of her actual apartment." >*

"ART IS A PERSONAL EXPRESSION, A WINDOW INTO EACH OF OUR SOULS. CHOOSE ART THAT SPEAKS TO YOU AND DESIGN AROUND THAT"

THIS PAGE: Renowned for his attention to detail, Martyn Lawrence Bullard used more than 1 million tiles in his design for the Hotel Californian to bring some Moroccan magic to Santa Barbara's Funk Zone. The hotel's restaurant, Blackbird, (top) and the lobby (below left and right) are pure glam. >

"AS AN EXTENSION FOR FANTASY, HOTELS REALLY STRETCH YOUR IMAGINATIVE TALENTS"
~ MARTYN LAWRENCE BULLARD

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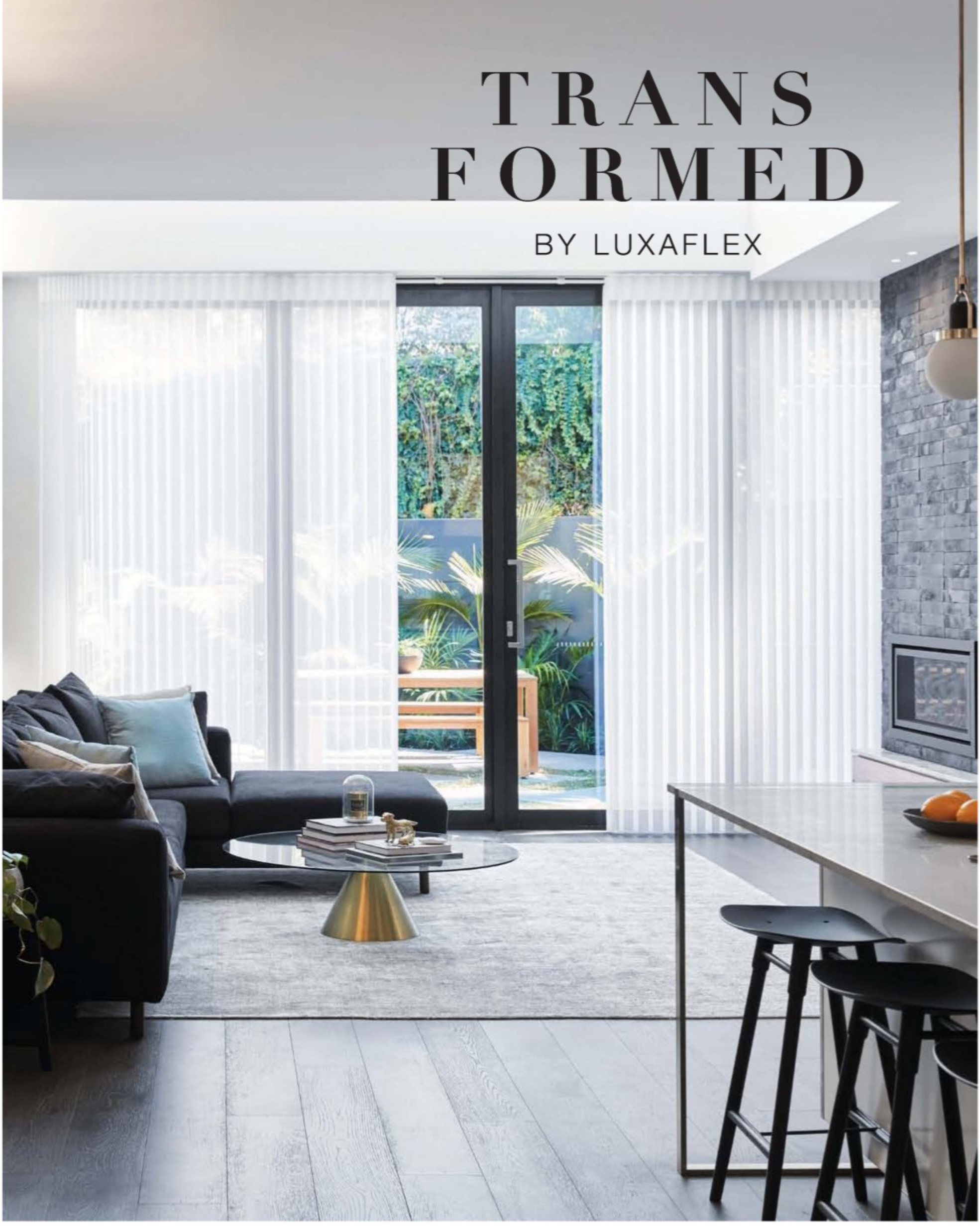

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TOM DIXON

ABOUT TOM:

A self-taught designer with a global cult following, Tom Dixon, OBE is renowned for his eponymous collection of lighting, furniture and home accessories – but the London-based designer is also responsible for some incredible homes, restaurants and offices.

ABOVE: *The new 'Swirl' range from Tom Dixon (large vase, above) is made from recycled powdered marble residue mixed with pigment and resin to create blocks of material that can then be sawn, sliced and turned on a lathe.*

WHAT IS YOUR EARLIEST MEMORY OF FALLING IN LOVE WITH DESIGN? *"Well, academically speaking, I went to a pretty bad school in London. But, they had an amazing ceramics department, so I think really my first encounter with design was when confronted with a lump of clay, aged 14."*

HOW DID YOUR CAREER EVOLVE FROM THERE? *"I fell into a whole set of unexpected circumstances that involved jobs as a printer, as a musician, as a nightclub owner. After I learned how to do welding, I started making things really for some instant pleasure and people started buying. It [my career] was slightly more organically grown."*

WHAT WAS IT ABOUT LIGHTING AND HOME DECOR THAT REALLY STUCK WITH YOU? *"I'd have happily been a sculptor, but the art world had been moving towards conceptual artwork rather than anything else. What appealed to me about interiors, furniture and lighting is really that it had all of the elements of sculpture, but with a very distinct sense of purpose."*

WHERE DO YOU FIND THE INSPIRATION FOR YOUR PRODUCTS AND PIECES? *"The interest is partly in the manufacturing and craft processes, starting with materiality. And then, looking at how you convert this into something. It's quite an exciting time at the moment as even conventional materials, such as plastic, are able to be manipulated in new ways."*

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE IN A SENTENCE? *"At the moment maybe I'd call it, 'expressive minimalism'."*

WHAT IS THE ONE STYLE RULE YOU LIVE BY? *"The tricky thing is really balancing the need to stay relevant and fresh with making things that have got a sense of permanence and can stick around for a while. The under-pining rules that I try to find are longevity, both in design and in the material characteristics of the object."*

WHAT ARE YOUR ALL-TIME FAVOURITE MATERIALS TO WORK WITH? *"I completely avoid having favourites. I have obsessions, for sure. It's 'cork world' in the studio at the moment with every surface covered with the material."*

"I'VE SEEN MY STUFF TURN UP AT CAR BOOT SALES, AT THE ANTIQUE SHOP OR EVEN IN AUCTION HOUSES. I FEEL AS THOUGH I'VE SUCCEEDED WHEN PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT THERE'S STILL VALUE, EVEN AFTER IT HAS BEEN DISCARDED"

THIS PAGE AND OPPOSITE: *Collaborating with a Melbourne architecture and interiors firm, Cera Stribley, Tom is currently working on a high-end residential development called Rondure House (artist impressions pictured). "Australia is fortunate to have its own identity and its own aesthetics and its kind of interesting to be able to work within that context," says Tom. >*

MERYL HARE

ABOUT MERYL:

Meryl Hare may not be Australian born, but the designer, who hails from South Africa, is certainly a veteran of Australian creativity. Since founding her Sydney firm Hare and Klein in 1998, she has won countless national awards and was inducted into the Design Institute of Australia's Hall of Fame in 2011.

ABOVE: *In her second book* Hare and Klein Interior *(published by Thames & Hudson), Meryl showcases the firm's most recent residential projects, reflecting diverse Australian homes of all sizes. Plans, mood boards and concept sketches accompany stunning photography and a detailed description about the projects and processes. On sale from May 1.*

WHAT IS YOUR EARLIEST MEMORY OF FALLING IN LOVE WITH DESIGN? *"My first memory must be when I started rearranging my parents' houses, just wanting to change my environment. I actually started off wanting to be a graphic designer. I studied graphic design and worked in it for a couple of years, but in the meantime I was busy helping people do their houses. I suppose I was giving out gratuitous advice without realising that it could be a career."*

WHAT IS THE ONE STYLE RULE YOU LIVE BY? *"I have a philosophy about things like proportion and texture and colour, and things being comfortable with a sense of warmth, creating inviting interiors that I hope comes through in our work."*

HOW HAS AUSTRALIAN STYLE EVOLVED SINCE YOU FIRST ARRIVED? *"It has evolved so dramatically in the last 30 years, it's been extraordinary. There's a great new sense of confidence as in wonderful architecture, marvellous maturity and design. We've come so far in the last 30 years that it's almost unrecognisable from when I came."*

WHAT'S BEEN THE MOST CHALLENGING 'MUST-HAVE' REQUEST FROM A HOMEOWNER? *"We took on a job a while ago where there was a shipping container in the living room. There was no way that it was going to be able to be moved. It's part of our new book that we're about to launch."*

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR OWN HOME STYLE IN A SENTENCE? *"Personal. I've never been self-conscious about my home. It's got a few mistakes and not in any way a showcase, but it's comfortable and I've got some beautiful things that I've collected over the years. I have grandsons, so I'm not particularly precious, either."*

DO YOU HAVE A DREAM PROJECT OR COLLABORATION ON YOUR CAREER BUCKET LIST? *"I'd love to do a really exciting boutique hotel just to put into practice all that we've learned in high-end residential – that is on my wish list. Also I'd quite like to do a fit out on a yacht. I think that's interesting work."*

PHOTOGRAPHY (OPPOSITE PAGE) **JEN WILDING**, (THIS PAGE) **MAREE HOMER**.

“TRENDS COME AND GO. WITH SOCIAL MEDIA, THEY ARE NOW ALARMINGLY SHORT LIVED. WE TRY TO DESIGN INTERIORS THAT WILL STAND THE TEST”

THIS PAGE: *Modern shapes and earthy textures strike a balance between old and new in this refurbished 1880s dairy, completed by Hare and Klein. “The best projects usually come when the collaboration between us and the client has been really good,” says Meryl.* **OPPOSITE PAGE:** *As in most Hare and Klein designed spaces, the material mix in a neutral palette is the standout in this early Federation kitchen.*

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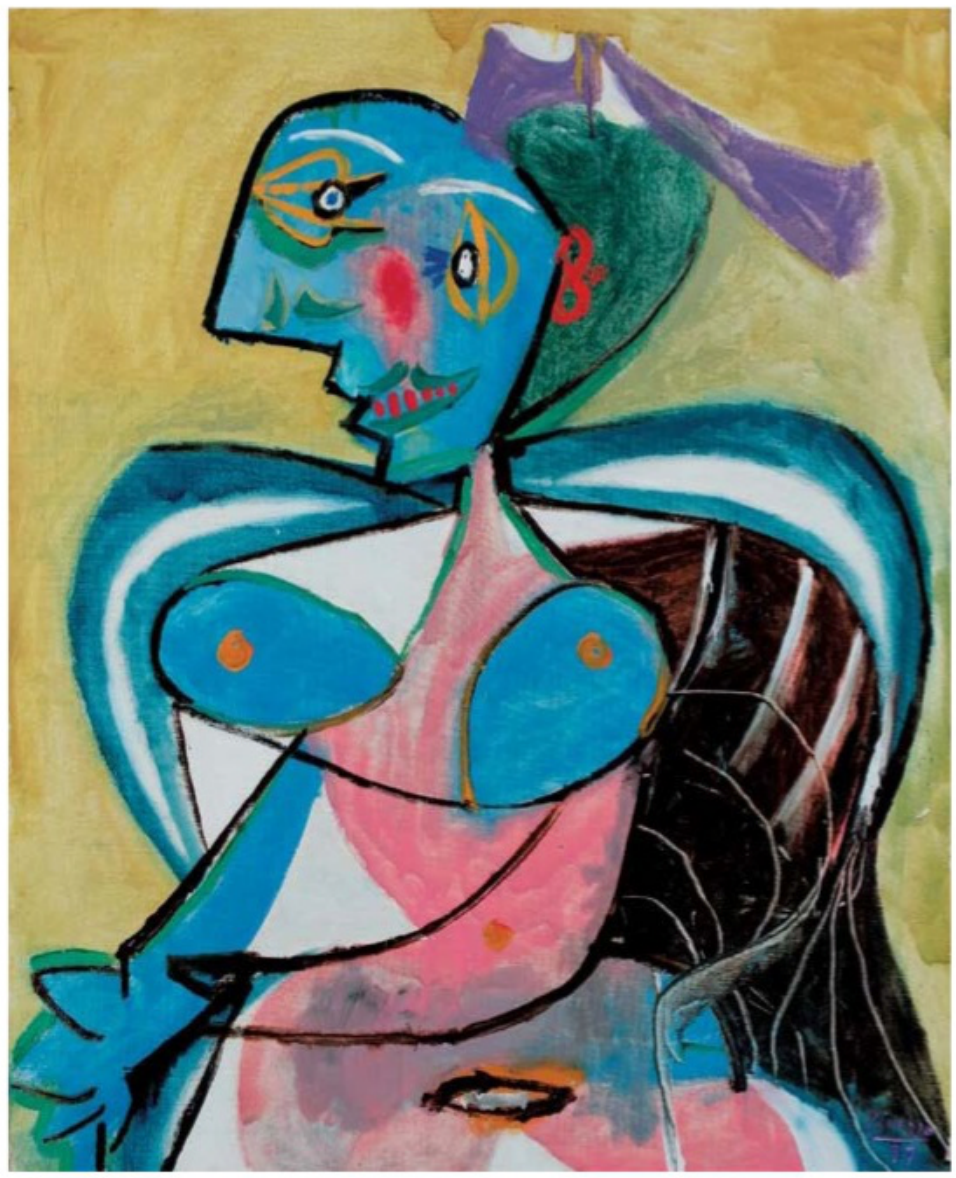

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Pablo Picasso *L'Arlésienne (Lee Miller)* 1937, Private international collection © Succession Picasso / Copyright Agency 2019

MASTERCLASS:

15 decorating IDEAS TO STEAL

TAKE DESIGN INSPIRATION FROM THIS WHOLE-HOME TRANSFORMATION THAT BRINGS JOY TO ITS OWNERS EVERY DAY

Words HARRIET SIM Styling KERRIE-ANN JONES
Photography PABLO VEIGA

It's a familiar story: adult children move out of the family home, leaving behind not only a pair of empty-nesters, but an outdated house yearning for a new lease of life. This was the case for one beloved home of 20 years, nestled in Sydney's leafy north shore. Reimagined by Alexandra Kidd Design, the home now offers a blueprint of stunning design inspiration to help renew any lustreless space. Turn the page for top simple decorating and design tricks that will make your spaces shine. >

1 *SHAPE SHIFTER*

Get ahead of the curve by playing with shape and form, says interior designer Demi Barnes of Alexandra Kidd Design, who spearheaded this project. “The key is in repetition,” says Demi. “If you have a round table, try pairing it with a curved rug or light fixture. When you start clashing those elements, it can go wrong really quickly – commit to the curve.” The beautiful round rug of choice for this room? The ‘Round Diamond’ by Emma Elizabeth from Designer Rugs.

"QUITE A LOT OF ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS HAD TO STAY"

~ Demi Barnes, interior designer

2 *TOUCH OF TEXTURE*

Elevate your living room style with contrasting tones, says *Home Beautiful* style editor, Fiona Gould. "The key is to play with texture for a more gentle impact." The velvet finish of the 'Redondo' Moroso armchairs by Patricia Urquiola (above) soften the deep dark tone set against the airy sheer curtains.

3 *STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN*

Brighten up a dark nook and create the illusion of a larger space with frameless glass. "For this project we kept the original treads and the column," explains Demi. "It's always a good idea to see what existing elements you can work with and update them, rather than replacing them." A custom glass balustrade opens up the room. >

"STICK TO THE RULE OF THREE WHEN STYLING A COFFEE TABLE VIGNETTE"

~ *Fiona Gould*, HB *style editor*

4 *ART OF THE STACK*

Looking for a subtle way to inject personality and character into a space? Start with the coffee table stack, says *HB*'s Fiona Gould. "Begin with books that are in complementary colours and similar sizes, with an ornament on top that ties it all together," she advises.

5 *FINISH LINE*

Make a big impact with small details by focusing on the finishes. "Dial up the luxe factor with touches of brass and leather," says Fiona. A set of the 'Luna' brass pulls from Lo & Co Interiors (similar to the ones on the cabinetry behind the side table, below) will add a sparkle to any space. >

5

DESIGNER TIP:

"HAVE FUN WITH SOMETHING THAT CAN BE CHANGED UP EASILY. THE BURNT ORANGE CUSHIONS HERE COULD BE SWAPPED OUT TO A GORGEOUS NAVY"

~ Demi Barnes, Alexandra Kidd Design

6 *TO THE WALL*

Maximise functionality in your study area with custom cabinetry. "A floating desk will save on floor space, while the surrounding cabinetry (above) provides ample storage space and a sense of grandeur," says *HB* style editor, Fiona Gould.

7 *LIGHT THE WAY*

When incorporating a piece of artwork into your design, the placement is just as important as the art itself. "The symmetrical placement of the sconces, [from ISM Objects], creates balance and makes the artwork the focal point of the space," says Fiona.

8 *ALL THAT GLITTERS*

Set the tone of a room with a harmonious colour palette that carefully ties every space together. "We used a lot of brass and champagne and gold to bridge that gap," says interior designer Demi Barnes from Alexandra Kidd Design.

“WE WANTED TO CREATE SOMETHING THAT WAS TIMELESS, WELCOMING AND SUITABLE FOR GRANDCHILDREN”

~ Demi Barnes, interior designer

10 *GO FOR BOLD*

A statement wallpaper, such as this custom one, is a beautiful way to bring any area of your home to life. The key? “Build from the base,” says Demi. “If you are going to have something this bold, do it at the start of your designing process and then add to it.” For a similar floral wallpaper, try ‘Branches’ by Florence Broadhurst from Natty & Polly Wallpaper. >

9 *LUXE LOW-DOWN*

Create a sense of warmth with cosy under-footing in intimate spaces. “Carpet in soft spaces – such as the bedroom – makes them more inviting and comforting,” says Fiona. “Opt for the best quality you can afford.”

11

12

"WE TRIED NOT TO FOLLOW TRENDS, JUST RESPOND TO THE CLIENTS' AESTHETIC" ~ *Demi Barnes*

11 *USE THE FOURTH WALL*

Get creative with the floor plan in small spaces. "We were tasked with a challenging room layout (above), but by adding a fourth wall it made the space feel more proportioned and functional," says Demi Barnes of Alexandra Kidd Design of the upholstered bedhead wall. If construction is out of the question, try a divider screen instead.

12 *CAREFUL COHESION*

Synchronise your spaces by repeating tones and finishes. "The use of timber [in the guest ensuite, left, and main bathroom, opposite] not only harmonises the palette with the bedrooms, but creates a sense of warmth," says *HB* style editor, Fiona Gould. "The floating shelf [left] is also a great way of maximising storage without taking up additional floor space." >

DESIGNER TIP:

"EMBRACE YOUR HOME'S HERITAGE BY WORKING WITH THE EXISTING ARCHITECTURE AND NOT AGAINST IT"

~ Demi Barnes, Alexandra Kidd Design

13

14

15

13 *PROFESSIONAL TOUCH*

Some things are definitely best left to the experts, and a well-manicured landscape design is one of them. "We worked quite closely with landscape architect firm Outdoor Establishments," says Demi Barnes of Alexandra Kidd Design. A wonderful oversized water feature instead of lawn is the perfect low-maintenance option.

14 *OUTDOOR LIVING*

Creating a connection to the indoors is a must-do to make your outdoor space more inviting. "We expanded the openings in this home as much as we could" says Demi. "And there are so many great [outdoor] brands, think about how you furnish your interior room and apply that to the exterior. It works on any scale, any budget."

15 *FIRST IMPRESSIONS*

Use the entryway to give your visitors a taste of what's to come. "If there is a particular motif that encompasses the design theme, such as the curves in this home, incorporate this into the entryway," says *HB*'s Fiona Gould.

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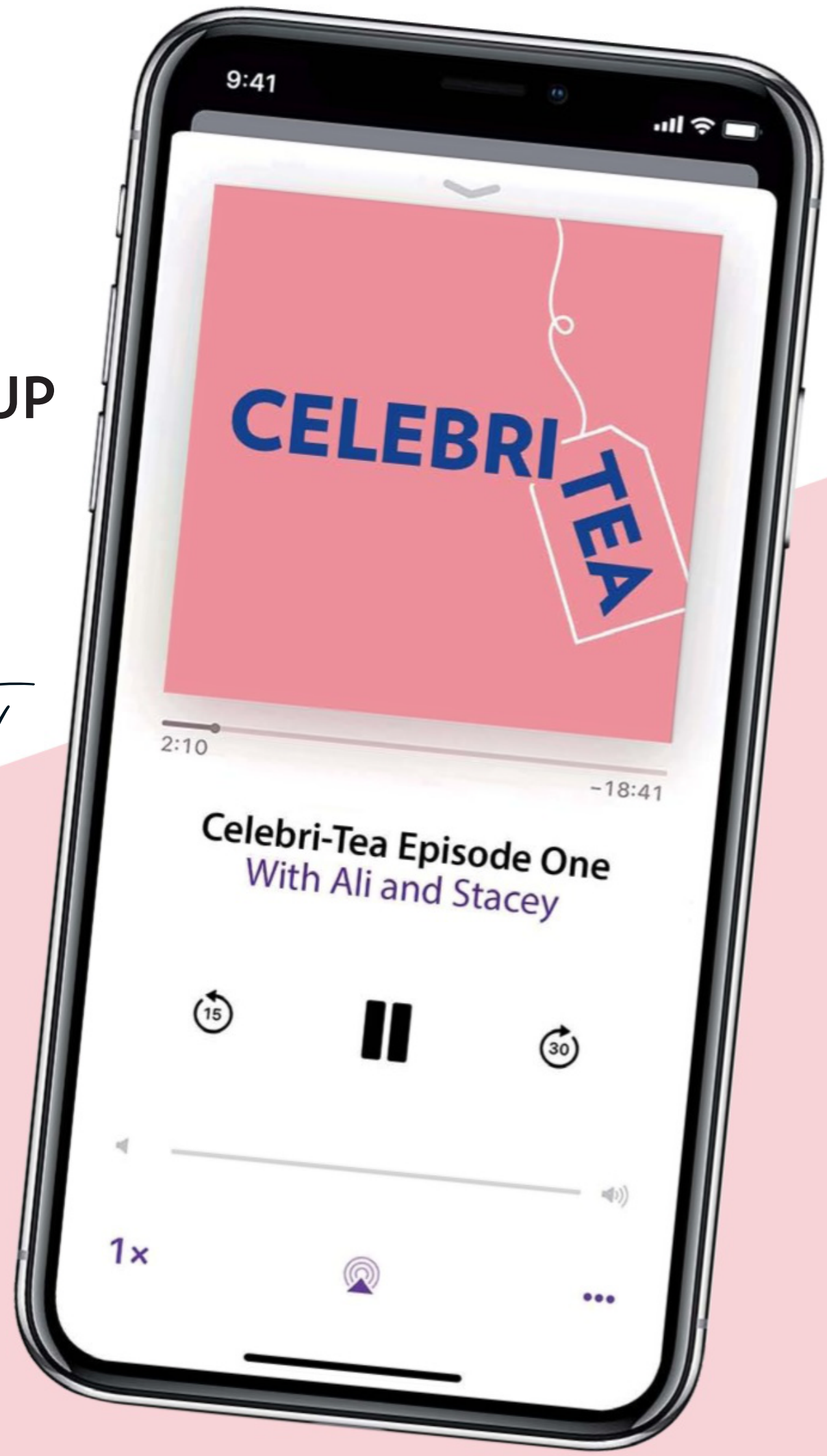

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BOLD & BEAUTIFUL

PHOTOGRAPHY **ALEX LUKEY/ESTEE DESIGN**

DREAMING OF A LUST-WORTHY BATHROOM THAT MAKES A LASTING IMPRESSION? FOLLOW OUR EXPERT GUIDE TO CHOOSING A STRIKING STATEMENT PIECE TO UPGRADE EVERY CORNER OF YOUR WASH ZONE

Words KAYLA WRATTEN

tiles of style

Feature walls can dictate the overall aesthetic, with hand-crafted tiles currently enjoying a surge in their popularity. “Use handmade tiles behind your vanity to create a beautiful feature,” says creative director Kimberley Tan of Studio Atelier, who recommends the Zellige mosaic tiles from Tiles Of Ezra. “Should budget be an issue, consider using tiles as an accent in a smaller area.” For the maximum impact, take cues from layers of rich tonal colour. These ‘Lume Green’ subway tiles paired up with ‘Verde Aver’ grande marble slabs and terrazzo flooring (all by Marazzi, available from Cerdomus Tile Studio) pack a powerful punch.

DESIGNER’S TIP: *“If you have a low ceiling, select a light colour rectangle tile and lay them vertically to draw your eye upwards, giving the illusion of space. A narrow bathroom? Consider tiles which run lengthways to elongate the room” ~ Kimberley Tan, Studio Atelier*

bathtub brilliance

Bold bathtubs are the very essence of breathtaking beauty in the bathroom. “Freestanding bathtubs give a sense of luxury and can create a stunning focal point and feature,” says Kimberley. “You need to consider layout and functionality when including a bathtub in your design to make sure that you have adequate space.” Setting the bathtub centre stage ensures it will remain unrivalled. “Positioning the tub in the centre of the space can make it an architectural feature,” explains brand manager Emma Joyce of Victoria and Albert Baths. “If the bath is single ended, consider putting it at an angle.” Sleek in chic white, this ‘Agape Marsiglia’ bath from Artedomus has a handy built-in ledge for the ultimate soothing soak. >

PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE) **DEREK SWALWELL/THE STELLA COLLECTIVE AND THOMAS COWARD STUDIO**

striking shower

Dial up the drama with two choices of covetable shower heads. “Twin shower heads or the combination of a rain shower and an adjustable hand-held shower head will provide a retreat experience whilst being multifunctional,” explains Kimberley Tan, creative director of Studio Atelier. These Purist shower heads in Brushed Gold by Kohler are a perfect pair. Accentuate them with dark surfaces, such as these sumptuous tiles from Caesarstone, or draw attention to the entire wet area by raising the bar. “Changing up the floor level is a good option for making the shower zone a statement,” says director Terri Shannon of Bloom Interior Design.

va-va-voom vanity

Bathroom vanities can become focal points through elegant benchtops and confident cabinetry. “Natural stone is a beautiful way of adding a sense of luxury and wow-factor in a bathroom,” explains designer Kimberley. For a more cost-effective option that offers the same visual oomph, try an engineered stone benchtop from Smartstone and to add personality, consider a brave colour. “Paint the vanity navy blue to create a bold statement,” suggests interior designer Belinda Vandenboom, director of Gallerie B Interiors. If space is tight, make the basin the star. “In a small bathroom, the basin is a natural focal point and will define the style of the room,” says Emma Joyce of Victoria and Albert Baths. “A countertop basin will naturally show its shape, so choose something elegant and sculptural.” >

DESIGNER’S TIP: *“Pick a beautiful coloured basin if you want to make that a feature, and work it back with organic tapware and a neutral-coloured benchtop” ~ Terri Shannon, Bloom Interior Design*

PHOTOGRAPHY ANDY MACPHERSON

elevated tapware

It's all in the details with small but mighty tapware, where the glint of a daring finish draws the eye. "Metallic accents such as brass, brushed nickel or gunmetal can be an easy way to add a statement to a subtle palette without overdoing a look," says Kimberley Tan of Studio Atelier, who suggests Phoenix Tapware for metallic finishes. Pair glossy tapware with a matt floor (try the vinyl range from Polyflor) and wall tiles in darker shades for instant texture and drama. For a modern, monochromatic look, contrast black tapware against white tiles – try Reece's Mizu Drift range.

DESIGNER'S TIP: *"Select from the same tapware range and finish to ensure continuity within the space. Keeping your tapware, showerheads and accessories consistent brings the whole look together"*
~ Kimberley Tan, Studio Atelier

luxe lighting

Unleash your inner maximalist with radiant lighting in the bathroom. "When it's a larger bathroom, go for a larger pendant," says Terri Shannon of Bloom Interior Design. "Choose a beautiful beaded chandelier and position it over the bathtub for glamour." Natural materials such as wood and rattan will need to be sealed to withstand the humid conditions of the wash zone. In a tighter layout, turn to chic statement wall sconces from local lighting designers to anchor the bathroom. "Australian lighting is stepping up," says Terri. "There are some nice brands available, such as Porcelain Bear, Articolo Lighting and Christopher Boots." Be sure to install your wall sconces at eye level and on either side of the vanity mirror to demand attention. HB

DESIGNER'S TIP: *"Pick a finish used in the tapware and marry that with the light fitting for cohesion"*
~ Terri Shannon, Bloom Interior Design

PHOTOGRAPHY (FROM TOP) HARBOUR MEDIA/LIVING4MEDIA, STEPHANI BUCHMAN/ALI BUDD INTERIORS

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NEWS:

ON TAP

THE LATEST FINDS FOR YOUR KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

Edited by KAYLA WRATTEN

THINK AHEAD

Planning a bathroom renovation is no easy feat, which is why Reece Bathrooms has created The Bathroom Kit, which is a practical step-by-step guidebook that covers your every move, from creating a vision to writing down your wish list of products. Pick up a copy from your nearest Reece showroom or visit reece.com.au.

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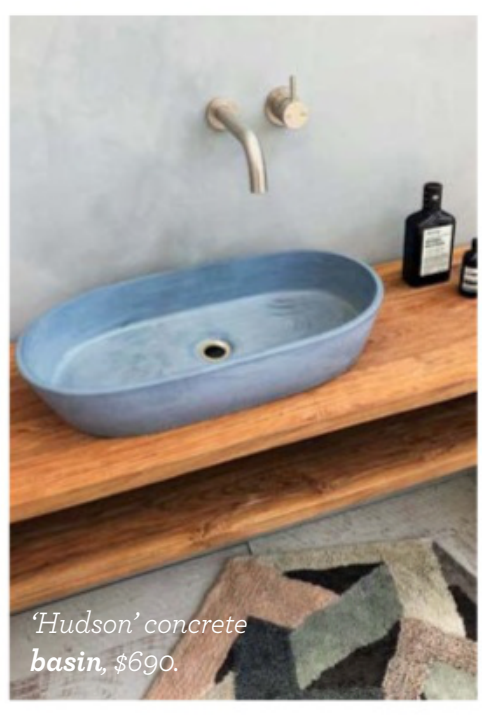
stunning sinks

SLABS BY DESIGN, A CONCRETE FURNITURE BRAND, HAS RELEASED A NEW RANGE OF HAND-CRAFTED CONCRETE SINKS IN STRIKING SHADES. THE ORGANIC CURVES AND NATURAL IMPERFECTIONS MAKE A STATEMENT IN THE BATHROOM THAT WE JUST LOVE. SLABSBYDESIGN.COM.AU.



'Hudson' concrete ***basin****, $690.*

TIPS TO COLOUR YOUR HOME

IN 2020, COLOUR IS BEING SPLASHED IN SPADES. SACHA LEAGH-MURRAY, GENERAL MANAGER, MARKETING, OF LAMINEX, SHARES HER TOP TIPS TO BRING COLOUR INTO THE KITCHEN

1. Experiment with on-trend colours "Muted organic greens are having a moment, with architects and designers seeking to create calming spaces that act as antidotes to fast-paced modern life. Refreshing green tones such as Laminex's Spinifex can help recreate a natural earthiness."

2. Play with contrasting shades "Using contrasting shades in your kitchen cabinetry can enhance a sense of space by creating light, shade and definition. Two-toned cabinetry draws attention to the most desirable aspects of your kitchen, for example, if you have gorgeous high ceilings, a strong colour on upper kitchen cabinetry will create a sense of drama."

3. Create statement open shelving "Using colour inside cabinets can just as easily be applied to open shelving, giving a more statement pop of colour to your space. Playing with a feature colour such as Laminex's dainty Just Blue can refresh a space and add visual intrigue."

4. Offset colour with texture "Imperfection is on trend, and architects and designers are drawn to the warmth of reclaimed timbers. Using textured laminates such as Woodgrains are a great way to ground any colours used, while bringing a connection to nature that creates a homely feel to your space."

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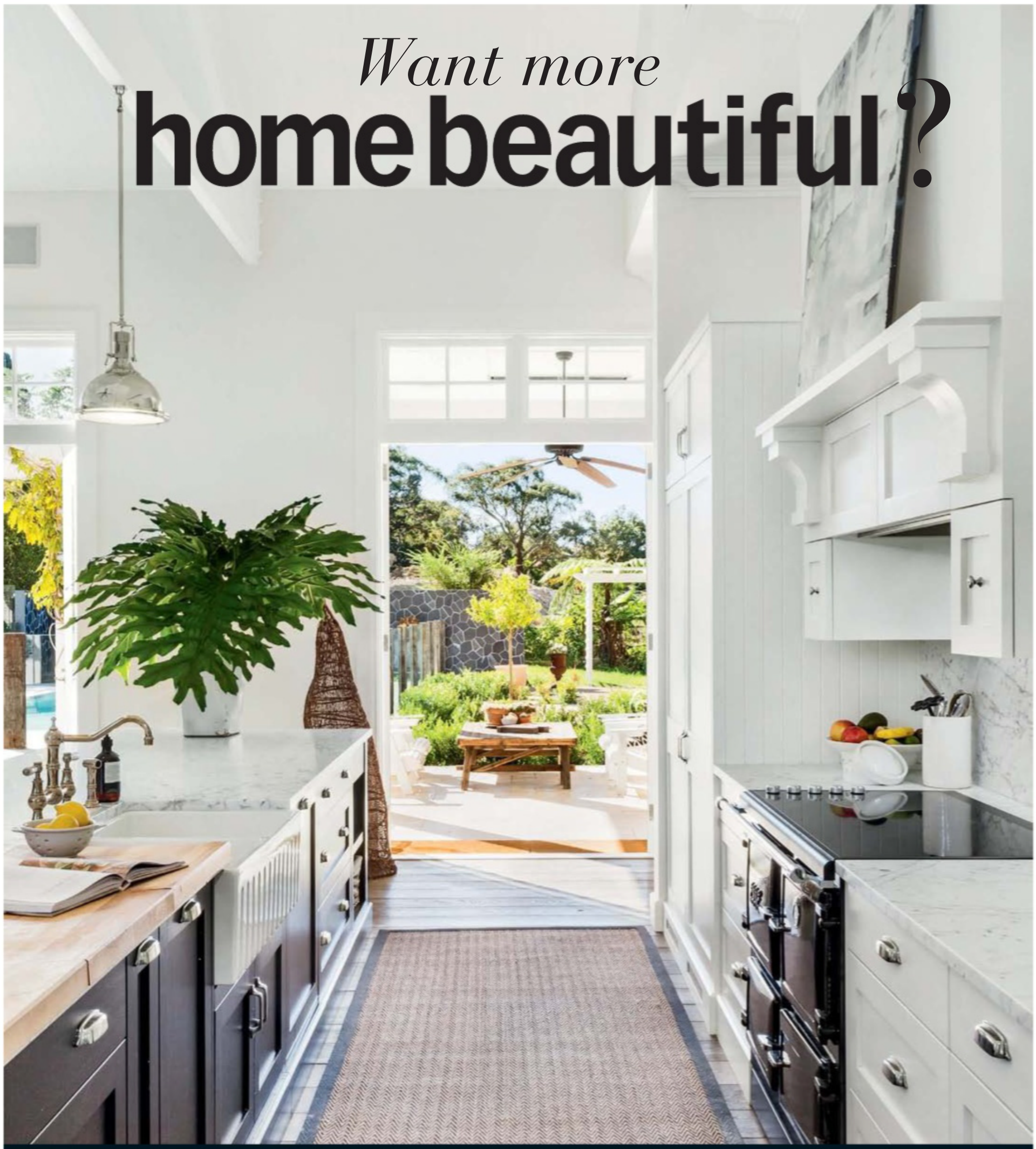

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KITCHENS:

IN THE ZONE

AS THE MODERN KITCHEN HAS EVOLVED INTO AN OPEN-PLAN HUB OF THE HOME, HAS IT LEFT THE WORKING TRIANGLE BEHIND?

Words LYNNE TESTONI

Sink, fridge, oven – for more than five decades, the working triangle (that is, having each of these key elements conveniently positioned in a one-step-between triangular shape) has been the golden rule for designing a functional kitchen. Now, open-plan living, indulgent appliances and evolving technology have changed the game for kitchen design. "Today, you may find that a slightly different configuration may be more suitable or provide more space to move around," says brand manager Maja Pejovic of Bosch Home Appliances. Here, we explore the most common kitchen layouts to see when and where the time-honoured triangle is still relevant, and when the rule needs to be broken.

PHOTOGRAPHY **SUE STUBBS**

THE SHAPE:

Kitchen design is all about solid and void, says interior designer and founder Dominique McAdam of Provincial Kitchens Home, who favours the *'L' shape* above all others. "In an L-shaped kitchen, you can put all the storage along one wall, so the fridge, pantry, appliances and cabinetry are all there, leaving the sink on the back wall and keeping the island free." Key benefits include dual entry so traffic can flow through with ease, and the flexibility to fit a spacious island bench or kitchen table.

The verdict:

"Anything other than a working triangle would be difficult," says interior designer Heather Gampe of Oak & Orange. "One of the common mistakes we see with this layout is not leaving enough space between the fridge and the oven. Try keeping a minimum of 500mm between your key appliances to maximise the working bench space." >

THE SHAPE:

The *galley kitchen* (an often narrow space with two rows of appliances and cabinetry running parallel to each other) provides a streamlined appearance, usually with appliances located together for convenience. Contemporary galley kitchens can also suit integrated appliances, allowing fridges and dishwashers, in particular, to blend in with the surrounding cabinetry. It's a neat and chic approach that can also be high on design impact, as seen in this space created by Hobbs Jamieson Architecture. When working in a smaller space, selecting the correct appliances for your needs is paramount.

The verdict:

The triangle wins again, says Heather Gampe of Oak & Orange. "The key is ensuring the fridge is placed at one end [so that] the kitchen still feels open. Don't forget to consider which way your fridge door swings open," she advises. To allow for maximum bench space in a smaller kitchen, keep your major appliances along the same side.

THE SHAPE:

Open-plan kitchens have most recently dominated kitchen design and, with the rise of at-home entertaining, there's no sign of the trend slowing down. "It is the ultimate layout for entertaining," says interior designer Catherine Hegarty of The Stables. "You have the added bonus of being able to circulate around the kitchen freely, giving a sense of space and openness." The biggest advantage of open plan is the flexibility for personal preference, according to Mia Lake, the director of interior design at Vic Lake Architects, who designed the space above. "Some people like to have the island clean, and it's an area where they can eat at as well," says Mia. "If you put all the appliances and the sink in the back-run, you've always got your back towards everyone," she warns, suggesting instead that the sink, dishwasher and bin are housed on the island, and the pantry, fridge and oven are kept to the rear wall. "What's important about an open-plan kitchen is that you're engaged with the other space – you don't want to really be just facing a wall."

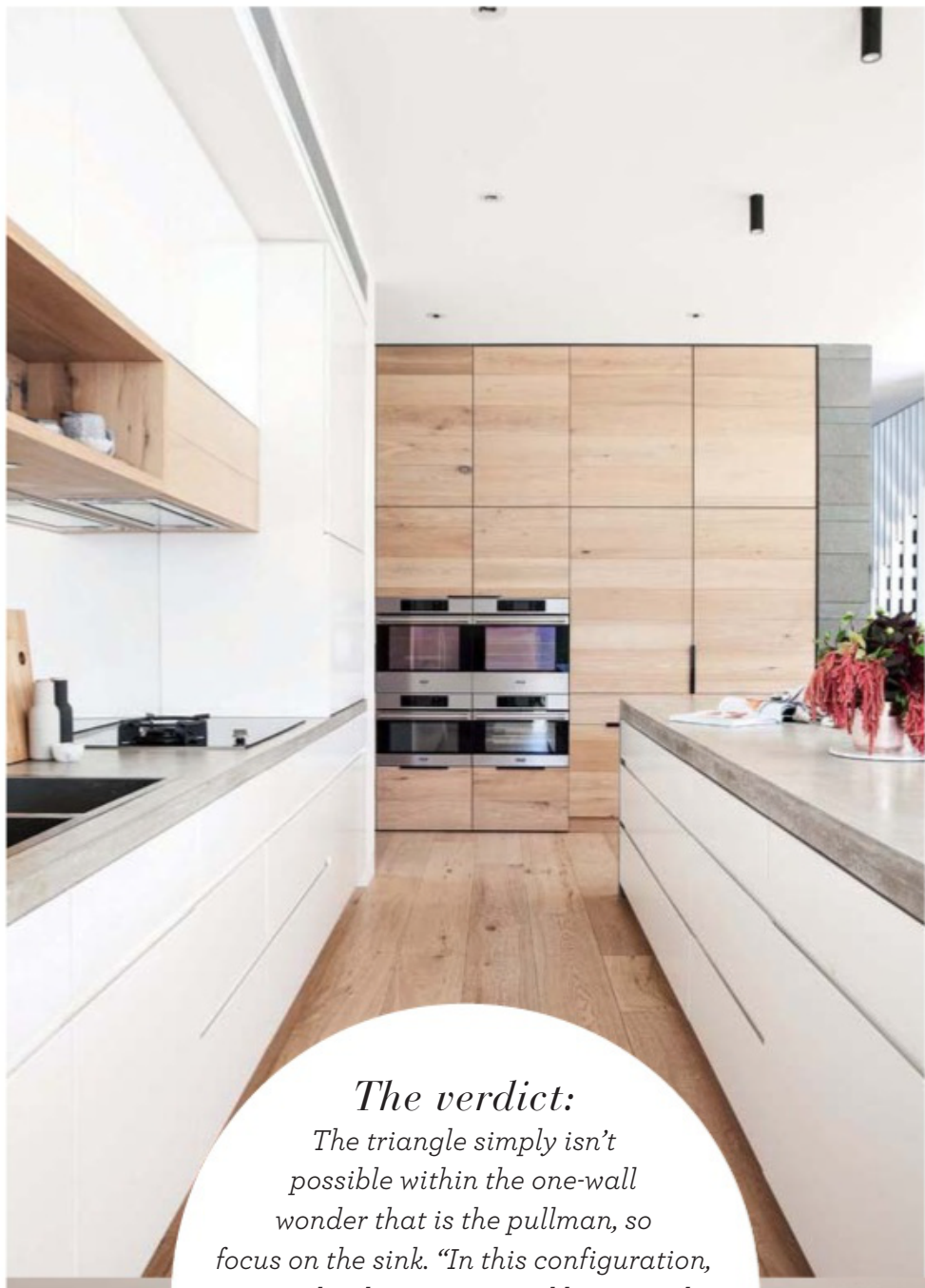
"OPEN PLAN ALLOWS FOR MORE CHOICE AND *variety in design*. HOWEVER, THE WORKING TRIANGLE IS NOT IMPERATIVE"

~ HEATHER GAMPE, OAK & ORANGE

The verdict:

Here, there are more important things to prioritise than the working triangle. "In an open-plan kitchen layout, avoid blocking the flow of traffic throughout the kitchen," says Heather Gampe. "We prefer to work towards zones – for example, keep food preparation tools and serving equipment tools near your cooking appliances." >

PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE, BELOW) **GAGGENAU APPLIANCES** (OPPOSITE) **LUC REMOND**



THE SHAPE:

The classic pullman design is a long, narrow configuration and can further double as a pass-through from one space to another. It often involves a single floor-to-ceiling wall of cabinetry and appliances with an island bench running parallel (left). When floorspace is restricted, a single-sided pullman (below) is best suited, keeping the entirety of the kitchen along one wall. Mia Lake of Vic Lake Architects explains it's one of the most practical design options. "I try to avoid corners because you spend so much time trying to use the corner space you actually are taking away from proper storage," says Mia, who designed the kitchen below. "The pullman shape keeps it feeling open and you've got access to everything, so you're not dealing with those tricky corners and paying for expensive mechanisms that don't always work."

"KEEP THE APPLIANCES AS *close as possible* WHILE STILL ALLOWING FUNCTIONAL WORKSPACE BETWEEN EACH"

~ HEATHER GAMPE, OAK & ORANGE

The verdict:

The triangle simply isn't possible within the one-wall wonder that is the pullman, so focus on the sink. "In this configuration, your sink is best positioned between the cooktop and fridge to maximise work flow," says interior designer and co-founder Ania Forster of Zephyr + Stone. Place the fridge at one end, followed by the sink and oven.

PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE, TOP) **SHANIA SHEGEDYN** (OPPOSITE) **PEDRO VEIGA**

THE SHAPE:

Almost every kitchen wish list features a *butler's pantry* and, according to Dominique McAdam of Provincial Kitchens Home, almost every sized home can accommodate one. "It's definitely possible to do something, it's just looking at what the available space is and then being as creative as you can," she says. Most take the shape of a small galley, but can take advantage of kitchen corners, as seen in this clever kitchen by Alexandra Kidd Design. "Even in smaller houses like Californian bungalows, we can divide the room up," says Dominique. "Add a corner walk-in pantry and make it deeper so that you can put a couple of appliances in there."

The verdict:

Butler's pantry layouts can often be one of the hardest aspects to get right, says Ania Forster. "A major consideration is whether you want an extension of your main kitchen or a space that's completely self sufficient." The latter lends itself to the working triangle, but if it's simply additional workspace you're after, prioritise bench space above all else. HB

Renovating a much loved holiday home can seem like a big job, but the rewards are worth the effort!

Bec and Mark decided to tackle their coastal holiday home, starting with their kitchen, so they could reap the benefits of a brand new space with their family.

PLAN - ***What prompted you to renovate and how did you decide on kaboodle as the best solution?***

"The existing kitchen itself wasn't falling apart or anything, but it was old-fashioned and needed to be updated to give the whole house a modern edge. The house is open plan, making the kitchen visible for all to see, so fixing up this space first was a no-brainer. Our friends recently put in a kaboodle kitchen and loved it, so, we thought we'd give it a try!"- *Mark*

SELECT - ***How did you go about redesigning your kitchen?***

"We had the space to install a decent sized kitchen, so we decided to extend the island and add in a benchtop overhang for the kids. We also decided to move the big bulky fridge which opened up the area near the oven. Then, it was time to

say goodbye to the retro-blue colour scheme that mind you, didn't stop in the kitchen! We chose egg white doors and panels with luminess metallic panels on the island as a feature." - *Bec*

CREATE - ***Did you DIY your kitchen and how did it go?***

"Yes, we renovated ourselves. I took a week off work and drove up the coast to get the job done. It was a bit of a process removing the old kitchen, getting everything disconnected and then installing the new kitchen. I spent a week up the coast putting the whole thing together and cleaning up the space. I organised for everything to be delivered with Bunnings which made life easier." - *Mark*

ENJOY - ***How do you feel now that you've finished the renovation?***

"It all paid off in the end and the place looks brand new. It felt like an achievement putting the whole kitchen together ourselves without having to hire a tradie. The kids love the new place, can I call it a new place? It absolutely feels like we're on holidays now and our neighbours just can't believe their eyes!" - *Karla*

kaboodle.
KITCHEN

"yeah we did!"

NATURAL WONDER

Black-framed windows and a glass sliding door welcome streams of sunshine into the kitchen, inspiring an indoor-outdoor connection. "We love the big windows, which bring in all the noises and smells of the garden outside so we can enjoy a beautiful day in an indoor space," says homeowner Vieri. "Natural light can bring materials like the concrete floor (with granite aggregate) to life." The grey flooring detail extends to the 'Kubrick' stools by Nau in Grey Stained Ash.

KITCHEN:

BLACK BEAUTY

ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES AND STAND-OUT CABINETRY INSPIRED THIS MELBOURNE KITCHEN'S CONTEMPORARY AESTHETIC

Words KAYLA WRATTEN Styling RUTH WELSBY
Photography MARTINA GEMMOLA

MATERIAL MIX

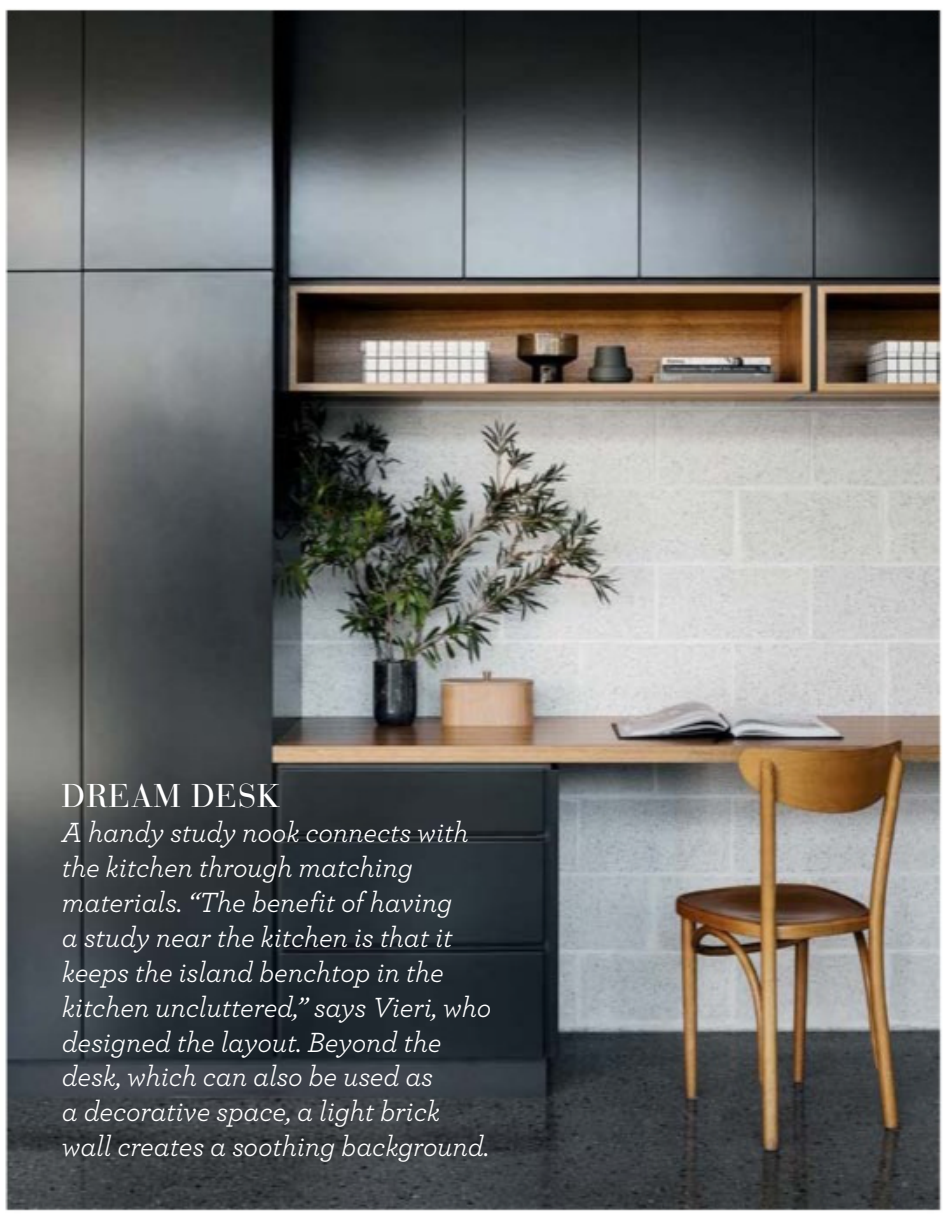
A combination of materials, from cool concrete through to warm timber, tie the kitchen together through shared simplicity. The 2-pac Dulux Domino cabinetry contrasts strikingly with the blackbutt timber veneer shelving, while the hint of red brick outside introduces rustic colour. "The black is a deep, dark shift in colour to the timber," says Travis Dean, interior designer and director of Cantilever Interiors, who was enlisted to help bring this vision to life. "Mixing that with the off-white tiles, you get nice textures and tonal shifts between the finishes." >

HERITAGE HEXAGONS

There's more to this subtle splashback than initially meets the eye. "They are Italian flooring tiles and reminded us of our flooring in Italy from the 1950s," says Vieri. In a sense, it's reminiscing through sophisticated design. "With everything else being streamlined, it throws the eye and creates texture and movement," explains Travis.

Harking back to their Italian heritage, Melbourne homeowners Vieri and Francesca drew inspiration from timeless marble when designing their family's kitchen. "The grey marble benchtop is a favourite," explains Vieri of the zone's Bianco Carrara marble, which makes a classic statement across the kitchen island, too. "That marble came from Italy, where marble is everywhere." The beautiful new build was a personal project for Vieri – an associate director at H2O Architecture – and wife Francesca, who share the home with their teenage sons, Pietro, 16, and Giacomo, 14. The pair collaborated with joinery company Cantilever Interiors to bring Vieri's vision to life, championing bold black cabinetry to suit their contemporary aesthetic, timber accents for warmth and, of course, their must-have stone benchtop. "Marble is always a personal touch," says interior designer Travis Dean, director of Cantilever Interiors. "It ages and tells a story with use, and there's something nice in that, as long as you're open to that shift and change." An open-plan layout to suit the whole family was the final request. "It's a refuel station for Pietro and Giacomo, and Francesca and I both like to cook, so we prepare our meals and enjoy the cooking without being separated from the rest of the house," says Vieri. "It's good to all be in the same open space together." The result is a modern masterpiece, with a fitting nod to the past.

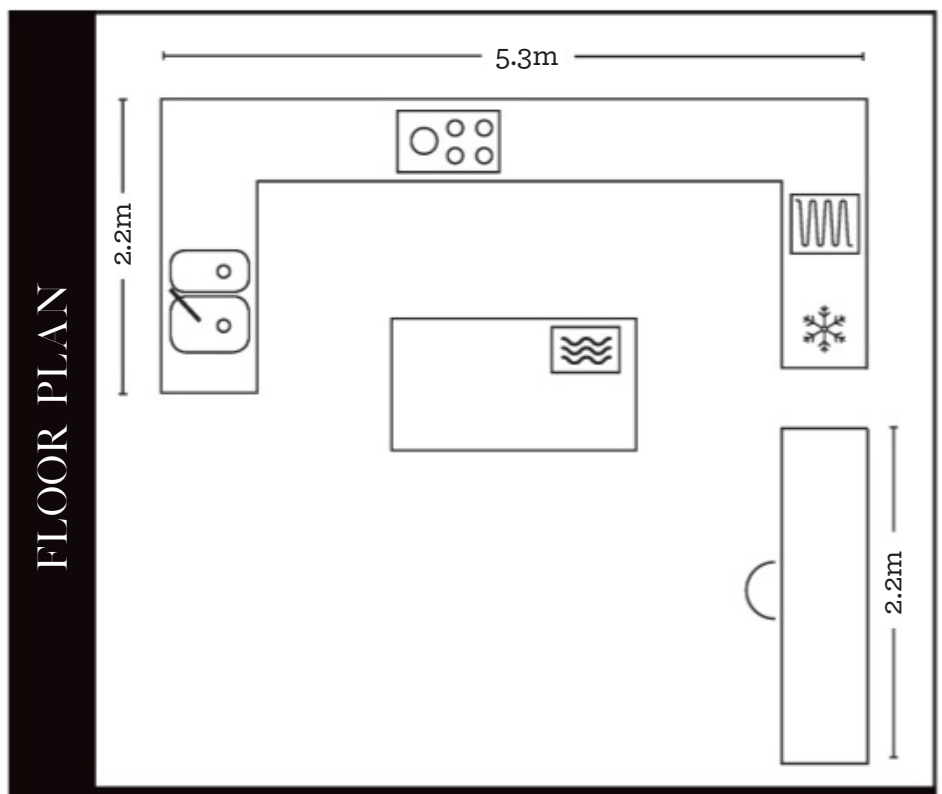
DESIGNER'S TIP: *"Open shelving is a way to personalise your kitchen – if it's all just panels, you can't display your own ceramics or books. Having open shelving means you can bring plants in, change it up in the seasons, and bring in colour" ~ Travis Dean, Cantilever Interiors*



DREAM DESK

A handy study nook connects with the kitchen through matching materials. "The benefit of having a study near the kitchen is that it keeps the island benchtop in the kitchen uncluttered," says Vieri, who designed the layout. Beyond the desk, which can also be used as a decorative space, a light brick wall creates a soothing background.

FLOOR PLAN



BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Benchtops: $6820; **Joinery:** $28,190; **Study;** $7050
TOTAL $42,060*

SOURCE BOOK

JOINERY DESIGN: Travis Dean, Cantilever Interiors, 0419 299 775, cantileverinteriors.com.
ARCHITECT: Vieri Nembrini, H20 Architecture, 0412 175 271, h2oarchitects.com.au.

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DECORATING:

DOUBLE DUTY

TRANSFORM YOUR SPARE ROOM INTO A MULTIFUNCTIONAL, MULTIPURPOSE SPACE

Words VANESSA KEYS

Whether the kids have moved out or you recently upsized, having a spare room is an exciting design opportunity. Home office? Guest bedroom? Yoga studio? The key to making the most of this extra space (and to avoid it becoming a dumping ground for miscellanea) is to create a stylish hub that can serve more than just one purpose, as demonstrated by this spare-room-meets-study, complete with built-in joinery.

light THE WAY

Variety is the key when lighting your spare room. Interior designer Coco Tully of Cote Interiors suggests keeping any fixed light sources simple (such as LED downlights) and then using table lamps and floor lamps for additional lighting so they can be easily moved. "A mix of lighting options means you can turn lights on and off as you use the room for different purposes, as well as rearrange them as the layout changes," she says.

guest READY

Expecting guests? It doesn't take much to ensure your spare room is ready to offer visitors a warm welcome: add fresh linen, a carafe of water, a hair dryer, a spare phone charger, extra toilet paper in the bathroom and a note with the wi-fi password on the bedside table. You should also make sure there are clear surfaces for guests to open their suitcases and lay out their things, as well as spare hangers in the wardrobe. "And provide somewhere to hang towels," adds Lauren. "This can be as simple as a couple of hooks on the back of the door."

"LAYERING BLANKETS ON THE BED CREATES A *cosy* SPACE AND PROVIDES YOUR GUESTS WITH OPTIONS"

~ COCO TULLY, INTERIOR DESIGNER

sweet DREAMS

A comfortable sofa bed makes for a sound investment if you plan to use this space as both a guest room and an extra living zone. "New versions are much more comfortable than they used to be, but it's still important to try the bed unfolded," advises interior designer Emma Blomfield. Also, make sure it's easy to set up – the last thing you want is a sofa bed that's extremely heavy or a pain to convert. "If you're short on space, consider investing in a bed that flips up and stores flat against the wall," she says. >

PHOTOGRAPHY (OPPOSITE PAGE) **BRIGID ARNOTT** (THIS PAGE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) **ALEX LUKEY/DESIGN MAZEN STUDIO, THE PALM CO/MELISSA RICE/THE HIRED HOME, JOHN DOWNS**

THE ART OF CAMOUFLAGE

Make your furniture earn its keep with these space-enhancing clever buys.

▲ If you use your spare room as a second living space but don't want a massive TV to draw the focus, consider investing in a smart TV that you can program to show a beautiful artwork when not in use. *'The Frame' TV, from $1799, Samsung.*

▲ Make your desk disappear (and clear floorspace) with a foldaway solution, such as this wall-mounted desk. The petite design is perfect for squeezy spare rooms. *'Cupertino' wall desk, $1199, Bo Concept.*

▲ This elegant sofa may look like it's just designed for lounging, but beneath its stylish exterior is a double bed that easily caters for two. The bed unfolds at the touch of a button and there's even storage under the seats for linen and pillows. *'Delta III', $5149, King Living*

▲ This classic drum ottoman has a timber lid that provides a perfect landing spot for collectables and displays, and it's a stylish top for hideaway storage. *'Capsule' fabric storage ottoman in Navy, $474, Freedom.*

study BREAK

One of the most frequent uses for spare rooms is study spaces, however, it's easy to let the piles of paper and a bulky swivel chair dominate the room. "The secret is simplicity," says Lauren. "Consider a slimline console table for a desk, or a floating shelf installed at table height. Depending on the layout of the room, this could also double as a bedside table for your guests." Look for a chair with a back at a similar height to the workspace so you will be able to easily tuck it under the desk. >

LIVING / STUDY

TRY:
Combine your study with another living room (parents' retreat, anyone?). A series of wall-to-wall shelves will camouflage your workspace and offer display space.

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*Chartable report ranking in Apple podcasts November 2019.

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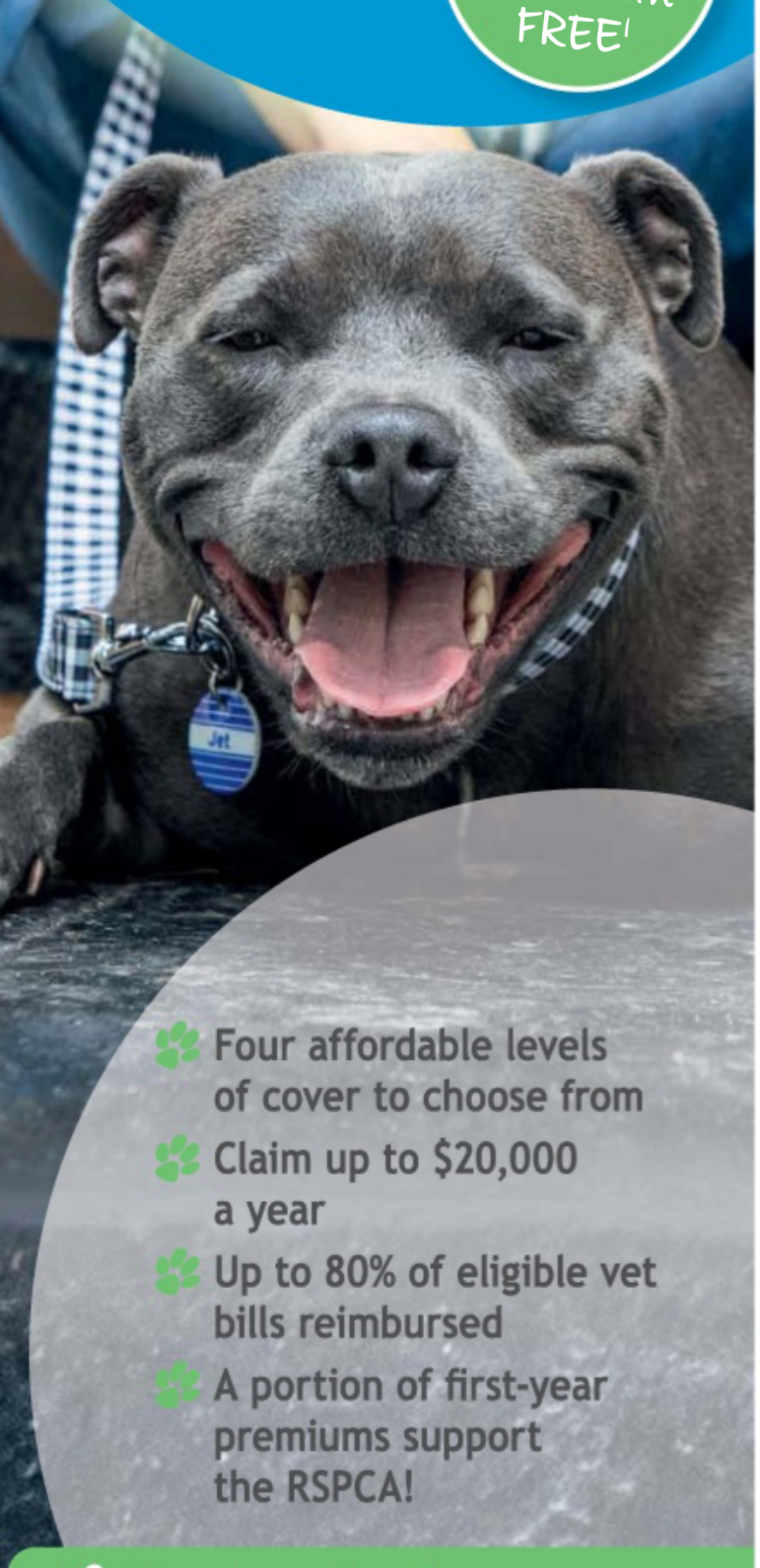

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lay IT OUT *Start by deciding exactly what you need from the room, then look at the available wall space. Need to incorporate a guest bed and a study? "A popular layout is a wall dedicated to a desk area and another dedicated to a sleeping space," explains Sydney-based designer Emma Blomfield. For ultimate versatility, make the most of dead space in awkward corners with custom creations as seen in this space, designed by Melissa Rice from The Hired Home.*

"STAND-ALONE FURNITURE JUST DOESN'T CUT IT FOR STORAGE, *especially* WHEN KIDS ARE INVOLVED"
~ EMMA BLOMFIELD, INTERIOR DESIGNER

hide AND SEEK *Galvanise your spare room with some space-smart storage you can use all year round. "When guests stay, they'll appreciate hanging space for crushable items," explains interior designer Lauren Keenan. "This could be a dedicated area inside the wardrobe or a small stand-alone rack." If your spare room contains a bed, then make it worth your while with extra storage. Lauren suggests looking for versions that offer drawers or a gas-lift mechanism underneath. "Your guests might not use it, but it's the perfect spot for any extra bedding or out-of-season clothes," she says. Built-ins are also a smart idea, especially if the room accommodates suitcases, bulky jackets or sports equipment.*

PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE FROM TOP) THE PALM CO, PERE PERIS/RBA

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OUTDOOR:

FRONT OF HOUSE

KEEN TO ESTABLISH A DISTINCT EXTERIOR STYLE? WE SHARE THE KEY MATERIALS AND INGREDIENTS TO CREATE THREE COVETABLE LOOKS

Words KYLIE JACKES

PHOTOGRAPHY **JOHN DOWNS**

COASTAL

With its soft footprint and simple silhouette, coastal exteriors evoke relaxed holiday vibes year-round.

the look

There are many interpretations of the 'coastal' look – modern, classic, Hamptons or rustic seaside shack – yet the essence of a beach house is its connection to nature. It should look and feel part of the landscape – think natural materials and a tranquil palette. Architect Tim Bennetton of Tim Bennetton Architects says a 'coastal look' is often associated with lightweight fibre cement sheeting teamed with battens, skillion roofs and timber decks. "There's a sense of nostalgia associated with low-key materials and, being by the beach, there's a casual feel," he says.

materials

To withstand the harsh coastal climate, materials need to be durable. "The benefit of fibre cement products such as Linea weatherboards is they're resistant to damage from moisture, fire and termites and hold paint longer than timber, making them incredibly low maintenance," says product manager Christian Hansen of James Hardie. The shadow lines of weatherboards and cladding also add a sense of breadth to the facade, while effective window shading will enhance the home's appeal and performance, says Tim. "Fixed aluminium hoods on northern and southern windows work well, while external aluminium louvres will secure the house while allowing it to breathe during the day," he says.

THE RECIPE

ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS TO GET THE COASTAL LOOK:

PALETTE

Dulux Wash & Wear in Lexicon Quarter, $77.90 /4L, Dulux.

+

Dulux Wash & Wear in White Box, $77.90/4L, Dulux.

"WHEN DESIGNING IN COASTAL AREAS I LIKE A CASUAL, RELAXED FEEL THAT PLAYS ON SURROUNDING NATURAL LANDSCAPES"
~ *MARK BROWNING, LANDSCAPER*

KEY PIECES

Woodcraft 2040mm x 1200mm x 40mm Clear St Clair SD17 entrance door, $668, Bunnings.

+

James Hardie 2450mm x 1200mm Smooth Scyon Axon FC Cladding, $119.50/2.94sqm.

+

'Flower' breeze block in White, $163.90/sqm, Earp Bros.

+

Solare Teknica 5500 Pivot Arm Awning, from $1126, Peter Meyer Blinds. ***Stockists, page 187*** >

PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE, TOP RIGHT) **CLAIRE MCFERRAN/ GATHERING LIGHT** (OPPOSITE) **CHRIS WARNES**

MODERN

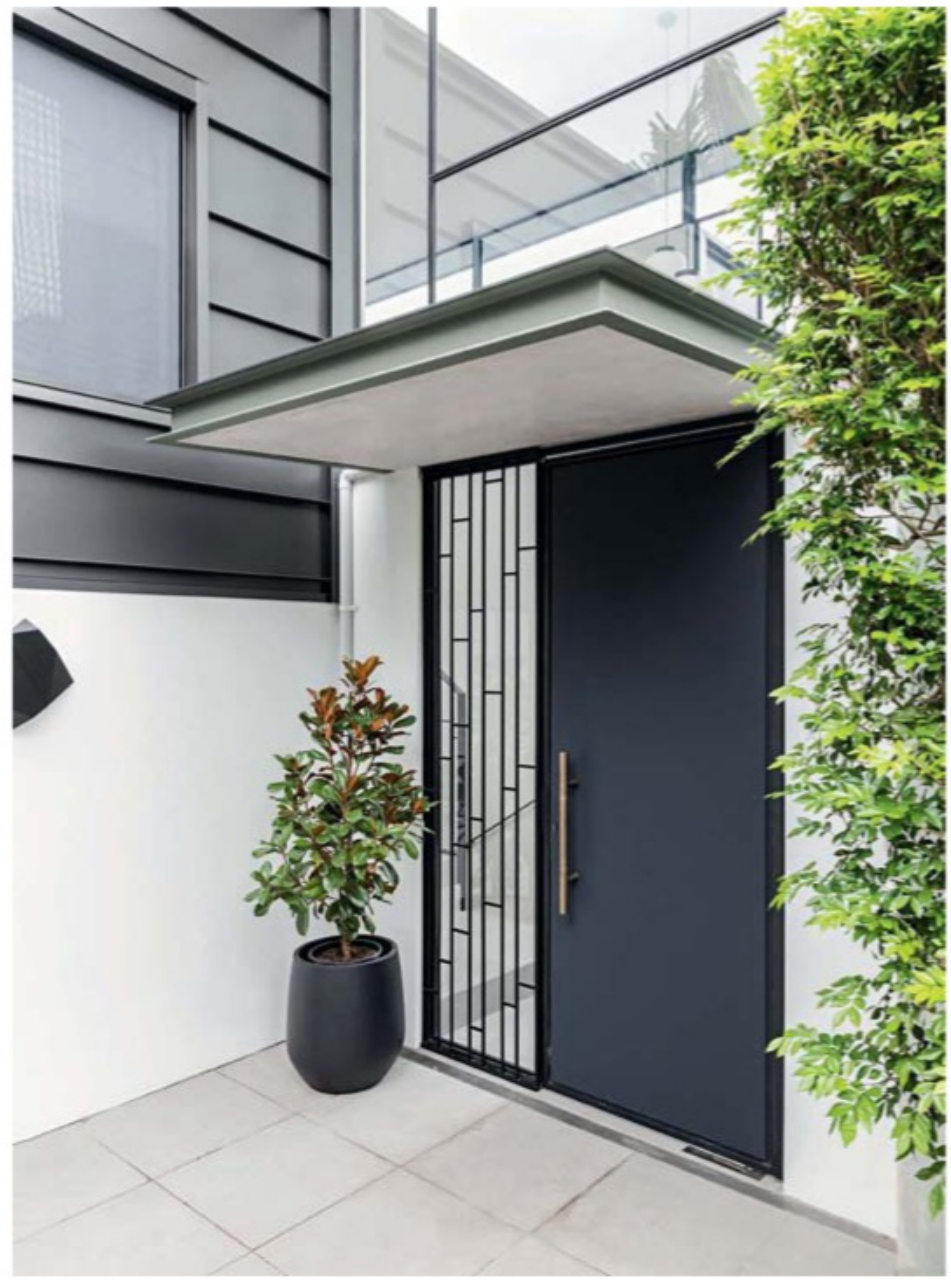
Minimalist yet rich in textural elements, the modern look features clean lines, robust shapes and oversized glazing.

the look

Modern homes are innovative, with scope to use materials in creative ways. The look often has an industrial edge, with contemporary styles characterised by bold colour schemes, crisp lines, an emphasis on large architectural planes and a readiness to embrace the outdoors. Glazing is used to striking effect, creating soaring windows that are teamed with expansive glass doors. Keep the palette simple yet textured, advises Hailey McGinty of H & G Designs. “For maximum impact, I like to stick to a strong dominant colour and inject interest with a contrasting material such as concrete, bricks or timber battens,” she explains.

materials

A modern exterior is pared back, but bold. “I love a tonal look with distinct material contrast,” says Hailey. “White Linea [James Hardie] cladding looks amazing with products such as Knotwood, which evokes the look and feel of timber varieties with the benefits of aluminium.” Think big for the entryway. “A large timber door will provide warmth and privacy, whereas glass allows for great light,” explains Hailey. Highlight it with accent colour, says colour expert Andrea Lucena-Orr of Dulux. “A grey or greige scheme has a modern feel, with a striking pop of colour such as Dulux Topelo Honey or Orangeade creating a stand-out look.”



PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE TOP RIGHT) **PABLO VEIGA/ALEXANDRA KIDD DESIGN**
(OPPOSITE TOP RIGHT) **GREG COX/BUREAUX**

THE RECIPE

ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS TO GET THE MODERN LOOK:

PALETTE

Dulux Wash & Wear in Ticking, $91.55/4L, Dulux.

Dulux Wash & Wear in Natural White, $77.90/4L, Dulux.

Dulux Wash & Wear in Topelo Honey, $91.55/4L, Dulux.

Dulux Wash & Wear in Orangeade, $91.55/4L, Dulux.

KEY PIECES

Random Ahslar walling in Newport, $161.61/sqm, Eco Outdoor.

Evo Magna Track Awning, $3942, based off 2500mm wide x 2000mm drop, Luxaflex.

Warema External Venetian Blinds motorised, from $3000, Peter Meyer Blinds

Colorbond in Monument 1.8m x 2.35m panel, from $102, Lysaght.
Stockists, page 187 >

TRADITIONAL

Housing styles may come in and out of fashion, but the enduring charm of heritage homes is in the divine details.

the look

Whether you are restoring the heritage glory of a worker's cottage, terrace house or Queenslander, or looking to build in traditional style, decorative elements are the key. "Classic styling, symmetry, ornate trims, fretwork and period details are very important," says designer Jo McIntyre of Beautiful Home. Hallmarks of Victorian architecture include iron lacework, stained glass and red bricks, while Federation homes have asymmetrical terracotta roofs, timber work, leadlight windows and elaborate verandahs. Exterior paint colours are often neutral, says senior brand communications manager Sarah Stephenson of Wattyl. "Swapping the door colour for black, or another accent such as forest green or terracotta, is a great way to update your traditional home," she says. "Complete the look with crisp white trims and a white fence." Outdoors, landscaper Mark Browning of Mark Browning Landscape Design, suggests stone paving, cobbles and gravel surfaces paired with low hedging borders, topiary plants and colourful perennials for a classic look.

THE RECIPE

ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS TO GET THE TRADITIONAL LOOK:

PALETTE

Wattyl Solagard exterior paint in White London Fog, $86.88/4L, Wattyl.

+

Wattyl Solagard exterior paint in White Castle Grey, $86.88/4L, Wattyl.

+

Wattyl Solagard exterior paint in Village Red, $102.97/4L, Wattyl.

"WHEN PUTTING TOGETHER A HERITAGE PALETTE, LOOK TO THE PAST"
~ *JO MCINTYRE, DESIGNER*

KEY PIECES

Regent exterior door with Paint N Peel, $386, Doors Plus.

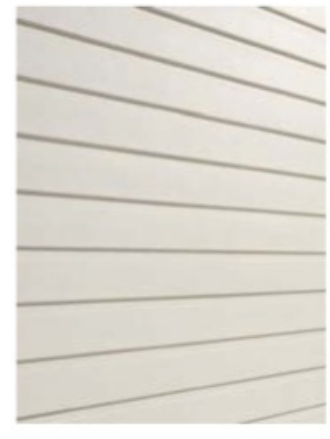
+

Painted external western red cedar fixed blade shutters, from $600, AP Shutters & Blinds.

+

Jabiru Style 0.9m x 2.39m panel, $149.01, Think Fencing.

+



James Hardie Primeline Newport 4200mm x 170mm x 9mm FC, $26.47/sheet, Bunnings.
Stockists, page 187

PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE, TOP RIGHT) **SHANIA SHEGEDYN** (OPPOSITE) **ANASTASIA KARIOFYLLIDIS**

materials

The warmth of timber lends itself to this style, with weatherboards available in different profiles to suit the era you want to emulate, explains designer Jo McIntyre. Double-hung timber-framed windows are often a feature of this look. “On the front windows I like doing diamond leadlighting in the top sash, with external shutters painted in either white or a dark colour on either side,” she says. Turned verandah posts and a decorative front door also provide opportunities to reflect old-world quality craftsmanship. “Colour can be introduced through leadlighting and stained-glass detailing either side and above the door, or in door panels themselves,” says Jo. Enhance the warm, welcoming feel with a lush plant by the door and a wrought-iron bench or pair of inviting chairs.

NEWS:

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Edited by KAYLA WRATTEN

spotlight on:

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5 TIPS TO WINNING AN AUCTION

PRE-AUCTION NERVES ARE INEVITABLE, BUT WITH THESE STRATEGIES IN MIND YOU CAN STILL BRING YOUR A-GAME. WE SHARE FIVE TIPS TO WINNING YOUR DREAM HOME

1 ***Take your time***
On auction day, give yourself time to size up your competition and know when the property is on the market before placing your first bid.

2 ***Research the market value***
Property values can be found online (try propertyvalue.com.au) or through bank property apps, so come prepared to pay the estimated price. Start near your end price to eliminate low bidders.

3 ***Bid with rounded numbers***
Bidding with an odd number, for example $549,500, gives other bidders the opportunity to go the extra $500 and round it up. Instead, bid with an even figure to maximise your chances.

4 ***Chat with the real estate agent***
It's important that the real estate agent knows you're a serious bidder, so they have the opportunity to guide you through the process.

5 ***Set a budget***
As much as you want a property, and as close as you think you are to winning, you should never surpass your set budget.

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"Set on the oceanfront, the South Australian suburb of Glenelg offers quality homes to beautiful apartment living, topped off with wonderful dining experiences," says chairman Charles Tarbey of Century 21. Just a 20-minute drive south-west of Adelaide's CBD, this seaside locale boasts family living with an array of schools and parklands on offer.

OUTDOOR REFRESH

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For more ideas and inspiration, visit ***homebeautiful.com.au/openhomes***

PHOTOGRAPHY (TOP LEFT) **STEPHANIE ROONEY** STYLING **SARAH ELSHAUG**

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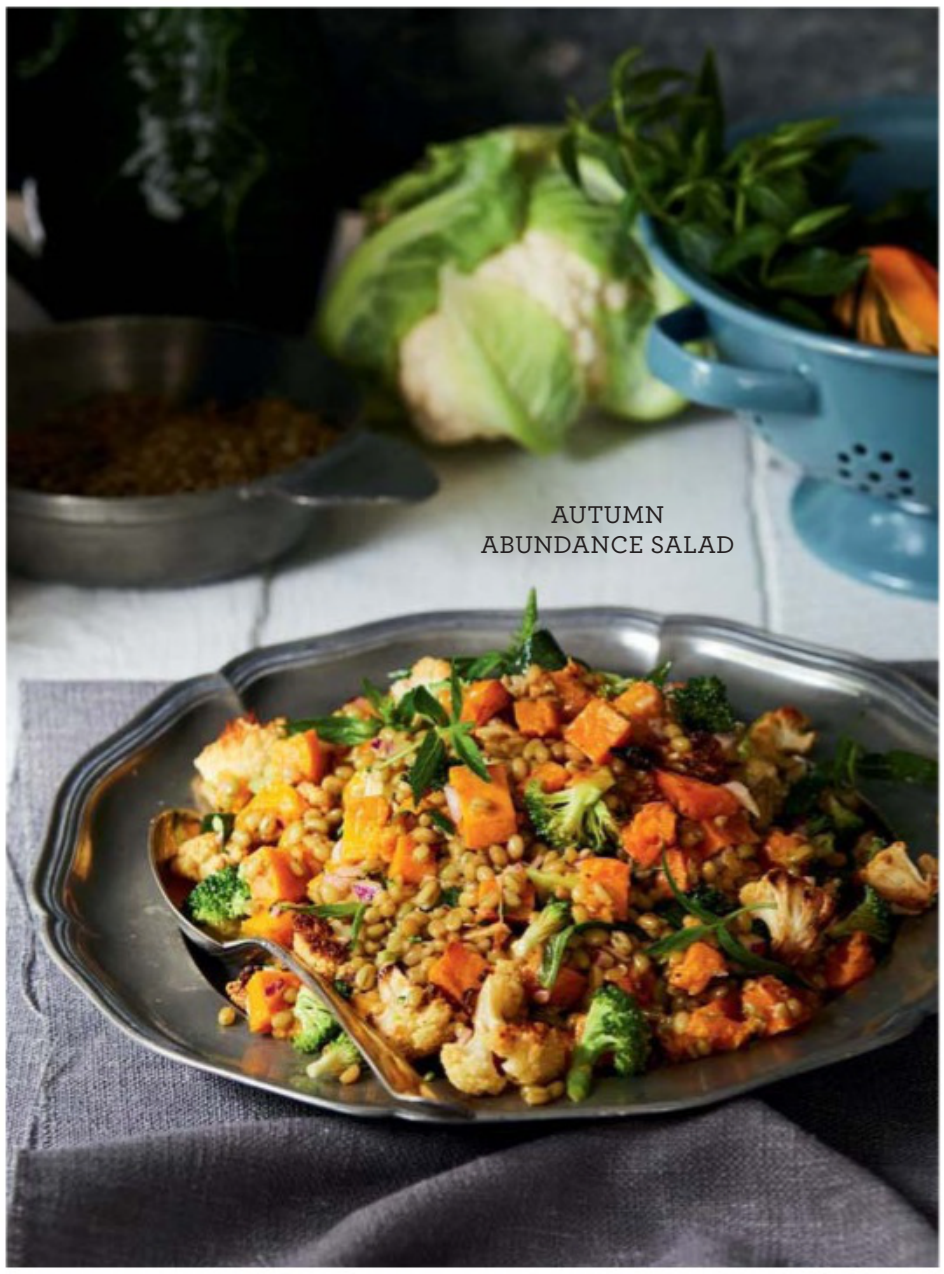
BEETROOT TART WITH
SPELT & WALNUT PASTRY
See recipe on page 183

autumn ABUNDANCE

CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH
A FLAVOUR-FILLED HARVEST OF FRESH
AND HEARTY FARE IN WARMING
SHADES OF RUBY AND GOLD

Recipes & food styling KERRIE WORNER
Styling JOHN MANGILA
Photography CATH MUSCAT

THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: *Wedgwood Green Leaf* ***plate****, $125, Charingworth Fiddle* ***soup spoon****, $7.95, Fitzhugh* ***cup and saucer*** *in Green, $25, all The Bay Tree. All other props, stylist's own.* **OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:** ***Tarte server****, $95, and Jacques Coeur* ***carafe****, $35.25, both The Bay Tree. Enamel* ***colander****, $45, Italian* ***mould*** *(used for* ***salt****), $39.95, both The Lost And Found Department. All other props, stylist's own.* ***Stockists, page 187*** >



GATHER ROUND TO SHARE *comfort food* THAT NOURISHES THE BODY AND THE SOUL

AUTUMN ABUNDANCE SALAD

Serves 6

600g cauliflower
700g pumpkin
2 tbsp olive oil
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
1 cup freekeh
150g broccoli
1 small red onion, finely chopped
⅓ cup mint leaves, plus extra sprig tips to garnish

Dressing
⅓ cup olive oil
2 tbsp red wine vinegar
1 tbsp Dijon mustard
2 tsp honey

1. Preheat oven to 220°C. Line a large roasting dish with baking paper. Cut cauliflower into 2cm florettes. Peel pumpkin and remove the seeds. Cut into 2cm pieces. Spread vegetables in roasting dish.
2. Drizzle with oil and sprinkle with garlic. Toss until combined. Season. Roast for 30-35 minutes, stirring once, until tender and golden. Cool slightly.
3. Meanwhile, put freekeh in a medium saucepan with 1 litre of water. Bring to the boil. Gently boil for about 30-35 minutes, or until tender. Drain and rinse under cold water until cool.
4. To make the dressing, whisk the ingredients in a small jug using a fork. Season.
5. Cut broccoli into 1cm florettes. Put freekeh and roast vegetables in a large bowl. Add broccoli, onion, mint leaves and dressing. Toss until combined. Spoon onto platter and garnish with mint sprigs.

LEMON ROAST CHICKEN WITH CASSOULET VERT

Serves 6

2 lemons, sliced
1.8kg whole chicken, cleaned
½ bulb garlic, left unpeeled
Olive oil

Cassoulet Vert
2 cups dried cannellini beans
1½ cups flat-leaf parsley
⅓ cup chives, chopped
½ cup unsalted roasted cashews
1 tbsp baby capers in vinegar
¼ cup lemon juice
⅓ cup olive oil
⅓ cup water
½ tsp ground sea salt
2 bunches asparagus, trimmed, cut into 4cm pieces
1 zucchini, thinly sliced

1. To start cassoulet vert, soak beans for 24 hours in a large bowl of cold water.
2. Preheat oven to 190°C. Place half the lemon slices inside the cavity of the chicken. Put chicken and garlic in a roasting pan. Tie legs together with kitchen string. Drizzle chicken and garlic with olive oil. Rub oil all over chicken. Season.
3. Roast for 30 minutes. Remove garlic and set aside. Add the remaining lemon slices to the roasting pan, pushing them under the chicken. Roast chicken for a further 50 minutes, or until juices run clear when chicken is cut between the thigh and breast joint. Rest for 5 minutes.
4. Meanwhile, to continue making cassoulet vert, drain beans and rinse. Cook in a large pot of boiling water for about 50 minutes, or until tender. Drain and rinse under cold water until cool.
5. Put parsley, chives, cashews and capers in the bowl of a food processor. Squeeze the garlic from 4 roasted cloves into the bowl and process until finely chopped. Add juice, oil, water and salt. Process until combined.
6. Cook asparagus in a saucepan of boiling water for 2 minutes. Drain and cool under cold water. Combine beans, zucchini, asparagus and vert sauce. Add extra water to thin sauce if preferred.
7. Carve chicken. Serve with cassoulet and pan juices spooned over.

THIS PAGE, FROM LEFT: *Charingworth Fiddle* ***serving spoon****, $20, Mervyn Gers ceramic* ***dish*** *in Brown (used for* ***cassoulet vert****), $65, and pewter* ***quaich*** *(used for* ***parsley****), $95, all The Bay Tree. All other props, stylist's own.* **OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:** *Pewter* ***platter****, $175, vintage* ***tablespoon****, $125, pewter* ***quaich****, $95, all The Bay Tree. Enamel* ***colander*** *in Grey, $45, The Lost And Found Department. All other props, stylist's own.* ***Stockists, page 187*** *>

LEMON ROAST CHICKEN WITH CASSOULET VERT

RED PLUM &
BLACKBERRY PIE
See recipe on page 184

THIS PAGE, FROM LEFT: *Wedgwood Green Leaf* ***plate****, $125, The Bay Tree. Harlow linen* ***tea towel****, $29, Road Less Taken. Crystal glass* ***bowl****, $29.95, The Lost And Found Department. All other props, stylist's own.* ***Stockists, page 187*** *>*

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RED PLUM & BLACKBERRY PIE

Serves 6

1½ cups plain flour, plus extra for dusting
¼ cup caster sugar
175g cold unsalted butter, cubed
2 eggs
1 tbsp chilled water
2 tbsp raw sugar

Filling
500g blood or black plums
250g yellow plums
250g fresh blackberries
3 tsp finely grated lemon zest
½ cup caster sugar
2 tbsp cornflour

1. To make pastry, put flour, sugar and butter in the bowl of a food processor. Process until mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Add one of the eggs and the water and process until mixture begins to form a ball. Add a little extra water if mixture isn't coming together easily. Turn out onto a floured surface and knead until just smooth. Flatten to a disc and wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate for 20 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, to make filling, halve plums and twist apart. Cut into quarters and remove stones. Cut larger plum quarters in half again. Put in a large bowl with blackberries and zest. Set aside.
3. Preheat oven to 190°C. Roll pastry out on a floured surface until 5mm thick. Cut out at least 12 x 1.5cm-wide strips of pastry, enough to cover the top of the pie in a lattice pattern. Use a leaf cutter to cut out leaves from remaining pastry.
4. Add sugar and cornflour to plums in the bowl and stir until the mixture is combined. Spoon into a 4½-cup capacity ovenproof dish or pie plate (see tip, below).
5. Beat remaining egg and brush over rim of pan. Arrange pastry strips in a lattice pattern on top and join to edges of pan. Trim edges. Overlap and press leaves around outer edge. Put any remaining leaves on a greased oven tray. Brush top of pie and leaves on oven tray with egg. Sprinkle with raw sugar.
6. Bake pie for about 40 minutes, or until golden. Bake tray of leaf biscuits with pie for about 15-20 minutes, or until golden. Allow pie to cool slightly before serving. Spoon into bowls and serve with cream or ice-cream. Serve with extra leaf biscuits.

Tips

• Use any ovenproof dish or pie plate in ceramic, metal or glass that is at least 4-5cm deep and 4½-cup capacity.
• You can use all blood plums if that is all that's available. Frozen blackberries can also be used, but there will be more liquid, so add 1 tablespoon extra cornflour.

BEETROOT TART WITH SPELT & WALNUT PASTRY

Serves 6

2 medium beetroot bulbs
1 bunch golden baby beetroot (optional)
1 butch Dutch carrots
Cooking olive oil spray
1 tbsp olive oil
1 medium onion, finely chopped
1 clove garlic, crushed
3 tsp thyme leaves
300ml tub thickened cream
4 eggs
½ cup grated parmesan
75g goats cheese
Micro herbs, to serve (optional)

Walnut spelt pastry
⅔ cup walnuts
1 cup spelt flour
100g chilled salted butter, diced
1 egg yolk
1-2 tbsp chilled water

1. Preheat oven to 200°C. Cut green tops from beetroot and golden beets if using, leaving 1cm stem attached. Wrap each beetroot in foil. Bundle golden beets and wrap in a sheet of foil and put on an oven tray. Roast for about 50 minutes. Test small beets are tender by

BEETROOT TART WITH SPELT & WALNUT PASTRY

piercing through foil with the tip of a knife. Remove all tender beets. Continue roasting larger beets for about 20 minutes, or until tender.
2. Meanwhile, trim carrot stems, leaving 2cm attached. Clean under cold water without peeling. Put carrots in a small roasting pan. Spray with oil. Cook in oven, alongside beetroot, for about 25-30 minutes, or until tender and lightly golden.
3. Allow beetroot to cool in foil for 1 hour. Unwrap and pinch outer skin to peel. Cut all beets in half through stem. Trim rounded side of red beets so they sit flat.
4. To make pastry, put walnuts in a food processor and process until finely ground. Add flour and butter and process until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Add egg yolk and 1 tablespoon water and process until mixture begins to form a ball. Add extra water if required. Turn onto a floured surface and knead until smooth. Pat into a flat disc, wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for 20 minutes.
5. Roll out pastry on a floured surface to a 35cm circle. Dust a 25cm x 3.5cm deep fluted tin with removable base with flour and line with pastry. Trim excess pastry and patch any holes or splits with offcuts. Refrigerate for 30 minutes.
6. Preheat oven to 200°C. Line pastry case with a sheet of baking paper and fill with baking blind beans. Put on an oven tray. Bake for 15 minutes, then remove paper and beans. Reduce temperature to 180°C and bake for a further 10-12 minutes, or until lightly golden on the edge. Remove and cool slightly.
7. Meanwhile, heat oil in a small frying pan. Add onion and garlic. Cook, stirring, until soft but not coloured. Stir in half the thyme. Remove from the heat. Whisk cream, eggs and parmesan in a bowl until combined. Season.
8. Spread onion mixture over bottom of pastry case. Put tart on an oven tray. Pour in cream mixture. Place beetroot halves in egg mixture without submerging. Add golden beetroot and carrots. Pull goat's cheese into pieces and dot over the top. Sprinkle with remaining thyme.
9. Bake for 40-45 minutes (180°C), until golden and set in the middle. Cool before serving. Sprinkle with micro herbs, if using.

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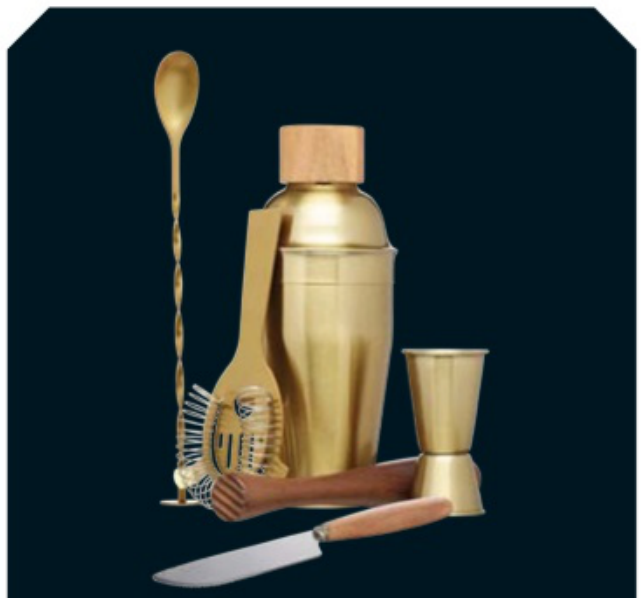

MAKE MINE A MOSCOW MULE

With everything you need to get started making delicious cocktails, this BarCraft brass finish, stainless-steel cocktail set has a cocktail shaker with acacia wood lid, dual spirit measuring jigger, cocktail strainer and mixing spoon. Available at Myer and selected independent retailers.

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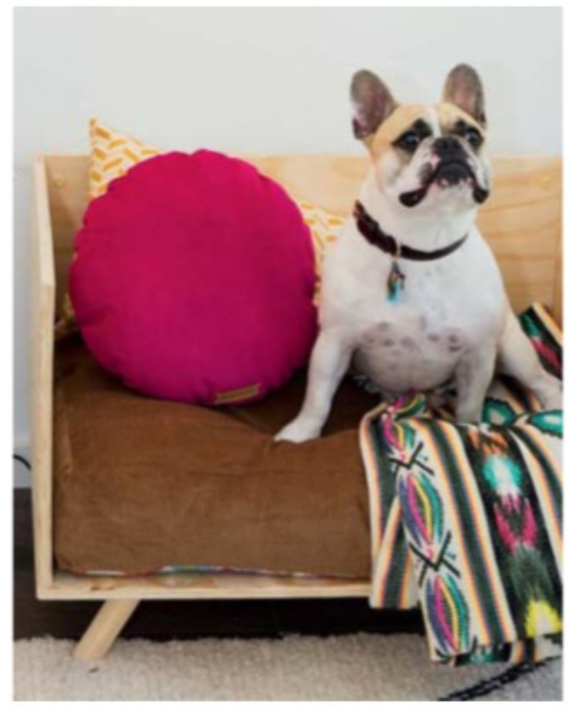

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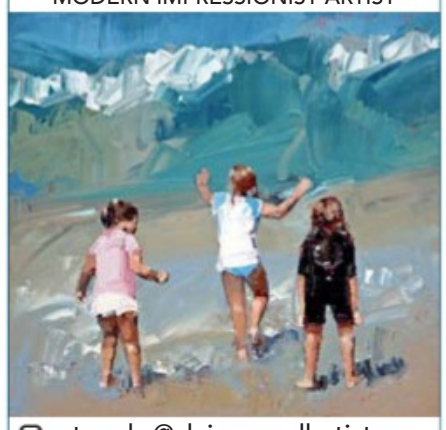

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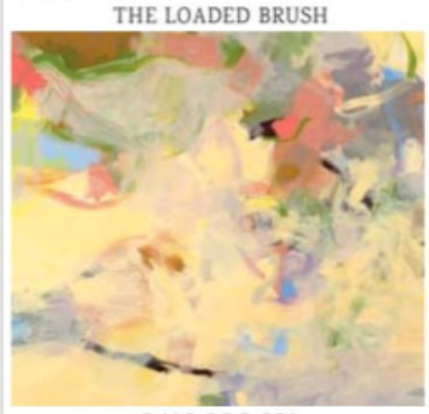

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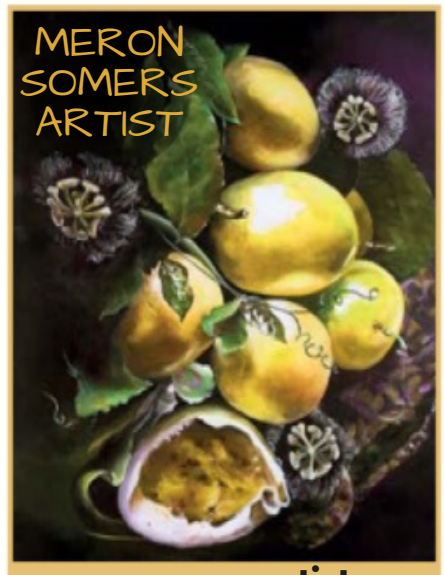

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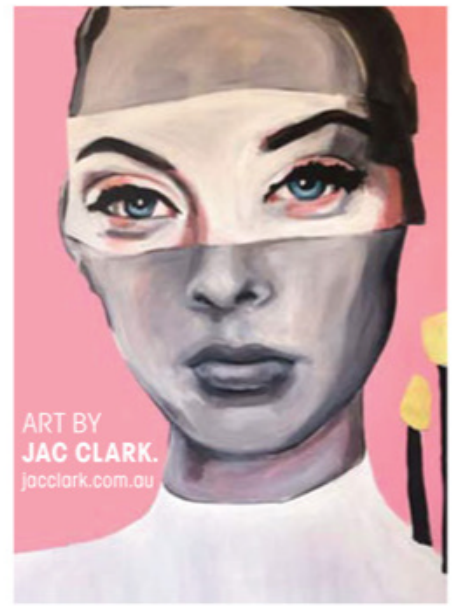

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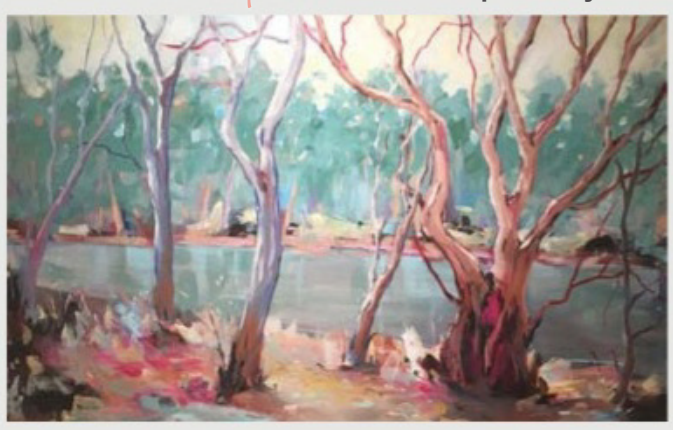

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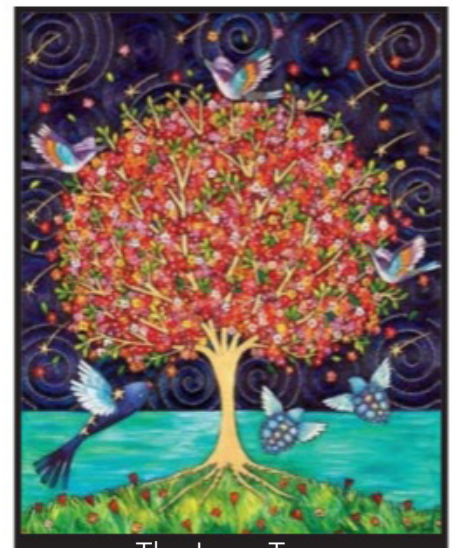

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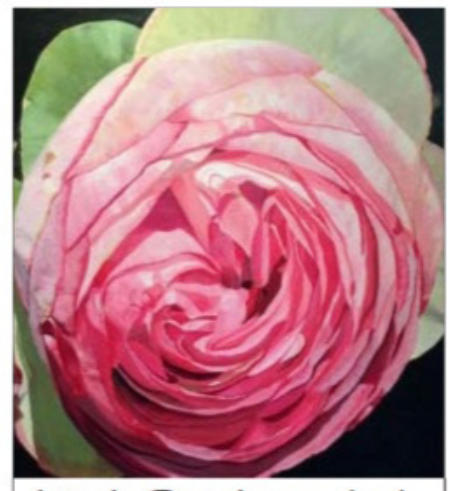

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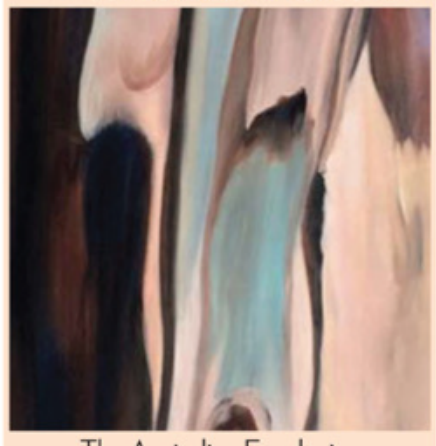

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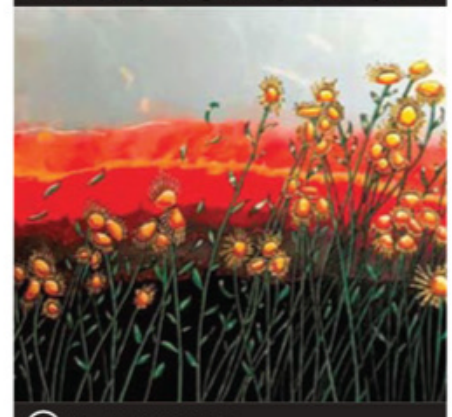

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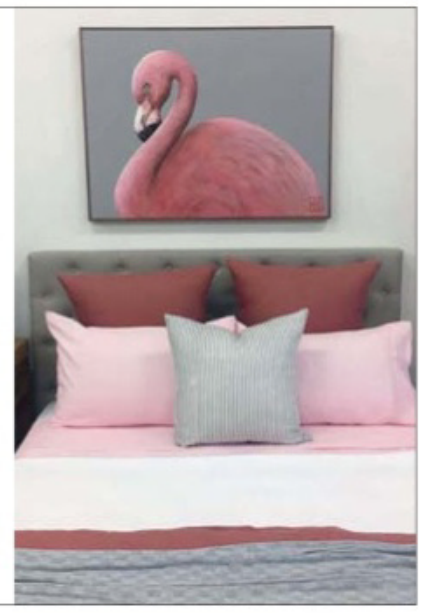

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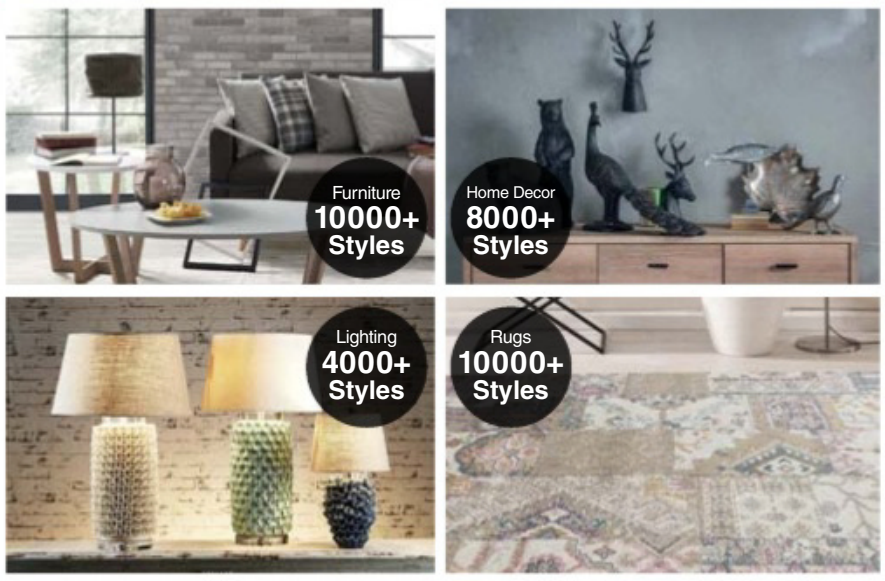

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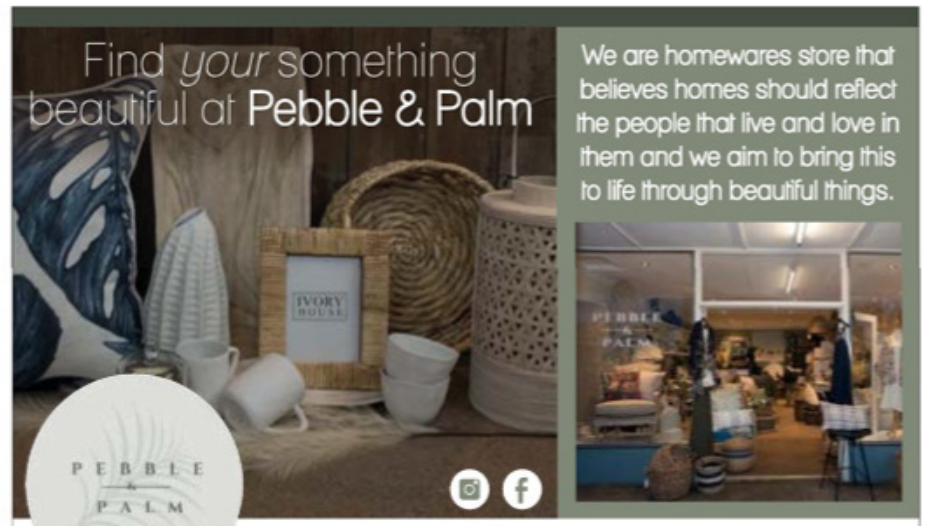

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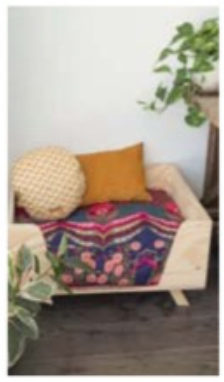

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UNSUNG ICONS:

KIDS' WALL DECOR

COMEDIAN DAVID SMIEDT TAKES AN IRREVERENT, BUT APPRECIATIVE, LOOK AT THE CLASSIC THINGS THAT DEFINE YOU-BEAUT AUSSIE LIFE

Illustration MATT COSGROVE

Kids can be capricious in their tastes. Just ask any parent who has spent a small fortune on everything dinosaurs – bedlinen, toys and books – for a kid who was yesterday obsessed with palaeontology, only to have them wake up the next day talking only of Fortnite. But ultimately, their room is somewhat of a sacred space. A semi-independent state in the Republic of The Parent and, as such, a canvas for their emerging sense of self.

Walls make excellent avenues for such statements, and a virtual gallery that reflects tastes and interests better than any mirror. It's the grown-ups who start it, of course, with wallpaper friezes in the nursery and back in the day these tended to be characters straight out of storybooks or storks carrying newborns like foetal Fedex.

Bridging the gap between the parental palette and "it's my room Mum, let me do what I want," was the first of many decals. It featured a beaming giraffe and was tall enough to reflect its intended purpose: measuring the height of its growing roommates. This elongated quadruped was, however, a gateway drug. Soon it was decals, decals and more decals. Case in point: the fluorescent stars that glowed on the ceiling of so many an Australian child's room come lights out. If you had some rad skills in this department, you could even place them high on the surrounding walls as well, thus conjuring the impression of a domed night sky.

As much as kids loved their aesthetics, parents were drawn to decals for their sheer temporariness. Theoretically, they could easily be peeled away once the rental agreement was over or the progeny lost interest in whatever was depicted on them. We say theoretically because in practice, decals clung to walls with the desperation of co-dependents in a relationship that had well and truly run its course, which – to extend the metaphor – meant separation ended up tearing clumps out of one another and leaving ugly scars.

With advances in design and web technology, today's decals can feature any image, motif or texture you can imagine, but back in the '70s, '80s and even '90s, there was only one collection to choose from; the heteronormative one, which meant that boys got racing cars or fighter jets and girls got ponies.

Decals were also lifted into a delicious new realm when some mad genius decided that perhaps they could not just look #lit but smell great too. Most often featuring images of fruit, scratch and sniff decals had us clawing at the walls like demented junkies forever chasing the echo of that first hit of banana aroma.

For a look that was a little more sophisticated and elevated, the stencil briefly reigned and it was a project a child and grown up could collab on, mostly to ensure the former maintained a steady hand on the aerosol paint, as stencils were somewhat harder to remove but packed some serious aesthetic punch.

When it came to emerging tween and teen independence, however, nothing beat the combination of poster and Blu Tack.

For a generation raised on tablets, smartphones, likes and DMs, it can be hard to explain the thrill of bolting down to the newsagent for the latest edition of *TV Hits* magazine and its choice of posters featuring the pop stars, film stars and TV personalities of the day. Sure they had creases down their faces and wore way too much acid wash, but that was hardly the point.

> "DECALS CLUNG TO WALLS WITH THE *desperation* OF CO-DEPENDENTS IN A RELATIONSHIP THAT HAD WELL AND *truly* RUN ITS COURSE"

The point was choosing someone your olds might mildly disapprove of. Say Boy George at his most extravagant, or Kurt Cobain at his most RIP. Anything that allowed you to say "you just don't get it, Mum" was the ticket. And because it was all held up with Blu Tack, these could be replaced at a whim. Still on the subject of this miracle adhesive, it lasted way longer than your average adolescent crush – "the reason George Michael hasn't found the right girl is because he's waiting for me." Yet, every time you pressed it into service, it became slightly less effective. Kind of like the *Die Hard* franchise.

And that meant that on those particularly humid Aussie summer nights when sleep was hard to come by anyway, you sat bolt upright in fear as a poster detached itself from the wall and crumpled to the floor. Which of course was taken as an incontrovertible sign from the universe that it was time to move on to the next decor fad.

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Photo courtesy of Carter Grange Homes

let's talk walls

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