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GORGEOUS  
GARDENS  
SPECIAL

**TRADITIONAL**  
*with a TWIST*  
*Anna Spiro's*  
NEW *furniture*  
collection PAGE 22

*Welcome*  
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THIS MONTH WE INVITED YOU INSIDE THE HOMES  
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## Afternoon tea

Volume three of our gorgeous Hampton's Style magazine has hit the shelves, filled with pages of room-by-room East Coast inspiration. Hayley of @mumlittleloves picked up her copy and shared her idyllic set up, complete with tea, biscuits and a checkered table runner.



## COVER LOOK

HERE COMES THE SUN! THE ENTRANCE TO THIS NEW YORK FARMHOUSE, DESIGNED BY ARIEL OKIN, EMBRACES SPRING STYLE WITH CITRUS MOTIFS, TACTILE WICKER AND BRIGHT CERAMICS.

*Photography: Donna Dotan*

*Styling: Anthony Amiano*





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*Featuring Elysian Kitchen Mixer and Ohelu Single Kitchen Sink in Brushed Gunmetal.*



**BEAUTIFUL TEXTILE  
OF THE MONTH**

'Botanica' fabric in Ivory by Willow  
Crossley for Barneby Gates.

# EDITOR'S LETTER

## *Blooming wonderful*

I love October, and not just because it's my birthday month (if you're reading this, darling husband, see below for gift suggestions!). Though September officially marks the beginning of spring, for me October is when things really start to shift out of one season and into the next. For example, it's when the seeds I planted in September start to sprout. This year I'm trying my hand at chocolate cosmos and Queen Anne's Lace 'Green Mist' to complement the soft pink hydrangea 'Setsuka-Yae' I've had in my garden for the past few years. My success with gardening seems to be a bit hit or miss, so wish me luck! If you're looking for inspiration for your own garden, or, like me, you love to see what other people create with their own outdoor spaces, flip to our gardens special on page 151.

Elsewhere in the issue, we're bringing the outdoors in with some gorgeous spring-inspired decorating ideas. Shop our "get the look" story from page 41. The fresh pastel palette is irresistible. As are the sunshine yellows on page 52. For a wonderful dose of colour, explore Anna Spiro's new furniture and textiles collection on page 22. What is particularly exciting is how Anna has created a range of furniture that has the look and feel of classic antiques, but with a twist so that they work in contemporary interiors. Plus, they're not one-offs!

For the more practical of home projects, our Recipe for Success feature on page 125 covers all the ingredients - and the method - for creating a kitchen that truly works. Interior designer Georgina Wilson shares all her secrets and expert advice, including floor plans for different spaces, from a small galley to a large open-plan kitchen., which are cleverly labelled The Terrace, The Bungalow and The Entertainer's Delight. It really is a must read.

I hope this issue puts a spring (see what I did there?!) in your step and inspires some fresh decorating at your place. Be sure to share pics and tag us on Instagram @homebeautiful - we'd love to see.

*Elle Lovelock*

**ELLE LOVELOCK, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

Get in touch with me on Instagram @ellelovelock



## *Beautiful buys*

*Here's what I'm coveting and buying this month*



*Orange Inca's Sustainable  
Fiesta cross-body bag is  
perfect for spring. \$260,  
Home Beautiful Shop.*



*I simply can't resist this  
Paddington Bear scent  
collab with Jo Malone  
London, \$256/100ml.*



*I'd love to display a pretty  
posy in this sweet Jali vase  
by Nordic Fusion. \$89.95,  
Home Beautiful Shop.*



*This Aristocrat cutlery is  
the ideal blend of classic  
and modern. \$470/16  
pieces, Last Aristocrat.*

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# BEAUTIFUL STYLE

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## SHEER DELIGHT

When renovating her 120-year-old homestead in the NSW Northern Rivers, interior designer Megan Morton (pictured) turned to the latest from Luxaflex. "A pair of Luxaflex System 2000 Awnings in white canvas can be lowered as the sun sets for dusk cocktails," she says of her back deck. For inspiration, visit [www.luxaflex.com.au](http://www.luxaflex.com.au).

FRESH  
PICKS  
PAGE 20





### GLOW UP

TO CELEBRATE 20 YEARS OF ECOYA, THE BELOVED AUSSIE-FOUNDED BRAND HAS A VIBRANT NEW LOOK. TWO NEW SCENTS HAVE ALSO LANDED: MANDARIN GIN (ABOVE, IN THE 'MADISON' CANDLE) AND SANDALWOOD AND AMBER, AVAILABLE IN A RANGE OF PRODUCTS FOR THE HOME AND BODY, AT [ECOYA.COM.AU](http://ECOYA.COM.AU).



### BLOOMING BEAUTY

PHOTOGRAPHER KARA ROSENLUND HAS ADDED A NEW LIMITED-EDITION PRINT TO HER COLLECTION. 'MAGNIFICENT MAGNOLIA' (PICTURED WITH KARA IN HER HOME) WAS SHOT IN QUEENSLAND AND COMES FRAMED OR UNFRAMED WITH FOUR SIZE OPTIONS, STARTING AT \$390, FROM [KARAROSNLUND.COM](http://KARAROSNLUND.COM).

### GOOD START

GETTING OUT OF BED IN THE MORNING JUST GOT EASIER WITH THE LAUNCH OF THE NEW MORPHY RICHARDS 'ESSENCE SCANDI' BREAKFAST RANGE. THE KETTLE, \$129.95, AND TOASTER, \$149.95, COME IN TWO CHIC SHADES (BELOW), TAPIOCA AND EUCALYPTUS, WHICH OFFER A FRESH LOOK FOR YOUR KITCHEN BENCH AND CAN BE FOUND AT [MORPHYRICHARDS.COM.AU](http://MORPHYRICHARDS.COM.AU).



*What's hot*

## FRESH PICKS

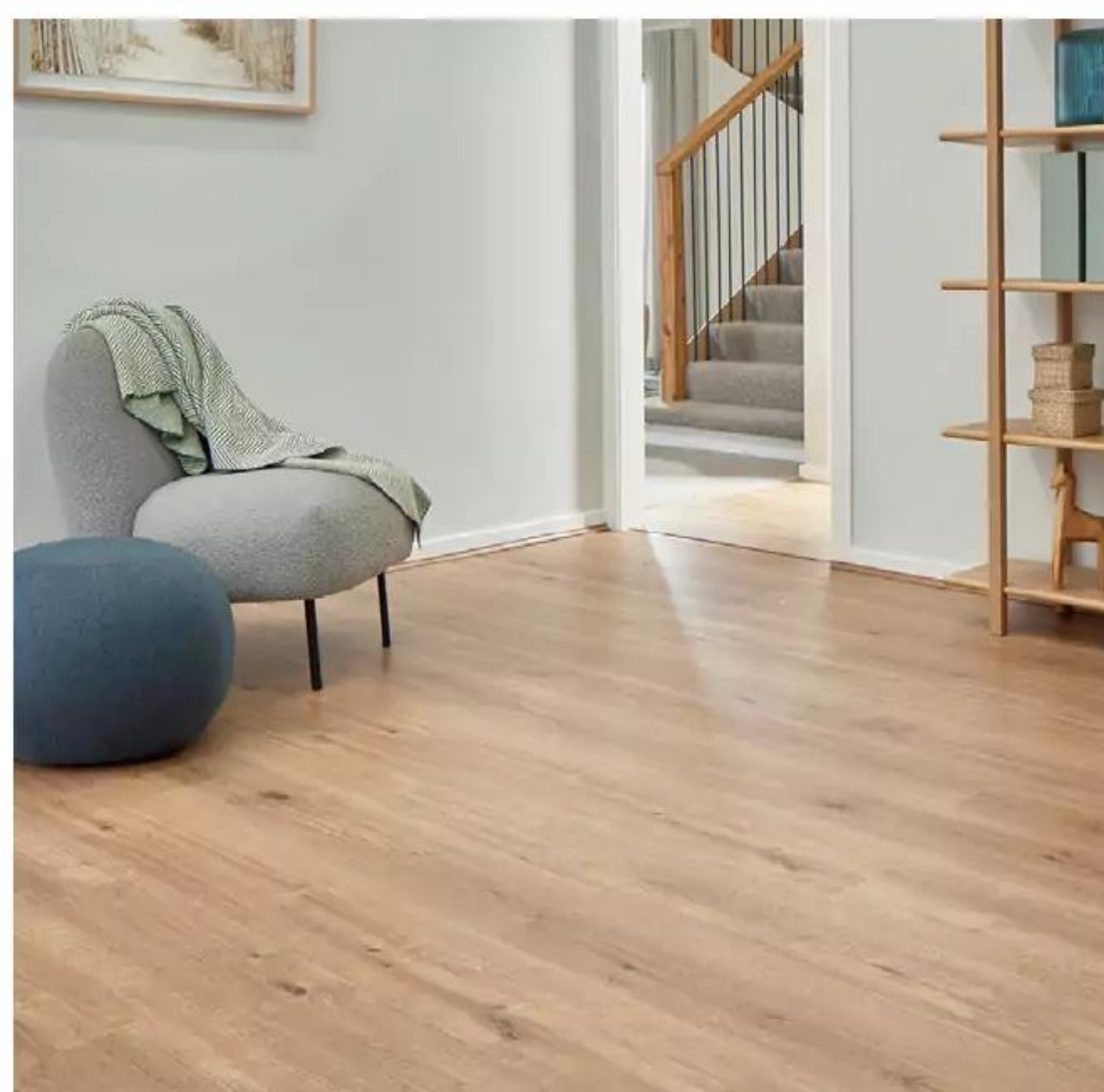
OUR ROUND-UP OF THE LATEST DESIGN NEWS, SHOPPING AND DECORATING

Edited by ALICE IERACE & REBECCA HOOTON



### DOWN TO EARTH

THE CHANGE IN SEASONS BRINGS NEW HOMEWARES FROM COUNTRY ROAD IN THE COLOURS OF NATURE. THE RANGE INCLUDES THE VELVET 'PIA' CUSHION IN JUNIPER (55CM X 55CM), \$89.95, AND THE 'JARRAH' QUILTED BED COVER IN CHESTNUT, \$549/KING (BOTH ABOVE). SEE [COUNTRYROAD.COM.AU](http://COUNTRYROAD.COM.AU) FOR MORE.



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### CHEERS TO THAT

AWARD-WINNING SPIRIT PRODUCER, 23RD STREET DISTILLERY, HAS RELEASED ITS FIRST AUSTRALIAN WHISKY, WHICH WAS FOUR YEARS IN THE MAKING. VISIT [23RDSTREETDISTILLERY.COM.AU](http://23RDSTREETDISTILLERY.COM.AU).

PHOTOGRAPHY (MAGNIFICENT MAGNOLIA) KARA ROSENLUND, CLARE LANCASTER (HOTEL CAN FERRERETA) COURTESY OF CAN FERRERETA (JULIA BUSUTTI NISHIMURA) ARMELLE HABIB (LUXAFLEX) THE PALM CO (COUNTRY ROAD) ANNKA KAFALOU DIS STYLING (LUXAFLEX) MEGAN MORTON



## ON THE TABLE

Inject a spring feeling into your dining setting with new pieces from H&M Home (below & right). The latest releases include mocha-hued tumblers, \$27.99/set of four, and a scalloped serving tray, \$34.99. Find the range in store at H&M.



## EURO ESCAPE

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEWHERE ARCHITECTURALLY STUNNING TO STAY IN SPAIN, CONSIDER CAN FERRERETA, A 17TH-CENTURY RESIDENCE THAT IS NOW LUXURY ACCOMMODATION. AT THE INAUGURAL 2024 MICHELIN KEY AWARDS, WHICH RECOGNISE THE WORLD'S MOST EXCEPTIONAL HOTELS, THE RESORT (LEFT) IN MALLORCA WAS AWARDED TWO MICHELIN KEYS. HEAD TO HOTELCANFERRERETA.COM.

## 3 of a kind CATCH-ALL BOWLS

Clockwise from left: Black Blaze 'Linea' marble tray, \$179.90; Trit House 'Nishi' decorative bowl, \$162; Kinfolk and Co ceramic shell, \$80, all Home Beautiful Shop.



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5 minutes with... JULIA BUSUTTIL NISHIMURA



HB SITS DOWN WITH CHEF JULIA BUSUTTIL NISHIMURA TO CHAT SPRING MEALS AND ENTERTAINING

### What's the key to a good meal in spring?

"Cooking with what's in season. Vegetables like young zucchini and their flowers, broad beans and peas, and spring berries will give you the most delicious start. The anticipation of summer is here, so leaning into that lightness is always lovely."

### What's the secret to a memorable meal?

"I really like to pick interesting crockery and glassware, which often sparks conversations. As the weather warms up, it's a great opportunity to change the way we eat. Perhaps it's grilling something outside or taking your meal to the local park."

### How do you create a welcoming setting for guests?

"By keeping things relaxed. For me, that's a nice linen on the table, some garden flowers in small vases and the plates and cutlery stacked in the middle of the table. Involving your friends or family in some of the finishing touches of the meal is a really nice way to help everyone feel comfortable. I also like to have a snack ready to go when people arrive."

### Which kitchen gadgets are you loving right now?

"My mortar and pestle is my best friend; I have an Italian Carrara marble one. A microplane is a non-negotiable in my kitchen, essential for zesting lemons, and grating cheese and nutmeg. I use a puntarelle cutter for julienning zucchini and asparagus."

'Good Cooking Every Day' by Julia Busuttill Nishimura, \$44.99, Pan Macmillan Australia, is out this month. Visit [panmacmillan.com.au](http://panmacmillan.com.au).







*Creative collection*

# LIVE LARGE

Anna Spiro's latest textile and furniture collection evokes a fantastical world where anything is possible

WORDS VICTORIA KINGSBURY | PHOTOGRAPHY TIM SALISBURY

Sensing a gap in the market for large-scale fabric patterns in a sea of small-print designs, Anna Spiro Textiles has released an exciting new fabric collection that “celebrates the ability to dream, invent and envision a whole new world of decoration”.

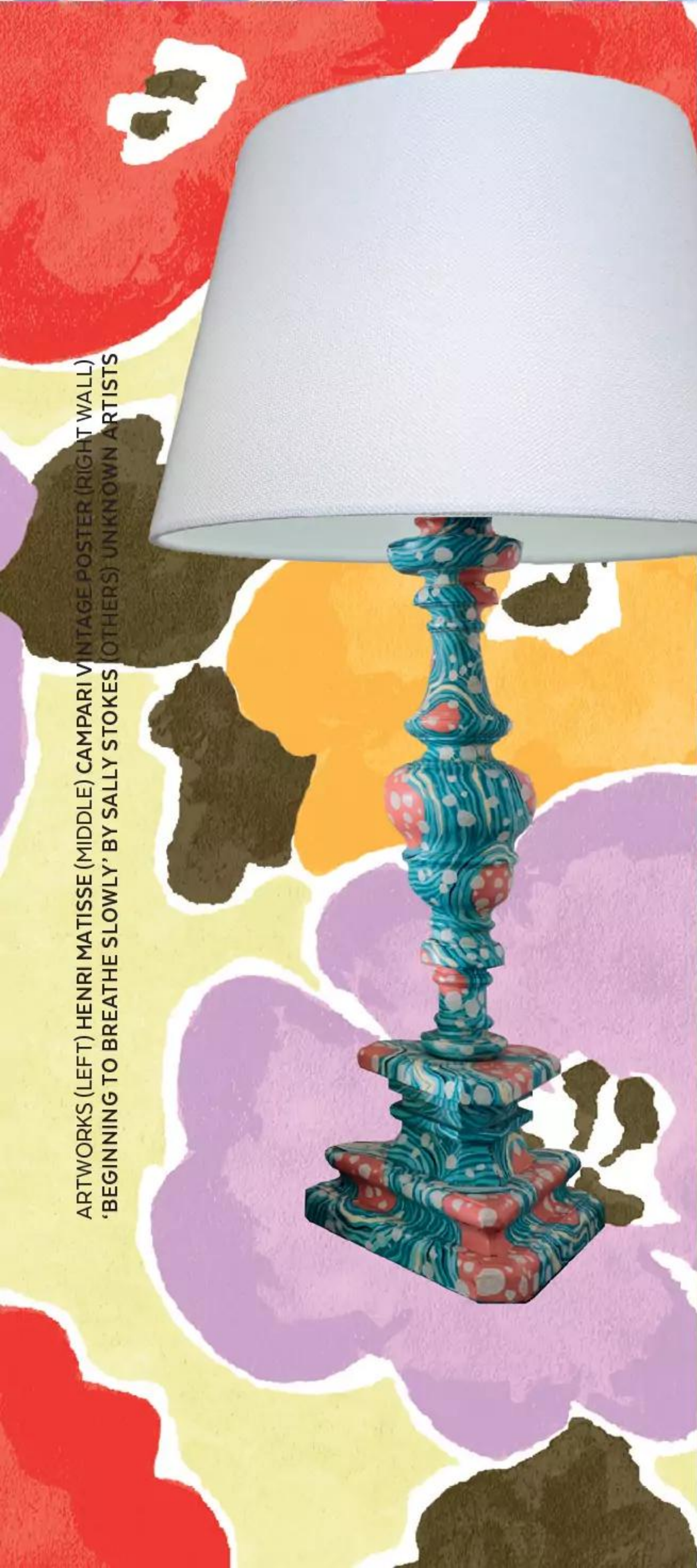
Drawing inspiration from antique patterns and drawings, the ‘Imagine’ collection is truly a work of art. “With bravery and fearless decorating always at the forefront of what we do, our hope for this new collection is for it to inspire and give confidence to people decorating their own homes,” says designer Anna Spiro. “It’s always important to group together different pattern types and scales so we’ve produced a very large collection of geometric patterns along with some large-scale florals, small-scale ditsy florals and a wonderful large-scale geometric stripe. For the first time, we’ve introduced a plain fabric made from recyclable fibres, available in a wonderful range of colours that work back with all of our collections.”

Complementing ‘Imagine’ is a new furniture collection, too, which features interesting hand-painted patterns and beautiful textures, based on classic furniture. “I think the idea of our entire collection being traditional with a twist makes it more contemporary and usable in today’s world of decorating.”





*Background: 'Hazel' linen fabric in Autumn. This page, clockwise from top left: Cushions (on sofa) in 'Pixie' plain fabric in assorted colours; cushions in 'Izmir Navy' (top) and 'Paloma Blue' (bottom); 'Betty' cane lamp, 'Bobby' bamboo bedside table, 'Zig Zag' fringed bedspread in Cream, 'Glowing Grove' fabric (on bedhead and cushion); 'Isadora' lamp. Opposite, from left: 'Walter' wall cabinet, Rectangular rattan tray and 'Harry' side table in Duck Egg. >*



ARTWORKS (LEFT) HENRI MATISSE (MIDDLE) CAMPARI VINTAGE POSTER (RIGHT WALL) 'BEGINNING TO BREATHE SLOWLY' BY SALLY STOKES (OTHERS) UNKNOWN ARTISTS





**Background:** ‘Paloma’ wallpaper in Blue on Blue. **This page, clockwise from top left:** ‘Fred’ mirror in Blue; cushions in ‘Paloma Forest’; ‘Bobby’ bamboo bedside table; bespoke sofa upholstered in ‘Izmir Ivory’ fabric; ‘Bobby’ bamboo lamp. **Opposite:** This dreamy living room shows how the collection can be grouped together. The chair is covered in ‘Fez’ fabric, while the lampshade is in ‘Hazel’ fabric in Spring and the cushion is in ‘Paloma Forest’. >





ARTWORKS (THIS PAGE) 'LOVE AND GRACE' BY SALLY STOKES (OPPOSITE) UNKNOWN ARTISTS





*This page: 'Tilda' fabric is draped over a console, which works back to the 'Safi' fabric in Green on Blue (on chair).  
Opposite, background: 'Elsternwick Fig' fabric in Kilta Green. Clockwise, from top left: 'Betty' cane lamp; 'Elsternwick Fig' fabric in China Blue (on sofa); cushion in 'Tilda Blue'; 'Zig Zag' fringed bedspread in Aqua.*





WE SAT DOWN WITH ANNA SPIRO TO FIND OUT HOW THE 'IMAGINE' FABRIC AND FURNITURE COLLECTIONS CAME TO LIFE

**What is the journey of a new fabric collection at Spiro HQ?**

"As we are primarily interior designers, we are always searching for a particular piece of furniture or a fabric in a certain colour or pattern, and this enables us to have the foresight to understand what is lacking in the market. We are always recording different things we're looking for and certain colours. Inspiration can strike at any time; it might be an antique textile or a pattern in a drawing. We have huge files of imagery that we keep, so when it comes time to start a new collection we look at all the inspiration we've saved and gathered, and start to formulate designs."

**And what influences can we see in the new collections?** "As always, colourful patterns in interesting designs are at the forefront of what we do. I think 'Izmir' is a game-changer for us and has proven to be extremely popular from the outset. Often clients want a pattern but don't want it to be too flowery or too traditional, so 'Izmir' is the perfect inbetween design that everyone loves to use. I was really inspired to create a collection that works back with itself, but also with many other traditional patterns from other fabric houses across the world. I love mixing patterns from everywhere, so it was important to me that our fabrics work back with fabrics from houses such as GP & J Baker and Pierre Frey."

**How does it feel when you see other designers and decorators have used your designs in projects?** "We love seeing our fabrics, wallpapers and furniture collections used by designers across the world. Our ranges sell incredibly well in America and it's so interesting seeing what some of those amazing designers from the US are doing with our fabrics. It makes me very proud to see our collections, which we have created in our Brisbane office, sold worldwide."

**Why do you think Anna Spiro Textiles has been so successful?**

"We started Anna Spiro Textiles about eight years ago. I began to design and manufacture fabrics and wallpapers because I wanted to create my own collections that really spoke my language in terms of pattern and colour. I think at that time there was a gap in the market for smaller artisanal fabric houses that produced colourful fabrics in an array of patterns."

**What is your favourite thing about your workspace?** "It feels more like an apartment than an office. We like to create homely, comfortable interiors for our clients, whether that is in a home or a commercial space, and our office feels and looks just like that."

**Where will the new collections be available?** "All of our fabrics, wallpapers and furniture collections are available to retail customers via [spirostore.com.au](http://spirostore.com.au) or call our Anna Spiro Design office in Brisbane to arrange a time to come in to look at the collections in the flesh. The fabrics and wallpapers are available to the trade via Elliott Clarke nationally. We will also be offering our furniture to the trade. For any designers wishing to find out more, contact our Anna Spiro Design office in Brisbane." **HB**







# Summer SPACES

EXCLUSIVELY PRESENTED BY HARVEY NORMAN

Whether you're lounging by the pool, hosting a barbeque or simply soaking up the sunshine, here's everything you need to create your perfect outdoor oasis.





CARACAS 6-PIECE RECTANGULAR HEIGHT-ADJUSTABLE LOUNGE/  
DINING SETTING \$3499; GASMATE GALAXY BLACK 6-BURNER  
OUTDOOR KITCHEN - PACKAGE 2 \$7999; QUILTED 45CM CUSHION  
IN GREY \$39EA; MONSTERA GROVE 45CM CUSHION \$39EA.

**Harvey Norman<sup>®</sup>**

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## ELEVATED ENTERTAINING

Make the most of sunny days and balmy evenings with the perfect dining setting. From cosy balconies to sprawling patios, choose a piece to suit your space and style.

**ABOVE:** JOURNEY 5-PIECE RECTANGULAR BAR SETTING \$999;  
EVERDURE KILN 2-BURNER PIZZA OVEN \$999.  
**RIGHT:** SKYLER 150CM ROUND DINING TABLE \$1999; SKYLER DINING  
CHAIR \$499EA; EVERDURE BY HESTON BLUMENTHAL FORCE 2-BURNER  
BBQ WITH STAND \$999; SUNSTRIP 45CM CUSHION IN GREEN \$49EA.







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## OUTDOOR BLISS

Every day will feel like a holiday as you relax poolside on this chic outdoor lounge setting. Crafted to seamlessly blend with any outdoor style, its durable materials and weather-resistant finishes ensure endless lazy afternoons and fun with friends and family.





DIABLO 4-PIECE LOUNGE SETTING IN WHEAT \$2999;  
DARIO SUNLOUNGE IN WHITE \$699EA; QUILTED  
45CM CUSHION IN TEAL \$39EA; FIORI AZTEC 45CM  
CUSHION \$29EA; PINEAPPLE 45CM CUSHION IN STEEL  
\$39EA; LUGANO 45CM CUSHION IN NAVY \$49EA.

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## ALFRESCO DAYS

Whether you're enjoying a leisurely lunch, having a romantic dinner or hosting a gathering, this elegant dining table with chic wicker chairs sets the stage for unforgettable moments under the open sky. Entertaining? Transform your table for a game of pool and get ready to play.

**LEFT:** BELMORE 7-PIECE RECTANGULAR DINING SETTING \$2699.  
**ABOVE:** BELLA Q 214CM RECTANGULAR DINING & POOL TABLE \$3299;  
 BELLA Q BENCH WITH STORAGE \$799; L'AVENUE CALLIE THROW  
 IN DENIM \$99.

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## SUN-KISSED STYLE

Sink into this timeless classic and breathe deep. With a cocooning softness matched by all-weather durability, it's the perfect answer to summer entertaining and works stylishly and seamlessly in any outdoor setting.





BALI 3-SEATER SOFA IN CHARCOAL \$1599; BALI ARMCHAIR IN CHARCOAL \$699EA; BALI COFFEE TABLE IN CHARCOAL \$549; PALM PARADISE 45CM CUSHION \$49EA; PALM PERFECTION 45CM CUSHION \$49EA; QUILTED 45CM CUSHION IN BLUE \$39EA.

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## COOL SUMMER LIVING

Embrace the sunshine and fresh air as you elevate your living space beyond the confines of your home. With stylish and comfortable outdoor lounge settings, you can create a welcoming retreat right in your backyard, ideal for relaxation, entertaining, and enjoying the great outdoors.

DESERT 3-SEATER SOFA \$2299; DESERT ARMCHAIR, \$999EA; DESERT COFFEE TABLE \$999; QUILTED 45CM CUSHION IN MUSTARD \$39EA; QUILTED 45CM CUSHION IN GREEN \$39EA; FEELING ZESTY 45CM CUSHION \$39EA; MY BEST FRONDS 45CM CUSHION \$39EA.





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**HN.COM.AU** OR CALL **1300 464 278**

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# THE ART OF *GREEN*

Decorate for the new season with these editor-approved homewares, freshly picked from the Home Beautiful Shop.



**home beautiful**  
homebeautiful.com.au/shop

1. Campari Soda By Franz Marangolo Art Print (Unframed), Art Du Jour Studios, \$279.00. 2. Jewel Vase Green (L), Marmoset Found, \$112.50. 3. Block Vase Green (XL), Marmoset Found, \$92.50. 4. Napkin Ring Corded Design, Casa E Cucina, \$61.00. 5. Rainbow Towel (Cactus Flower), Mayde, \$139.95. 6. Vetiver Essential Oil Blend, Kinfolk And Co, \$57.00. 7. Silicone Unbreakable Wine Glasses, Porter Green, \$49.95. 8. Handmade Ceramic Planter (Moss Green), ESKO Home, \$175.00. 9. Poncho Olive Shag Rug, Double Rugs, from \$515.00. 10. Cotton napkin stripe design set of 4, \$71.00.





# BEAUTIFUL SHOPPING

DECORATING IDEAS AND STYLISH BUYS FOR YOUR HOME





*Stylish finds*

# SPRING FEVER

Embrace the spirit of spring with sunny decor,  
inspired by this revamped New York farmhouse

STYLING ANTHONY AMIANO | PHOTOGRAPHY DONNA DOTAN







### WARM WELCOME

Sunny shades cast a golden glow in the entrance of this 19th-century farmhouse in Southampton, New York (opposite). Ariel Okin decorated the holiday home for a couple and their three teenage sons in a style she describes as “Easy, inviting, warm, textured and layered, full of the clients’ personality”. The couple wanted an eclectic look, so she teamed a scalloped wicker console from The Mayfair Hall and Memoky ‘Worrel’ bench with zesty rugs. Splashes of turquoise nod to the seaside location, with wall plates from Casa Gusto and cushions in cute Schumacher fabrics.

Clockwise from top left: ‘Capri’ outdoor cushion in Yellow, \$250/60cm x 40cm, Bonnie and Neil. ‘Sierra’ rug in Mustard/Natural, \$1780/2m x 1.4m, Pampa. Ground Control Rugs ‘Ricochet Weave’ rug in White, \$1299/2.3m x 1.6m, Home Beautiful Shop. ‘Arnaud Tabouret’ stool, \$690, Rachel Donath. ‘Tahiti’ rattan mirror, \$1090, Maison Living. ‘Fiore’ ceramic serving plate, \$280, and ‘Seaside’ round serving platter in Sea Green, \$340, both Alex and Trahanas. ‘Willow’ rattan console table, \$1849, and ‘Noria’ glass vase, \$89.95/large, both Living Styles. Island Collection ‘Bamboo’ lamp base in Antique Brass, \$129, Alfresco Emporium. Alice Palmer ‘Tangier Stripes’ lampshade in Mustard, \$350/14 inch, Emporean. >





Home  
Beautiful  
SHOP

### LAND AHOY

The living room was thrown a lifeline when Ariel's client found two vintage life rings at a Doyle auction, which formed the jumping off point for the decorative scheme. "I really wanted this room to feel breezy and very 'Hamptons'," says Ariel, who contrasted blues and oranges to pep up the palette. "The furniture silhouettes are sharp and contemporary in some senses and cosmopolitan in feel, but it's all tempered with the natural fibre jute rug and the easy, breezy cotton dhurrie." The J Alexander armchairs upholstered in Schumacher velvet nod to the blue hues.

HAMPTONS  
PRIVATE

BLUE  
AND  
WHITE  
DONE  
RIGHT

Clockwise from top left: Chapman & Myers 'Basden Medium Single Tier' chandelier, \$2390, The Montauk Lighting Co. Double Rugs 'Plinth' rug in Royal Blue (rug top only), \$225/1.5m x 90cm, Home Beautiful Shop. 'Gigi' boucle lounge chair, \$1326, Life Interiors. 'Pedestal' side table, \$395, Bonnie and Neil. Windsor Wool 'Melville Island' carpet in Linen Gauze, Choices Flooring. 'Hamptons Private' book by Dan Rattiner, \$185, Bed Threads. 'Blue and White Done Right' book by Hudson Moore and Mario Lopez-Cordero, \$79.95, Dymocks. 'Montmartre' occasional chair, \$2305, Coco Republic. 'Balmain' cushion in Orange, \$49.95/41cm x 41cm, Logan & Mason. 'Chowk' cushion in Azure, \$148/55cm x 35cm, Walter G. Core Living. 'Tabitha' water hyacinth wicker pouffe, \$89.95, Temple & Webster. 'Belvedere' table lamp in White, \$249.95, James Lane. >











### SHADES OF STYLE

“The family uses this space to entertain all summer long,” says Ariel, who focused on making it both comfy and classy. “The goal with the outdoor areas was to really bring the intended vibe of the interior of the house to the exterior,” she says. To achieve this, Ariel dressed the space from top to toe with a family of fabrics that tie in with the white wicker furniture setting. The area is shaded with an awning in bold nautical stripes, creating a social spot even in antisocial weather. For a similar awning, try Wynstan motorised ‘Folding Arm Awnings’ in Docril Navy Stripes. >









Home  
Beautiful  
SHOP

### SPRING SPLENDOUR

The family of five love to entertain in warm weather, so that informed Ariel's goal for the poolside loggia: "To create an inviting exterior environment that functions like an outdoor living room". The space now serves up a Palm Springs flavour with its piquant palette and retro decor, which revolves around hosting. A favourite is the Chairish bar cart, which nimbly zips between the wicker furniture. A saffron-striped Safavieh rug underpins the scheme, forming a visual link with the preppy stripes in the living room, while a pendant caters to evening entertaining.

Clockwise from top left: Cabana placemat in Light Blue, \$410/set of 4, Hopewood Interiors. 'Lucca' plate in Blue, \$89, CLO Studios. Chamois 'Floral Design' linen tablecloth in Ochre, \$325/230cm x 150cm, Casa e Cucina. Casa e Cucina 'Perle' tumblers, \$147/set of 4, Home Beautiful Shop. 'Headlands' pendant, \$348, Serena & Lily. Poolside Palms 'Hampton' outdoor chair in White/Ecru, \$899, Alfresco Emporium. Napkins in Yellow Stripes, \$65/set of 4, Carlotta + Gee. Sabre Paris 'Panda' cutlery in Light Bamboo, \$125/4-piece set, Haus Haus. 'Cayman' 2.5-seater wicker outdoor lounge, \$1999, Domayne. 'Sundown' outdoor side table in Beige, \$799, Domayne. 'Bold Stripe' cushion in Blue, \$200/60cm x 60cm, Bonnie and Neil. Sika Design 'Carlo' bar trolley in Antique, \$825, Domo. >



## Beautiful SHOPPING



### SCENIC SETTING

For their main bedroom, the couple chose Ariel's 'English Garden' wallpaper in Sage, which she designed for The Mural Source. "I was so happy the client liked it," she says. "I really wanted their bedroom to feel like an oasis, and this paper with its reference to a traditional English Garden is really very soothing." The colours of the lyrical print are picked up in the bedside tables from KRB and the bedlinen, which mixes blues and greens in plump layers. Ariel completed the scene with two brass 'Garden City' sconces by Hudson Valley Lighting on either side of the custom bed.

*Clockwise from top left: Ralph Lauren Home 'Anette' sconce in Natural Brass, \$1240, The Montauk Lighting Co. Aerin 'Siena' vase in Blue Haze, \$650/medium, Becker Minty. 'Plymouth' chest, \$5070, James Said. Aerin 'Pierrepoint' lamp in Polar Blue Crackle, \$1695/medium, Becker Minty. Alice Palmer 'Tangier Stripes' frill cushion in Olive, \$215/45cm x 45cm, Emporean. Casa e Cucina 'Cross' cushion cover in Turquoise, \$80/50cm x 50cm, Home Beautiful Shop. 'Skyler' bedside table in Bayleaf, \$249.95, Provincial Home Living. Osborne & Little 'Foret' wallpaper, \$496/10m roll, The Fabric Editors. Santa Maria Novella 'Aqua della Regina' fluid body cream, \$90/250ml. 'Parisian Blanc' pillowcase, \$130/set of 2, L&M. **HB***









*Trend*

# MELLOW YELLOW

Let your sunny side shine through with these delightful lemony pieces

COMPILED BY ALICE IERACE

1. 'Paloma' cushion in Sunshine, \$425/55cm x 55cm, Spiro Store. 2. 'Esti' rug, \$199/1.8m x 1.2m, Miss Amara. 3. Linen duvet set in Yellow Stripes, \$390/queen, Carlotta + Gee. 4. Luisa Beccaria 'Rosy' wine glasses in Amber, \$250/set of 2, Emporean. 5. 'Loulou' bedhead in Marigold, \$2305/queen, Clo Studios. 6. 'Arboretum 1' artwork by Mike Staniford, \$1650/53cm x 43cm (framed), Becker Minty. 7. Ginori 1735 Oriente Italiano porcelain pickle dish in Citrino, \$277, Emporean. 8. Scalloped linen napkins in Amalfi Yellow, \$101/set of 4, Home Beautiful Shop. 9. Sabre Paris 'Bistrot' cutlery set in Yellow, \$74.95, Hands. 10. 'Emie' 3-seater sofa in Honey, \$5350, Clo Studios. 11. 'Lief' sideboard, \$2395, Few & Far. 12. 'Parlour' ceramic table lamp in Yellow with fabric shade, \$169, Online Lighting and Living.



# heritage STYLE

Incorporate classic silhouettes into your space to blend traditional style with contemporary flair.

Amici 3 light pendant in bronze with pleated natural linen shade \$649, also available in brass and white.

BEACON  
DESIGN STUDIO

## LET US PLAN YOUR LIGHTING

Our accredited lighting designers can transform your space into a designer dream with a customised lighting plan. Book your in-studio or video consultation at [beaconlighting.com.au/design](https://beaconlighting.com.au/design)

*Beacon*  
LIGHTING



Beautiful SHOPPING

# ON THE BREEZE

ADD FRAGRANCE TO YOUR HOME WITH THESE SUBLIME SCENTS

PHOTOGRAPHY ALANA LANDSBERRY



1. Trudon 'De Oro' scented candle, \$169/270g, Libertine Parfumerie. 2. 'Wood Sage & Sea Salt' diffuser, \$169/165ml, Jo Malone London. 3. 'Rosa Gardenia' scented candle, \$149/250g, Santa Maria Novella. 4. Alchemy 'Grapefruit & Cedarwood' room and linen spray, \$26.95/120ml, Circa. 5. 'Lost in Amalfi' interior fragrance, \$42.95/150ml, Glasshouse Fragrances. 6. 'Mandarin Gin' mini diffuser, \$29.95/200ml, Ecoya. 7. 'King of Woods' Indian sandalwood candle, \$95/325ml, Heartwood. 8. 'Frangipani' scented candle, \$99/185g, Carrière Frères.



HARVEY NORMAN PRESENTS

# FIT FOR A *Feast*

Transform your kitchen into a chef's paradise  
with state-of-the-art freestanding cookers.

## INDUCTION COOKTOP

Take advantage  
of a five-zone  
induction hotplate  
with 10 power levels  
including Boost,  
digital display and  
Touch + Slide controls.

## MULTI-CAVITY

Featuring four  
independent ovens in  
the one cooker, for  
ultimate versatility.



**RICHMOND**  
DELUXE



## PROFLEX SPLITTER

Enjoy the flexibility  
of a large oven  
capacity or two  
independent ovens  
– the Proflex Splitter  
creates separate,  
sealed sections,  
while EquiFlow Twin  
Fans maintain even  
and independent  
temperatures.

**BELLING BOUTIQUE DELUXE  
90CM INDUCTION RANGE  
COOKER – SEAFOAM BLUE,  
BRD900ISB, \$9999;  
BREVILLE THE TOASTSET™  
4 SLICE TOASTER – CREAM,  
LTA842CRM2IAN1, \$169.**

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# MASTER *chef*

Whether you're batch cooking or crafting family meals, capacity and versatile functions will empower you to unleash expansive culinary creativity.



## VAPOUR CLEAN

Harness the power of steam with an automatic 18-minute program that helps lift spillages and burnt-on food residue from the inside of the cooker.

## ITALIAN-MADE

The excellence of Made in Italy design and the latest technology come together in this unit, adding an elegant European touch to your kitchen. The superior quality of Ever Clean enamel, which is highly durable and easy to clean, comes from more than 75 years of enamelling expertise.

## ECO-LOGIC COOKTOP

Conserve energy with the Eco-Logic Advance feature, providing the option to limit total energy consumption of the induction cooktop from 7.4 kW to 4.8 kW or 3.7 kW.

**SMEG 90CM CLASSIC  
FREESTANDING ELECTRIC COOKER –  
FULL MATTE BLACK, C9IMN2, \$7499;  
SMEG 90CM UNDERMOUNT  
RANGEHOOD – STAINLESS STEEL,  
SHU900XHN, \$1290; SMEG '50'S STYLE'  
COFFEE MACHINE WITH BUILT IN  
GRINDER – WHITE, EGF03WHAU, \$1199.**



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*Up your kitchen game with multiple oven levels that allow you to prepare a variety of dishes at the same time.*







*With five induction cooking zones, a separate glide-out grill and spacious multi-function electric oven, this is a cook's dream.*



# FLEXI *cook*

Classic styling with modern features, including an induction hob that takes advantage of the latest advances in cooking technology.

## PROGRAMMABLE OVEN

Before you leave the house, tell your oven when to start and stop cooking. On busy days at work, or nights when you rush from school to sport, you can have your meal ready to eat when you get home.

## SLOW COOK

Set temperatures as low as 80°C to slow-cook dishes such as casseroles and large joints of meat throughout the day, or use this facility to dry fruits.

## ENERGY SAVING PANEL

With the insertion of the unique Energy Saving Panel (ESP), switch from a full-size oven to a modest right-hand cavity that uses less energy when cooking smaller dishes.



Plates can be warmed in the left-hand side with residual heat.

## INDUCTION TECH

Fast, responsive and easily controllable, induction is by far the most efficient cooking method available. Using a magnetic field to generate heat, boiling water can be instantaneous.

**FALCON CLASSIC FX 90CM INDUCTION RANGE COOKER - BLACK/BRASS, CLA90FXEIBLBR, \$10,998; KITCHENAID ARTISAN STAND MIXER - BLUE SALT, 5KSM195PSAOA, \$899.**



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# BAKE *off*

From delicious bakery-style bread and cakes to healthier air-fried meals, this freestanding oven with induction cooktop is the one-stop shop for foodies.



## FOOD PROBE PRECISION

When your dish reaches a desired core temperature, the Smart Food Probe lets you know – then switches off the oven for deliciously perfect results.

## PYRO TECHNOLOGY

Cleaning is no chore thanks to pyro-proof side racks and double action telescopic runners. Set the pyrolytic oven-cleaning program, remove the trays and shelves, then come back later with only easily-wiped residue to deal with.

## STEAMBAKE

Make bakery-style bread at home, with steam creating a soft centre while hot air delivers glossy crusts.

## AIR FRY PLUS

Innovative mesh design allows super-heated air to crisp food surfaces, delivering a fried taste and texture with hardly any oil.

**ELECTROLUX 90CM ULTIMATETASTE 900 FREESTANDING ELECTRIC OVEN WITH INDUCTION COOKTOP – DARK STAINLESS STEEL, EFEP956DSE, \$5499;**  
**ELECTROLUX 90CM HOB2HOOD CANOPY RANGEHOOD – DARK STAINLESS STEEL, ERC925DSD, \$1249;**  
**KENWOOD MULTIPRO XL WEIGH+FOOD PROCESSOR – BLACK, FDM72910BK, \$449.**



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*When you've finished cooking your feast, simply set the pyro program to clean the oven without chemicals, water or elbow grease. Bliss!*



*Get a crispier crust, fluffier centre  
and tasty textures when you use the  
EasyBake +Steam function.*





# SMART *heat*

With an in-built air fryer, steam options and twin fans for even heat, this oven and cooktop brings gourmet cooking right to your kitchen.

## PYRO TECHNOLOGY

Cleaning is as easy as pressing a button. The cooker heats up to an extremely high temperature, turning grease and grime into ash for you to simply wipe away.

## BUILT-IN AIR FRYER

All of the flavour and none of the guilt – make delicious, healthier food using minimal oil with a built-in air fryer, right here in your oven.

## MADE IN AUSTRALIA

Benefit from generations of Australian expertise with reliable and trusted products built in a local factory in Adelaide.



## INDUCTION COOKTOP

Prepare your meals with a set-up that's faster than gas or electric in transforming energy into heat. You'll save time with a cooktop surface that's safer and easy to clean.

WESTINGHOUSE 90CM PYROLYTIC INDUCTION FREESTANDING OVEN WITH AIRFRY – DARK STAINLESS STEEL, WFEP9757DD, \$4599; WESTINGHOUSE 86CM INTEGRATED RANGEHOOD WITH HOB2HOOD – DARK STAINLESS STEEL, WRI825BC, \$849; BREVILLE THE Q™ 1200W BLENDER – OLIVE TAPENADE, BBL820OLT2JAN1, \$499.



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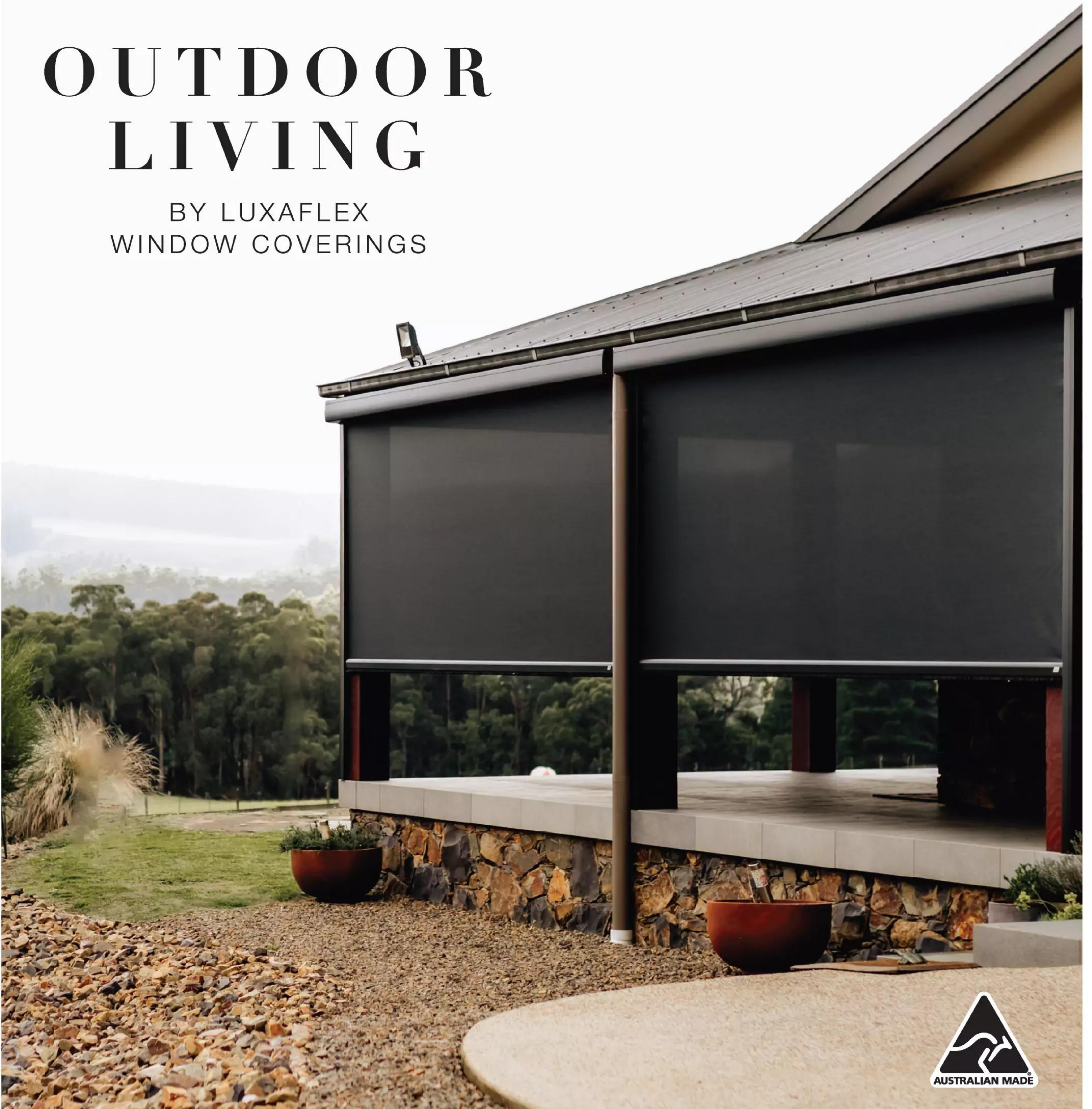
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WINDOW COVERINGS



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Bring the outdoors in and entertain effortlessly by creating the ultimate living space. Our patented magnetic retention system provides protection from the harshest Australian weather, so you can enjoy the best of the great outdoors all year round.

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# BEAUTIFUL HOMES

THE STORIES, STYLE AND LOVE THAT MAKE A HOME BEAUTIFUL



PHOTOGRAPHY LOUISE ROCHE STYLING KYLE JACKES

LEAGUE OF  
ITS OWN  
PAGE 66  
→







*Beachside bliss* “Having previously been in a unit, living here we really appreciate having our own outdoor space and it’s so great with the kids,” says Nicola, who lives in this Gold Coast abode with her husband, Lachie, and their two children. A facade in Dulux Natural White joins Knotwood Aluminium cladding in Sycamore. >



# LEAGUE OF ITS OWN

After buying a bad house on a good street, a Gold Coast couple kicked a home goal when they built their modern family abode

STORY & STYLING KYLIE JACKES | PHOTOGRAPHY LOUISE ROCHE





**W**hen searching for a home five years ago, Nicola and Lachie Weller weren't content simply trawling through real estate listings. "We wanted to live in Burleigh close to the beach and were keen on a bigger block, so we letterbox dropped in some of our favourite streets to see if anyone was interested in selling," recalls Nicola. Although their letters went unanswered, it may have planted a seed, as soon after, a house on a generous corner block came up for sale, and they snapped it up.

Buying purely for the location, the intention was to knock down and design a modern family home. Yet, rather than build to the boundary, the couple wanted to keep the yard large, retain the '70s pool and focus on outdoor living and productive gardens, where Lachie, an AFL player for The Gold Coast Suns, could enjoy his downtime cultivating organic produce. "We didn't want to go over the top with the number of rooms or bathrooms; we wanted a home with a modest footprint and to use every part of it," says Nicola.

Taking their time to perfect the design, Nicola and Lachie leased the house for a year, while working with building designer Bianca Gemmill of BCG Building

Design to create the right balance of indoor/outdoor living and streamlined functionality. Husband-and-wife team Nash Building + Interiors also came on board, with builder Clint and interior designer Kellie able to distil the couple's love of natural, earthy materials into a timeless palette.

"Originally, we were considering terracotta pavers and concrete, which had a bit of a Mediterranean feel, yet when Kellie introduced timber and crazy pavers we loved the concept and everything fell into place from there," says Nicola. The minimalist, muted scheme features limestone, travertine, hand-trowelled microcement walls and hardwood timber decking.

During the process, the couple welcomed daughter Marloe and have since celebrated the arrival of one-year-old Rudy. "There's been a bit of room reshuffling, and there are now more toys around the place than ever, but the layout works well for us," says Nicola.

A serene set-up, even when heavily sprinkled with toys, the home functions just as the couple had hoped. "On the weekends, apart from a trip to the beach, we feel we don't need to leave." **HB** *For more stunning homes, visit [www.homebeautiful.com.au](http://www.homebeautiful.com.au).*



**Kitchen** “It’s such a practical space with so much storage and I love that it flows right around behind, to the butler’s pantry,” says Nicola of her kitchen (this page). Oak cabinetry was the starting point for the palette, followed by ‘Pronto’ engineered oak floors in Parchment from Marques Flooring. ‘Green Bananas and Apricots’ by Emma Gale adds artistic flavour. **Cabana** Little Marloe loves playing with Mum, Dad and dog Hazel in the poolside cabana (opposite), crafted from recycled timber telegraph posts. >

## INSIDE STORY *Nicola & Lachie’s home*

### *Who lives here?*

Nicola, who describes her style as “minimalist and timeless,” her husband Lachie, an AFL player for the Gold Coast Suns; their kids Marloe, three; Rudy, one; and Hazel the Australian Shepherd.

### *Best decision you made?*

Nicola: “To buy and build in this area. We just love that we can ride and walk to the beach and our favourite cafes.”

### *Did you have any splurges?*

“Nothing was too crazy. We nearly did a marble benchtop in the kitchen, but decided to opt for a more family friendly low-maintenance engineered stone.”

### *What’s left on your to-do list?*

“We’re slowly chipping away adding more furnishings, but with two young kids, we’re not in a rush.”





## Beautiful HOMES

**Kitchen** A lovely addition alongside the kitchen (this page & opposite) is a bespoke window seat with integrated storage, where the couple sit and read with the kids or chat while the other is cooking. In keeping with the muted textile of the Globe Interiors blind, the seat by JCF Designs is upholstered in Warwick Fabric 'Chambray' in Oatmeal, and brightened by Bonnie and Neil cushions. The Brodware pull-out mixer in Brushed Nickel complements the Breville 'Barista Touch' coffee machine from Harvey Norman.





Milk to Meals  
LILKA MCCABE  
CARLEY MENDES  
jeremy fox on vegetables



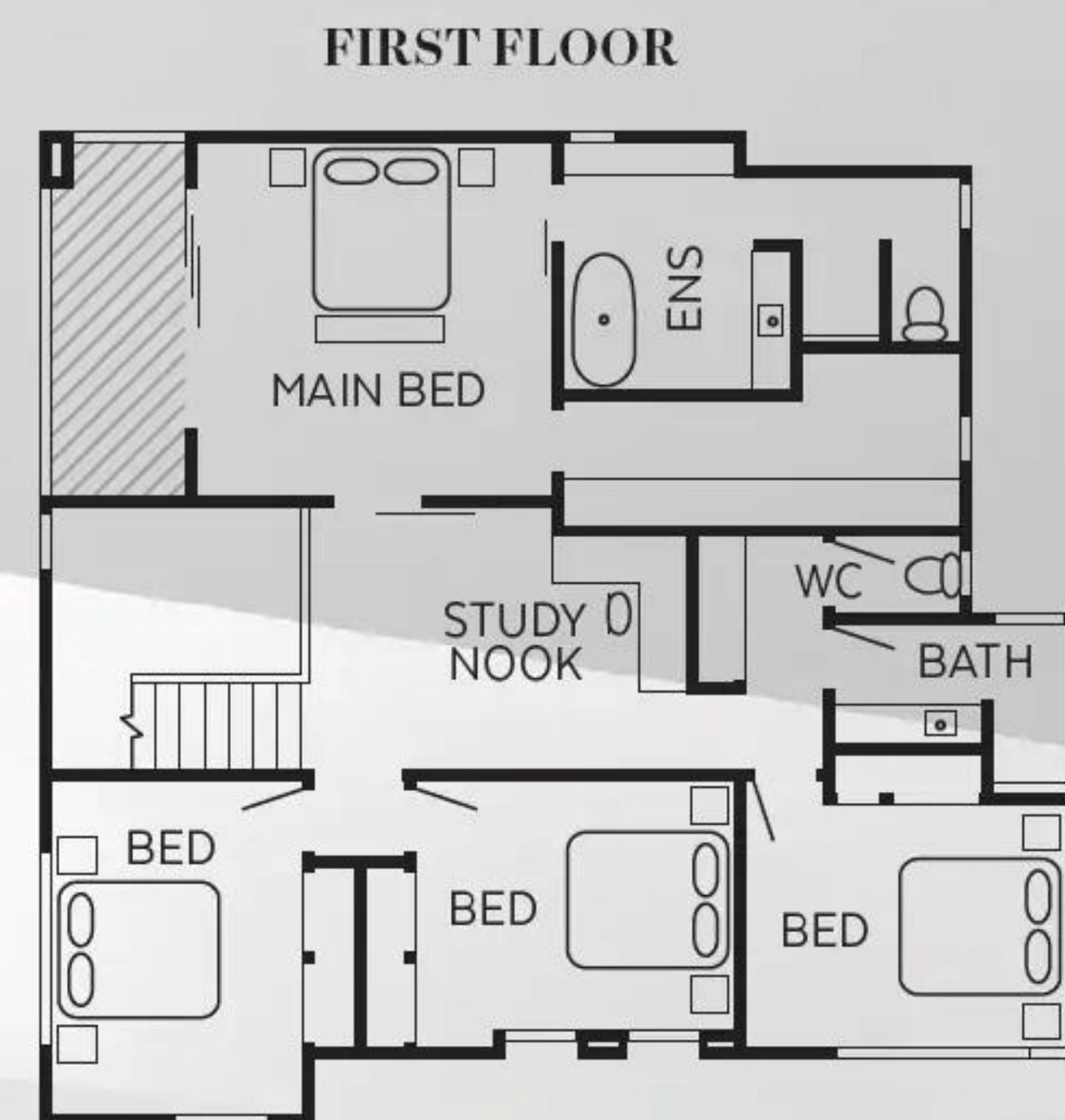
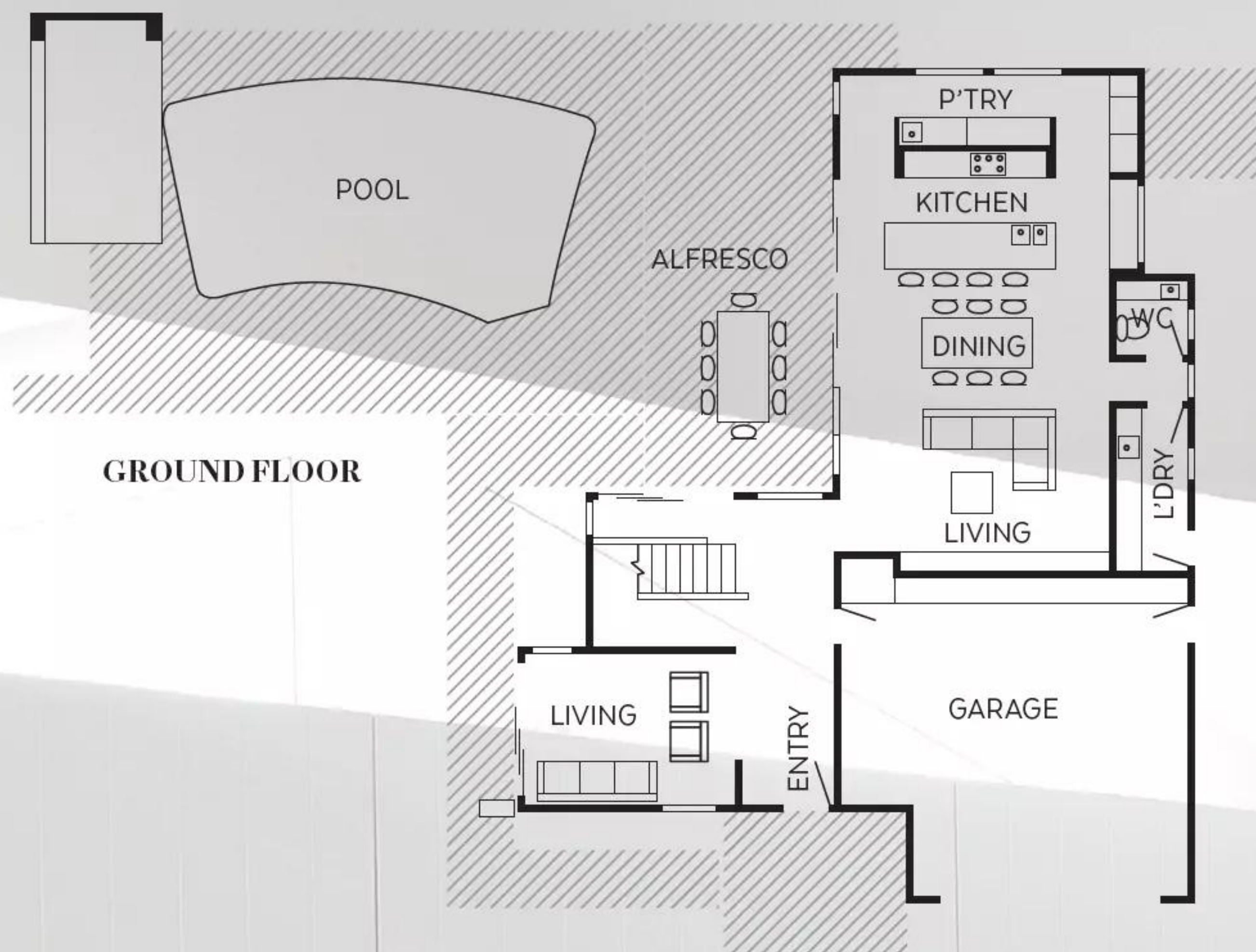
## WE LOVE... *tone on tone*

*Benchtops in Caesarstone Adamina pair beautifully with tonal Moroccan 'Zellige' tiles in Lily by Vulcano Clay, which add a subtle patchwork effect across the splashback. "We love the mix of materials throughout. The timber, VJ panelling, microcement, stone, limestone and hand-made ceramic tiles," shares Nicola. 'Nalani' woven stools from Inartisan complete the simple, textural palette and tone with the upper cabinetry in oak by Farmers Doors. Find more at [farmersdoors.com](https://farmersdoors.com). >*





## FLOOR PLAN





## *Beautiful* HOMES

*Living & dining area* Seamlessly connected to the kitchen and dining spaces, the living area is a snug hub bordered by a modular Trit House sofa, where Hazel comfort tests the Bonnie and Neil cushions. Above the Kira & Kira coffee table and custom jute rug from International Floorcoverings Australia are portraits of Lachie, Marloe and Hazel by Sabine Bannard. Paired with James Lane chairs, the Empire Home timber dining table is a memento from the couple's time in Western Australia, after a stint living there while Lachie played for the Fremantle Dockers. >







**Living area** Integrated shelves provide additional opportunities for display in the main living space (top left) and help keep breakable items out of reach from tiny hands. Nearby hang framed photographs by Sabine Bannard of Nicola, Marloe and Hazel, who gets comfy on the Trit House sofa (top right). The couple set up a kids' play table with cute pint-sized furniture from Cowrie & Conch (opposite).

**Sitting area** A Yolán Eke artwork from Kira & Kira offers colour cues in the separate sitting area, which opens onto the garden and basks in warm afternoon sun (left). Opting for a textural mix of furnishings, a pair of 'French Modernist' armchairs in woven water hyacinth from Larkwood Furniture accompanies the timber coffee table from Kira and Kira. The relaxing corner is illuminated by a floor lamp sourced at MCM House, atop a wool rug from Globe West. >



“WE REALLY  
LOVE THE  
HOME WE’VE  
CREATED  
AND SEE  
OURSELVES  
HERE FOR THE  
FORESEEABLE  
FUTURE”

NICOLA, HOMEOWNER









***Ensuite** The kids love splashing in the ‘Naga’ bath from BNK Bathrooms & Kitchens in the couple’s ensuite (this page & opposite, bottom left), where microcement by Kustomcote skims the bench seat and vanity. “The microcement really appealed as I love the look and there’s no grout to clean,” says Nicola. The flooring is Eco Outdoor ‘Arbon’ tumbled limestone, with Ragno ‘Mélange’ wall tiles in Beige from Three Balls Red. With a neutral foundation, colour is easily added and changed with towels, like these Turkish Cotton ones from Adairs. **Main bedroom** The couple’s bedroom (opposite, top left & right) is luxe with Dunlin ‘Narrow Rattan’ sconces, a Jordan bed and Halcyon Lake ‘Heathers’ carpet in Parchment. Sheer curtains from Globe Interiors diffuse early morning sun on the rare days they get a sleep in. **Guest bedroom** Visitors are treated to bedding from H&M and Castle (opposite, bottom right). >*





“THE PLACE CAME  
TOGETHER FLUIDLY  
BASED ON THE BRIEF  
FOR A NEUTRAL  
COLOUR SCHEME”

KELLIE, INTERIOR DESIGNER





*Pool Too good not to reuse, the existing pool was simply updated with new pebblecrete, Eco Outdoor 'Scala' travertine crazy paving, a modern fence and a cabana that provides a shady retreat within the splash zone. Topped with a mix of cushions from H&M and Adairs, the custom upholstered bench seat features 3 Beaches fabric. To one side, silvery olive trees enhance the Mediterranean feel. >*









## SOURCE BOOK

**Interior design & building:** Nash Building + Interiors, [nashbuildingandinteriors.com.au](http://nashbuildingandinteriors.com.au).

**Building design:** BCG Building Design, [bcgbuildingdesign.com.au](http://bcgbuildingdesign.com.au).

**Joinery:** Smart Joinery, [smartjoinery.com.au](http://smartjoinery.com.au).

**Landscaping:** JSW Landscapes & Design, and Nash Building + Interiors.

*Alfresco Stacking doors link the kitchen with the outdoor dining area – one of the family’s favourite spots to unwind near the pool and backyard (this page). Lachie and Marloe harvest homegrown goodies from the garden beds (opposite). “Being in the garden and growing produce really is Lachie’s passion,” says Nicola. “There are always greens and a seasonal mix of veggies, which we pick fresh and cook with daily – it means we rarely need to buy any.”*





*Bold & beautiful Step over the threshold of this stately Queen Anne-style house in Sydney and prepare to be captivated by a sophisticated makeover inspired by homeowners' Aoife and Graham's long-time love of bolder shades of blue. Certainly, the pair relished working with interior designer Maryann Schmidt, with Maryann also remarking: "We had a lot of fun putting this house together." >*

# BLUE SKIES

In a dramatic rebirth, a heritage house has been converted by an inspired makeover into a family's dream home

STORY JACKIE BRYGEL | STYLING HOLLY IRVINE | PHOTOGRAPHY TOM FERGUSON









**T**he transformative power of organic stone is undisputed. And to Aoife and Graham, the bursts of celestial blue Lapis Lazuli marble in their Queen Anne-style house transports them to a place far away. “The Lapis gives us galaxy vibes,” says Aoife. “We immediately gravitated towards it because it’s like staring into a galaxy – you can almost see constellations and comets.”

It was March 2020, just as the world was coming to an unprecedented standstill, when the couple snapped up their ripe-for-a-makeover home at auction. “It was the last possible auction before the Covid lockdown,” says Aoife, admitting with a smile, “We panic-bought the house.” Happily, though, there were to be no regrets.

The parents of two were excited by the prospect of putting their own stamp on the home, while allowing the period details to shine. After living in the home for a year, Aoife and Graham asked interior designer Maryann Schmidt (pictured above), principal of Hunt & Design, to be at the helm of the renewal, with Maryann’s builder husband, Martin Schmidt of Schmidt Construction, charged with the actual works.

Every domain was given a facelift. Gem-like shades of electric blue, combined with intricate pattern and texture, infuse the home with personality. There are the sculptural pendant lights delicately suspended over the entertaining zones. There is the considered application of statement wallpaper. And, of course, the bounteous pops of Lapis Lazuli marble bringing life and energy to a myriad of spaces.

The result is an atmospheric house that continues to delight its owners. “It’s restful and comfortable, but beautiful,” says Graham. “There are little moments that make you smile as you move around the house and take in different things. Most of all, it feels like home.” **HB** *For more stunning homes, visit [www.homebeautiful.com.au](http://www.homebeautiful.com.au).*

***Hallway** Gracious period details – leadlight panels, ornate plasterwork and soaring arches – greet visitors in the entrance (opposite). “I was spoilt for choice in terms of showcasing the beautiful heritage features in the home,” says Maryann. A floating shelf in Grigio Perla marble provides a prominent resting spot for Karlien van Rooyen’s ‘Chalice of Independence #1’ stoneware sculpture from Curatorial + Co. >*













ARTWORK: A POEM FOR TOUCH BY MORGAN STOKES CERAMICS (BESIDE ARTWORK)  
'ONISHI' VESSEL BY KERRY LEVY FROM CURATORIAL + CO

*Conservatory This is one of the family's favourite spaces. "We pulled out the wall between here and the kitchen, added some structural beams, and really opened up this space so it's more conducive to modern family living," says Maryann. A 'Zermatt' rug from The Rug Establishment anchors the zone, with a pair of Dimitri Vargas tables on top. Tom Dixon pendants from Living Edge. 'Siena' fireplace, with plinth designed by Hunt & Design and made by Concrete Art by Luke. >*









## INSIDE STORY

### *Aoife & Graham's home*

#### *Who lives here?*

Aoife, an urban planner, and Graham, who works in software development, and their children, Lara, 11, and Elliot, eight, plus Luna the French Bulldog and Cassius the Maine Coon cat.

#### *Did Graham share your commitment to bold colour?*

Aoife: "Definitely. I'm very colour-driven and Graham also appreciates how colour can lift a space."

#### *Is there anything you'd do differently?*

"I don't think so. The spaces are glorious and really work so well for a growing family."

#### *What's left on the to-do list?*

"We have to fix up the backyard – that's Graham's summer hobby. But it's now a case of letting the house grow with us, so that it feels even more lived-in and comfortable."

**Kitchen** Sultry and sophisticated, the kitchen showcases swathes of inky Grigio Perla marble and Tasmanian oak joinery painted in Dulux Sharp Blue. "Teaming black with the blue here was a change for me, but the way Maryann has done it is just exquisite," says Aoife. >





*Kitchen* Casting a golden glow over the island bench, shapely Tom Dixon 'Melt' pendants from Living Edge crown the hub of the home. "The pendants have such a moment in the kitchen because they're supported by the dark black marble and the blue joinery, giving them the opportunity to shine and take centre stage," says Maryann. The kitchen stools are from Jordan.



WE LOVE...  
*open shelving*

*Floating marble shelves provide an opportunity to display favourite collectibles, such as 'Selfie 1' artwork by Maria Kostareva from Curatorial + Co on the top shelf in the kitchen (opposite). Ceramic pieces also take pride of place. >*

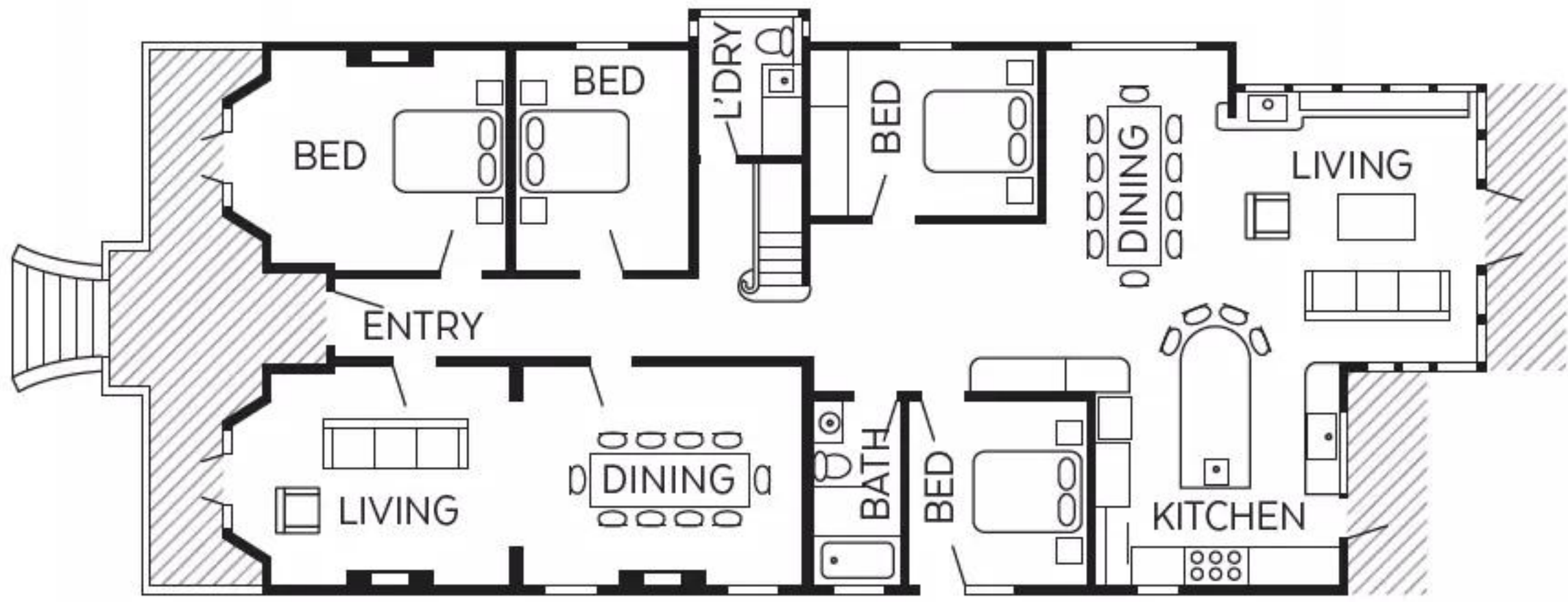




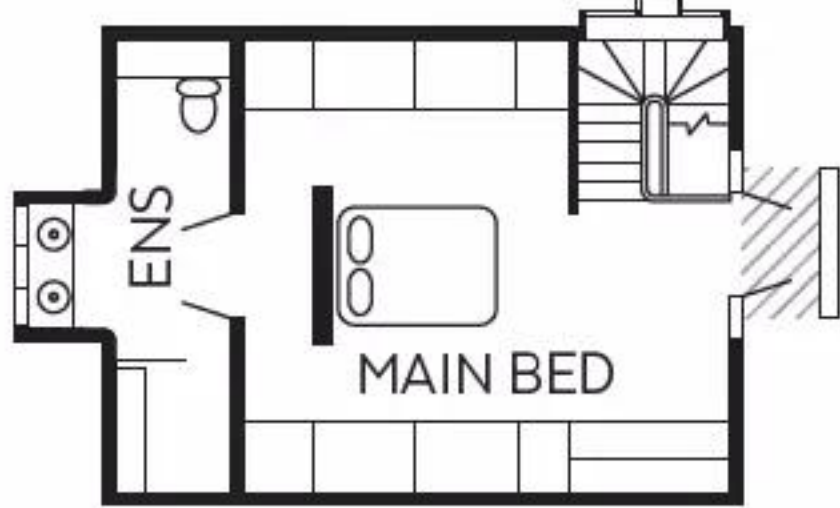


FLOOR PLAN

GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



*Dining area* A duo of ‘Spacey’ pendants in a Supermoon shape by Lasvit sets a gallery-like tone in the formal dining domain, its moody hues reflected in Belinda Street’s ‘Remembering (Blue)’ artwork from Curatorial + Co. “The lights have a fun planet vibe,” says Maryann, “the perfect anchor for the space.” Objects on homeowners’ existing dining table by Katarina Wells Ceramics and Karlien van Rooyen, with decorative bowl from Orient House. Design by Them ‘Twill’ metal chairs.





1



2



3



4

1. Lapis Lazuli marble has been used at the base of the stairs. 2. The luxe powder room and laundry features Fornasetti's iconic 'Nuvolette' wallpaper from Cole & Son. 3. A suitably serene feel has been cultivated in the couple's second floor bedroom, demarcated by a vaulted curved ceiling. 4. Floor-to-ceiling windows with views out to the verdant gardens sit behind a 'Siena' fireplace in the conservatory. 5. In the couple's ensuite, tactile Italian terrazzo tiles from Surface Gallery line the floor and shower seat, with Royal Blue zellige Moroccan tiles from Tiles of Ezra encasing the walls. 6. In the main bathroom, Lapis Lazuli marble sits beneath a Stepp circle basin by Nood Co. 7. Bremworth 'Galet' carpet in Indigo is on the stairs. 8. A Kaldewei bath in the main bathroom is surrounded by Italian terrazzo tiles from Surface Gallery. >



5



6



7



8





**Main bedroom** Refined brushstrokes of colour and artistry come to life via the Unique Fabrics Decors & Panoramiques collection 'All'ombra Dei Cipressi' wallpaper in the couple's bedroom (top & bottom left). Studio Mame x Haig + Smith blackbutt timber bed from Hunt & Design. **Stairs** "Graham had a wonderful idea to put Lapis Lazuli marble insets in the floor at the bottom of the stairs [bottom right] as a threshold between the old and new parts of the house," says Maryann. **Ensuite** The Lapis Lazuli marble vanity in the ensuite (opposite) is teamed with 'Stepp' circle basins from Nood Co and 'Spin' mirrors from Artedomus.



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SOURCE BOOK

*Interior design:* Hunt & Design, (02) 8919 3999,  
[huntanddesign.com.au](http://huntanddesign.com.au).

*Build:* Schmidt Construction, 0410 512 025,  
[schmidtconstruction.com.au](http://schmidtconstruction.com.au).



“WE TRIED TO WEAVE BLUE THROUGHOUT  
THE HOME IN SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT WAYS”

MARYANN SCHMIDT, INTERIOR DESIGNER



**Better together** The homeowners of this 1930s bungalow, Felicity and Matthew, were driven to renovate by a desire to host loved ones. The rear of the house was knocked down and an extension was added with a new living area (this page & opposite), where the focus is on the stunning fireplace clad in 'Barrimah' natural stone by Eco Outdoor. The centrepiece was Matthew's must-have item. >







## BE OUR GUEST

A passion for entertaining loved ones inspired an extension that blends contemporary style with 1930s heritage details

STORY BRITTANY SMITH | STYLING JONO FLEMING | PHOTOGRAPHY JACQUI TURK



Nothing could stop the homeowners of this 1930s California bungalow on Sydney's lower North Shore from entertaining loved ones. For more than 10 years, Felicity and Matthew cooked for the masses from a tiny galley kitchen, with just one bathroom to accommodate their family and guests. "I look back and think, 'How did we do that?'" reflects Felicity. "We love to entertain so we pulled some great meals out of that kitchen, but we lacked some living space as well. We were also one bedroom short." Finally in 2022, with their teenagers Jack, Maggie and Joseph, they decided to bite the bullet with a large renovation, adding a new extension to the back of their home.

They enlisted the help of architecture firm Studio Barbara to help bring their vision to life. A bigger kitchen, extra bedrooms and bathrooms, and a more open living area were must-haves. "We also really wanted to make the most of the light," says Felicity. Blending the older architectural details with more modern sensibilities was another key consideration. "We fell in love with the house because of its old features, and we have a lot of antique furniture that is special to us," shares Felicity, adding that she was unsure how to mix these different styles together before Studio Barbara stepped in.

"We retained what we could from the front and only demolished what was absolutely needed," says Benjamin Selke, Studio Barbara's co-director, of the sensitive extension. "A new roof line allowed us to capture more light with the addition of skylights. We also reconfigured the laundry and bathroom spaces so they were more functional." With the extension providing much-needed space, the couple's requirements were finally met. The old kitchen became a bedroom, and living areas benefitted from extra space. An ensuite was added for the couple, who also got their dream kitchen complete with an island benchtop in Breccia Bluette marble from Granite & Marble Works. While this was a splurge, Felicity is thrilled. "It has these beautiful greys. It's a living piece of stone."

Now the couple entertain, not abetted but aided by a house that simultaneously allows for shared experiences and privacy. "We've become the go-to house for the kids," Felicity proudly shares. "The island, that's where all the stories come out. We can have up to eight extras in the house sleep over on the weekend and we can all be in the kitchen, sitting around and catching up on the gossip from the night before." **HB**

*For more stunning homes, visit [www.homebeautiful.com.au](http://www.homebeautiful.com.au).*

**Living area** Neutrals rule the roost, including the Globe West rug that grounds the 'Jonathan' sofa in Creamy White from Castlery. An Ellison Studios coffee table and an Inartisan 'Rokha' stool add warmth, complemented by wide Prestige Oak engineered timber flooring in Moscato from Preference Floors. >





"I WALK IN EVERY DAY AND  
SOMETIMES I CAN'T BELIEVE  
THE HOME IS OURS"

FELICITY, HOMEOWNER







*Dining area* Brick walls finished in Porter's Paints Rubble create a seamless transition from the original build into the extension. An arched niche is decorated with 'A Nostalgic Blue' by Joy Kinna, available through Hake (top left & bottom right). The fireplace in the living zone is flanked on both sides by a window seat (top right). "The built-in bench seats are thoughtfully designed with a curved internal shape, providing additional family storage while also creating a cosy, sunlit nook," says Ben. Redelman Fabrics supplied the seat upholstery. 'Cuoio' dining chairs by Walter Knoll (bottom left) were sourced through Home Furniture On Consignment.



WE LOVE...  
*vintage furniture*  
Felicity and Matthew already owned striking antique pieces they had inherited from loved ones, such as the dining table (below) and sideboard unit (opposite, bottom left). Studio Barbara added to the vintage tableau, introducing iconic 'Wassily' armchairs designed by Marcel Breuer in the 1920s (below), sourced from a local auction house. For vintage finds, visit [lawsons.com.au](http://lawsons.com.au). >





INSIDE STORY  
*Felicity &  
Matthew's home*

***Who lives here?***

Felicity, who works in financial services communications, her husband Matthew, who works in film post-production, their teenagers Jack, 18, Maggie, 16, and Joseph, 13, and Sparky the family's Cavoodle.

***Favourite place to relax?***

Felicity: "I love being on the cusp of the outside and inside. I can sit there with the heater on outside and look at the garden and back into the house."

***Best renovation advice?***

"Having a wonderful connection between the builder, architect and yourself is really important. You also have to make compromises between you and your partner, but try not to make changes to your plans once you've started."





***Kitchen** A light, bright base of white on white was used in the kitchen to enhance the loftiness of the vaulted ceiling, with the walls and ceiling painted in Dulux Natural White. The rear benchtop is Caesarstone in Organic White, and Nagoya Mosaic-Tile Co 'Hida' tiles, sourced through Academy Tiles, comprise the splashback. This neutral base allows the walls and 'Blossom White' laminate joinery from Polytec to fade into the background while Felicity's favourite material, the Granite & Marble Works natural stone island benchtop in Breccia Bluette, takes centre stage. A 'Bobby' stool in Ash Black from Design By Them (opposite), adds dark contrast. >*

**"WE LOVE COOKING  
AND HAVING THE  
FAMILY AROUND.  
THERE'S A SENSE  
OF WARMTH TO  
THE ROOM"**  
**FELICITY, HOMEOWNER**







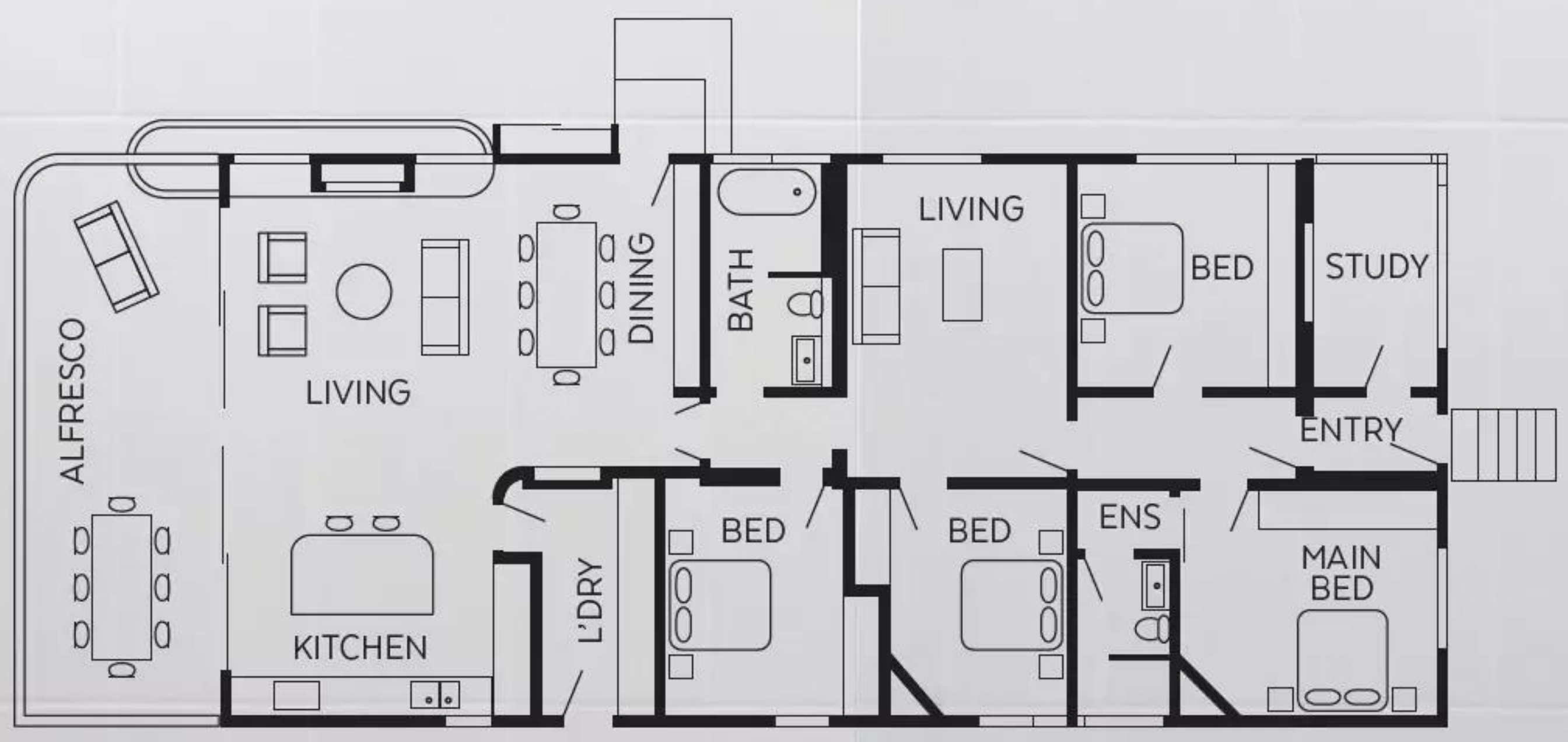
**Bedroom** A small desk fits perfectly beside built-in storage in Maggie’s bedroom (top left), and a ‘Suar’ stool from Inartisan displays the McMullin & Co ‘Claude’ lamp near her guitar (bottom right). “She strums away from time to time,” says Felicity. Layers of bedlinen from Saardé dress the Kmart bed. **Main bathroom** Terrazzo-look floor tiles from Skheme add colour and pattern in the bathroom (top right). ‘Manhattan’ white gloss tiles from Earp Brothers grace the walls, while Saardé ‘Chickpea’ towels add texture. **Laundry** As the laundry is accessed from the kitchen, the same joinery and benchtop were used for consistency, alongside Royal Tiles ‘Piccadilly Grigio’ floor tiles. >

ARTWORK (BOTTOM RIGHT) CINDY ZELL





**FLOOR PLAN**





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## SOURCE BOOK

**Architecture:** Studio Barbara,  
[studiobarbara.com.au](http://studiobarbara.com.au).

**Builder:** Peter Smith  
Constructions,  
[petersmithconstructions.com](http://petersmithconstructions.com).

**Alfresco** The living area and kitchen open onto the patio. "The kids can be entertaining outside and we can be inside or vice versa," shares Felicity. The new rear windows and doors received a sleek black powdercoated trim in Dulux Duratec Zeus Black Matt. The 'Trace' armchair from Tait looks onto the luscious, leafy garden vista. The result is a tranquil space designed to make wonderful memories in.









# FULL CIRCLE

Craving extra space to raise their sons, this Canberra couple found the perfect plot just 100 steps from one of their childhood homes

STORY JULIA FAIRLEY | STYLING TILLY ROBERTS | PHOTOGRAPHY ANNE STROUD







**Home & away** As their two young sons grew bigger, Robert and Elissa's townhouse began to feel smaller, prompting them to find a parcel of land in Canberra and build their home. "The block had been a vacant site with no house for around four years, with some beautiful mature trees, and it was desperate for some love and attention," says Elissa. At the garden entry, concrete steps by Restyle Landscapes lead the way, flanked by crepe myrtles. >



**Kitchen** “A monochrome colour scheme and lack of adornment sparked our imagination, as we were interested in the materials that could be used,” says Elissa. The brass Axolotl finish in the kitchen joins cabinetry in Dulux Colorbond Monument, polished concrete flooring and curved benchtops by Mitchell Bink Concrete Design. Paul Tilse Architects + Interiors designed both inside and out, with styling by Tilly Roberts (pictured).





“IT REALLY FELT  
LIKE A DREAM  
PROJECT FROM  
START TO FINISH”

ELISSA

### INSIDE STORY *Elissa & Robert's home*

#### *Who lives here?*

Elissa, an artist and graphic designer, her husband Robert, who owns a management consulting firm, their sons Arlo, seven, and Beau, six, plus Buska the Labradoodle, aged 15.

#### *What's your design philosophy?*

Elissa: “I love minimal and bold solutions with textures and patterns providing visual interest; Scandinavian design for its clean lines and simplicity; and the philosophy of Wabi Sabi, as things that aren't perfect can be beautiful in their character. Rob freely admits he doesn't have an eye for design, but has a honed ability to think about functionality. This created the perfect combo for us.”

#### *Favourite weekend rituals?*

“At home, we enjoy going mountain biking and entertaining family and friends. We often spend time at the family farm, just outside Canberra, where the boys love riding motorbikes with their dad, and making pottery or painting with me.” >





When beginning a new chapter, we often find ourselves back where we started; and for Elissa and her husband Robert, that is exactly what happened. Hoping to upsize from their cramped townhouse to give their sons room to roam, a vacant block in Canberra's Inner South beckoned, just a short stroll from Elissa's family home. Bare but for majestic mature trees, it was bursting with potential to design a dream home from scratch.

Initially, Elissa and Robert wanted a modest "lock and leave" weekday abode as the family spend most weekends at their 200-acre farm outside Canberra, though they swiftly changed tack. "Once we found the block of land, the project quickly got out of hand as the potential was too great to ignore," muses Elissa.

Design is in her DNA, so the creative process was collaborative, with architect Paul Tilse and his firm's interior designer, Vanessa Hawes, at the helm of creating the modern barn house – a homage to the humble Australian shed. Elissa's father, an engineer, influenced the palette with his love of "robust and raw materials," which shines through in the concrete. A conversation with her mother and the couple's

builder resulted in the fun peek-a-boo porthole windows at the facade. And her brother, Justin Northrop, an architect and director of Technē studio, conjured up some curves when the couple asked him to cast his eye over their plans. "He came back with some hand-drawn scribbles over our elevations and suggesting some bold, sculptural shapes," recalls Elissa. "He said, 'It's a huge black barn, it can handle being messed with'. We enjoyed adding in these extra surprises – you can take the process too seriously and it's nice to have things that put a smile on your face."

Some of the most striking interior elements are the finishes. "Elissa had a vision for the colour palette that she wanted throughout the house; it was initially black, white and gold, which is present in the home, but we evolved this together to add elements of warm grey and pale timber," says Vanessa.

But most important was the durability and comfort factor; after all, this is a family home. "We didn't want any part of the house and materials to be precious, so everyone would feel at home and be relaxed," says Elissa, who now enjoys exactly that. **HB** For more beautiful homes, visit [www.homebeautiful.com.au](http://www.homebeautiful.com.au).



*Dining area A Beeline Design 'Ridge Oval' dining table in Black (below) continues the colour scheme, while Mattiazzi 'Leva' chairs from Miko Designs are a light contrast. **Kitchen** A slim 'Highline' pendant in Satin Waxed Brass by Archier illuminates the social island bench (opposite). The wall of integrated Fisher & Paykel ovens makes entertaining loved ones a breeze, as does the butler's pantry, which is hidden to one side of the kitchen. >*







WE LOVE...  
*bold sightlines*

"The living room is my personal favourite, with the high timber-lined raked ceiling and triangular highlight windows," shares architect Paul Tilse of the space he loves most, framed with AWS 'Thermal Heart' glazing. "Glass doors open onto a terrace with views to the Brindabellas one way, and with floor-to-ceiling glazing on the north-east looking towards the pool and garden on the other side." Find more at [awsaustralia.com.au](http://awsaustralia.com.au).



***Living area** Glosswood timber lining boards in Satin Driftwood in the soaring living area (this page & opposite) draw the gaze to vistas at either end of the room. “Rob was attracted by the views, which include iconic Canberra landmarks – Parliament House and Black Mountain – but more importantly, the expansive views to the Brindabella Mountains, which offer up spectacular sunsets,” says Elissa of her husband’s first impression and favourite feature. A Big Ass Fans ceiling fan cools in summer, while an Escea gas fireplace adds warmth in winter. A Jordan ‘Sunny’ sofa and Coco Republic armchairs join a custom ‘Matteo’ floor covering by Tappeti Rugs. >*











“OUR LOVE OF  
AUSTRALIAN DESIGN  
AND PRODUCTS HAD  
US REFERENCING THE  
HUMBLE SHED IN ITS  
SIMPLE FORM AND  
DURABLE MATERIALS”

ELISSA

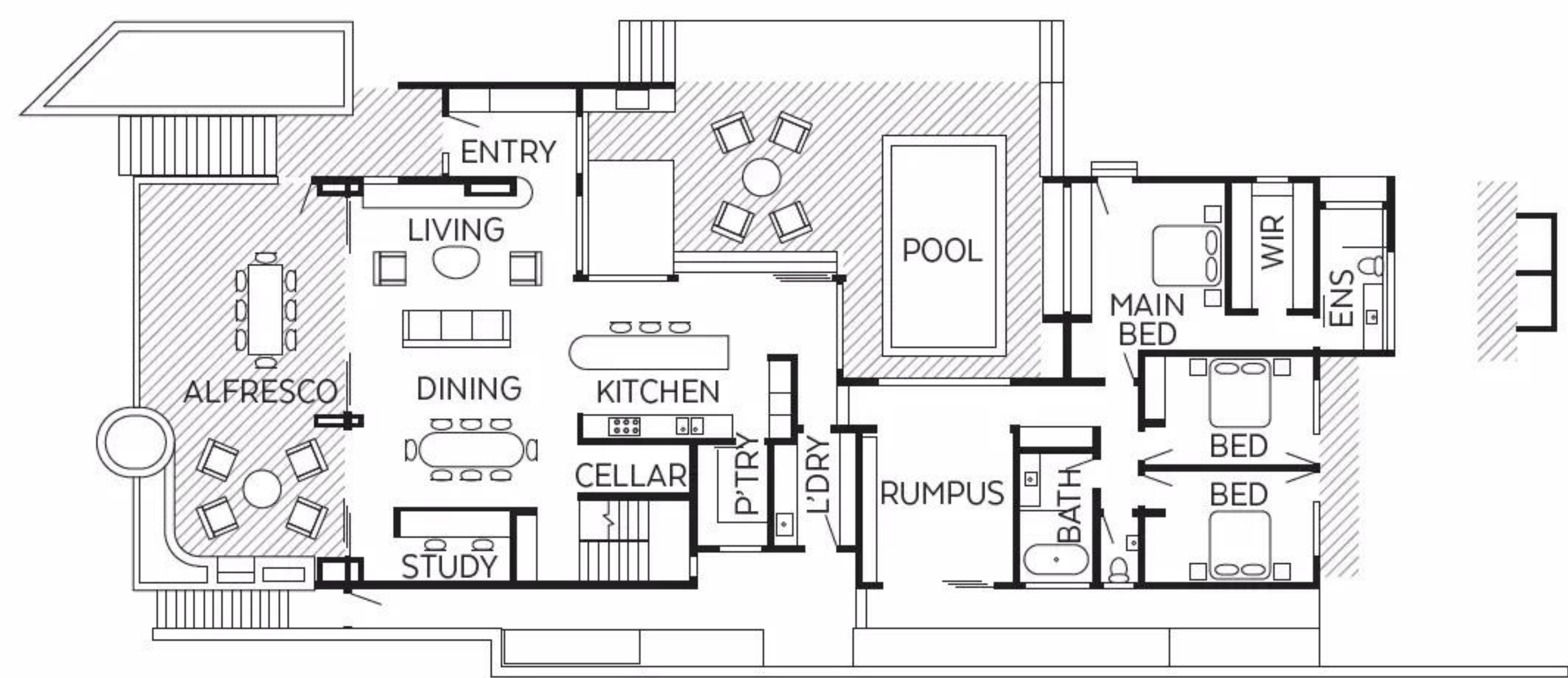
***Main ensuite** In Elissa and Robert’s ensuite (this page), large floor and wall tiles team with smaller mosaics in the shower, both from Tile Republic. Heated Astra Walker towel rails ward off the chilly Canberra winters near a vintage stool from Watertiger. **Rumpus** Arlo and Beau love their loft-style playroom (opposite, top). **Main bedroom** A Fomu ‘L’Art’ chair tops EC ‘Andes Peak’ carpet in Morado in the couple’s room (opposite, bottom). >*



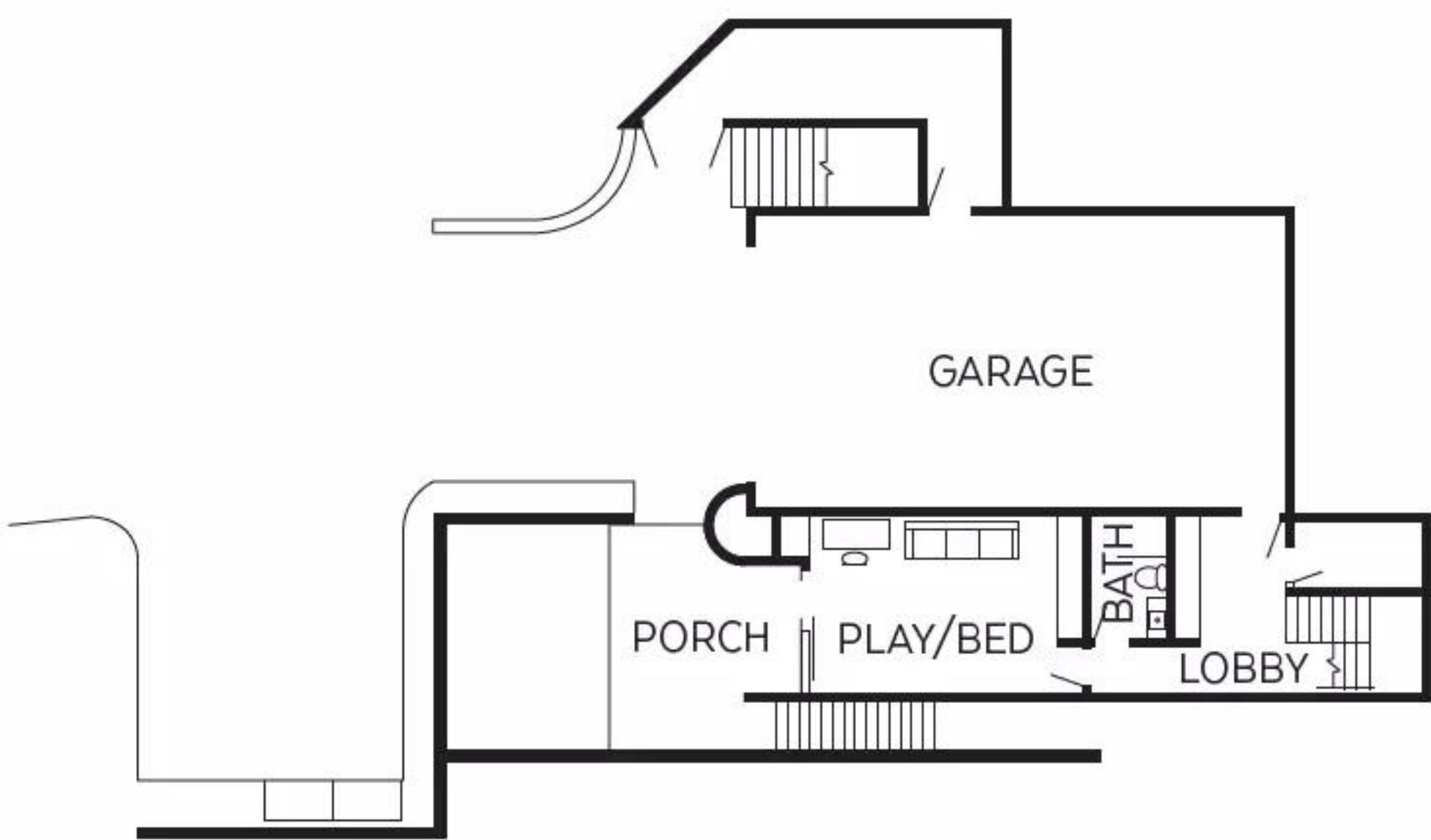


FLOOR PLAN

GROUND FLOOR



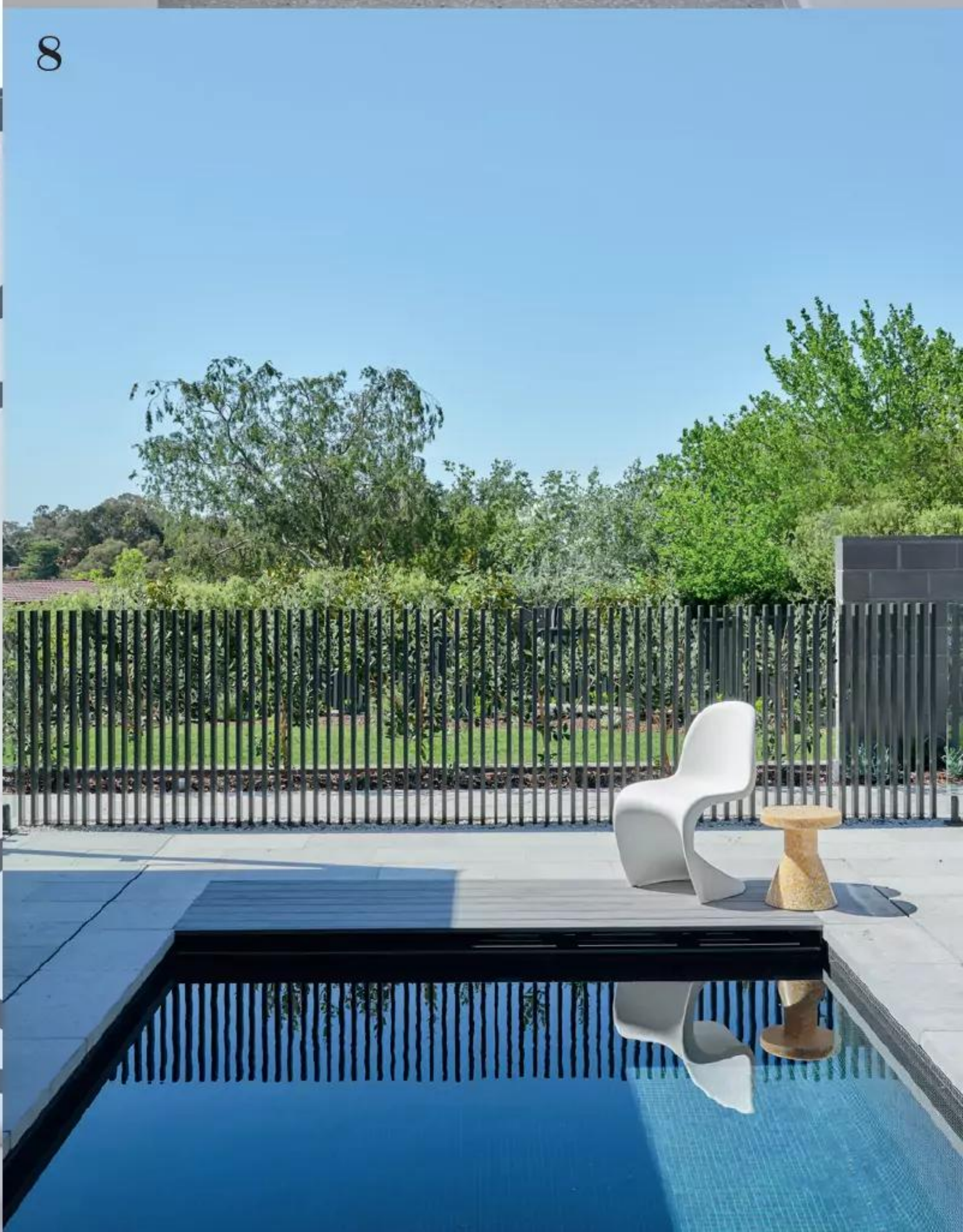
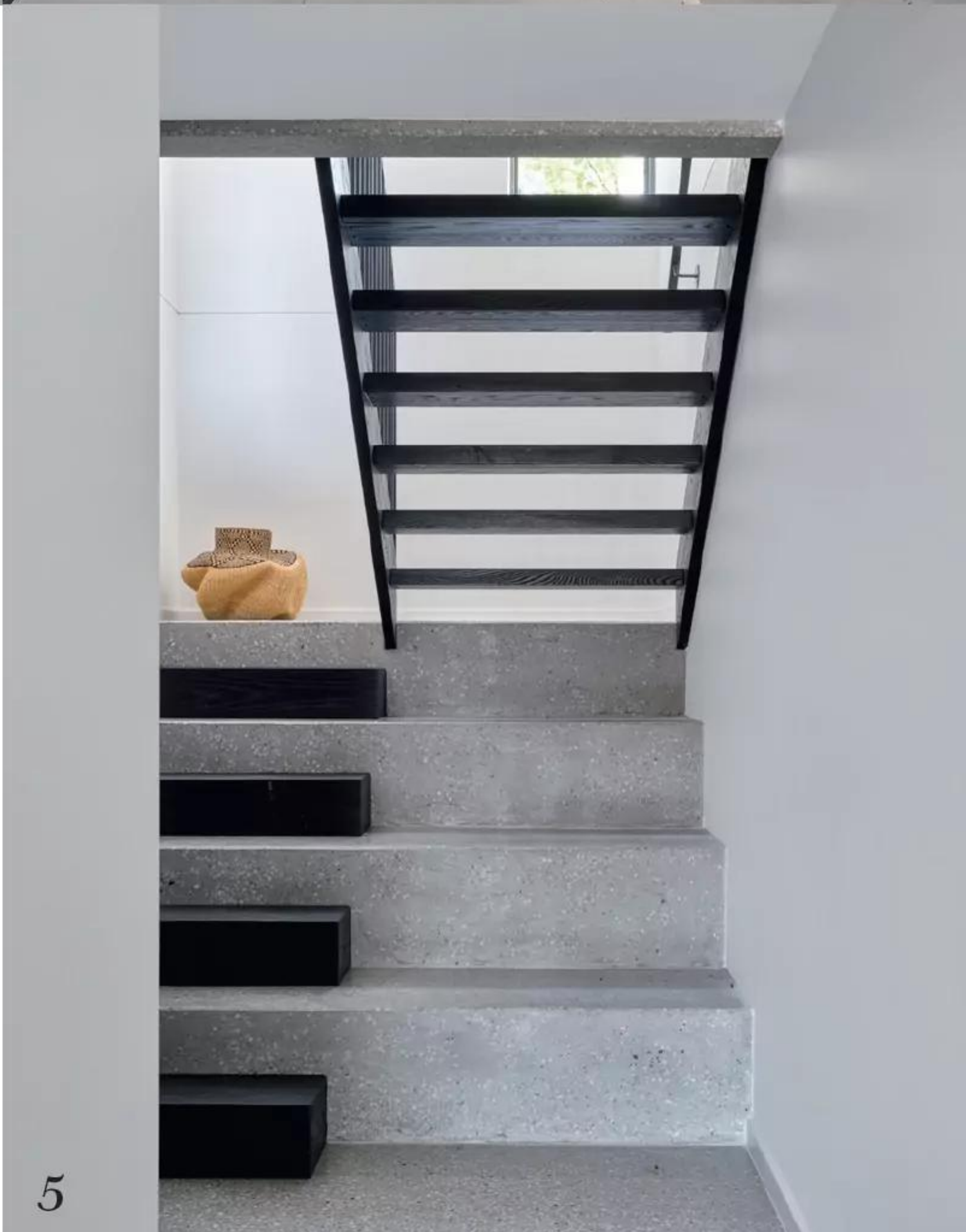
BASEMENT







1. Round apertures frame vistas between the garden and fire pit (opposite). 2. The hearth and bench seat near the front door are some of Elissa's favourite elements. 3. An 'Anfernee' planter from The Balcony Garden stands sentry at the front. 4. Custom formwork was used for the concrete steps. 5. An open-tread staircase ushers in light. 6. A Clarke & Clarke 'Murano' curtain pops in the rumpus. 7. "I took a brush and some [Dulux Colorbond] Monument paint and let the lines wind their way all over the boys' toilet," shares Elissa. "I enjoyed adding a sense of play but didn't want it to look too young, so kept it dark grey to match the rest of the home's colour scheme." 8. A Vitra 'Panton' chair sits poolside. "We wanted every aspect of the exterior house and garden to have numerous spaces that revealed themselves as you walked around," says Elissa. >









## SOURCE BOOK

**Interior design & architecture:** Paul Tilse

Architects + Interiors, [paultilsearchitects.com.au](http://paultilsearchitects.com.au).

**Joinery:** Created Bespoke Joinery, [createdjoinery.com.au](http://createdjoinery.com.au).

**Builder:** Brother Projects, [brotherprojects.com.au](http://brotherprojects.com.au).

**Landscaping:** Restyle Landscapes, [restylelandscapes.com.au](http://restylelandscapes.com.au).

**Alfresco** Paul and Vanessa zoned the outdoor areas to include a pool, fire pit, terraces and playfully framed gardens. "The overarching vision for the landscape was 'Canberra coastal', creating lots of zones of interest for family to explore different spaces, either together or alone when desired," says Vanessa.





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# A GARDEN OF GIFT-SPIRATION

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# BEAUTIFUL DESIGN

KITCHENS | BATHROOMS | EXPERT ADVICE | RENOVATE | CREATE





*Kitchen renovation*

# RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

All the ingredients you need for a kitchen design that works

WORDS GEORGINA WILSON

ADDITIONAL WORDS VICTORIA KINGSBURY PHOTOGRAPHY (THIS PAGE) MURRAY FREDERICKS  
EDITORIAL STYLING (THIS PAGE) CLAIRE DELMAR ARTWORK JAMES KING, FROM BECKER MINTY





**K**itchen design is tricky. It's one of the most expensive rooms to renovate, as it has to function well on many levels, and you spend so much time in it, you want to be sure you're going to love it – so you don't want to get it wrong. And if you're a first-time renovator, it can be hard to know if you're doing things in the right order – which could end up causing mistakes and budget blowouts. That's why we're sharing a formula, which we think ticks all the boxes for kitchen design that truly works; a process that can be followed in steps, allowing you to identify any mistakes or tweaks along the way, and work out what you 'need' versus what you 'want'. These are steps that can be applied to any space and any budget. To help us, we asked Georgina Wilson, of award-winning architecture and interior design studio Georgina Wilson Associates, for her expert advice on making sure your kitchen design and renovation goes to plan. Read on for her kitchen design method to set you up for success.

## BEST-LAID PLANS

*Before proceeding with* any aspect of your kitchen reno, determine whether the kitchen is in the right location.

Kitchens almost never are. This is the most important step because it has such a dramatic impact on not only your kitchen but all the adjacent spaces as well. Ensuring it is optimally located sets the foundation for a cohesive and efficient renovation, enhancing the functionality and flow of your entire home. We usually find that the kitchen

should be at the heart of the home, in the centre of circulation, often in the least glamorous part of the house.

This placement provides plenty of blank wall space for utility and liberates the best parts of the home for living and entertaining. Assess whether your current layout allows you to incorporate all the features you want, or if you will need to rework the layout to accommodate them.

This is also the time to work out how much professional assistance you require. Do you prefer a hands-on approach, handling everything yourself? Or would you rather have a professional take care of the entire process for you? Perhaps you fall somewhere in between.

Understanding your preferred level of engagement will help you plan effectively and ensure your renovation aligns with your capabilities and expectations. >

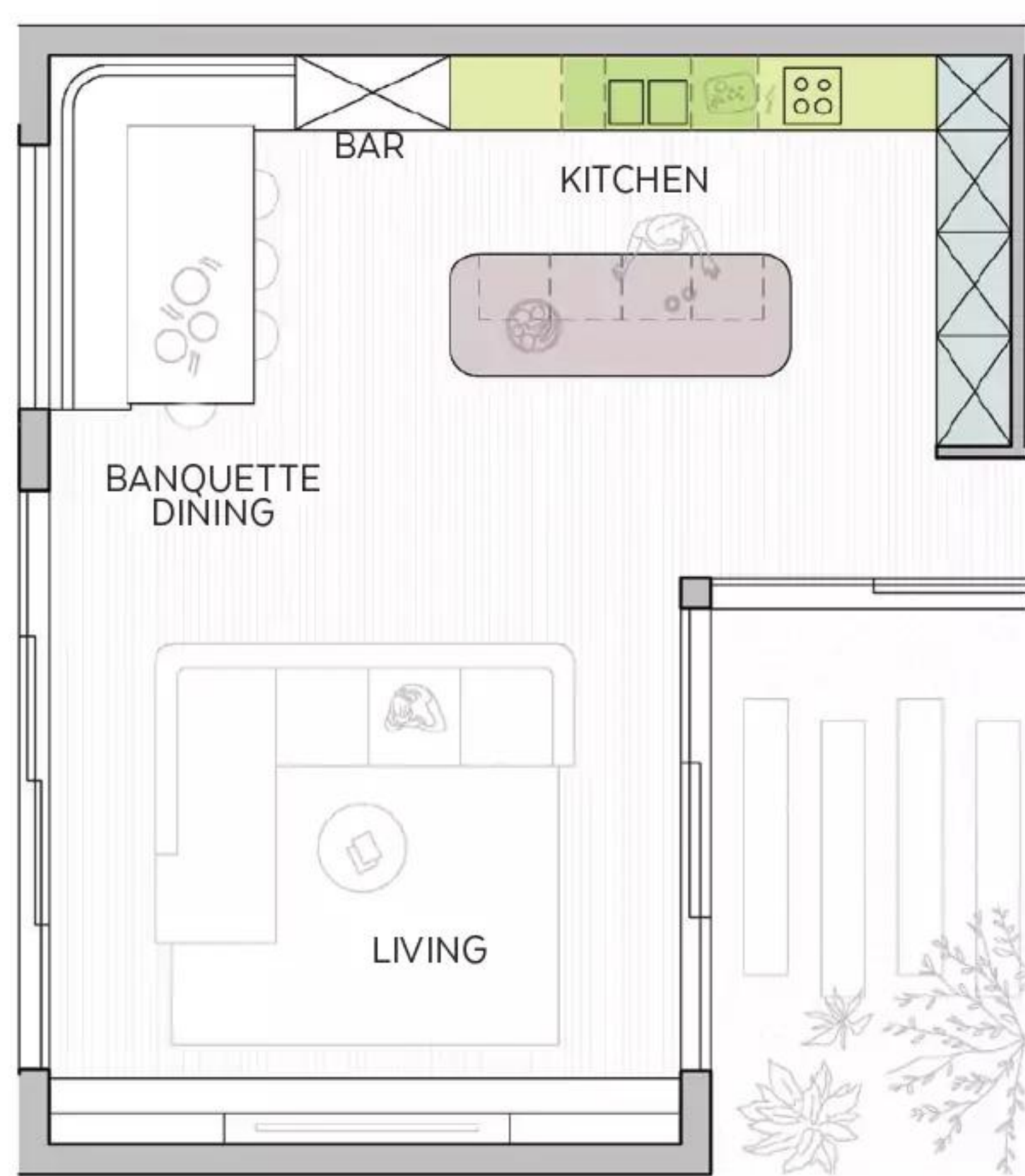
*This kitchen (left) is part of Georgina's Seaforth House project, which features kitchen cabinets that go all the way up to the ceiling. This looks more streamlined, it gives even more storage space and no dusting the tops. There's also extra storage in the island and the clean up zone (sink, bin and fridge) is all neatly, and conveniently, kept together around the back wall, along with the work zone (stove top).*



THE ENTERTAINER'S DELIGHT



THE BUNGALOW



THE TERRACE



KEY



1. BRIEF YOURSELF & MEASURE UP

*Assess the condition* of your existing kitchen space by taking lots of photos and measuring the area. Draw the plan of your space to scale to understand what you are working with; you can use an app for this or download free grid sheets from our website ([georginawilsonassociates.com](http://georginawilsonassociates.com)). Now is the time to write your wish list of things you want to include in your new kitchen. Make sure your list is prioritised with the essentials, such as the fridge, cooktop, sink and bench space at the top. It can be helpful to take an inventory of all your kitchen items at this stage. And consider what could be included in the new kitchen to improve the accessibility and function.

2. MASTER YOUR FLOOR PLAN

*Start to sketch* out your key functional zones in your proposed kitchen location. I find the easiest way to ensure you design an efficient, highly functional kitchen is to focus on the correct layout and consolidation of your four functional zones. These are: tall utility (pantry, fridge and a freezer, plus maybe some wall ovens); work zone (stove top); clean-up zone (sink and dishwasher); prep zone (bench space for preparing food). Once you have a diagram of the functional zone layout, and you're happy with the balance of these areas, you can continue to fill in a bit more detail. Here are three ideal layout types for kitchen designs that I classify as the following (see floor plans, pictured left):

*The Entertainer's Delight* This is a kitchen of a significant-sized home with a butler's pantry. It is large, very visible and functions well for large gatherings. Tall utilities can be positioned 90 degrees to the work zone and island. Banquette seating allows the table to be close to the wall, allowing for efficient circulation within the space. Drawers in the kitchen island are also efficient in this space.

*The Bungalow* The family-orientated home is spacious with an integrated banquette for casual dining. There are lots of spaces for seating and the design also incorporates a hidden bar.

*The Terrace* This is the format that I believe works best. It's low on space and high on utility. The kitchen integrates well with the open plan living space. Locate the work zone along the back of the kitchen to keep the island free for prep, socialising and dining. Banquette seating creates more capacity for table seating, and allows more space for the living area. Consider seating around the end of the island.





*Seating around the end of the benchtop provides the chef a place to perch in this kitchen by Georgina Wilson Associates. The work and clean-up zone is along the back wall, so the island is free for prep and socialising.*

### 3. WINDOW SHOPPING

*Come up with a wish list* of appliances early on that you then revisit after the initial planning stage of your kitchen. This should confirm how much of your wish list can be achieved. Take it along to your local kitchen supply store and explore the latest kitchen equipment. Engage with the items – touch them, feel them, and select your preferred options. As you do this, keep in mind the overall amount of space you have for each functional zone.

Avoid overloading your kitchen with large appliances if space is limited. It's better to have a small, well-balanced kitchen than one with a massive cooktop and inadequate bench space, for example. Unless you have unlimited space, start with standard-sized appliances and evaluate them against your plan before considering larger versions. We always suggest allowing for proper measurements into your planning and doing research on the proposed appliances early on in the design. And consider integrated appliances, particularly when kitchens are part of an open-plan scenario; it creates a very neat, considered and seamless aesthetic.

### 4. DETAILED PLANNING

*Place your selected* wish list appliances in their relevant functional zones; for instance, your tall utility area will likely include a fridge, a pantry, and possibly some wall ovens. Verify that your proposed appliances fit within the designated spaces. Once you're satisfied with the layout, you can move on to the fun aspects of the renovation!

### 5. MOODBOARD

*Create a moodboard* of your ideal kitchen, look in magazines and books for reference images and inspiration. Find examples of kitchen styles you like and identify the elements you love in each image, focusing on details such as cabinet fronts, hardware, flooring, paint colour, and materials for benchtops and splashbacks. It's important to get closely in tune with what speaks to you and brings you joy. Then, ask yourself what it is about these examples that you find appealing. Now you can start to create a picture of the look and feel that you want and can begin to fill in the details and select your choices for the finishes schedule. >





## 6. SELECTING FINISHES

*Start by selecting your base colour*, which will be the wall colour, serving as your prepared canvas. This seamless and tidy backdrop should unify the entire space. Then, carefully choose your flooring, cabinetry, benchtop, splashback and hardware to complement and enhance this foundation.

*Colour palette* Opt for a neutral, timeless palette that serves as a versatile foundation. This can be elegantly layered with beautiful natural materials such as timber, stone and brass, creating a harmonious, enduring aesthetic.

*Materials* There is an infinite range of finishes and materials available to achieve your desired aesthetic, many of which fall within the same entry-level price range. Constructing something beautiful typically costs no more than creating something unattractive, as the majority of renovation expenses are attributed to labour rather than materials. In regard to finishes and materials, it can be strategic to select something like a natural stone and use it for maximum impact. Natural stone, particularly quartzite, offers a huge spectrum of options at a reasonable price, often more affordable than composite alternatives and far more characterful. Unlike marble, quartzite is relatively

non-reactive and possesses a durability akin to granite.

*Hardware* Avoid handles as much as possible. You will almost certainly need a couple – on your integrated fridge/freezer/pantry – in which case, invest in a sturdy and beautiful one. Be bold in your selection! Don't stress too much about mixing materials across your kitchen.

A common concern is pairing stainless steel taps with brass handles or door fixtures. Striving for perfect uniformity can feel overly contrived, while a harmonious blend of different materials often adds character and depth to the space. Ensure your aesthetic remains consistent throughout your design. Traditional hardware complements classic cabinetry detailing, while it may appear incongruous with a sleek, modern kitchen design.

## 7. LET THERE BE LIGHT

*Plan your lighting* after you have a solid design in place and established the desired look and feel for your kitchen. This ensures that your lighting choices will enhance both the functionality and aesthetic of the space, aligning seamlessly with your overall vision. Remember, there are two types of lighting to consider: functional and ambient.



As your kitchen is a workspace, it's crucial to ensure proper lighting for both tasks and atmosphere. Inadequate lighting can compromise safety and efficiency. Consider the overall functional lighting of the room, aiming for an even distribution of light. Integrate perimeter lighting to wash the walls and tall utility areas, and ensure that workspaces, such as the island, receive adequate task lighting. For ambient and feature lighting, position it with care to avoid disrupting visual connections or undermining task illumination. Approach pendant lighting above the island with caution, as it may lack effective functional illumination, become obstructive, and sometimes resemble a warming station. It's important to recognise that professional assistance is essential for this trade.

## 8. LAUNCH YOUR PROJECT

*If you have worked through this method* faithfully, you should now have the basis of a documentation set that you could give to your builder to adequately describe what you want them to build. Assemble your team with care, as the success of your project hinges on the people you collaborate with. It is crucial to engage experienced and skilled tradespeople to bring your vision to fruition. Regardless of your level of involvement – whether you are a DIY enthusiast or prefer a more delegated approach – your project will invariably benefit from a team of exceptional professionals working together to achieve your new kitchen. Engage trades or builders only after you have a well-defined design for your kitchen. Without a solid plan, they have nothing to review or estimate, as most builders prefer to execute construction rather than design. It's advisable to allow the builder, designer, architect, or kitchen designer to hire and oversee the trades, taking full responsibility for the project's delivery. A common scenario involves non-professionals who attempt to engage trades themselves, only to end up with an incomplete construction site and insufficient funds to finish the work. Once you have a definitive design and have selected all fixtures and finishes, obtain a comprehensive cost estimate from a building professional. With this information, you can revisit your design and selections to identify potential cost-saving opportunities. Typically, the same design intent can be realised at various budget levels. **HB**

*Georgina runs a Kitchen Design Masterclass every six weeks through her Ask an Architect platform, with the next one taking place from September 17. Visit [www.askanarchitect.co](http://www.askanarchitect.co).*

**Opposite & this page:** In her Lavender Bay project, Georgina (pictured top) created a harmonious and seamless design with tall utility cabinets 90 degrees to the work and prep zones, and allowed for plenty of circulation around the adjoining living and dining. The neutral materials are both characterful and durable.









*Heritage masterclass*

# ROARING REVIVAL



An Art Deco home is ushered into the 21st century  
with a contemporary renovation honouring its origins

STORY RACHEL WHITE | STYLING BEA LAMBOS | PHOTOGRAPHY STEPHANIE ROONEY



“EACH SPACE FLOWS  
SEAMLESSLY INTO THE NEXT,  
CREATING A HARMONIOUS  
BLEND OF CLASSIC AND  
CONTEMPORARY STYLES”

MARTINE, INTERIOR DESIGNER





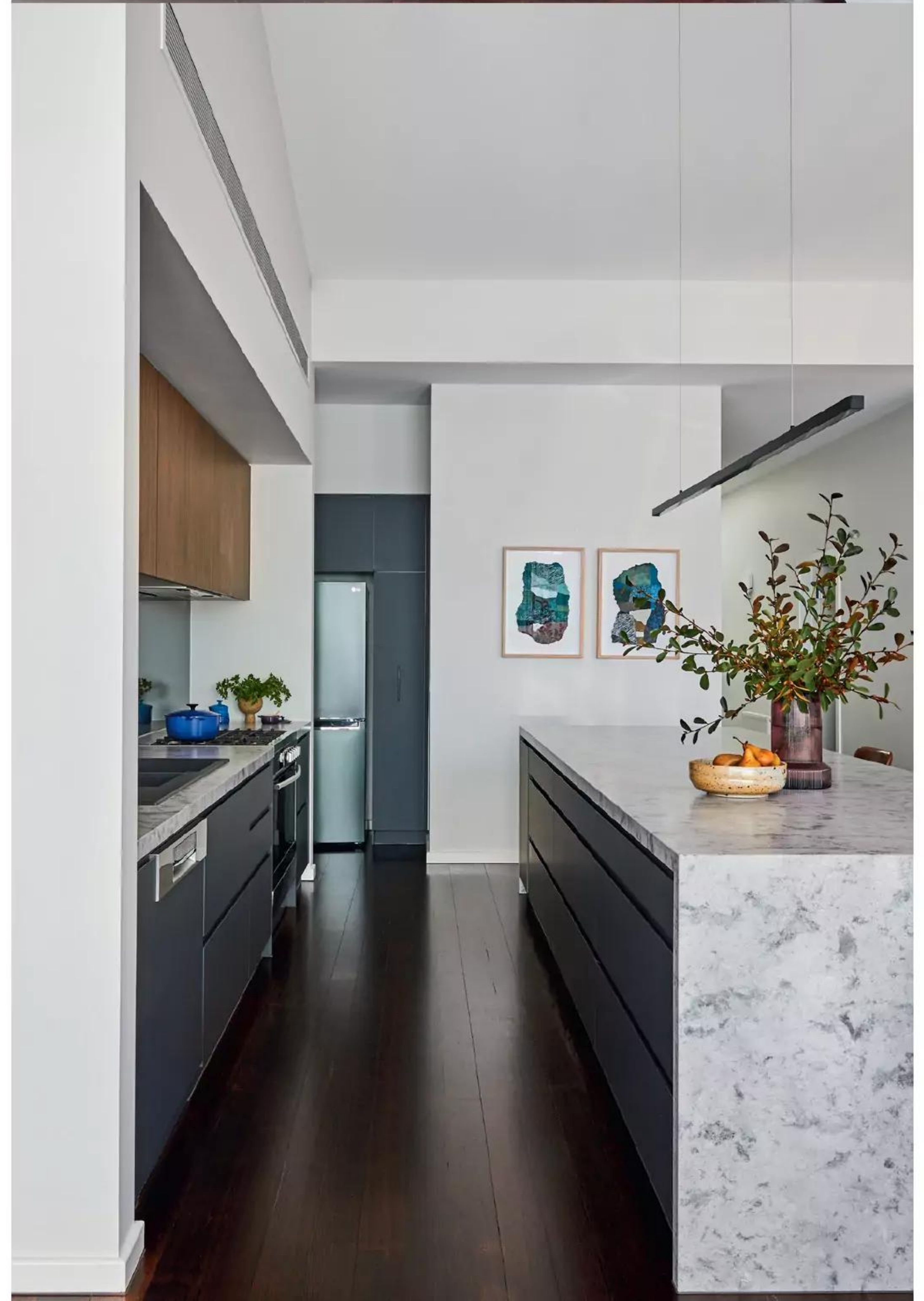
Located on the tree-lined streets of a former Golf Links Estate, Jonathon and Alicia's home sits in a historical enclave described by the National Trust as an "outstanding portrayal of the middle-class suburban ideal". Built in Melbourne's Camberwell in the late 1920s and '30s, one century later the area still embodies similar virtues.

"It's a really lovely leafy, green suburb," says interior designer Martine Cooper. "It's a very family friendly area with a lot of grand historical residences, great schools and a strong community." Jonathon and Alicia, who live here with their two young children, have a longstanding connection to the area and wanted to preserve their home's original features, blending them seamlessly with a contemporary extension.

Martine started by taking an inventory of the period features that gave the home its distinctive character. "Knowing they loved the Art Deco style was our starting point," she says. "I took note of features like the fan-shaped door handles in tarnished brass, the terrazzo floors in the bathrooms and portico, and the pink-toned leadlight windows."

Using these details as inspiration, Martine chose shapes, colours and materials for the extension that are in sympathy with Art Deco style. "Trying to match decorative items, like cornicing and ceiling roses, can feel a little contrived," she says. "However, we did repurpose original items if they made sense." This sensitive approach has resulted in a beautiful balance and a contemporary home that offers an authentic nod to Art Deco architecture and interiors.

**Kitchen** A marriage of old and new, Jonathon and Alicia's kitchen (this page & opposite) features Polytec 'Woodmatt' in Florentine Walnut on the upper cabinetry, with Polytec 'Ultramatt' in Lava below. The original floors were retained in a walnut hue. **Kitchen/dining** The vast open-plan area (opposite) inhabits the modern extension. "It's worth thinking about how an extension might change your access to light," says Martine of the sunny space. >





### *Step outside your comfort zone*

“Don’t be afraid to mix things up,” suggests Martine, “particularly in an Art Deco home where tapware, cabinetry and door handles are like the jewellery that brings an outfit together.” Choosing a mix of polished brass, gunmetal and chrome finishes can impart a modern look that takes its cues from the sleek symmetry of the 1920s and ’30s. “I would avoid following the latest trends,” she warns. “Instead, lean into the period features of your home and be a little more adventurous in your material and colour selections.” Taking this sensitive approach will leave your interior with a harmonious look that transcends eras and trends.



### **Designer’s tip**

*Before you start a heritage renovation, take a moment to consider your current and future storage needs. “Old homes tend to be a little short on storage,” says Martine, “so look for opportunities to incorporate clever solutions.” In the dining area (this page), she included both open and closed storage, with the run of cupboards opposite the kitchen also serving as a display ledge.*







***Drinks cabinet** Lo & Co 'Intersect' knobs in Bronze (top left) emulate Art Deco elegance on the drinks cabinet. **Dining** In the dining space (top right), light filters through sheer curtains from In Vogue Blinds. Adding glamour is a Georg Jensen ice bucket, 'Alfredo' salt and pepper grinders and 'Indulgence' champagne cooler (bottom right), near a 'Spaghetti' print by Mariya Rovenko from Forman Art & Framing. **Kitchen** Contemporary appliances offer "easy living" in the kitchen (bottom left). >*





“WE INCLUDED SUBTLE NODS TO  
ART DECO THROUGHOUT THE  
HOME, WITHOUT BEING TOO  
LITERAL” MARTINE, INTERIOR DESIGNER



### *Avoid imitation*

“Don’t try to reproduce the original,” says Martine. “Instead, create subtle connections between old and new.” In this home, the existing flooring was in excellent condition, so the builder sourced a similar hardwood for the extension and Martine chose a finish that would visually unite the two sections. “We worked on a rich matte stain to create a beautiful grounding element throughout the whole home,” she says. “I also chose a mix of old and new feature lighting to create some more subtle connections.” An original ceiling light in the formal living room is accompanied by modern fittings in sympathetic shapes, including ‘Orb’ mirror sconces by Lighting Republic from Light Co in the ensuite, and a custom ‘Caterpillar’ light from About Space Lighting in the dining room.



**Ensuite** Perini ‘Blends’ ceramic tiles in Blush make a bold statement in the ensuite (top right), as do the mirrored Otti Australia ‘Noosa’ shaving cabinets and custom recycled messmate vanity by CH Furniture. **Bathroom** Grey abounds in the bathroom (bottom left & right), with finger tiles in Super White and ‘Wynston’ terrazzo-look porcelain tiles in Grigio, both from Perini. **Living** A custom ‘Milan’ swivel chair from Arthur G juxtaposes a Cadrys Persian-style rug in the formal living zone (opposite). **HB**





# *FUN FAMILY* GETAWAY

AN AMAZING FOUR-DAY BREAK WITH CARNIVAL CRUISE LINE  
GAVE OUR DIGITAL EDITOR A MUCH-NEEDED REFRESH.

When Digital Managing Editor Olivia Clarke was given the opportunity to take her family on a four-day cruise from Sydney to Moreton Island, she jumped at it.

"If there really is such a thing as work-life balance, I have not been experiencing it lately!" laughs Olivia. "Juggling a full-time job with a long commute, a home renovation and a toddler has meant little downtime for the past few years."

"With the renovation coming to an end and another baby on the way, my husband and I agreed it was a good time for a break."

## TIME TOGETHER

The promise of no cooking, poolside mocktails and endless entertainment for their son sounded too good to be true. But it was the prospect of quality time together as a family that was the real clincher.

"As a first-time cruiser I was

apprehensive, but as soon as we stepped aboard that disappeared," says Olivia. "The glorious sunshine and breathtaking view of the harbour from the deck, as well as our son's excitement at the sheer size of the ship, was so amazing."

## FANTASTIC FOOD

Olivia feels the fresh, delicious food exceeded all expectations, with multiple buffet options for meals.

"We were spoiled for choice with wood-fired pizza available almost 24/7, a deli, Guy's Burger Joint slinging all-American burgers and fries for lunch, and a choice of three restaurants for dinner," explains Olivia.

The highlight of the trip was a fine-dining meal at Fahrenheit 555. "The food and service were amazing, and my husband vows his steak was the best he's ever had," reveals Olivia. "Even the mac and cheese was magnificent."

## ENDLESS FUN

When it comes to entertainment, Carnival caters to kids of all ages. There's a water slide for bigger kids (and adventurous adults), the Splash Zone for toddlers and younger children, putt putt golf and ping-pong, a games arcade and lolly shop, plus special workshops and themed events. Olivia and her son were even lucky enough to attend a *Thing 1 and Thing 2 Birthday Breakfast* while aboard.

## ADULTS-ONLY ESCAPE

As much as she loves days with her family, Olivia was keen to enjoy time out in the adults-only pool and, most importantly, the spa.

"With a sauna, thermal suite and steam rooms, the Cloud 9 day spa was just what I needed," she enthuses. "Their five-star treatments are guaranteed to rejuvenate and relax even the most sleep-deprived parents!"



## ALL ABOARD

Enjoy plenty of inclusions on a Carnival cruise.

## FOOD

- All main meals, either dining room or buffet style
- Burgers, pizzas, deli-style sandwiches and soft-serve ice-cream bar
- Speciality foods on some cruises including speciality Indian (on *Carnival Splendor*) and tacos/burritos (on *Carnival Luminosa*)
- Brunch on sea days

## FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES

- Seuss at Sea kids' entertainment including Seuss-a-Palooza Parade and Seuss-a-Palooza Story Time
- Turtles program (for kids under two)
- Zumbini
- Space Cruisers™
- Camp Ocean
- Mini golf course (on *Carnival Splendor*)
- Thrilling Green Lightning water slide (on *Carnival Splendor*)

## ENTERTAINMENT

- Theme nights
- Showtime with dancing and singing waiters in the main dining room
- Punchliner Comedy Club – live comedy acts with family-friendly and adults-only options
- Live shows, entertainment, music, trivia, bingo, casino and movies on the big screen in the pool area

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [CARNIVAL.COM.AU](http://CARNIVAL.COM.AU)





# BEAUTIFUL FOOD

EASY AND DELICIOUS FOOD TO SHARE WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS



PHOTOGRAPHY CATH MURSCAT

THE  
GOOD  
LIFE  
PAGE 142



*Breakfast is served on the balcony at the farm.*







# THE GOOD LIFE

Rustle up family meals that are simple, tasty and nourishing  
with recipes from new book *The Good Farm Cookbook*

RECIPES SCOTT GOODING & MATILDA BROWN | PHOTOGRAPHY CATH MUSCAT



## Grilled Eggplant & Lentil Salad with Lemon-Mint Dressing

Serves 2

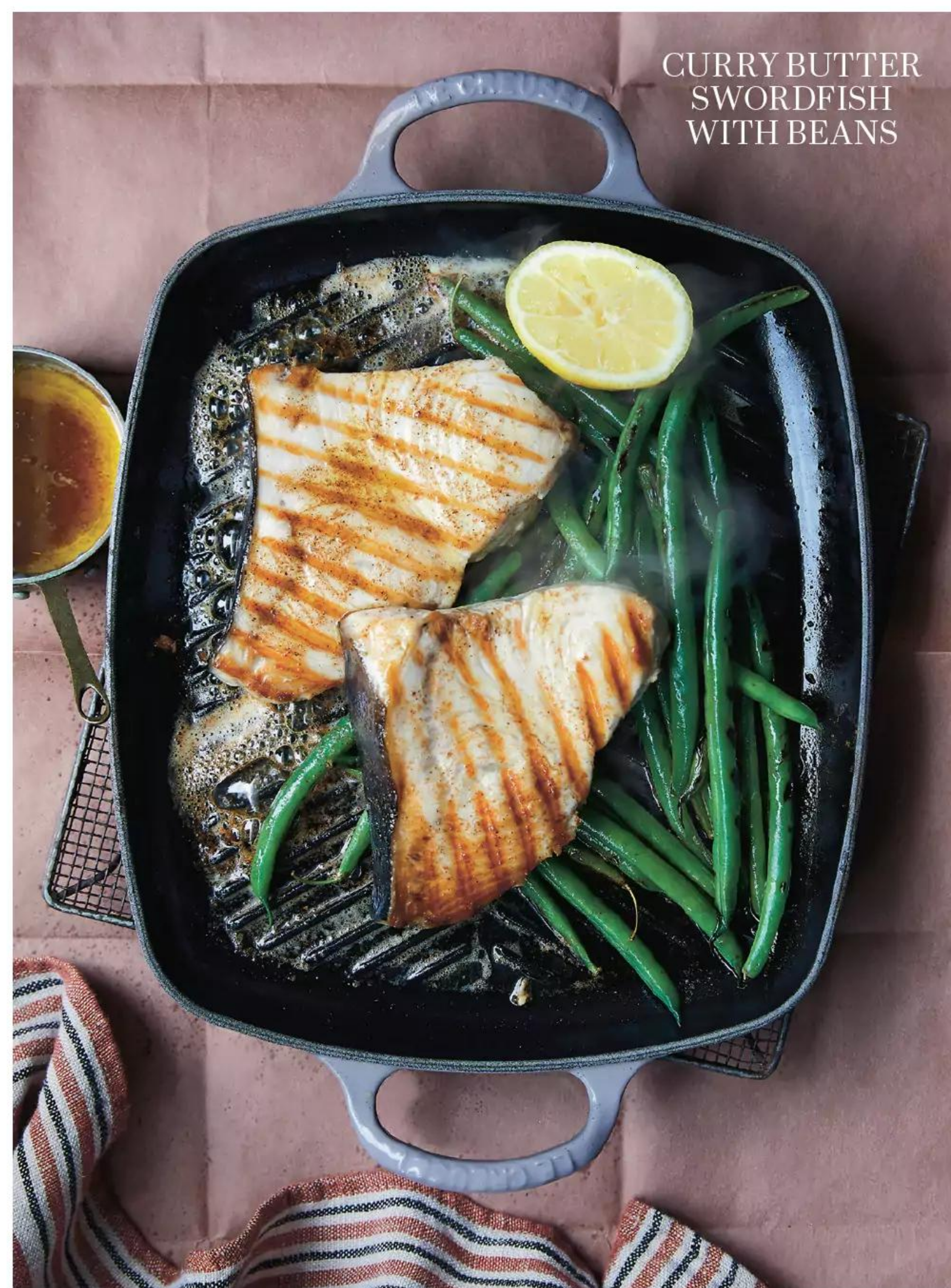
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|--|---|
| 2 medium eggplants, trimmed and cut into wedges                | $\frac{2}{3}$ cup (100g) crumbled feta (optional)   |
| 2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil                                  | $\frac{1}{4}$ bunch mint leaves                     |
| 1 tsp ground cumin   |   |
| 1 tsp smoked paprika   |   |
| 1 cup (200g) tinned green or brown lentils, drained and rinsed | <b>Lemon-mint dressing</b>                          |
| 1 cup (150g) mixed cherry tomatoes, halved                     | $\frac{1}{4}$ cup (60ml) extra-virgin olive oil     |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ preserved lemon (optional), roughly chopped      | $\frac{1}{4}$ cup (60ml) lemon juice                |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ cup (40g) pine nuts, toasted                     | 1 tsp honey   |
|  | $\frac{1}{4}$ cup (15g) mint leaves, finely chopped |
|  | 1 tsp dijon mustard                                 |

- 1 Preheat your barbecue (if you have one) or a chargrill pan to a medium-high heat.
- 2 In a large mixing bowl, combine the eggplant, olive oil, cumin and paprika. Season and place on the hot barbecue or in the chargrill pan. Cook for 2-3 minutes on each side or until lightly charred. Remove from the heat and set aside.
- 3 Combine the ingredients for the dressing in a jar, seal and shake vigorously. Or you can whisk them by hand in a bowl. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
- 4 In a serving bowl or dish, combine the lentils, eggplant, tomatoes and preserved lemon, if using. Drizzle the dressing on top and toss lightly to mix. Garnish with the toasted pine nuts, feta (if using) and mint leaves. Check and adjust the seasoning and serve.

## Curry Butter Swordfish with Beans

Serves 2

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 2 Marine Stewardship Council-certified swordfish steaks | <b>Curry butter</b>                |
| 1 tsp coconut oil                                       | 3 tbsp coconut oil                 |
| 80g green beans, trimmed                                | $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp ground ginger    |
| Zest and juice of 1 lime                                | $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp ground coriander |
| Lemon juice, to serve                                   | 1 tsp garam masala                 |
|   | 1 tsp ground cumin                 |
|   | $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp curry powder     |
|   | $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp chilli powder    |
|   | $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp ground cinnamon  |
|   | 200g salted butter                 |



CURRY BUTTER  
SWORDFISH  
WITH BEANS

- 1 Remove the swordfish from the fridge 30 minutes prior to cooking.
- 2 For the curry butter, heat the coconut oil in a frying pan over medium heat. Add all the spices and lightly fry for 5 minutes or until aromatic. Remove from the heat and set aside to cool to room temperature. Place the butter in a food processor and add the cooled spice mixture. Blitz for 20 seconds, or until combined. Transfer the butter to an airtight container.
- 3 Season the fish and heat the coconut oil in a frying pan or chargrill pan over a medium-high heat. Add the fish steaks and cook for 1-2 minutes before adding  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup (125g) of the curry butter (the rest can be stored in an airtight container in the fridge for up to 1 month). Spoon the melted butter over the fish to coat. Cook for another 3 minutes before flipping the fish over and cooking on the other side for another 2-3 minutes, or until thoroughly cooked. Remove from the heat.
- 4 Meanwhile, bring a small saucepan of salted water to the boil and drop in the beans. Return to the boil and blanch the beans for 2-3 minutes before draining. Or you can chargrill the beans in a chargrill pan for about 8 minutes over a medium-high heat.
- 5 Taste the fish and adjust the seasoning, then finish with the lime zest and a squeeze of lemon or lime. Serve with the green beans.



## Easy Peri Peri Chicken

Serves 4

½ cup (80ml) extra-virgin olive oil  
6 garlic cloves, minced  
2–3cm piece ginger, peeled and grated  
1 tsp smoked paprika  
1 tsp sweet paprika  
½ tsp cayenne pepper

2 tsp dried oregano  
Juice of 1 lemon, plus extra for drizzling  
800g boneless, skin-on chicken thighs charred  
Lemon halves, broccolini and radicchio wedges, to serve

**1** In a large bowl, combine all the ingredients except the chicken, lemon halves, broccolini and radicchio. Mix thoroughly. Add the chicken thighs and mix to ensure they are well coated with the sauce.

**2** Preheat oven to 190°C. Heat a large ovenproof frying pan over medium heat and add the chicken. Cook the fillets for 3–4 minutes, or until the chicken is caramelised, before turning over and cooking for another 3–4 minutes on the other side.

**3** Transfer the pan to the oven and bake for 5–7 minutes until cooked through.

**4** Transfer the chicken to a chopping board. Allow to rest for 3–4 minutes before roughly chopping. Drizzle with some lemon juice, season and serve with charred lemon halves, broccolini and radicchio wedges. >



EASY PERI PERI  
CHICKEN



## Bryan's Steak & Chips with Black Olive Butter

Serves 2

400g floury potatoes, such as russet, peeled, rinsed and cut into 1.5cm batons	1 tsp dried rosemary
100ml extra-virgin olive oil, plus 1 tsp extra for cooking the steak	2 steaks (eye fillet, scotch fillet, T-bone and rump are excellent choices)
	2 tbsp Black Olive Butter (see below)

- 1 Bring a saucepan of salted water to the boil and drop in the potatoes. Return to the boil before reducing the heat to a steady simmer for 12 minutes.
- 2 Drain, and lightly toss them in the colander to 'rough up' the surface of the potato. Place in a container (uncovered) and freeze for 1–2 hours. Once the potatoes have chilled, preheat the oven to 220°C.
- 3 Place the olive oil in a baking dish with the dried rosemary and put in the oven for 5 minutes before adding the potatoes. Return the dish to the oven and bake for 30–40 minutes, or until golden, turning a few times to ensure the chips are evenly crisp.
- 4 Remove the steaks from the fridge and set aside. With about 10 minutes left on the chips, place a heavy-based frying pan over high heat. Season both sides of the steaks. Add the extra olive oil to the pan and, once hot, add the steaks. If your steak is about 2cm thick, cook them for around 3 minutes on each side for medium rare (adjust the cooking time depending on the thickness of the steak and how you like it cooked). Don't move the steaks for the first 3 minutes – this will create a lovely caramelised crust. Once this has developed, turn them over.
- 5 With 1 minute remaining on the steaks, add 1 tablespoon of the butter to the pan and baste the steaks with it. Once cooked to your liking, remove the steaks from the pan and rest for 2–3 minutes.
- 6 Remove the chips from the oven and season. Place the steak on a serving plate and top with the remaining butter. Serve with the chips and a green salad, if you like.

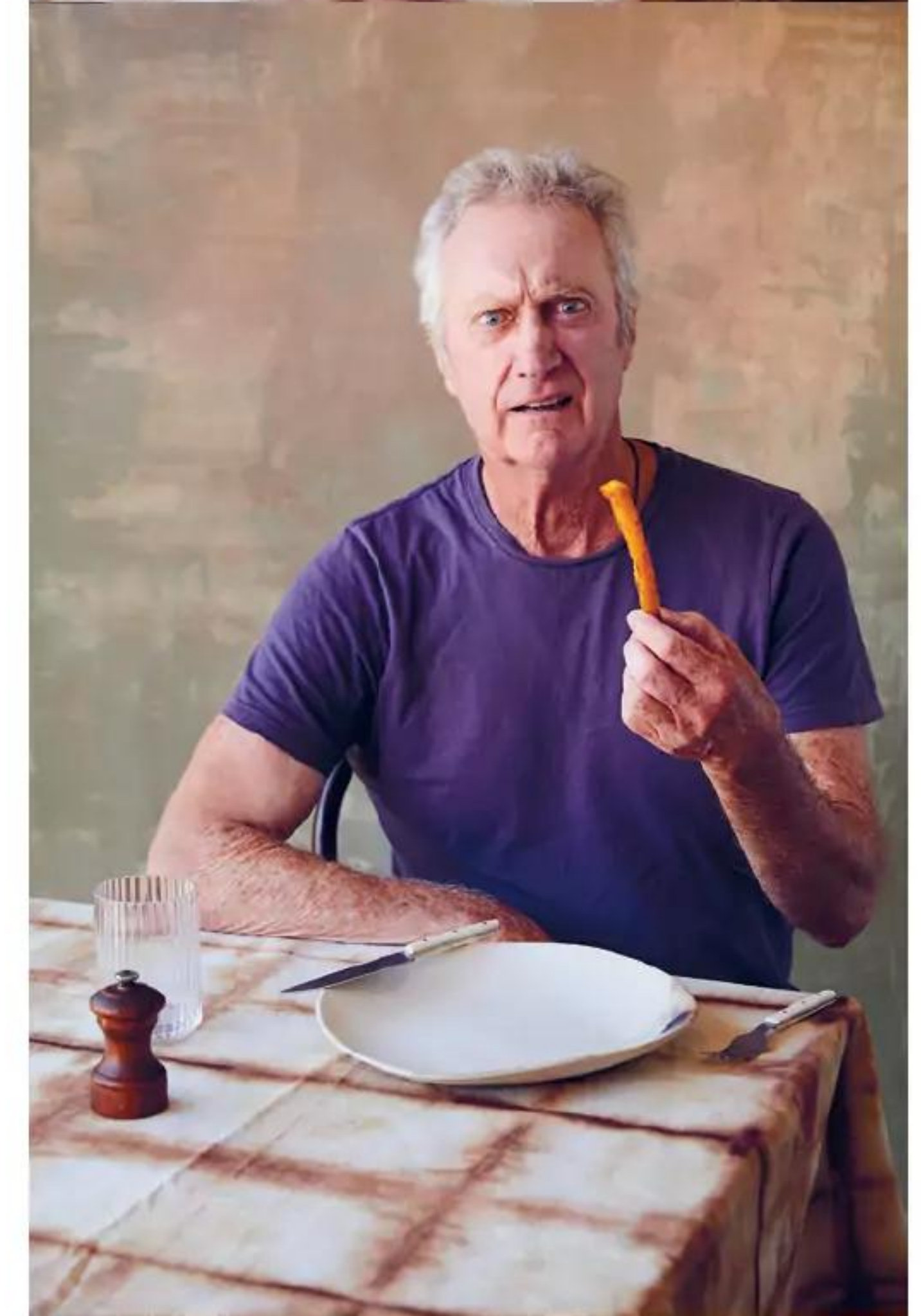
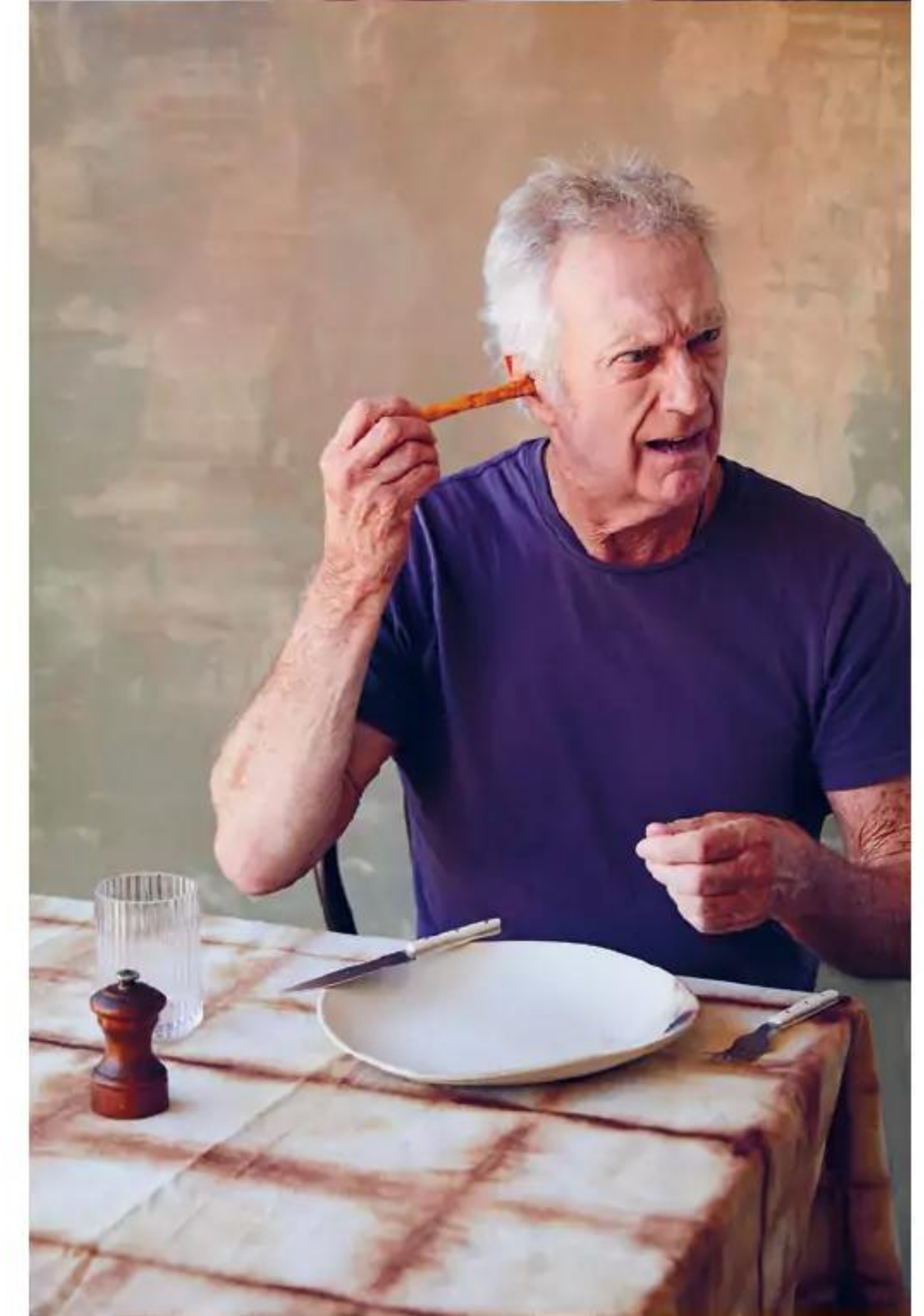
## Black Olive Butter

Makes 175g

150g salted butter	2 anchovy fillets
2 garlic cloves, peeled	¼ bunch fresh parsley
50 g black olives, pitted	

- 1 Combine all the ingredients in a food processor or blender and blitz for 20 seconds or until smooth. Taste and adjust the seasoning, then transfer to an airtight container and store in the fridge for up to 1 month. >

*Matilda's father, Bryan Brown, is a chip off the old block.*





“MY FAVOURITE  
STEAKS ARE  
SCOTCH OR RUMP  
DUE TO THEIR FAT  
CONTENT, AS THIS  
IS WHERE THE  
FLAVOUR IS”

SCOTT GOODING

BRYAN'S STEAK &  
CHIPS WITH BLACK  
OLIVE BUTTER  
*(see opposite)*







BAKED  
SALMON WITH  
ORANGE, DILL  
& PISTACHIO  
KERNELS

## Baked Salmon with Orange, Dill & Pistachio Kernels

Serves 12-14

1.5kg salmon fillet, pin-boned,  
at room temperature  
2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil  
½ cup (70g) pistachio  
kernels, crushed  
¼ cup (15g) finely  
chopped dill

### *Dressing*

Juice of 4 large oranges  
1 tsp wholegrain mustard  
1 tsp honey  
⅓ cup (20g) chopped dill  
⅓ cup (20g) chopped parsley  
100ml olive oil  
1 tsp sumac

- 1 Preheat oven to 180°C. Line a large baking tray with baking paper or foil.
- 2 Place the salmon on the tray, skin side down. Drizzle the oil over the top and season with salt and pepper. Roast in the oven for 25-30 minutes (depending on thickness), or until the core temperature reaches 55°C.
- 3 Meanwhile, put the dressing ingredients in a blender and blitz until combined, then season to taste with salt and pepper. Combine the pistachio and dill in a small bowl.
- 4 Once cooked, remove the fish from the oven and allow to rest for 5 minutes. To serve, pour the dressing over the fish, then scatter the pistachio and dill mixture on top.



## Nectarine & Berry Sorbet with Crushed Macadamia Nuts

Serves 4

4 nectarines, pitted and  
roughly chopped  
150g mixed berries  
(strawberries, raspberries,  
blueberries)

¼ cup (90g) honey, or maple  
syrup  
1-2 tbsp lemon juice  
½ tsp vanilla extract  
¼ cup (35g) crushed  
macadamia nuts, to serve

- 1 In a blender or food processor, combine all the ingredients except the nuts and blitz until smooth. Taste the sorbet base and adjust the sweetness with more honey if needed.
- 2 Pour into a freezer-safe container and cover with a lid. Freeze for at least 4 hours, or until the sorbet is firm.
- 3 When the sorbet is ready, take it out of the freezer and let it sit at room temperature for a few minutes to soften slightly. Once softened, scoop the sorbet into serving bowls or cones and top with the macadamias.

*Matilda (left) is a former writer, director and actress who, along with husband Scott and mother Rachel Ward, is an advocate for regenerative agriculture. Matilda and Scott run The Good Farm Shop, which delivers nutritious ready meals across the east coast.*

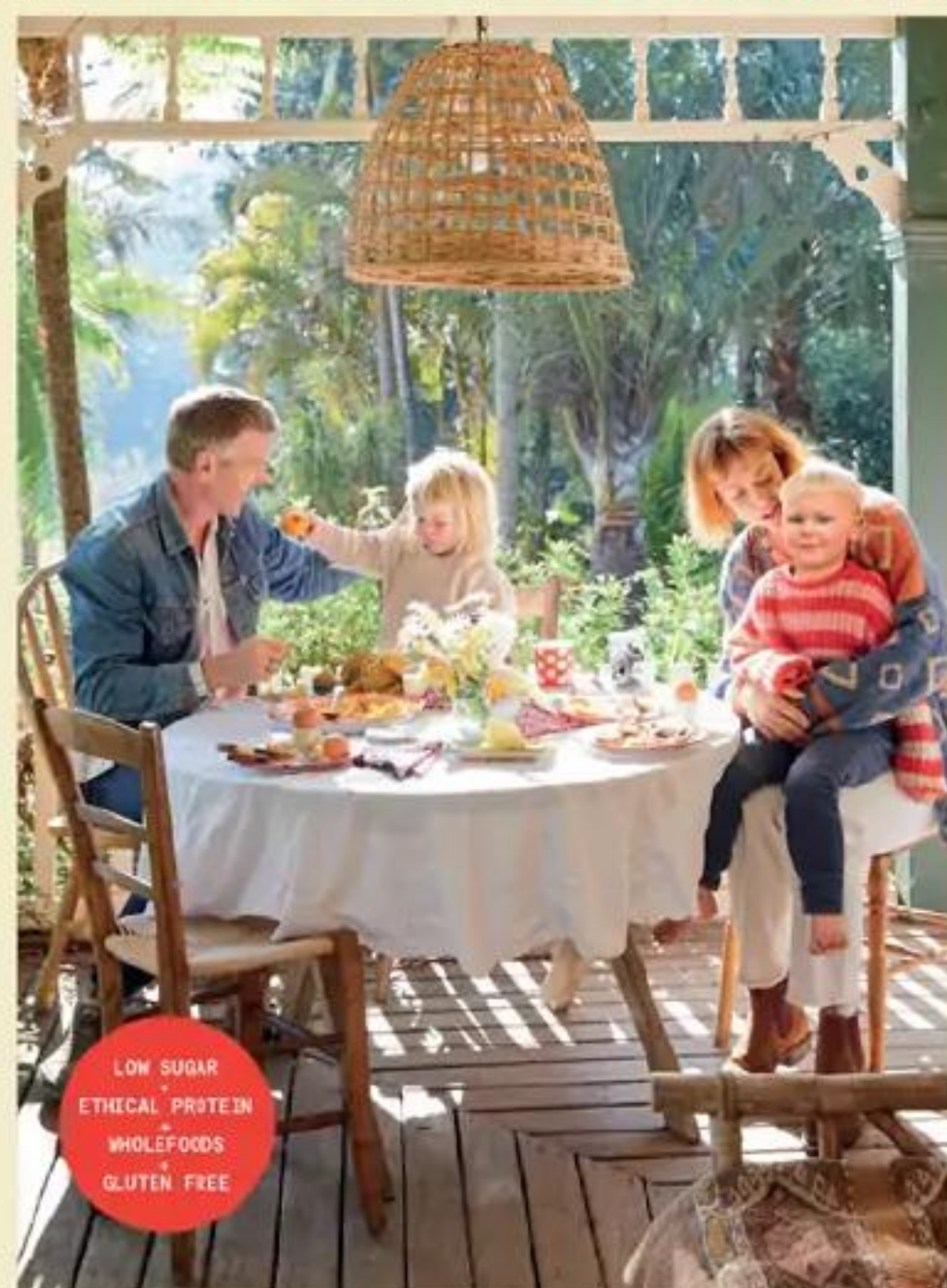


NECTARINE & BERRY  
SORBET WITH CRUSHED  
MACADAMIA NUTS  
*(see opposite)*

## NO-FUSS FARE

*This is an edited extract from  
'The Good Farm Cookbook'  
by Scott Gooding and Matilda  
Brown with photography by  
Cath Muscat, published  
by Murdoch Books, \$39.99. HB*

### The Good Farm Cookbook



Scott Gooding + Matilda Brown





# SHOP IN STORE

WHAT'S NEW THIS MONTH? WE'VE GONE SHOPPING FOR YOU TO DISCOVER THE LATEST PRODUCTS TO HIT THE SHELVES



**TOP ROW: OZ DESIGN** The Batilda dining chair has a contemporary design featuring a boucle fabric seat and Scandi-inspired legs. This piece is the perfect seating option for any dining table. RRP \$229. [ozdesignfurniture.com.au](http://ozdesignfurniture.com.au) **ACMF** Enter The ACMF's National Songwriting Competition. Every year, students from schools across Australia are invited to enter their original song. The competition offers children the chance to showcase their skills and convey their thoughts and emotions through the power of music, performance and songwriting. There are more than \$30,000 worth of prizes to be won. [acmf.com.au/national-songwriting-competition/](http://acmf.com.au/national-songwriting-competition/) **XAVIER FURNITURE** Showcasing quality furniture manufactured from sustainable materials. The Mustique dining chair is a fine example of the work of master artisans, and is available in walnut stain as shown, or stylish black. [xavierfurniture.com.au](http://xavierfurniture.com.au) **SECOND ROW: LUXAFLEX** Reduce cooling energy costs and maintain privacy, UV protection, heat reduction and light control with an outdoor awning like the Evo MagnaTrack. Designed for terraces, patios and large outdoor areas, enjoy year-round comfort and outdoor entertaining with Australia's first and only self-correcting awning system. [luxaflex.com.au](http://luxaflex.com.au) **COMFORT HEAT** Renovating your bathroom? Include floor heating from as little as \$400 DIY. Take the chill out of winter with wonderful warm floors. [comfortheat.com.au](http://comfortheat.com.au) **OZ DESIGN** This season OZ Design wants you to feel that summer isn't escaping, allowing you to inspire and design a home you won't want to leave. RRP \$1199. [ozdesignfurniture.com.au](http://ozdesignfurniture.com.au)



# BEAUTIFUL GARDENS

Australia's climate is vast, leading to diverse landscapes. In our 30-page outdoor special, you'll find four different yet equally stylish gardens, from romantic plantings to a modern balcony





*Fairytale garden*  
**CHILD'S  
PLAY**

This garden makeover saw a new cubby house created with romantic plantings to complement its pretty palette

STORY KATE BARBER | PHOTOGRAPHY ALLIE ASZODI





*Warm welcome Climbing roses with their vibrant blooms greet you at the front door, while their sweet fragrance fills the air and creates an inviting atmosphere. Garden designer Ashley James beautifully transformed the garden beds of this Melbourne home, replacing old plants with lush greenery and delicate flowers that echo the romantic theme of the newly built cubby at the back. >*





“I REPLANTED A LUSH,  
ROMANTIC PALETTE OF  
PASTEL PERENNIALS  
AND CLASSIC ROSES”

ASHLEY JAMES, GARDEN DESIGNER



**C**hildhood memories of playing with her siblings inspired this homeowner to restore her backyard and its beloved cubby house to their former glory. The homeowner, who grew up at the property, now lives here with her husband and their daughters.

Nestled in the backyard of a home in Melbourne, the original cubby was worse for wear and the couple were worried it was not safe enough for their children to play in, so they asked horticulturist and garden designer Ashley James to refresh it and create a fairytale garden. “The original idea was to try to use the existing cubby house and just take it off the stilts,” explains Ashley. “By the time we took it apart, I realised that it was pretty much knackered and just structurally wasn’t there anymore.” While the cubby house needed to be replaced, the back wall was kept as a sentimental nod to the homeowner’s dad, who originally built it.

“The cubby house was covered in a big vine, so we pulled it all out and created the little red brick pathway, built the deck off the front of the cubby house and then created the whimsical

gardens around it as well,” says Ashley. “The idea was to create somewhere that the kids could play, where the parents could see them from inside the house and know that they were safe. We also created a kitchen garden area so the girls could try growing their own fruit and vegetables.”

The rest of the landscape also received some much-needed love, with Ashley pulling up the front garden and replanting the area with romantic flora in an old-world style, such as David Austin roses. “I love the architecture of the house’s facade and the lovely, winding brick pathway. Unfortunately, overgrown shrubs had obscured these features,” says Ashley. “I cleared away most of the unruly shrubs and pruned the trees, allowing sunlight to flood back into the home.”

The couple and their young daughters couldn’t be happier with the result. “The girls spend hours out there and there’s a beautiful tree that the parents can sit under on a bench and watch the girls play or, if the mum is in the kitchen, she can look down to the cubby house and watch the girls run around,” shares Ashley. “They absolutely love it.”



*Up the garden path* The red brick path at the front, which was originally built by the homeowner's father, has new plantings edging it, such as the pink Sedum spectabile 'Autumn Joy' (this page). The path leads past a picturesque swing seat (opposite), which is enveloped by the soft blooms of the banksia rose. >





*Pretty as a picture* The cubby house (this page) is reminiscent of an old Victorian miner's cottage, with its weatherboard walls topped by a corrugated tin roof. Against the fence, an espaliered apple tree (opposite, top) creates a blend of ornamental and edible landscaping. The vegetable patch (opposite, bottom) lets the children interact with the garden, while the upper plantings of Rudbeckia, Gaura and Agastache attract pollinators. >



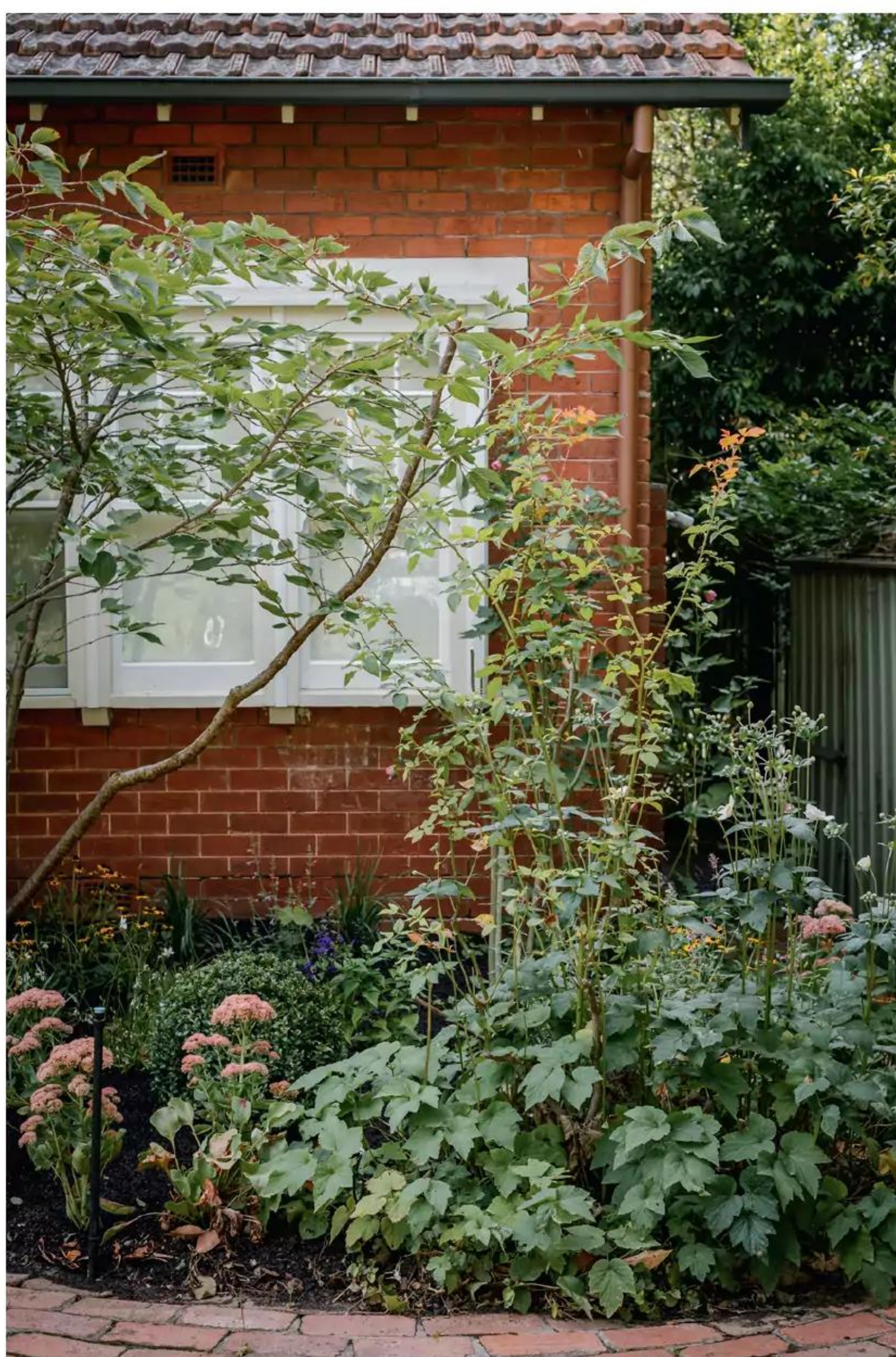




“WE’VE INCLUDED FLOWERS THAT  
WILL ATTRACT POLLINATORS TO THE  
FRUIT AND VEG” ASHLEY JAMES, GARDEN DESIGNER







## COLOUR CUES

Gentle pastel tones and verdant green seamlessly intertwine with the rich, warm bricks of the house and winding path (top left). White Japanese windflowers (top right) dance in the breeze above abundant foliage and are beautiful as a cut flower. Ashley's signature romantic plantings of low-growing Sedum, tall mauve Verbena, Erigeron with its dainty daisy-like flowers, balls of Buxus, and 'Karl Foerster' grass are a beautiful accompaniment to the soft hue of the cubby's door, in Porter's Paints Petal Pink (left).

"I wanted the cubby house and garden to complement each other," explains Ashley. "To achieve this, I chose a clean white for the cubby, and painted the door in a soft pink."



## SOURCE BOOK

### *Garden design:*

Ashley James Gardens,  
[ashleyjamesgardens.com](http://ashleyjamesgardens.com).

**Year-round plantings** An ornamental grapevine brings seasonal colour and charm to the cubby house. Its bountiful foliage will help keep the space cool during the summer months once it becomes established. >







*Waterwise planting*

# BARE IT ALL

Stripping this garden back to its bare bones resulted in a contemporary twist for the classic Perth home

WORDS JULIA FAIRLEY | PHOTOGRAPHY JODY D'ARCY





**Make an entrance** Two ornamental pears (*Pyrus chanticleer*) rise like living pillars (this page & opposite) in a befitting welcome to the stately abode. "The home is classic in its bones and had a very formal garden that required a lot of water, and was not well-suited to Perth's climate. The brief was to make the garden modern and give it a contemporary twist," says Robert Finnie, who redesigned the lush landscapes. >





*Romancing the stone* “A major component of the project was to change the external stone floor, so that Ben’s family and guests could walk barefoot in summer,” says Robert. “For this, we selected ‘Garonne’ limestone from Eco Outdoor.” Robert also planned the lighting. “I focused on two outcomes, the first being wayfinding, highlighting paths and circulation through the garden. The second was mood lighting, which focused on sculpture, trees and feature planting,” he says. Wisteria clothes the existing arbour (this page) beside a front lawn of Palmetto Soft Leaf Buffalo grass. Buxus japonica spheres add structure near the entry.

“THE CLIENT’S MAIN  
BRIEF WAS TO LIFT THE  
GARDEN TO CREATE  
A MODERN TOUCH”

ROBERT FINNIE, LANDSCAPE DESIGNER





## OLD MEETS NEW

The design salvaged the rear kitchen garden (top left), where espaliered passionfruit vines clamber above strappy, mauve-flowering *Tulbaghia violacea*. “It is a good companion species that promotes pollination,” says Robert, who added the Rainbow Stone mix from Creation Landscape Supplies. He also kept the existing evergreen ivy that swathes the wall to one side of the arbour (top right), and underplanted it with *Lomandra* ‘Lime Tuff’. The opposite side of the newly paved path is bordered by *Trachelospermum* ‘Flat Mat’ and, for contrast, *Kalanchoe* ‘Silver Spoons’. Sculptural *Agave desmettiana* and *Aloe plicatilis* form an understory below ornamental pear trees (left). >







**B**alancing classic architecture and contemporary landscaping takes a deft touch, as does designing a garden that flourishes in a bone-dry climate with temperature extremes. These were the conditions facing Ben, who has lived in this Perth home for over a decade with his daughter Milla, 15, and Blue the Australian Shepherd.

“I wanted to create a modern garden that was water efficient but still sympathetic to the classic style of the house,” says Ben. Tasking landscape designer Robert Finnie with a full makeover, the tired cement hardscaping was first to go. “The pavers were dark and could be very hot to walk on in summer,” explains Robert. “Ben wanted to select a stone that was comfortable on bare feet, and the project evolved from there.”

To achieve their end goal, Robert started over from the beginning. “The garden had different iterations over a 20-year period, but no-one had stripped it back to its bare bones,” he says. “We removed 80 to 90 per cent of the garden and what was left were the stone walls, swimming pool and the kitchen garden.” Keeping these elements, he modified the soil, installed new LED lighting, and introduced a silvery limestone that strides through verdant lawns. “The whole house was set up to run entirely on renewables with three Tesla Powerwalls, and all pumps were selected based on efficiency,” he adds.

Robert also replaced existing ailing and thirsty plants with a waterwise palette of ornamentals and succulents, which thrive in the harsh conditions. “Perth is a quintessential dry, hot Mediterranean climate. We get really quick snaps of temperature changes, where it can fall from 40 to 16 degrees Celsius very rapidly, so it was important that the plants could handle that.” And handle it they do, in part thanks to a dripline irrigation system fed by treated bore water, which Robert installed.

With climatic challenges solved, the only remaining hurdle was timing. “It needed to be completed by Christmas and we came down to the wire!” says Robert, who celebrates both the project and its timely delivery. “Ben was great to work with and a dream client in that he just wanted the best,” he says.

**Urban oasis** “I enjoy entertaining guests by the pool and having sunset drinks with friends on the verandah,” says Ben. Teaming with the fan-shaped fingers of *Aloe plicatilis*, a white planter from WG Outdoor Life (top right) softens the rectilinear pool edge. The ‘Mesh’ daybed designed by Patricia Urquiola for Kettal (right & opposite) is perfect for reclining on between dips in the pool. >







## PRECIOUS DROPS

Robert worked with the existing shade structure to create a poolside reclining area (top left). For a similar outdoor lounge setting, try the 'Hemmy' range from Early Settler. A copper Robert Plumb shower (top right) is a handy addition, where a Tribal Friday towel waits. While the lawn utilises a pop-up watering system, dripline irrigation keeps the gardens lush (left). "In Perth, there's a water table below the ground, so you can draw bore water up to irrigate your garden," says Robert. "This can come with complications if you have minerals in the water such as iron, which can stain, but we were fortunate in that Ben's water was quite clean." 'Garrone' limestone from Eco Outdoor caps the pool area.





## SOURCE BOOK

*Landscape design:* Robert Finnie Design, robertfinnie design.com. *Landscaping:* Empire Landscapes, empire landscapes.com.au.

*Succulent scene* Tall ornamental pear trees screen the pool (below), above a sculptural understory of succulents. Agave desmettiana and Aloe plicatilis mingle with Buxus japonica topiary spheres and Trachelospermum 'Flat Mat' groundcover. A potted Crassula 'Bluebird' adds to the succulents. >



*City sophistication*

# ALL-TIME HIGH

The outdoor area of this urban apartment in Sydney was turned into a lively and luxuriant entertainer's delight

STORY REBECCA HOOTON | PHOTOGRAPHY JASON BUSCH

**I**nspired by New York rooftops, this lush balcony upgrade in Sydney doubles the living space for the glamorous family who resides here – Rebecca Jarvie-Gibbs, managing director of creative agency Example, Gary Jarvie, a project consultant, and their 10-month-old son, Otis. “It is our little sanctuary in the sky,” says Rebecca.

Redesigning the outdoor area was a natural next step after the renovation of their interiors. “It was an empty and underutilised space,” Rebecca recalls of the balcony’s original state when they moved in, two years before it was redone to suit their tastes. “We aimed to bring life to the wrap-around balcony, which is what initially drew us to the apartment, due to its size and the beautiful natural light it brought in.”

Having met Sophie Baldwin from Baldwin Botanical Design on one of their previous work projects, the couple turned to the landscape designer to help them make the most out of the space. “Working with Sophie, we decided to treat it as an extension of our living room, with zones that encourage movement and enjoyment throughout the day,” says Rebecca.

No matter the size of the garden she’s designing, Sophie aims to imbue the feeling of a journey. This aligned exactly with her clients’ hopes for their outdoor space. “We envisioned a seamless flow, starting with morning coffee on the bench as the light hits the balcony, drinks by the kitchen as we barbecue in the afternoon, and relaxing on the sofa as the sun sets at the end of the day,” says Rebecca.





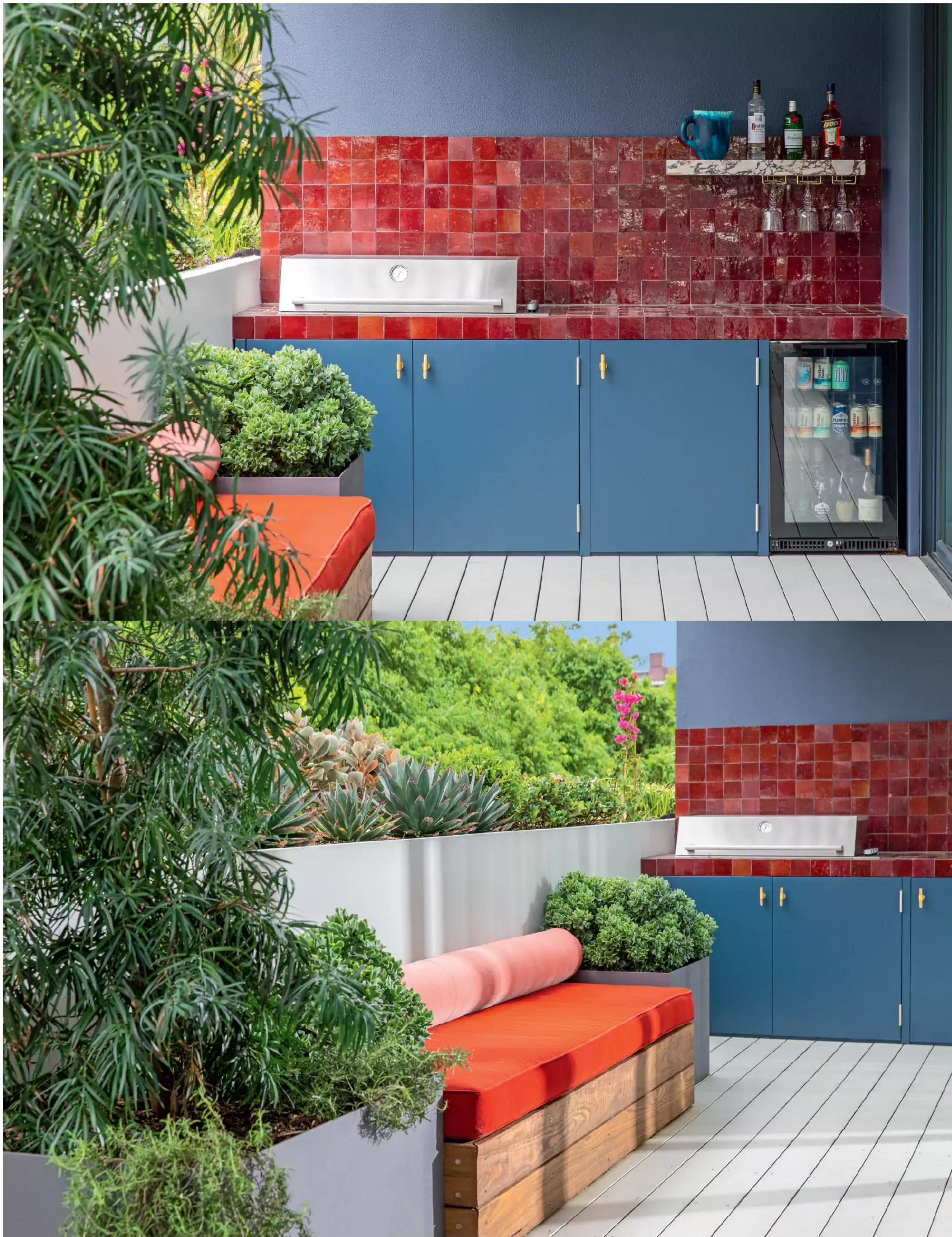
## LIFT OFF

Being an apartment, the installation of this garden wasn't exactly straightforward. "We couldn't get anything in the lift, so we craned the entire garden in," says Sophie. "Those enormous planters were craned in, the barbecue and benches, even bags of soil, everything was craned up and over by Stylish Exteriors." At first glance it doesn't even look like a balcony garden, which was achieved with design tricks. "I did the parapet in a paint colour that looks like the sky," says Sophie. She also used natural grasses instead of mulch where possible. "It makes you feel grounded when you're up high." >





## *Beautiful* GARDENS



***Top of the class** The bench seat was built by OPA Constructions and is between custom planter boxes finished with Murobond Bridge Paint in Titanium. The large one has Podocarpus henkelii and overhanging Rosmarinus prostratus and the small pot holds Crassula undulata. The barbecue bench and splashback feature Surface Gallery Moroccan zellige tiles in Oxide Red, with joinery painted using Dulux Duralloy in Deep Ocean Satin, paired with Lo & Co handles. The 'Decka' table and benches, and 'Ellis' ottomans are all from Grazia & Co. >*









The couple adores vibrant shades and retro furniture, so the interiors by Melhem Design Studio reflect this and it made sense that the balcony should, too. “We love colour and initially thought we would introduce that through flowers, but we were amazed by the impact of focusing on interesting textures and contrasting tones of plants,” says Rebecca.

To maintain cohesion between the indoor and outdoor spaces, Sophie consulted with the home’s interior designer when making decisions around choices for the exterior – it even informed the botanics. “I used the interior design colours as my plant palette,” says Sophie.

The flow allows the family, who are big entertainers, to host a considerable crowd in the apartment. “They’ve had many people over – you can have pre-dinner drinks and a barbecue,” says Sophie. “It’s nice to have all the different areas.”

“THERE’S SOMETHING  
GROUNDING ABOUT  
SEEING TREES WHEN  
YOU’RE UP HIGH”

SOPHIE BALDWIN, LANDSCAPE DESIGNER

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#### SOURCE BOOK

**Landscape design:** Baldwin Botanical Design,  
@baldwinbotanical, [www.baldwinbotanicaldesign.com](http://www.baldwinbotanicaldesign.com).

**Landscape construction:** Stylish Exteriors, @stylish.exteriors.





1



2



3



4

1. The parapet planter behind the bench seat holds hardy *Kalanchoe* 'Copper Spoons' and *Agave* 'Blue Glow'.
2. Drought-tolerant succulent *Euphorbia trigona* 'Rubra' up close.
3. A cluster of pots features a *Euphorbia trigona* 'Rubra' (back), *Strelitzia reginae* (front right) and *Peperomia*.
4. Plum-coloured *Aeonium* 'Schwarzkopf' is paired with *Zoysia tenuifolia* underplanting.
5. Spectacular succulent *Agave geminiflora* adds an architectural flair.
6. *Kalanchoe* 'Copper Spoons' (back) and *Agave* 'Blue Glow' brings a silvery touch to the rich plant mix.
7. *Santolina chamaecyparissus* (back) and prostrate rosemary (front).
8. Sunny yellow *Santolina chamaecyparissus* goes well with burgundy *Alcantarea imperialis*. >



5



6



7



8



*Beautiful* GARDENS

*Sustainable & productive*

# WORK OF ART

This garden perfectly balances all the clever design of a productive garden with an abundance of style

STORY BRITTANY SMITH | PHOTOGRAPHY MARNIE HAWSON







*Busy bees* For a young family of four in inner-city Melbourne, sustainability was top of mind when they knocked down their old weatherboard house and built a forever home (opposite). STEM Landscape Architecture & Design created the garden to attract pollinators, including painted lady butterflies (pictured), which love the native strawflowers. >



## Beautiful GARDENS

**T**his garden in inner-city Melbourne is the full package of beauty and brains thanks to a dramatic yet considered transformation. When husband and wife Anthony and Christine bought the property in 2014 the house was a dilapidated bungalow and the yard was completely overgrown. It wasn't until 2021, when their son Isaac was 10 and their daughter, Sophia, was eight, that they finally decided to do a knock down and rebuild in order to create their forever family home. With help from Ben Callery Architects and Emmaline Bowman from STEM Landscape Architecture & Design, they set about creating their dream home and garden, with sustainability front of mind.

"It was the number one design principle," shares Anthony. Christine agrees, adding, "If you're going to build a new house, I feel like there's a responsibility to be as sustainable as you can." While they agreed on that approach, which informed much of the planting palette, they also had their own priorities. For Anthony, creating a productive garden filled with fresh, seasonal produce was key while Christine really wanted a calming oasis with natural beauty that she could enjoy.

Emmaline found the perfect balance between the two in a layered approach, where every element complements each other. The use of native plants led to a hardy, drought-resistant and water-wise garden that also encourages a wide range of pollinators, from bees and butterflies to birds. These frequent visitors, in turn, help Anthony's produce to flourish. It's a symbiotic relationship but Emmaline never let beauty fall to the wayside. Function and style are inseparable here.

"There's a perception that native gardens aren't as visually interesting but the flowers and the colour are mindblowing," shares Anthony. There's a sense of movement too, thanks to native grasses and beloved pollinators. This creates what Emmaline dubs a "wild Australian meadow" look that stuns not just the family but passersby, too. "The amount of people that take photos is phenomenal," says Christine, who watches it all from her office window, in the front of the house.

*Free flowing Sawn basalt pavers lead from the street to the front door, with lush groundcover in the form of *Dichondra repens* weaving between the steps. Emmaline intentionally limited the amount of hardscaping in the garden to evoke a sense of wild wonder. Upstairs on the balcony, *Syzygium* peeks out above the blackbutt timber cladding. Christine's home office is situated beside the entrance, with gum vine growing in front for privacy.*





## FRONT FACING

“Front gardens tend to be a visual piece these days, instead of functional,” explains Emmaline. But with this build enjoying a north-facing orientation, she saw the opportunity to make the most of the bountiful sunshine. “We wanted to make the front this vibrant space where you can see it all working.” Recycled timber sleepers create a subtle boundary while still allowing an almost unobstructed view of the bustling space. The garden was also designed to complement the warmth of the home’s recycled red bricks, blackbutt timber cladding and Weathertex finished in Dulux Colorbond Night Sky. >







1. *Poa labillardierei* is a native grass species which produces small seeds that feed small, local birds.  
 2. *Xerochrysum viscosum*, also known as sticky everlasting, is a common daisy native to south eastern Australia.  
 3. A hardy groundcover, *Isotoma axillaris* is indigenous to Victoria and attracts native blue-banded bees.  
 4. Bees love *Xerochrysum viscosum*.  
 5. A natural carpet of groundcover comes in the form of *Dichondra repens*, *Pittosporum* 'Miss Muffet' with foliage from *Orthrosanthus multiflorus*.  
 6. Shades of yellow reign supreme, including in *Xerochrysum bracteatum*, 'Lemon Princess'.  
 7. *Scaevola mauve* clusters introduce purple into the colour palette.  
 8. Kangaroo paw 'Autumn blaze' adds height to the garden.







## Beautiful GARDENS

### SOURCE BOOK

**Architecture:** Ben Callery Architects, [bencallery.com.au](http://bencallery.com.au).

**Builder:** Keenan Built, 0419 366 394.

**Landscape design:** STEM Landscape Architecture & Design, [stemlandscape.com](http://stemlandscape.com).

*Water wise* The Biofilta garden beds from Foodcube have large built-in water reservoirs, meaning Anthony and Christine can go on holidays for extended periods without worrying about their growing produce. Corten steel covers the beds, adding warmth and character, plus durability. >





## OUTDOOR ESSENTIALS

Deck your alfresco areas with fresh greens, crisp white and a sophisticated dash of black

1. 'Anduze' planter, \$139/medium, Pottery Barn. 2. Cabana Package A, from \$5110, King. 3. Pretty Homestyle 'Green Hydrangea Garden' melamine salad plates, \$44.95 each, Home Beautiful Shop. 4. Unawatuna 'Premium' beach umbrella in Khaki Dash, \$274, Home Beautiful Shop. 5. Barebones garden scissors in Walnut, \$52/large, Backyard Botanist. 6. Wicka 'Parquet' doormat in Herringbone, \$75.95, Home Beautiful Shop. 7. Garden Glory 'Night Rider Kit' hose, \$449, Home Beautiful Shop. 8. Traeger Pro 575 Wifi Pellet Grill, \$1600, Tucker Barbecues.





9. 'Bobbi' boots, \$159.95, Merry People. 10. Kitchen compost bin in Eucalyptus, \$80, Seed & Sprout. 11. 'Hastings Street' bolster in Sage Stripe, \$245/74cm x 18cm, Original Parasol Co. 12. 'Borby' lantern, \$10, Ikea. 13. 'Desert' 3-seater outdoor sofa, \$2299, Harvey Norman. 14. 'Paume' rattan food cover in Whitewash, \$109, Hamptons Style. 15. 'Skyler' outdoor round dining table, \$1999, Harvey Norman. 16. Cane recycled pitcher, \$79, Pottery Barn. 17. Blanc + Dove 'Swepp' silicone unbreakable glasses by Porter Green, \$49.95, Home Beautiful Shop. **HB**



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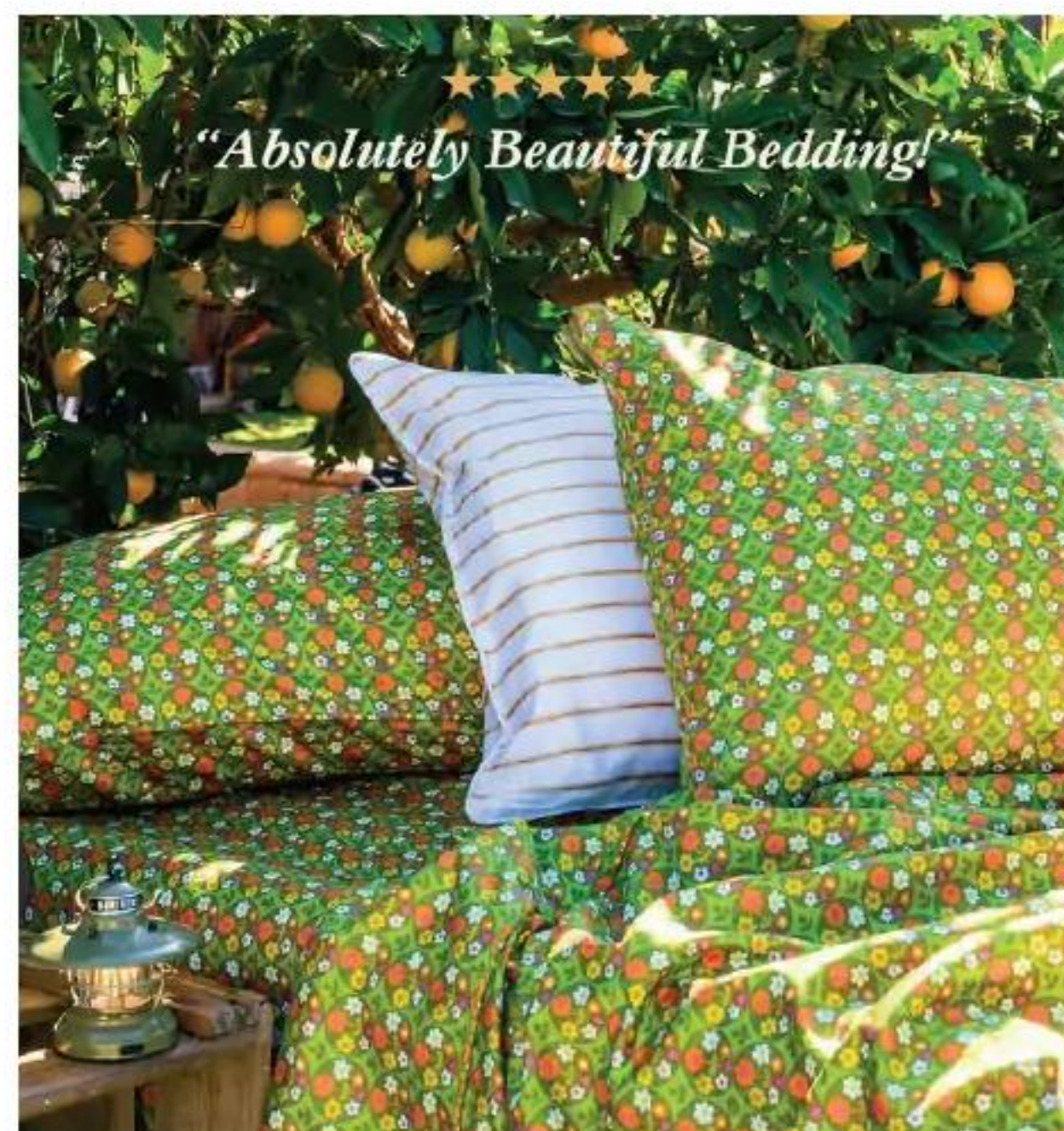
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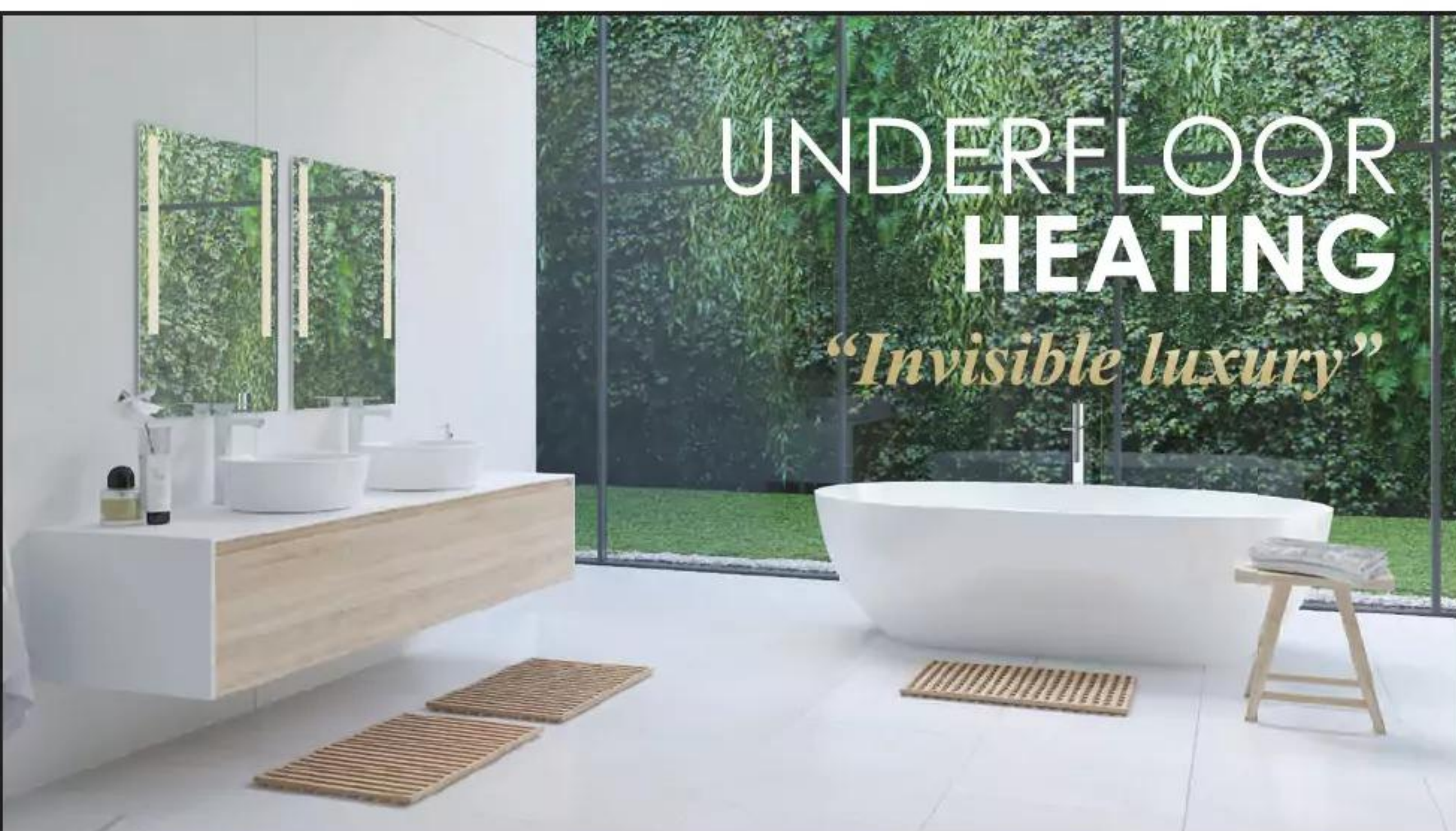
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