

PROJECT PROFILE: Malvern

Looks can be deceptive...

The clients came to us with a challenging brief: transform their small, two-bedroom weatherboard house into a stunning, five-bedroom modern home, with a complete high-spec re-fit throughout all the internal spaces. To us, this was a perfect opportunity to really push the possibilities.

They were an expanding family, and wanted a home that could grow with them as their new additions came along. The clients also loved entertaining, and needed us to get creative with the shared spaces to make their home comfortable, practical and welcoming, as well as great to look at.

Bringing the dream home together

From the start, we truly engaged with the clients to understand their needs, ambitions and dreams for their home, working with them every step of the way from the design process to final completion.

The Californian bungalow-style frontage was a key element the clients wanted to maintain, and we aimed to compliment and continue that character throughout the house.

Working on the main living hub, with hosting activities in mind, we created an expansive kitchen, family and dining area that opens up beautifully through two large-scale bi-fold doors to introduce the covered modern veranda and the lawn. The outside and inside seamlessly blend together, creating a natural walk-through experience.

Excellence in design & craftsmanship

We used Tasmanian oak flooring throughout the interior, which worked incredibly well with the spotted gum decking out the back. The deep, luscious tones of the polished wood were offset by the pure white of the walls and ceilings, bringing extra light and a spacious feel to the interiors.

Using floor-to-ceiling tiles, glass dividers and wide marble wash-stands gave the bathrooms an extra sense of luxury, and continued the 'wow' factor from the main rooms. The final result was a wonderful combination of Californian bungalow features and modern contemporary living, built to the highest of standards with stunning finishes.

Incredible end result

The house may still look like a modest Californian bungalow from the front, but as you walk through the door, you are awestruck by the sense of scale and space. The owners were overjoyed with the result, and you should have seen the surprise on their faces when they stepped through the front door for the first time!

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PROJECT PROFILE: Canterbury

A cover feature project

The clients wanted us to transform the rear of the property into the perfect outdoor/indoor area, with an alfresco entertaining space and a beautifully designed arbor with architectural screening, all constructed around the modern pool.

The challenge here was to make the most of the limited space. We created something really special by attention to detail, varying the materials, colours and textures, and considering how the owners could use every inch of the area. The clients also had a real vision for what they wanted from the space, so working with them was a genuine pleasure, and we were excited to be involved.

Bringing the indoor to the outdoor

Our aim was to create a relaxed, distinctive outdoor environment while maintaining an element of seclusion within this urban setting. Access from the main house opens onto a covered outdoor living room style area, where you find relaxed seating and a raised caesarstone bench with stools nestled around a stunning modern fireplace.

The area is sheltered by an architectural flat roof embedded with spotlights, designed to match the walls and give the outdoor space an indoor feel. The arbor wraps the building magnificently, presenting additional relaxed seating and adding another layer to the area. It's incredible to be in, both day and night.

Character and detail

The whole project is full of great features that further enhance the space. Something catches the eye everywhere you look - the stone fireplace surrounds, the wall-mounted circular log containers, and the carefully manicured plants in the arbor. But possibly the most distinctive is the recycled post that supports the roof, bringing real character to the area.

The pool and paving has been beautifully appointed, and we enhanced the area further with more outdoor lighting. The whole project shimmers with quality – both in the materials and the craftsmanship.

Media acclaim

This is an amazing setting, where the client and his guests can easily relax in sheltered seclusion, surrounded by a sophisticated design that combines modern materials with mother nature. **Home Beautiful Magazine** agreed, with an article about it in their July '17 issue, and **Melbourne Pool & Outdoor Design** also featured the project on their cover! A great result all round.

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PROJECT PROFILE: Sandringham

Sun, sea and sophistication

The coastal suburb of Sandringham is home to many distinctively-designed houses, and this one is no exception. The clients wanted us to give their property a complete modernisation while keeping all of its inherent beachside characteristics – something we think we achieved perfectly.

The clients had a small family, so wanted a home that was both functional and attractive, and for the work fit within their budget. We immediately engaged with them to go over how we could approach every aspect of the build and continued to work closely to make sure we achieved everything they wanted.

Clean lines and good light

The key feature of this house is its simplicity. We made the best of its clean lines and high ceilings, which give it a sense of spaciousness and open air throughout. It's full of spaces that really know how to catch the light, with the main living area and courtyard facing north to make the most of the sun.

We used beautiful bi-fold doors to further open up the outdoor area to the main living zone, creating a combined space that really is the central hub of the home. To further enhance the use of light throughout the house, and to compliment the clean edges and surfaces, we used a pure white décor to give the whole house a bright, uncluttered feel.

Feeling the quality

Our use of polished Tasmanian oak flooring completely transformed the ground floor of the house, and we complimented the rich tones outside with spotted gum decking. The white walls internally provided the perfect counterpoint to the polished timber, and we continued this theme outside, rendering and painting the external walls to match.

All internal storage was clean, white and uncomplicated, providing graceful solutions that complimented the walls. In the bathrooms, we fitted floor to ceiling tiles with clever niche shelving that lent the house that extra feel of sophistication.

The best of both worlds

From the moment you walk through the entrance, this house has a sense of both luxury and practicality. It's a place where you can entertain in style and sophistication, yet remains a comfortable family home with a warm welcome. And all the while keeping in tune with the neighbourhood and with an eye on the beach!

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PROJECT PROFILE: Thornbury

Opening up your home's spaces

The clients were focused on creating more open-plan living, and we knew this was a project where we could really make a difference. The brief was to completely transform this four-bedroom family home into a stunning high-quality living space, while at the same time maintaining some key character features.

We sat down and helped them through every step, from the design phase until completion, coming up with a plan that conformed to both their requirements and their budget.

Bringing in light and unity

The existing home lacked flow. The rooms were mainly bunched together, with no connection to each other, making the house feel a little segmented and claustrophobic.

Our new design created a fantastic open plan kitchen, dining and lounge area, introducing clean lines, a sophisticated style and hugely improving the light. It's a thing of beauty as you approach from the front door down a wide, airy hallway and see the modern, bright free-flowing space opening up ahead.

We continued this sense of flow with wide, wall to ceiling sliding doors opening onto the alfresco back yard and barbeque area. All external walls were rendered with a smooth, white finish, again achieving our aim to create more space and attract more light.

Millimetre-perfect build quality

We were able to get clever with many of the design aspects, making the construction phase of the project just that bit more affordable, while not compromising on their vision for the house, nor the quality of the build.

We used Tasmanian oak flooring throughout the interior - its rich stained and polished finish works beautifully with the modern white fittings and pure white wall. The kitchen area was fully kitted out with mirrored splash backs, a high-spec double oven and stunning pendants over the island bench - perfect for group entertaining.

In the bedrooms, we were able to keep the attractive ceiling roses and maintain the style of the original home among our updated storage and laundry areas. The bathrooms also gained a touch of luxury with floor-to-ceiling tiles and panoramic mirrors.

Bringing inspiration to the neighbourhood

From the street, this still looks like a suburban home, in keeping with the neighbourhood. But step inside and you find a light, sophisticated interior straight out of a magazine spread. The owners were overjoyed.

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PROJECT PROFILE: McKinnon

The perfect blend of old & new

The clients came to us with a desire to blend the classic with the modern in this spacious 1940s square house. The basic structure of the home already offered generous-sized rooms in every area, with great high ceilings, making it the perfect canvas for us to work our magic.

As enthusiastic entertainers, the clients loved to have visitors, and there were several opportunities throughout the house to create focal points, bringing out the best in the building's innate character.

Classic features and modern design

As you walk into the hallway, the most striking feature of the house is the original staircase, curving up gracefully to the first floor. Reminiscent of a bygone era, it makes the perfect counterpoint to the modern décor, and its polished timber finish blends seamlessly into the beautiful wood flooring

The kitchen is incredibly well kitted out, with a stunning marble-finish server, perfect for a group to gather around. Or alternatively, guests could take seats in the dining area, where the large, single-sheet windows make you feel part of the garden, while the fireplace brings warmth and charm to the space.

Or for a more open-air experience, friends and family can relax in the amazing alfresco barbeque and seating area. It adjoins both the dining room and the kitchen, with one wall open to the outdoors, creating a seamless transit from indoor to outdoor.

Sophistication and style

The bathrooms in this home are almost literally its biggest secret. Generous in size, they were ripe for turning into a luxury experience, with large floor to ceiling tiles, immense mirrors and an impressive free-standing bath.

The living room too has gained the touch of luxury, with the rich, polished wood flooring flowing into it from the hallway, and a character chandelier light fitting bringing the space to life.

Finally, we introduced pure white to most of the walls and ceilings to heighten the sense of space and light. As well as being an excellent accompaniment to the dark wood floor and furniture, as well as the modern fittings, it creates the perfect environment for works of art and craft.

The complete luxury experience

The quality of workmanship and design in this project was second to none. Every area has been updated, equipped and finished to the highest standards, making the absolute most of spaces and bringing a sense of quality to every inch of the house.

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