

By Design

DESIGN EXTERIORS 2022

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Editor's Note

After seeing a well-constructed, attractively designed exterior, whether via a sketch, a rendering, a computerised image, or in its completed, brick and mortar form, a client becomes invested in a design and determined to own the finished product. This is why gifted building designers, with ample assistance from industry partners and their stellar lines of building materials and services, pride themselves on the design and creation of exteriors that -beyond their obvious beauty, also shine in their supreme functionality and endless sustainability.

An exterior is only as good as the sum of its parts: namely, the doors, the windows, the roofs, the facades, the landscapes, the grand entrances, the cornices, the balconies, patios and terraces that come beautifully together, like notes in a symphony, to create a striking, sustainable and cohesive whole. And taken as that magnificent whole, an exterior defines a design.

In this deluxe edition of By Design Magazine, we take a look at the Exteriors that front, formalise and define our finest designs. Let our building designers and industry partners dazzle you with our design artistry, leaving a first impression that lasts a lifetime.

Cover: Are Media

Weathergroove 1200 Woodsman sheets with battens painted Monument - Lake Conjola NSW



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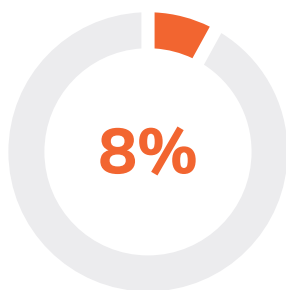
Australia market overview

Construction activity around Australia continues to strengthen, driven by a surge in housing and infrastructure projects.

The ramp up in construction activity, coupled with skilled labour shortages and global supply disruptions are constraining local construction supply chains and causing construction costs to surge. Building material costs are continuing to rise across all states, driven by the increase in domestic activity, higher commodity prices, rising freight costs, and global supply chain disruptions. Additionally, shortages in both professional and trade labour are starting to drive up labour costs in most markets. While international borders have been closed to skilled migrants, construction labour shortages are continuing to increase, with many construction job vacancies remaining unfilled. In 2021, construction costs across New South Wales, Queensland and Western

Australia jumped. In the 12 months to December, construction costs for non-residential projects increased by 8.0 percent in New South Wales, 8.8 percent in Queensland, and 14.2 percent in Western Australia, indicating that the supply chains in these markets are over capacity. Victoria and South Australia experienced less escalation at 1.9 percent and 3.2 percent, respectively. This growth in construction costs is causing considerable challenges on projects under construction and in the pipeline. While we expect there will be further escalation to come in 2022 with supply chain disruptions and labour shortages ongoing, we do not anticipate there will be the same level of escalation that occurred in 2021.

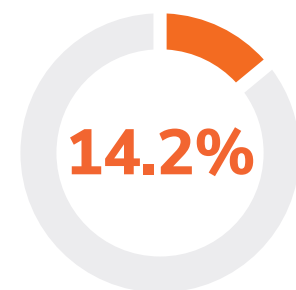
IN THE 12 MONTHS TO DECEMBER, CONSTRUCTION COSTS FOR
NON-RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS INCREASED BY



New South Wales



Queensland



Western Australia



Designer: Andrew Moseley

Victoria

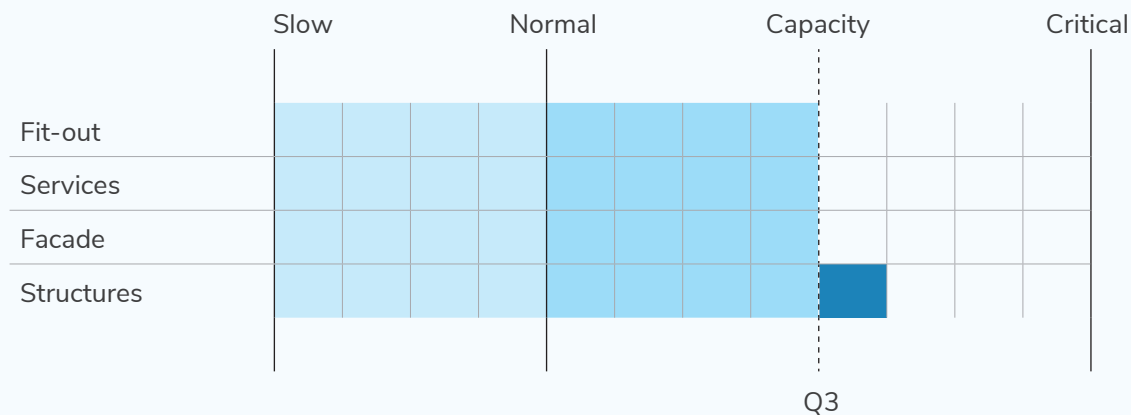
Construction market activity has been sustained at recent levels, despite several disrupting factors resulting from the continuing pandemic. The impact of supply constraints and upward pressure on pricing is having negative impacts on the progress and completion of projects under construction and will likely impact the viability of future projects. We are now seeing main contractor's margin in the region of four percent.

We expect market activity to continue at current levels or to increase over the next six months. The pandemic's impact on influencing changes in workplace, retail and social trends is driving new development opportunities, in addition to ongoing increases in sectors such as residential, data centres and life sciences. There was significant tendering activity in the last quarter of 2021 which, combined with pandemic related supply chain

and material price pressures, contributed to the recent high levels of price escalation in the market. The recent COVID-19 Omicron strain is having serious impacts on the ability of contractors to complete projects, maintain cashflow, and therefore stay afloat, which has been evidenced by several contractors going under around the state.

The focus on sustainability continues and is being driven by governments, developers and end users. We are seeing tenants driving sustainable outcomes for their office environments and increasing NABERS and Green Star targets. The use of recycled materials in construction is increasing and is being driven by the state government through Sustainability Victoria, with several funding sources available to promote the circular economy.

Supply chain capacity in Victoria, Q4 2021





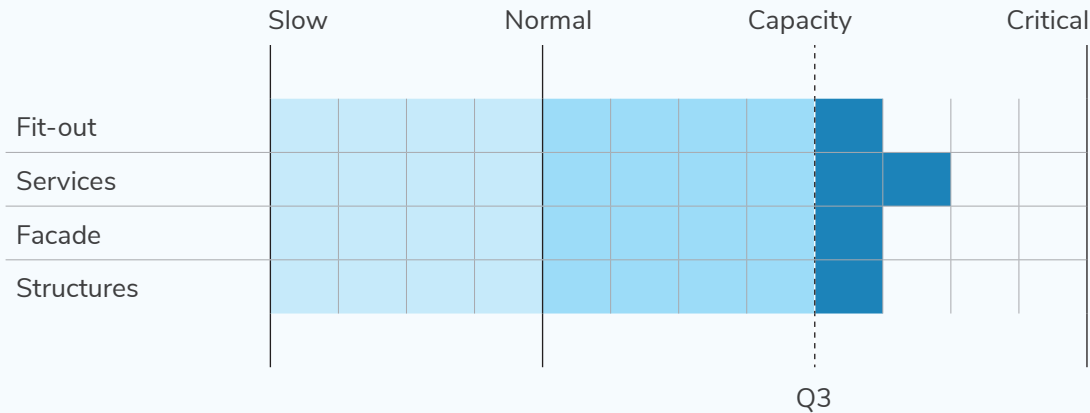
Designer: Salvatore Chiodo

New South Wales

The supply chain is continuing to face pressure due to international supply chain constraints and local labour shortages, which is driving up costs in the market. The labour constraints are not only confined to construction sites either, with the majority of stakeholders reporting difficulties in securing workers. Market sentiment on the outlook is still positive, supported by a steady pipeline of work, especially from the public sector with spending across transport, schools and hospitals. Contractor's margins are recovering to pre-COVID-19 levels. This, combined with increased trade costs, is continuing to push up the price of construction works and we are seeing

this through cost escalation. COVID-19 has continued to have an impact on construction sites, with many sites experiencing a reduced workforce in the region of 15 percent – 20 percent as workers were forced to self-isolate amid the recent Omicron COVID-19 outbreak. This is continuing to have an impact on project schedules. There has been an increase in tendering activity over the last quarter with a rise in the number of enquiries for works related to data centres and industrial facilities. Global corporates are continuing to commit to capital works to retain and attract talent, as well as to reduce their footprint as they move to a hybrid working model.

Supply chain capacity in New South Wales, Q4 2021





Designer: Tony Taouk

Newt's
Swales

Queensland

The Queensland market remained heated over Q4 2021, which is forecast to continue through to mid-2022. Capacity within the supply chain in Southeast Queensland is becoming extremely limited with many trades already at capacity. In regional Queensland, projects are experiencing significant capacity issues due to skills shortages and over demand. We are now seeing main contractor's margins in the region of 5.5 percent.

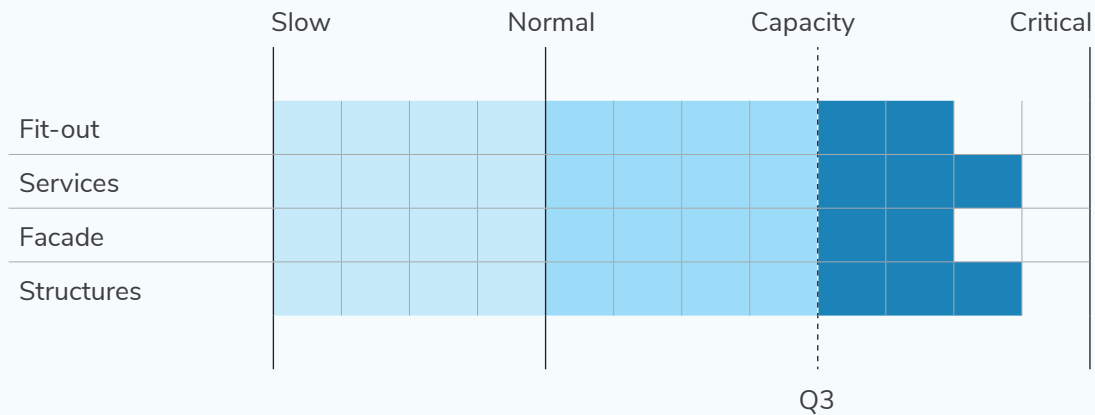
Dexus's \$1bn waterfront redevelopment project is expected to commence construction later in 2022, this along with the next phase of the Queens Wharf integrated resort development will put further pressure on the availability of trades in the Southeast Queensland region. We have also observed several commercial projects, which were previously on hold, now proceeding. Public sector projects continue to

dominate the market, with significant activity in the roads, health, education, and defence sectors.

There has also been an increase in office fit-out related projects as large corporates reassess their office accommodation needs as businesses move towards a hybrid working model.

Net zero continues to be a hot topic for clients and we are seeing increasing enquiries from our existing client base around carbon capture pricing as well as general enquiries about how we can assist them with their own net zero ambitions. Clients are also becoming more focused on meeting carbon footprint targets for live projects. This is resulting in the consideration of non-traditional construction materials and techniques, for example, increased interest in timber frame buildings rather than traditional concrete.

Supply chain capacity in Queensland, Q4 2021



Western Australia

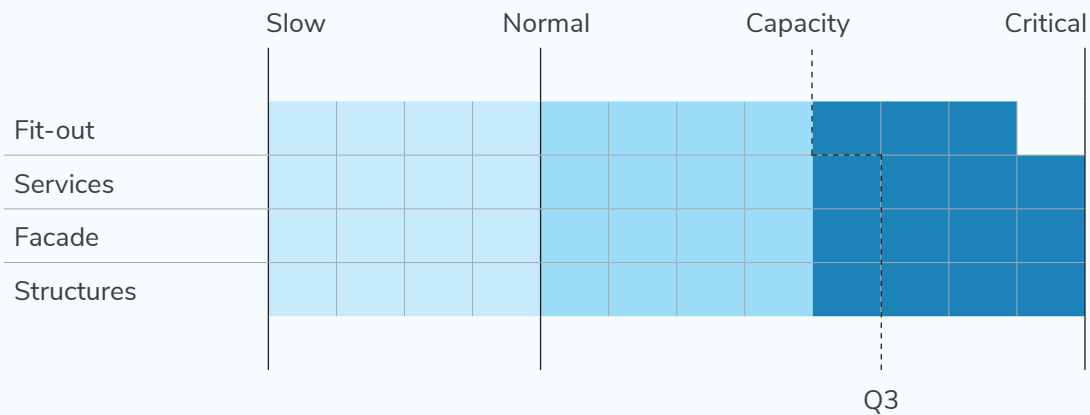
The Western Australian construction market is suffering from a skills and materials shortage because of the reduction in interstate and international skilled labour migration. This is increasing cost, time and quality pressure in the construction market with significant volatility being experienced in civil, concrete and steel prices with cost increases up by 40 percent for specialist trades. We are now seeing main contractor’s margin in the region of eight percent.

The government’s accelerated multisector stimulus drive has increased tender prices due to the limited availability of skilled labour and materials. There are significant cost increases in civil construction, steelwork, concrete and reinforcement due to the unavailability of skilled labour in these trades. This supply and demand impact will be exacerbated by a restriction in overseas skilled labour entering Western Australia which will likely result in a lack

of competition in labour rates and, in turn, will drive a price spike over the next quarter and beyond.

Other contributing factors relate to the migration of skilled trades and materials being consumed by the residential sector boom because of the government incentivisation schemes released in response to the pandemic. The education and food retail sectors have demonstrated strong growth through a mixture of government investment and capital funds being invested to enable improved operations aimed at increasing consumer convenience. Western Australia has witnessed multiple contractors experience financial difficulties over the last six months with recent examples of insolvency events in the market. Cashflow is king for the supply chain now and all parties should appreciate that as costs rise, prompt payment to maintain cashflow is critical for contractor survival.

Supply chain capacity in Western Australia, Q4 2021

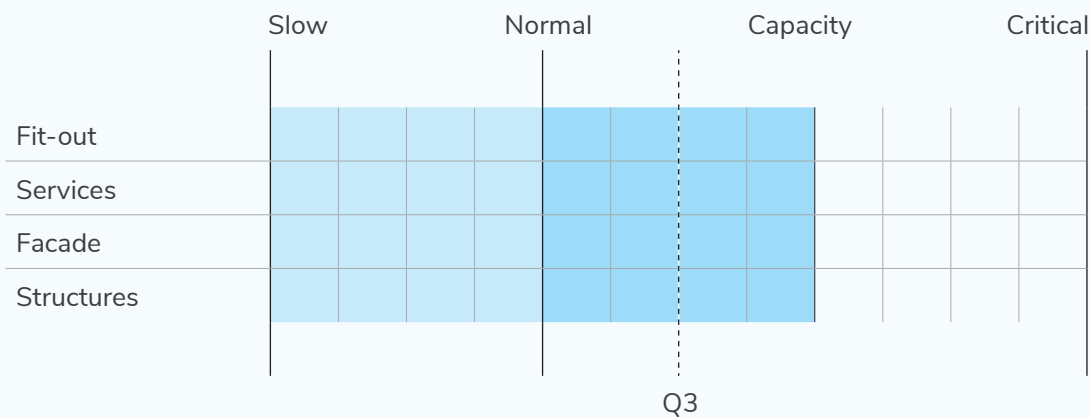


South Australia

The South Australian market is still very active which continues to place strain on the supply chain. Price increases are still being experienced for structural steel, reinforcement, steel stud framing and the like. We are now seeing main contractor's margins of 2.5 percent in the region. The shortage of timber supply in the local market is putting pressure on prefabricated steel framing suppliers, as home builders look for alternative solutions

to keep their cashflow and projects progressing. We are expecting this strong activity to continue, resulting in further competition between the residential and commercial sectors for supply of labour and materials. Smaller contractors are experiencing longer lead times in procuring materials. With the upcoming state election scheduled for March, some government funded projects may be put on hold.

Supply chain capacity in South Australia, Q4 2021





Builder: Desyn Homes
Photographer: Nick Dunn Images

Curb Appeal

THE TRUE SECRET TO EXTERIOR DESIGN

What is curb appeal? Well to answer the question simply, it's the 'exterior effect' of any given structure. What does the beholder see when they spot your home or business from the road or curb, and how does this vision contribute to the worth, value and overall first impression of the design? →





Designer: Castlepeake Architecture
Northbridge NSW

Yet the true meaning of curb appeal can be discovered, not via a definition, but via a feeling.

Have you ever been out for a walk in your neighbourhood and seen a sight that stopped you in your tracks? A home so beautiful, so captivating, that its vision inspired you to wonder at the story behind the home, the identity of the house's inhabitants, the idea behind the design, and, perhaps most importantly in your mind, the question of whether the place happens to be for sale?

A home's curb appeal can in effect make or break the sale of a home or a design, as a house's exterior can either tempt them to come inward to see the rest of the residence, or cause them to, in the immortal words of Dionne Warwick... Walk on By. So as a building designer, how can you optimise the curb appeal of any given design? Read on for some ideas.

Think of your design exterior as something of a puzzle. Every piece is equally important in creating a cohesive and appealing - whole.



Style your structure.

Select a fitting style or design theme for your exterior; and whether this style is classic or contemporary, modern or traditional, ensure that all elements of this exterior adhere to this theme, the very style desired by your client, as adjusted in accordance with their budget, their site limitations, neighbourhood restrictions, etc.

Provide doors and windows to the world.

Aside from adhering to your exterior design, every door and window facing the home's curb should supply a tempting and inviting look into the domicile itself - especially the entryway, which will be the point of access for the home.

Consider colour.

The hue of a home can do much to establish its curb appeal and exterior effect; so aside from asking your client's favourite colour, determine the colour that suits the design and enhances its appeal.

Raise the roof.

Be sure that the roof featured in the design most literally 'tops off' its curb appeal--a sturdy and functional feature that completes the design.

Gaze at the garage.

A primary access point to one's home, the garage also forms a large part of the house's exterior. Make sure that the garage design melds well with the look and function of the home, in all aspects. →





Have a look at the landscape.

Beyond the structure of the home itself, its surrounding yards, gardens, driveways, lawn ornaments and sidewalks all form key components of its overall design.

Don't curb the appeal of your design; never underestimate the immense value of curb appeal!



Timber Garage Door

When it comes to choosing a garage door for your residential and commercial property, you have several options, and in 2022, timber is certainly among them.

Wooden garage doors, whether overhead or sectional add a style and class to your home and come with several benefits.



CUSTOMISATION

With wooden doors, you have limitless customisation options. You can choose various kinds of timber species, stains, or colours that add a curb appeal to your home.



ECO-FRIENDLY

Being a renewable resource timber is more eco-friendly than any other material for your doors. And in case, a specific portion of your door gets damaged, you have the option to replace that portion rather than changing the entire door.



TIMELESS

The wood door's timelessness charm is unmatched. From traditional to modern, rustic, and classic, you can choose any that meet your home or office exterior.



STRENGTH

Wooden garage doors are considered the heaviest door so that makes them also one of the safest. If you are unhappy with the integrity, security, and insulating capacity of your existing garage door - but feel that it doesn't suit the style of your home, lacks character, or you just need a change, then cladding your garage door with timber is a great option.

So, what is Garage Door Cladding?

Garage door cladding is a method of covering the existing garage door panels and frames with a different material. This is usually done on the exterior of the garage door to give it a new, fresh look.

Weathertex is a popular choice for garage door cladding. Cladding is increasingly becoming popular, and it's not a thing for only garage doors but various types of doors and walls.

Why you should consider garage door cladding

Many homeowners start looking into cladding because of their garage door's design, as they are not happy with the overall look it gives to their home. This is because they usually buy homes that have a garage door already installed. They had no-decision in the selection of their preexisting door.

Timber garage door cladding gives you an excellent way to customize the garage door's look without having to invest in a completely new door. Timber cladding is light enough so it simply makes sense to choose wooden cladding over buying a brand new door if the door is still functional and does not give you any problems.

Safety and protection are part of why homeowners with garage doors decide to clad their doors. →

Why?

Timber garage doors, for instance, are exposed to sunshine, heavy rains, and all kinds of harsh weather conditions that deteriorate it over time.

Some metal garage doors tend to rust after being exposed to the elements (which wooden cladding will prevent). To keep it in good condition, it is crucial to perform routine maintenance. →



Designer: Shane Denman Architects
Photographer: Kristian van der Beek



What are some of the benefits of cladding your garage door?

Before garage door cladding was a thing, there were a few options available to you if you didn't like the door's design. That is to either paint it or buy a new garage door.

Painting can be effective to some extent, but the garage door's design would still be the same, just in a different colour. Buying a newer garage door with a design you like is an excellent choice.

However, the cost involved makes a lot of homeowners shy away from this option. This makes cladding the way to go, without spending so much.





“

Wood is universally beautiful to man. It is the most humanly intimate of all materials.

- Frank Lloyd Wright



Wooden garage door cladding can be a great way to improve the curb appeal of the home while protecting the garage door from getting damaged and will prove to be low maintenance throughout its lifetime.





THE DOGHOUSE, REIMAGINED:

The Petscape for 2022

You've heard of landscaping, and maybe even manscaping. (We won't go there). Ah, but what about petscaping? It's a thing. And in 2022, it's an exterior design trend.

Just as our dogs, cats and other furry friends come as part and parcel of our family, so must our clients' home design plans include these precious animals as well. And, as many animals live and play at least part of the time outside, our clients' home exteriors and landscaping plans must consider the needs of our four-legged family members. In other words, we must create their ideal homes through an intricate, but enjoyable, process known as petscaping.

A petscape is a landscape plan devised with care and consideration to the needs of a family's animal members. This can be done in a myriad of ways:



1. Make a home for your client's pet. Whether your client's dog or cat lives outdoors or just spends a good deal of their time there, make them feel at home. A dog/cat house or small kennel is the perfect backyard shelter for Fido or Fifi--especially on rainy or excessively hot days. Make sure that they have a literal shelter in the storm; one that is comfortable, sustainably built, and sturdy enough to hold and protect them. And if the structure is eye-catching and playful, that too is a plus.

2. Make a playground for your client's pet. Just as you might build a swingset or sandbox for their two-legged offspring, the four-legged variety need their own place to play. Set up a playpen holding their favorite pet toys, as well as a yard or track on which they can run and roam free. Visit this pet playground frequently to engage with the animal, engaging in frequent games of Catch and other activities.


3. Make a home gym for your client's pet. Be sure that they have trails to run, pet castles to climb, obstacle courses to conquer, wheels to circle, tunnels to funnel, etc. A fit pet is a healthy pet.





4

Make a safespace for your client's pet. Be sure that your client's landscape is free of poisonous plants, objects that might be swallowed and choked on, holes or large rocks that might prove obstacles, etc.

A modern pet house with a white and grey exterior, mounted on a single red wheel. The house has a grey roof with a wooden shingle finish. It is situated on a green lawn in a backyard. In the background, there is a dark wooden fence and a house with a stone wall and a window. A brown dog is lying on the grass to the left of the pet house. The text "A petscape is the ultimate home away from home for your client's furry friends. Or, more accurately, a home at home." is overlaid in the upper right quadrant of the image.

A petscape is the ultimate home away from home for your client's furry friends. Or, more accurately, a home at home.

Mixed Materials


UNIFY LAURESTON HOUSE

Project by Sanctum Design
Words by Bronwyn Aldridge



It didn't take long for James Cooper, of Sanctum Design, to observe that Laureston House already comprised of a Georgian Sandstone cottage with a Heritage wing attached. Listed on the State Heritage register, he knew he had to be careful addressing any further additions. He knew he had to provide something subservient to the original structures, while also somewhat complementary to distinguish old work from new work. →





Upon describing his project, James so beautifully articulates, “Our design cues were drawn from this need to connect to the garden, whereby the solution to create a split level provided opportunity to physically, and architecturally separate the old from the new. The strong roof geometry of the original hips and gables allowed us to echo these forms in the new pavilion extension whilst creating volume and opportunity for light and passive solar gain. And by glazing these new gables, we allowed views to neighbouring trees and floods of morning and afternoon light – breaking down the old ideals of encompassment and connecting us with the landscape. The rear skillion roof to the new terrace scoops both light and view paths deep into the floor plate and offers views through to the old sandstone cottage connecting contemporary design elements with the historical context.”

He continues, “To celebrate the original materiality, we chose recycled brick (some salvage from the old outdoor ‘dunny’ that could not be saved) and expressed steel beams and trusses which contrast strongly against the sandstone – whilst the recycled brickwork connects a story of the Federation wing both in fabric and in form.”

Photographer: Simon Whitbread

Choosing the Right Resources

Laureston House utilises a delightful assortment of external materials for both function and aesthetic. The extension's modern interpretation of the home's original gable structure was tweaked to express certain materials, including magnificent steel framework intended to be seen. Where others may choose to disappear this element, James uses the steel to put a contemporary spin on the original form, while dictating the construction methodology and aesthetic of the build.

It seemed logical that an expressed steel structure would be quite easy to achieve while creating a juxtaposition to the fiddly detail of the federation and traditional craftsmanship apparent on the original timber construction. James loves working with expressed steel for its fine lines and boldness. The use of steel both inside and out helps connect the spaces, playing down the main extension and connecting to the garden with a lightweight alfresco.

The inverted L shaped steel gave the alfresco roof strength, while also keeping the overall appearance quite minimal. Unlike a bulky conventional roof that would require rafters carrying the entire roof mass, James was able to achieve a slender looking cantilever using Bondor SolarSpan®, an insulated roofing product which can span long lengths as well as offer incredible insulation, both thermally and acoustically. The SolarSpan® has a prefinished Colorbond sheeting to the underside, creating a high-end sheen finish for the terrace area. James also opted for Weathertex EcoWall to line the carport ceiling. This is a simple product to use and like the SolarSpan®, it offers something different to your standard plasterboard ceiling sheet.

Perfection in the Detail

James wished for a low-level link separating the old from the new to be recessive and as contrasting as possible. This became the core driver behind his decision to use dark metallic cladding. Fielder's Finesse® Boulevard™, an expressed iron cladding profile in a Colorbond Monument® colour, was ideal to partner with the expressed steel framework. The choice of Monument® helped the original form of the heritage building shine through and it just pops aside all of the recycled brickwork.

What makes this product look even better is the precision and attention to detail surrounding



installation of the cladding. James spent a lot of time onsite commenting, "everything has a shadow line, everything's got an expression, there was a lot of work involved to get all of that working well."

The vertical shadow line between cladding and glazing frames is particularly impressive. They installed a channel hard up against the AWS Elevate™ Aluminium Frames for the cladding to butt into, a seemingly simple solution for maximum impact. The use of angles and channels have been used everywhere, around all glazing and transitional points. This was a conscious design decision for the overall extension, and it looks incredibly sharp. A detail that you will see repeated to the side and rear elevations, James said "its all been considered".

Sanctum Design frequent the sites of their projects as part of their contract administration offering. This ensures any core design decision or detailing is thoroughly discussed with the builder, leaving nothing to interpretation. James adds, "it would be a completely different project" should they not have as much involvement as they do. They say the devil is in the detail and we think Laureston House is a prime example of this!

AWS INTERVIEW

Designer Adam Hobill



Architectural Window Systems (AWS) manufacture Australia's leading range of high-performance aluminium windows and doors. Well known among our nation's most reputable Architects and Building Designers, AWS are the prime choice when it comes to residential and commercial projects. Building Designer Adam Hobill is a long-time user of AWS glazing for his residential projects, and AWS recently interviewed Adam on his multi award-winning home, The Treehouse.

AWS: Adam, your Treehouse design is a prime example of a modern-day sustainable design steeped in traditional elements. How would you describe this design in terms of its unique and best features?

Adam: Good design is (usually) fundamentally simple, and this is what we strive for in our designs; homes that do the important things well and without compromise. Well orientated to capture northern sunlight, yet also protected from harsh summer sun, offer connections to the outdoors and fresh air, and be well planned so that public and private spaces are considered and organised to make the home as liveable and enjoyable as possible. The Treehouse has a strong focus on all these considerations and maximises the result through a deep understanding of the site and careful planning. The open plan living spaces are the focal point of the design and without doubt its most striking feature, which are placed in a north facing position to allow a unique and intimate connection with the adjacent tree canopy and distant views to the north. Also, to the internal pool courtyard to the south. Internally, this space is warm and comforting and finished in darker tones and textures to contrast and highlight the light-filled connection to the outdoors through a combination of large sliding doors and smaller, picture frames windows.



AWS: What personally inspired you to create this beautiful residential design?

Adam: During my first visit to site, I was struck by the allure of the native tree canopy adjacent to the site, which drove the inspiration for the design. It reminded me of my childhood and the days and weeks spent building treehouses and forts in bushland nearby our home with my brothers and our mates. We were fortunate that our stepfather was a builder, so there would always be offcuts and leftover materials for us to re-purpose into our experimental bush structures. It was the use of these makeshift and second-hand materials that inspired the Treehouse design, materials that were textural and raw and expressed in their natural state and often used completely out of line with their intended use. In the Treehouse, that expression of materials is seen in the suspended polished concrete floor and is highlighted using OSB (oriented strand board) formwork to create a textured ceiling finish to the rooms below. The same approach to off-form concrete is also seen in external feature walls and planter boxes. The raked ceiling in the open plan living room is finished with randomly sized timber lining boards, as another gesture of the casual nature of treehouses. Externally, the unpretentious low pitch skillion roof rekindles our earlier efforts at simple-as-can-be protection from the elements, whilst the exterior walls are finished in a combination of timber and metal cladding, also reminiscent of the typical combinations of exterior finishes used in childhood treehouses.

AWS: What special challenges did you encounter in bringing this design to life?

Adam: I must say that we were very lucky to be working

with a very trusting client (also the builder) who was very willing to get behind our ideas, and in several cases enhance them. There were some challenges in the approval process in meeting local solar envelope rules and convincing the neighbours that the design had negligible impact on their property, but we are really happy with how smoothly the project generally came together.

AWS: What role did windows and window treatments play in the Treehouse?

Adam: The windows were a critical element in the design, such as the importance of providing an uninterrupted visual connection to the tree canopy. We needed a glazing product that could achieve oversized panel sizes without compromising on energy efficiency and thermal comfort, whilst also being cost effective in the marketplace. The AWS ThermalHEART™ range was the ideal choice.

AWS: Did your clients have special requests regarding windows, as placed in a Treehouse-style family home design?

Adam: The builder had extensive experience with AWS products and were very happy to use them in this project, given the high-quality outcome required.

AWS: Why did you choose AWS as your window supplier?

Adam: AWS have been our preferred window supplier for many years and the Treehouse was particularly well suited to their ThermalHEART™ range of thermally broken aluminium frames, which allowed us to achieve 3.3-metre-high sliding door panels, with no intermediate transom, whilst also achieving high thermal performance.



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RESIDENTIAL WINDOWS
AND DOORS BY **DAWS**

What's 'Hot' and 'Cool'?

Who among us doesn't love to spend some quality time outdoors, enjoying both nature's beauty and the exterior radiance of one's lovely home design? Yet what happens when the weather very selfishly opts to go against one's carefully laid plans, ruining the fun via less than temperate conditions that are too hot or too cold to comfortably withstand?

Ah, but there are solutions--and in the form of External Fans and electric heaters; automated variations on timeless classics that come fully integrated with programmable functions that make it easy and convenient to enjoy outdoor activities in a comfortable and health-positive atmosphere.

In a truly and fully automated home, your client can turn on outdoor fans and heaters with ease--through one click on a single app that also controls every other Smart function in the home, from the lighting and blinds to the security and home entertainment system. You can preprogram the operation of the fans and heaters, even when away from home. →





Some particularly innovative cooling products available on today's home supplies market are outdoor big ass fans; innovative, stylish designs that bring Smart comfort to your client's home. This super-sized, infinitely cooling variety of fan will be just as much 'at home' in their living room or outdoor patio; furthermore, a custom combination of Big Ass Fans, with various means and fashions of cooling, lighting, and design, can transform their space-- indoor and outdoor.

At the other end of the home comfort spectrum, Bromic outdoor heaters are recognised internationally for superior design and performance, shining in their places in luxury hotels and upscale restaurants, as well as in the outdoor kitchens and backyards of elite homes. Bromic outdoor heaters are renowned for a flawless balance of performance, reliability and beauty, this owing to their construction from premium materials.

The LifeStyle store's North Parramatta showroom is equipped with demonstration facilities that showcase a range of Outdoor and External home products.





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Macca's goes green

WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM WEATHERTEX



Would you like sustainability with that? The thousandth store opened in McDonald's Australia is a milestone in more ways than one, in that it also reigns as the premiere green Macca's in Australia. →

Also on the menu
at Melton South is a
premiere Weathertex
product, its sustainable
hardwood cladding.





This premiere sustainability flagship McDonald's boasts a host of ecofriendly elements on the menu. The structure of the eatery, and the furniture and fixtures found within, are built from recyclable building materials. And the entire package is served up with a side order of renewable energy, and with rooftop solar panels in place. As their mouths feast on classic McDonald's treats in the eatery's dining room, customers feast their eyes on a green wall blooming with fragrant greenery, which, aside from adding to the restaurant decor, also insulates the surroundings and cleans the air.

Weathergroove 150 Woodman panels and Selflok Ecogroove 150 Woodman weatherboards bring out the shine in the restaurant's design plan, with the natural timber grain showcasing the rich, warm texture that only can be culled from wholly sustainable materials. In addition, its density renders Weathertex the perfect choice for high traffic areas.

Affordable and easy to install, Weathertex cladding is the product of choice for a number of restaurant and hospitality businesses throughout Australia. Endorsed via the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification, Weathertex is acknowledged by this valued third party certifier for wise and judicious use of forest products and ecoefficient forestation practices, bearing a trusted eco-label administered through the PEFC. In addition, Weathertex also has Green Tag Platinum and Gold Certification Status.

Order up your own feast of rich sustainability, via Weathertex!

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Play Time

When it comes to creating enjoyable and constructive exterior play areas for children, the design of an optimised recreational space is nothing to play around with - most literally!

Play is an essential form of learning for many children, as it is through these seemingly lighthearted recreational activities that they develop their creativity, their imagination, their motor skills, their physical and mechanical activities, their intellectual capacities, and their social and interpersonal skills.

Regardless of the nature of your design, any site accessible to children would benefit greatly from the presence of a designated outdoor play area. But it can't be just any frolic spot - indeed, this play area must be designated for 'playful purposes,' easy for kids

to access, be based in nature and including as many naturemade features as possible, be many and varied in its play activities, be accessible to kids of all physical and mental abilities, be age-inclusive, well-maintained, both challenging and adaptable.

Beyond these basic but essential elements, an optimum quality, well-designed play space can take many and various forms; depending on the nature and character of its host design. Here are some ideas for the enterprising building designer who yearns to design and build the perfect play area:

Residential Projects:

Every family home should have a designated play area for the younger members of the family. Potential home-based play spaces could include swing and slide sets, kiddie pools, treehouses, outdoor playhouses, playpens, and paths to run motorized cars and scooters, bicycles and tricycles, etc.

Restaurants and Cafes:

Beyond a well-stocked kiddy menu, it would benefit any family-oriented restaurant to also feature a well-stocked outdoor play area--one that might feature a full playground, jungle gym, sandbox, or other fixture that supplies kids with some fun communal recreation before and/or after their meal.



Stores:

A toy store geared toward children and families might feature an outdoor play area that includes selections from the store's inventory--thus allowing young shoppers to try toys before their parents buy them. A sports and recreational gear store aimed toward teens might offer a play park lined with scooters, skateboards, skates, etc.

Schools:

High quality play areas are a must at all educational institutions, in the form of the classic playgrounds and sports fields. Put your own fresh and sustainable spin on the traditional playground!

Regardless of the nature of your design, any site accessible to children would benefit greatly from the presence of a designated outdoor play area.



Designer: Pierre Tapper



R M A R K E T

upermarket

CONTROL YOUR

Home Security Plan

No home exterior design plan is quite complete without a reliable and comprehensive security system; one custom-designed to protect a business or residence and all occupants within it. Indeed, when it comes to home security, total user Control is essential to the safety of one's home, family, and belongings. This is why more and more clients are demanding that their conscientious building designers incorporate the essence of pure and total Control into their host designs.



The very secret to and safeguard of external and internal security, the Control 4 home security system provides a surefire protectant against any and all threats to one's home. At the touch of a button, your home security system works in tandem with other automated features and programs to create a full and total Smart Home experience; one that even holds knowledge of which member of the family has arrived and is preparing the house for them. Cameras and alarms are only the beginning when it comes to contemporary home security systems. Thanks to the automated magic of your new smart home, as established and coordinated by a seasoned team of programmers and installers, you can program all of your external and outdoor home elements - thus making your house a fully integrated and sublimely user friendly home.

Control 4, in fact, is a lifestyle focussed product that comes fully integrated with programmable functions ever more important to a time-poor society. Our home automation system means more than just convenience—it means control & safety, as well.

By way of the Control 4 system, your client can use your automated home system to monitor and control their security system; know when doors or windows are open, along with outdoor awnings, monitor security cameras and video doorbells; set and monitor locks; set alerts; play music; turn on outdoor fans and heaters. and even simulate occupancy while they're away.

The Control 4 camera system comes complete with its own convenient app, but where possible system creators have integrated cameras into the system app for playback so that clients can view these cameras without leaving this app. Indeed, the integration of all devices in a single app renders your client's home easier to manage and control. →



Another variety of smart automation easily controlled through Control 4 is known as Mockupancy, a singular variety of “occupancy simulation.” Through this revolutionary technology, Control4 can keep track of all lighting, blinds, and video entertainment while the client is at home. When the client leaves the house and puts Control4 in “Away” mode, Control4 will replay those behaviours throughout your automated system (employing slightly randomised times). To an outside observer, it will appear that your client is home.



The ultimate promise of the Smart Home Technology is to make the end user the Master of a Home that can command in multiple ways



The House of 2022:

BEAUTIFUL SIMPLICITY AND PURPOSEFUL HUBS



Clean lines and pared-back designs for work, rest and play

Closed borders, lockdowns, and working from home for much of 2021 increasingly helped Australians identify where they want to live and what they want from their homes. As well as greater consideration for locations outside of metro areas, Australians are identifying the benefits of creating purposeful, separate hubs around the home.

Increased savings, low interest rates, and government grants have contributed to the urgency for real estate, resulting in a fear of missing out or paying too much. “Unfortunately, the quality of Australian home design suffers with such urgency in the market. There’s a gap between what homeowners value most and the homes we’re building,” says James Hardie’s Marketing Director, Cathleya Buchanan.

“Australians want a place where they can be safe, relaxed, connect with family and make memories - it’s important that the home is designed to be light, bright and spacious. Home builders need to think about orienting living areas toward the North, where the light comes from, and including large windows and openings. Living areas should be open plan and connect to outdoor areas,” says Buchanan.

As well as a focus on aspect and open planning, Buchanan notes that purposeful hubs around the home will be increasingly sought after in the House of 2022.

“The pandemic has shown us that home is more than a shelter,” said leading architect and James Hardie Ambassador Joe Snell. “The home of 2022 must be flexible and not as stagnant as they once were. Homes need to provide for entertainment, eating, working, exercising, and retreat. Work is now ever-changing, but the home remains the hub with flexibility the key.”

Below, Cathleya Buchanan and Joe Snell outline the design features of the House of 2022.

Exteriors and Design

On house exteriors, James Hardie believes the House of 2022 is best summed up by the words “beautiful simplicity”. Homeowners are inspired by clean lines and pared-back designs with achromatic colour palettes. Profiled cladding products like Linea™ Weatherboards are being painted crisp white and contrasted with black window frames, black fascia and guttering. Hardie™ cladding with modest details like Axon™ Cladding,

Australians want a place where they can be safe, relaxed, connect with family and make memories - it’s important that the home is designed to be light, bright and spacious.



which looks like vertical joint timber or large format panel Hardie™ Fine Texture Cladding, a fibre cement wall panel embedded with a fine texture to create a modern aesthetic, are becoming a canvas which highlights homes with simple shapes and hidden rooflines. Timber screens and integrated greenery feature strongly as they pop from a receding dark coloured cladding background. →



Villa Sunshine, Reece Keil Design

Joe Snell notes that the Hamptons style is ever popular, but due to the pandemic, the housing look is trending more towards functionality, with houses becoming what they need to be for owners; not what owners think they should be. “Essentially it is lifestyle creating the form, not the form dictating lifestyle.” Snell notes two trends that will be present in 2022 include resort-style for home holidaying and Scandinavian inspired functionality. “Resort-style homes with similarly designed pools, a fresh weatherboard beach look, and a pergola, with no need to add further decoration, will help create a year-round holiday aesthetic. Those seeking more of a pragmatic, industrial working house will opt for the Scandinavian look. It’s pure and highly practical with a clean aesthetic and will suit a lot of people working from home.”

“Homes with little architectural shape can be enhanced by varying lines, textures and colours. Here, the mixed cladding look can reflect a well-known style or a unique personal one. By incorporating a larger range of materials, the look opens almost endless design possibilities, perfect for people who have rediscovered their creative sides during lockdowns,” says Snell.

A Warm (and Safe) Welcome

The pandemic has changed home design. We’re now conscious of preventing the virus entering our homes and we want to feel safe when we’re socialising with friends and family at home. These considerations will influence new home builds as well as renovations.

We can expect oversized front entryways and covered porches coming into home designs, where couriers delivering packages or visitors dropping-off children for a play date can be greeted. Entry ways will increasingly become a welcoming hub in the home with design opportunities for textured cladding, lighting, and seating to set the right mood. Snell also notes The House of 2022 may include second-living spaces allowing for a getaway from the main living area, which are becoming a big request. “People have a clearer idea of what they want in floorplans. One example of this is an expanded master bedroom to include a lounge for reading. Working a ‘retreat’ space into the floor plans lends itself to the resort style of home.

Work

The proportion of people working from home was about 8% in 2019 but was estimated to be around 38% in 2021.¹ Working from home has identified the real need for dedicated work spaces that are not bedrooms or living rooms. “It’s important to have work and non-work zones to create separation and allow family members to decompress from increasingly busy, long, and stressful work; especially, when we don’t have the commute to put distance between the two,” says Buchanan. “Dedicated sound-proof ‘Zoom rooms’ for online meetings are increasingly being identified as needs rather than wants.

Joe Snell notes working from home is now not just one person needing space, but multiple people needing spaces. “The traditional open plan layout with study nook is out. Now that the whole family is working from home, a study nook is not fit for purpose,” said Snell.” Another trend Snell observes is the home office increasingly being placed in the first room at the front of the house. “If you are welcoming work-related visitors, you don’t want people walking through the house to get to the office.” He also notes some home offices are including a separate entrance for better access.

Disconnect

One in five (20%) Australians experienced high or very high levels of psychological distress in June 2021.² As an antidote to constant connection with work or family while locked down, and improving mental health, the



Ohana Beach House, BCG Building Design

need for quiet alone time become apparent to many Australians. Home designs should consider tranquil, private slow spaces which can be indoors or in a covered outdoor space. These calm, quiet spaces are used to unplug, decompress, or even meditate. Lockdowns made many feel cooped-up and craving a connection with the outdoors, so outdoor spaces need to be integrated with the house for an easy indoor-outdoor flow.

These spaces should be minimalist and uncluttered with an organic feel. Include plants, soft lighting, rich textures and careful colour selection such as neutral, earthy paint colours to aid relaxation.

For more build and renovation inspiration using Hardie exterior cladding, log onto www.jameshardie.com.au/itspossible for all the latest looks and advice. →

¹ www.pc.gov.au/research/completed/working-from-home/working-from-home.pdf

² <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/people-and-communities/household-impacts-covid-19-survey/latest-release#emotional-and-mental-wellbeing>



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Experienced Renovators

Words by Bronwyn Aldridge

Dean and Jane Issitt, of Distinct Building Company, purchased their forever home in a northern coastal suburb of Perth just prior to the covid pandemic presenting itself to the world. Having extensive experience on several of their own renovation projects in the past, coupled with Dean's carpentry background and Jane's eye for design, these timber frame specialists were excited to have found a home by the beach that they could renovate to suit their family's needs.

Timely Chaos

In an amusing turn of events, this beach side home is located just two streets away from the first place Dean lived when he first moved to Australia several years ago – it even has the exact same house number! With Jane coming across from Victoria, it was a no brainer that the UK born builder and his wife should want to capitalise on WA's coastline. Hence this suburb's most obvious fixer upper became the target for this couple's newest project. Jane adds, "we always look for the ugliest house in the street, it's just what we do, we've always loved renovating."

Dean and Jane purchased the home in January 2020 with the intention of patiently residing there through the seasons, to assess their family's needs more thoroughly prior to their project planning. They agreed with each other, "let's move in and live in the house for six months and get a feel for what we really want. We did it and were designing as we went."

However, things were catapulted into action once the pandemic arrived shortly after purchase. At first, it was the unknown impact on the construction industry, threatening unavailability of work, so they decided to fast track their plans and get the extension's building permit immediately. By the time they got approved and started construction mid-year, the government's home builder grant was announced. Jane remembers their thought process, "it was that... what do we do oh my god?! To then... now we have heaps of work, and we need to get this done! We got it done just in the nick of time before we had to do

everyone else's work, so it was perfect timing." They were at completion by October, ready to take on the influx of client projects, which has not really slowed since.

Clear Vision Paved the Way

Partial to a classic Hamptons style, Jane knew weatherboards would be a part of her project. Her and Dean also liked the contrast of a modern black and white palette. Jane says, "I wanted the black because I didn't want it to be super dooper coastal." As this dwelling is so near the beach, they wanted to incorporate that fresh coastal vibe but didn't want to go all out on white. Therefore, replacing the existing garage, which was a heavy brick mass under main roof, with a lightweight structure of parapet walls and vertical black cladding, they were able to balance the home's front façade in sleek fashion using bulk and contrast. When discussing the dominance of a dark and proud garage compared to a white receding elevation, Jane comments, "with the garage we umm'd and ahh'd over what to do and I'm really happy with the result. Even though it's sitting forward, because the house is so bright it doesn't have that affect" resulting in quite a clever design.

Another 'must have' for Jane was breeze blocks. "I just wanted them; they need to be a part of my house." She has always loved them, while Dean needed some convincing, it wasn't until local supplier Midland Brick discovered a spare palette of blocks, that Jane insisted they get delivered right away... even if Dean had to shuffle them across the yard a few times prior to construction. →





They ended up using the breeze blocks in multiple external areas around the house. Aesthetically, they add a touch of Palm Springs to the street, which goes on to illuminate a phenomenal silhouette in the front living room once that afternoon sun comes flooding in. Functionally, they've been put to wonderful use in the new alfresco area, allowing the zone to breathe and helping the BBQ be its most effective. And possibly the most valuable use of the breeze blocks has been in their daughter's fairy garden out the back! The first impression of the home has also been given a boost by including the use of recycled timbers. Old sleepers picked up from a local garden centre add artistic and bespoke constructs to the landscape, while re-purposed roof structures allowed for timber decking to contribute to this contemporary coastal design.

Performing Better Than Original Form

Converting a double brick home into a coastal clad delight came with benefits beyond aesthetic appeal. Fibre cement boards were battened to the outer brick layer, forming the emergence of an incidental reverse brick veneer home. Old roof tiles were replaced with Colorbond sheets, and the roof treated to a Bradford Anticon insulation


blanket. In addition to this, the main living extension received new glazing from supplier Jason Windows, and these were strategically placed to make the most of the northern aspect. The only thing these homeowners would do differently is perhaps upgrade the front western windows to double glazing and place Low E on the remainder. However, without this upgrade, the home is still performing beautifully, particularly in winter. They know this is a relatively easy exchange in the future, given their occupation.

Jane mentioned that although they had only lived in the home six months prior to renovation, it was amidst the tail end of a particularly hot summer and the onset of a very cold winter. Now that the project is complete, Jane loves that the home moderates its own temperature through the seasons, "so now we have the air-con, but we don't have to turn it on and off that much." When referring to the mornings Jane added, "this time of day that whole living area is just sunshine, and warm, and really nice."

It is fair to say this hot and dreary house, built in the early 90's has had a complete transformation to become a comfortable and attractive family home, ready to go for another thirty years. Jane said, "every single grain of dirt was touched or turned upside down so there is not one thing that is the original form of this house, even the bones have been painted."

Upon revising project costs, the market value of the home has increased by \$500k since purchase. While this large-scale renovation had a significant budget, these owner builders were able to walk away with a healthy amount of equity by the time it was all finished. But more important is the fact that Dean and Jane have a home entirely tailored to their lifestyle, with the bonus of having a problem-free build. The only hardship was enduring a freezing cold winter without a portion of their roof for a few weeks, yet Jane managed to cook every night and not one Uber Eats order was made! You may say this renovation was as breezy as the blocks out the front!



A photograph of a modern house at dusk. The house features a dark wood exterior on the left and a white lattice screen in the center. A wooden post-and-rail fence is in the foreground, and a concrete path leads to the house. The sky is a clear blue, and the house is illuminated from within.

It is fair to say this hot and dreary house, built in the early 90's has had a complete transformation to become a comfortable and attractive family home.

INSPIRATION TO

Build Sustainably

When clients talk about 'sustainable design', not everyone is on the same page. For some, it's about reducing their impact on the environment over the longer term. Others, though, have more immediate goals in mind.

That was the case for the owners of this home in the Melbourne suburb of Balwyn North, winner in the Residential Projects category in the most recent Lysaght Inspirations Design Awards. Director of Chan Architecture, Anthony Chan, says thermal comfort was the driving force behind their interest in sustainable design.

"It was not so much that they were solely focused on sustainability, but they did want to be comfortable without the need for mechanical heating and cooling," he says. "It was all about a well-performing house that would save them money in the longer term."

Chan designed a two-storey home with three bedrooms and two bathrooms plus a more private living space on the upper floor featuring a skylight. A guest bedroom and ensuite on the ground floor is off to one side of the entranceway but central to the design is a spacious open plan kitchen, dining living space, characterised by a double height void. To the eastern side of the building, a slender full-length window offers views to the Dandenong ranges.

A simple palette of concrete, timber and steel creates a rhythm for the internal spaces that is at once contemporary and warm while the masculine angles of the spaces are broken up with more feminine curves for the walls of the bathroom and living space upstairs. Chan says the challenge was balancing the desire for privacy with the need for space.

"They really liked that sense of space," he says. "They are definitely people who like to spend time at home, and they wanted that feeling of space internally."

To ensure the house performed well, Chan positioned the house on the 2000sqm block so that the main living areas faced north, allowing the polished concrete slab to passively regulate temperatures, keeping the house naturally cooler in summer when the sun is higher and warmer in winter as the slab releases heat into the evening.

A thermal chimney directs hot air up and out of the house via windows on the top floor and the entire house has been

heavily insulated, with the ceiling insulated to R7, the highest insulation batts available on the Australian market right now.

Outside, [LONGLINE 305® cladding](#) was the obvious choice, thanks to its versatility, flexibility and reflective qualities.

"The clients really wanted longevity and robustness and we wanted a product that could wrap around the building," says Chan. "That pretty much narrowed it down to [LONGLINE 305® cladding](#)."

Shaped from [COLORBOND®](#) steel in colour [Surfmist®](#), the cladding also reflects, rather than absorbs the heat. "The idea was that they wanted something that would reflect the light and make sure that it didn't get too hot inside," he says.

The sloping roof also allowed plenty of space for a substantial photovoltaic system, providing more than enough power for the family. Timber cladding and stacked stone break up the facade, while recessed reveals on the upper windows add depth and a sense of permanence to the home.

"When we do these recessed reveals, it makes it look a bit more substantial and gives it a bit of depth," Chan says. "The advantage of using [LYSAGHT®](#) products is that we're assured that it's all shaped from [COLORBOND®](#) steel so the flashings are the same colour as the cladding so that it looks like it is wrapping."

Given Balwyn North was once dominated by farmland and orchards, the choice of cladding was also a nod to the history of the site, albeit a more sophisticated treatment thanks to the taller ribs and sharp shadows of the [LONGLINE 305® profile](#).

"When we got there, the old farmhouse was still on it," Chans says. "It had been butchered over the years, so we designed this as a reference to the history of the site, with a barn-like shape." And after several months in the house, you could say the new building is already bearing fruit.

"It was always hard to know how well it would perform so I got in touch with the owners a few months after they moved in," he says. "They said it was amazing all through their first Melbourne winter - the temperature never dropped lower than 19 degrees inside the house. For such a big internal space with a double height void, that was a great result."



INSPIRATION

TO BUILD BETTER

As shapers of COLORBOND® steel we're inspired to make the products that help you build better. Across the exciting spectrum of residential architecture, the aesthetics, performance and versatility of LYSAGHT® steel roofing and walling profiles inspire and give form to exceptional designs. Whether it's contemporary or traditional in nature, you can trust that LYSAGHT® products, in a myriad of materials, finishes and colours, offer you endless possibilities to bring your inspiration to life. And with over 100 years of helping shape Australian architecture, we'll be there to support your inspiration for building bolder, smarter and more sustainably beautiful homes now, and into the future.

NICE AND NATURAL:

The Immense Appeal of Natural Exteriors

The true essence and heart of ecofriendly building is the use of natural and sustainable materials in any and all forms of building design. In today's ever-changing world, environmentally conscious building is not just a trend-it's an essential practice needed to ensure a healthier and longer lasting environment; and, in turn, a brighter future for the generations of tomorrow.



Designer: Beaumont Building Design

Of course, one cannot ignore or deny the other byproducts of sustainable building choices; including a clean-lined, all-natural look that shines in its holistic radiance, as well as the bountiful and affordable supplies of ecofriendly materials available on today's market.

So, how does all of this relate to the exterior building design? Well we all know when we behold a true sustainable building design. From the pure timber doorways to the engraved arches and porches, the naturally blended finishes to the solid and eye-catching walls, an ecofriendly exterior is truly a thing of beauty and it's the thing of the future.

When aiming for the all natural, sustainable look in any building design project, the Weathertex Natural line of panels and weatherboards is the optimum choice. Made from renewable resources, these long-lasting sustainable cladding solutions comprise the world's first manufactured product range to attain a Platinum GreenTag certification (a third party, impartial, type 1 multi-criteria eco labelling program and the only certification mark in the sector approved by ACCC, the US Patents and Trademark Office, the US Patents and Trademark Office and Green building rating tools internationally).

Sustainable building
is truly the wave of
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Digital Manifestation

Anyone who has gone through the design and building process can tell you that it is full of many unknowns and unforeseen challenges. Imagine having the ability to see into the future and work out weak points in your design whilst the plans are still at concept stage.



The 3D Plan Company

Vavedo Visual will help bring your plans to life. Your 2D floor plans are transformed into a Dynamic Vavedo Visual 3D Walkthrough accessible on any device with browsing capability. Their “to scale 3D technology” will allow anybody to visualise the design and spaces before construction begins.

Resolve designs, construction issues, and building work clashes before a shovel hits the ground. Avoid costly variations and save time and money on those last-minute changes. A Vavedo Visual 3D Walkthrough can be used on-site to provide a visual snapshot into the future for tradies and builders to coordinate work at each stage of construction.

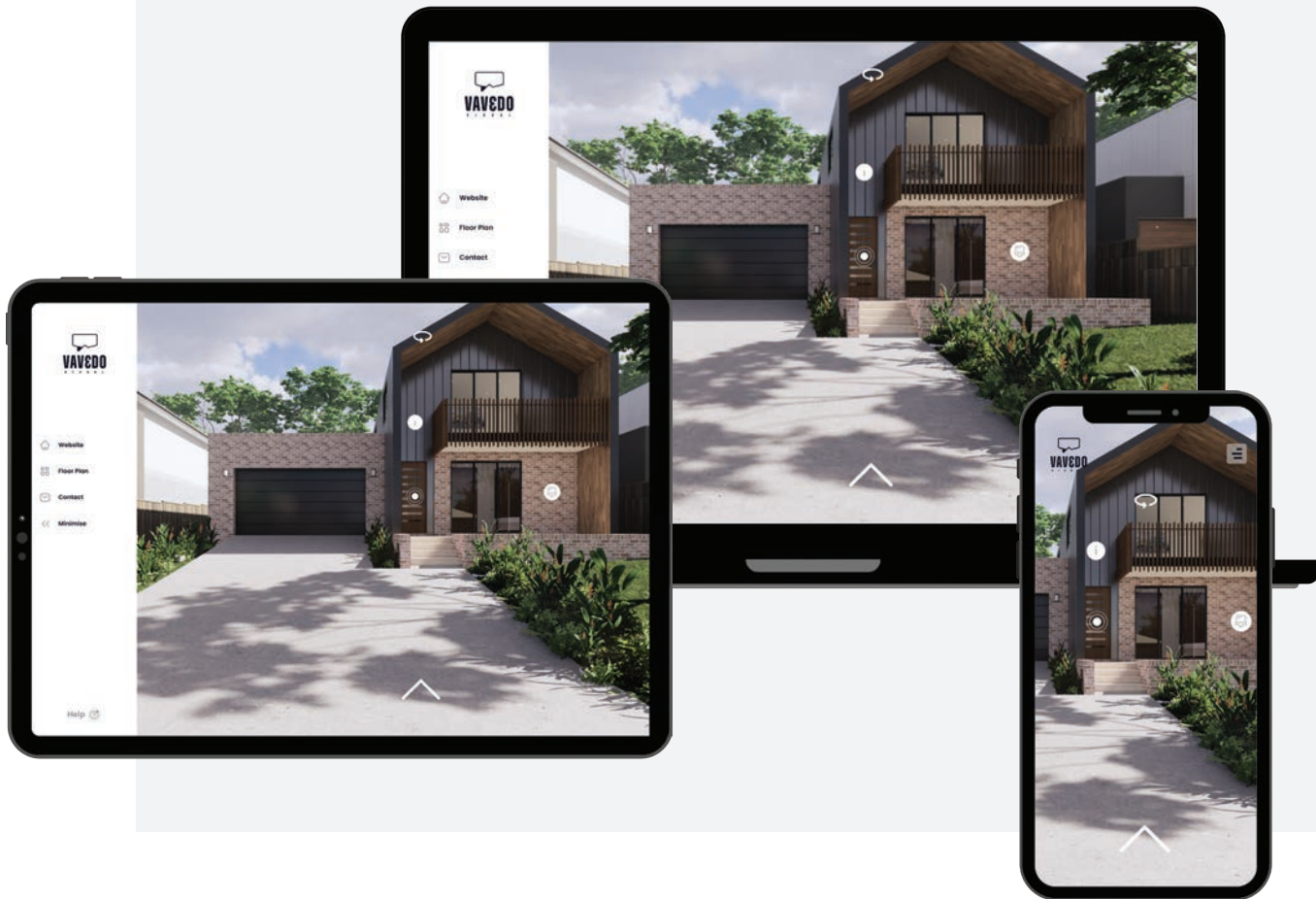
Walkthroughs for Professionals

Join the growing number of Design Professionals who utilise Vavedo Visual 3D Walkthroughs to assist their clients in visualising design concepts. They may now show

off their creation in all of its splendour! When both the designer and client are on the same page, the number of design changes is reduced. This is a tool that allows you to save time so you can focus on your next project.

See why building companies choose to use this tool as an alternative to building a Display Home. Imagine having every design on display in your very own Virtual Village. All of your creations with every alternative material on display. You would never imagine that you could have the ability to change colour schemes on a Display Home, Vavedo Visual 3D Walkthroughs provide that opportunity.

Builders and tradesmen are using Vavedo Visual 3D Walkthroughs throughout the building process. Being able to show your clients what the finished product will look like avoids confusion and misunderstandings that can ruin client builder relationships. Have the ability to avoid those issues with a visualisation that is detailed right down to the fittings and fixtures within your specifications and building contracts.



Vavedo Visual 3D Walkthroughs use the latest technologies to provide their clients with the tools that save time and money. They have helped their clients visualise all types of construction projects from Outdoor Kitchens, commercial fitouts to Multi Unit Developments. The power of their software is limitless.

St Johns Park Case Study

The modification of an existing building is a sustainable solution, but it can be costly. Especially with all of the unknown issues that could arise. It is critical to plan and adhere to your layout in order to minimise any unforeseen issues.

The client of a St John's Park project had previously worked with an architect who incorporates Vavedo's services into their offerings. Together with the architect, Vavedo were able to demonstrate the layout's viability and demonstrate to the client that the design worked and that the compromises were worthwhile.

On paper, these drawings were difficult to understand, especially because the clients were trying to visualise the new layout with all of the existing walls in the way. The client used the Vavedo Visual walkthrough to imagine their concept whilst standing in each room. They could move around and see their design come to fruition.

Join the growing number of Design Professionals who utilise Vavedo Visual 3D Walkthroughs to assist their clients in visualising design concepts.

This saved the architect a lot of time and effort of proving to their client that their design worked. Trust was also built between client and architect by demonstrating their design, which demonstrated the architect's abilities.

When the Vavedo Walkthrough was finished, it was continued to be used as a tool onsite to help with the construction work. This made the construction go more smoothly and required less input from the architect. Both parties benefited, again saving on time and money.

Homeowners Drive Demand for Sustainable Timber Homes

Sustainable and green homes aren't exactly a new trend. And yet, the demand for sustainable housing solutions continues to grow, with the shift in public perception contributing to the increased acceptance and adoption of 'green' building practices.

Sustainable homes aim to reduce the ecological footprint on the environment, not just during the construction but in the embodied energy used in the creation of the building materials themselves, and in the design of a building that reduces greenhouse gas emission for the home's life span.

Fortunately, one such building material already exists and has the potential to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the building sector, slash waste, store carbon, insulate the home, and uses relatively less energy in its manufacture.

It's called timber.

Australian homeowners are calling out for sustainable living as we move towards a net zero future. The Australian construction sector is one of our major polluters and responsible for 492 million tonnes of carbon emissions each year. Thankfully, timber is a carbon positive building material, meaning it stores more carbon than is used in its manufacture. It is the most sustainable building material available and is a truly renewable resource that boasts a lower embodied emissions than other building materials such as concrete, aluminium and steel.

In fact, using one cubic metre of timber in a build results in 0.8 tonnes of CO₂ being locked away within the building. This is because plantation pine absorbs carbon from our atmosphere and about half of each tree is stored carbon that remains in the timber for the life of a building.

Timber has been used for a myriad of applications in building for thousands of years, from decking, framing, cladding... it's a versatile material. However, with the advances in locally manufactured glue laminated timber (GLT), we are now seeing a trend toward engineered timber use in buildings that require high load applications and often these applications are visually expressed adding to the beauty of the building.

GLT beams are created through the process of layering and gluing laminates together to produce larger and longer length members.

This not only makes GLT beams stronger than solid timber, but due to its superior strength to weight ratio means that in most instances GLT is a suitable replacement for steel – assisting in reducing a buildings carbon footprint.

There is some poetry in the fact that GLT is often chosen over steel and concrete for its green credentials but its appearance can add to the biophilia in the built environment – helping individuals feel more connected to nature and the earth that sustainable buildings work to protect.

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STUDENTS BRING

Fresh Perspective



Words by Bronwyn Aldridge

Every year a high number of design students enter the construction industry, having completed a diploma of Building Design, Interior Design, or an Architectural degree. These up and comers are our industry's future, so we want to nurture and encourage them as much as possible. This quarter, we wanted to give design students a chance to contribute to this very edition of By Design. We thought it would be a wonderful opportunity to practice self-promotion, a nice little skill to possess when going into business for yourself! We asked a couple of Building Design students to share their learnings and flaunt their CAD skills with a focus on exterior products for relativity. Here's what they've discovered...

Sleek and Sustainable

Now into his second year, Building Design student Mark Oakley was faced with designing an innovative, sustainable, and solar passive home for a nominated residential block in Sydney. Mark's objective was to achieve an exterior that reflected a modern approach to sustainable design, sitting proudly among neighbouring dwellings.

Mark chose to incorporate passive design principles into the home with the likes of reverse brick veneer

construction using exposed recycled bricks to gain thermal mass while looking visually appealing upon entry. Against the reds and creams of the old bricks, James Hardie™ Scyon boards contrasted in a dark charcoal colour, providing an appropriate external skin for the main living areas.

Among the external surfaces, Mark discovered the Altache™ Series, a Modinex Group product. Seeking to introduce raw finished timber as a third key element, complementing the cement sheet and recycled brick,



Mark discovered this eye-catching western red cedar solution. He said, “this product stood out among other timber finish panels because it features black anodised aluminium pin-striping. I felt that this detail helped blend the areas.” In addition to the black shadow line between each plank of western red cedar looking sharp on his design, Mark loved that the Altache™ Clad timber is PEFC certified and made from sustainably harvested timber. It also holds a high thermal performance rating and has naturally occurring preservatives which provide an imbedded deterrent for pests.

Paying Homage to Industry

Matt Balfour was given the task of designing a commercial development for the purpose of leasing business and office spaces. As the location has a long history with industry, Matt took inspiration from this and ensured he represented timber, off form concrete, steel, and recycled bricks into his design. Matt said, “the client required a forward-looking



development, therefore sustainability was the anchor of the design, to shape its form and function.”

Being an industrial area, no natural vegetation existed to utilise for shading, so Matt had to think about how he was going to design an attractive façade which would also provide ample shading to a very exposed western elevation. He created a comprehensive shading structure, combining horizontal and vertical shading. The vertical shading was a mechanical system, made up of perforated steel columns which adjusted with the angle of the sun throughout the day. This protected the large glass curtain wall from excessive solar heat gain. The horizontal eaves supported the steel columns structurally, serving dual importance.

Further supporting its exterior are repetitive large A-frame timber structures, the most prominent feature of the building, softening the harsh industrial elements and creating an interesting aesthetic. With the combination of these elements together, relief has been provided to the first-floor terrace, saving that level's landscaping from the harsh western sun.

By showcasing a couple of student projects, we hope to inspire and encourage other students to capitalise on opportunities that arise such as this. Entering award programs, showcasing projects at student expos and participation in any other marketing initiatives is all wonderful experience. You never know who is going to be observing or how it may provide an unexpected career injection! The overwhelming advice from senior designers to student designers is to be as active as possible within industry communities, to give yourself every success in starting your career.



A sculptural vision

OR AN EXCLUSIVE DOMAIN

This award-winning project Fawkner House, is an exploration of legacy and a display of true progressive design. Selected by leading Australian Architect, Rob Mills, Sto's sustainable and innovative products were perfect for the award-winning Fawkner House /Boutique Apartments in South Yarra, Victoria.

Taking inspiration from Le Corbusier's 1954 chapel Notre Dame du Haut in Ronchamp, France, for its combination of organic mass, distinctive form and diversity of space, the result is not only architecturally striking but a healthy building too, with acoustics, air quality and sustainability all carefully considered from the outset; these principles of utmost importance to Creative Director, Rob Mills."

Sto Australia worked closely with the project architect, the render contractor, South East Solid Plastering, and VCon the builder and helped transform the award winning

design into reality. The building envelope finished in bespoke Unitex Veneto refined render finish for the exterior walls and curved facade, complimented with Sto venetian plaster finishes for the interior walls.

The wall plaster and render by Sto are 100% acrylic german engineered reinforced render used the world over for over 50 years. The render is extremely flexible creating a crack and blemish free but vivid and highly colour stable bespoke texture coating that will lasts a life time.

Perfect for the architectural design brief of Fawkner House where refined durable finishes are needed for the sweeping curves on the facades. In addition, a flawless surface for the interiors for natural light to bounce off tall ceilings and highlight intricate walls, rich materials, and finishes. The result is a showcase of the highest calibre of architecture and quality of build.



Sto Australia worked closely with the project architect, the render contractor, South East Solid Plastering, and VCon the builder and helped transform the award winning design into reality.



Sto is a global brand name in facades and interior systems in render, interior finishes, decorative paints, rainscreen cladding, acoustic insulation, and concrete restoration (www.sto.com). Operating in 81 countries with over 5,000 employees and global revenue of over 1.5 Billion Euro(s) annually. Established in 1836 and still family owned, Sto operates from head offices out of Germany and US. Since 1952, we have painted, rendered and mechanical fixed over 640 million square kilometres of façade systems to date. In Australia, we also acquired Unitex render and finishes company expanding our local footprint.

FOR INCREDIBLE IMPACT

Modern Mosaics

Written by Bronwyn Aldridge

Dating back thousands of years, mosaics have always been highly regarded in their use for making a superior statement in the areas of wealth, religion, and art. An intricate detail integrated into several historical architectural buildings has been given a modern-day advancement. Thanks to Damian Corney, Founder and Creative Director of Melbourne based graphic design studio Grafico, this new evolution in mosaics is now available in Australia. →



Builder: O'Shea & Sons

Grafico, already well established took interest in a product that was being produced overseas. Keen to expand Grafico's offering, nearly 8 years ago Corney flew to Puglia, Italy, to learn more about the technology that has been creating massive impact in homes and commercial spaces all over the world for over the past twenty years. This technology is now gaining traction on home soil with very good reason.

Endless Possibilities

Inspired by traditional mosaic patterns and injected with digital print technology, "Mosaico Digitale" comprises a layer of resin to the face, a digital image printed on vinyl, and mesh lining to the back, ready for your typical mosaic installation. Its composition excludes any ceramic and glass, making it a lightweight solution with many benefits. This 2mm thin mosaic can be cut into an infinite number of tessellating shapes, each numbered in order of lay pattern and then packed into a compact parcel ready to be air-freighted from Italy to Australia within a short number of weeks.

"To really break the boundaries on how you can use tiles in a more decorative way that's customised with your own branding, or your own artwork, and in areas that you are limited with customised artwork as well" Damian explains how the mosaics offer the ability to print anything you can put your mind to, really adding a personal element to your residential or commercial project. Grafico have even had some intimate and unusual requests since introducing this product to the Australian market; the kind that don't quite make it to the likes of Instagram.

Grafico have worked with several football teams, reproducing old heritage snaps for their home clubs. Damian explains that the restoration of aged photos results in their favourite projects whether it be a sports venue or a family home, "We can take an old photo that you have of your family from 1930's, scan it and blow it up to tiles or wallpaper without any issues. That's probably some of the most beautiful jobs, the old historical photos always come up so beautifully on tiles"

Given you can choose any shape for your printed mosaic, the overall aesthetic varies significantly from job to job, especially when you start experimenting with grout colours and size of application. Corney says 20x20mm square are most common, mimicking the traditional glass sheets, however you can opt for penny rounds, 100mm squares (as seen on several projects on TV's reality show 'The Block') and other funky geometric shapes.

The waterproof nature of this product makes it a winner for adding something different to your bathroom or outdoor entertaining area.

Grafico offer design services to help anyone wanting to achieve a specialised print, or you can upload any photo or image of your own choosing. And while graphic wallpaper is another division of Grafico, when asked specifically about the benefit of the printed mosaics, Damian answers, "I can give you a beautiful impactful mural with our wallpaper and it will look great. This just gives you a second layer of dimension and texture which you can't get from anything smooth. The grout lines bring the photo towards you and the 3D texture of having an individual tile making up a photo, or an image, or a pattern, is beautiful"

He goes on to say, "you can do custom print wallpaper, but you wouldn't put that in your shower, so it gives you further options to boost opportunities to put in branding and your own patterns and things in areas where you weren't able to before, such as in bathrooms and wet areas and outdoors". The other benefit to the resin mosaic over digital wallpaper is that it doesn't fade, and you can't scratch the ink being protected by the resin.

The waterproof nature of this product makes it a winner for adding something different to your bathroom or outdoor entertaining area. While you wouldn't fully submerge the mosaics in a pool due to water pressure causing damage to the product, you can create a decorative frieze to rim the pool, as splashing won't cause any harm. The effect on the mosaics at different times of day, contrasting between gloss resin and matte grout, provides an additional element when used for an exterior application. →



As seen on The Block 2019

Old Versus New

Typical glass mosaic sheets are known for their intricacy during installation. A great deal of precision needs to be used by a professional Tiler to ensure the tiny squares are aligned perfectly, for failure to execute on this results in obvious defects in the overall pattern. The glass can also scratch or chip easily. Perhaps this is why the mosaic has been highly valued for so long. Mosaics can be intricate, but they give a premium look.

However, Grafico's printed mosaics are not that difficult to install, anyone can install them. All the sheets are numbered so it's like putting together a giant jigsaw puzzle! In fact, several DIY enthusiasts during Covid lockdowns took to installing their own printed mosaics. Damian's advice for those attempting self-installation, "It takes patience to prepare the wall. The worst thing you can do with mosaics is slap them up in a rush and you start seeing all these squares everywhere. The real skill is installing it in a way that the squares are almost invisible, so once you grout them it just looks like it was one huge piece of tile thrown on the wall"

This being said, Grafico's recommendation is to engage professionals. Trades have the tools required to achieve perfect levels and they are just very efficient. Corney says Builders love working with their printed mosaic because it cuts nicely with industrial scissors and due to being only 1.2kgs per square metre, there is less intense manual handling involved. Also, the product itself is priced better than you would expect for such an individualised product, with its freight even more friendly in cost due to the product's minimal weight. While the cost and installation of printed mosaics is more favourable in comparison to glass mosaic sheets, Damian says, "people can look at it and value that it would have taken potentially some time to put together".

Grafico's website features helpful tutorials, highlighting other benefits such as the use of standard tile glues and grouts from off the shelf. There are also install guides to help anyone through the process.

Green Spaces Without Limitation

When approached to deliver the poolside art for a large Hamptons home in Brisbane, Grafico suggested rather than digital wallpaper, the mosaics would be a more appropriate solution for an exterior setting. The client request came after seeing an existing wallpaper print that they fell in love with but because they wanted it outdoors and by the pool, they were able to create their own unique version of that artwork taking on the medium of mosaics.

Damian elaborated, "we ended up with these cool tiles that were put in three... a tryptic sort of thing along the pool and it was originally one of our wallpaper designs, but we printed them as the tiles" he continues, "it was simple, it wasn't very expensive, but it just added a little bit more of a feature onto the walls."

To what would otherwise be a boring pool fence, they now have a hint of the coast to enjoy in their backyard. Damian adds, "you often get these big blank spaces in modern homes, and this is a good way to fill it."

In a couple of recent projects, Damian discusses the difference his products have made in improving the outlook while providing a maintenance free garden, "that's been the biggest growth area over the last few years because green walls have been so popular, but they've come and gone, and people have realised how difficult they are to maintain and costly to buy, costly to maintain, and this (the mosaics) is obviously trouble free, you stick it on and install it and then you don't touch it again – just hose it down if it gets bird poo on it!"

Further to this, Damian spoke of a 6x4 metre ivy install they completed in Melbourne and in jest challenged anyone trying to grow a real one of that expanse in a short amount of time. The mosaic green walls can provide instant gratification while real plants mature in front of it. Damian identifies this as a common problem for homeowners once they've built a new home, "they've finished the build, they're putting all these little plants in and they're gonna take the next ten years to grow, so for the next ten years we're going to be staring at big white walls". Adding freshly potted plants in front of a ready-made printed mosaic green wall is only adding more wonderful texture to an already impressive feature.

Another client absolutely loved bougainvillea flowers but couldn't provide the attention it deserved ongoingly. Grafico sourced a good photo of the plant and made it work over the entire wall without any repeat in pattern. They partnered this with an adjacent green wall and the result is not only striking but executed with top quality.

Upon reflection, printed mosaics offer a lot by means of personality, sentiment, function, and purpose. The options are abundant as you could use them to screen unsightly amenities such as rubbish bins, electrical boxes or water tanks. They can emphasise a water feature or provide a theme for your alfresco. With unbounded options, how could you creatively use digital mosaics in your next project?



As seen on The Block 2020

'ROCK OUT' TO THE MAGIC OF

Outdoor Speakers

Today's automated home design options allows the modern homeowner total user control over their home; helping them to keep their families safe and sound, keep their homes temperate, and--perhaps most importantly--to rock their tunes to the highest order. And when it comes to external entertainment options, outdoor speakers are a must have for your exterior design plan.

Outdoor speakers always have served as virtual must haves for those who host formal garden and patio parties, along with casual summery get togethers with family and friends. Plus who amongst us doesn't love to just sit outside once in a while and jam to the radio or their favourite download recordings?



Yet for today's discerning home or business owner, it's not enough to have a sound system that rocks--you need the actual Rock.

On today's home design market, popular brands and products such as the Paradigm Go Series Garden Speakers & Klipsch Rock satellite speakers bring the world's most dynamic, powerful, detailed sound to your outdoor living space in a discrete, stylish, automated and amplified fashion. These outdoor speakers come housed in a lifelike landscape aesthetic and leverage the same high performance acoustic design philosophies of comparable indoor products. With a 5" IMG woofer and a Tractrix horn-loaded 1" Aluminium Dome Tweeter, the Pro-500T-RK rock satellite speaker brings the world's most dynamic, powerful, detailed sound to an outdoor living space.

Particularly distinctive are the Rock speakers, which liken their naturemade namesake in the role of landscape speakers designed for smaller spaces. The UV-resistant, mechanically reinforced fiberglass cabinet of the Pro-500T-RK rock satellite speaker is weatherproof and boasts great acoustic power and clarity; qualities expressed through this model's high performance outdoor audio capability, 5" IMG woofer, a Tractrix horn-loaded 1" Aluminum Dome Tweeter, an all-new 105° horizontal dispersion pattern; 8 ohm / 70V/100V compatibility, and all-weather durability.

The Life Style store offers the Paradigm Go Series Garden Speakers & Klipsch Rock satellite speakers. The store's unique North Parramatta showroom is equipped with demonstration facilities that allow you to 'rock out' and experience the full effect of these revolutionary products.

VISIT OR CONTACT THEM TODAY

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Unit 8 - The Junction, 2 Windsor Road North
Parramatta NSW 2151



Build Better with Lysaght Zenith™

The LYSAGHT® steel cladding range has long been a design favourite for Australian architects and designers, providing as it does aesthetically appealing and versatile facades that bend, often literally, to their creative will and add exciting visual dimensions to their designs.

With Lysaght's ZENITH™ cladding range, that design value reaches new heights with profiles that deliver bold aesthetics, paired with the exceptional performance known and expected from Lysaght's products and supported by the extensive technical expertise only Lysaght offers.

Inspired by the best in European design, the six profiles in the LYSAGHT ZENITH™ range each offer a distinctive character which makes a dramatic style statement.

LYSAGHT LONGLINE® is a striking cladding combining slender, high ribs and broad, flat pans for a bold and beautiful visual and is available with plain or fluted pans, or tapered for a fan-like effect where curvilinear roofs require a tailored solution.



With raised panels and recessed, 'channel-like' joins, LYSAGHT DOMINION® has a sleek, contemporary character with a pleasing detail created by the shadowed 'channels' and can be used in long lengths vertically or horizontally on a structure, or in shorter lengths for a 'block-like' effect.

LYSAGHT IMPERIAL™ features broad, flat pans and slender, well-defined ribs in a cleanly elegant cladding which complements virtually any architectural design and offers a curving capacity not readily achieved in all cladding for the ultimate in style and versatility.

A heritage-inspired profile, LYSAGHT BAROQUE® features wide, flat pans defined by generous semi-circular ribs to deliver a strong linear visual which is softened by the rounded rib-form and offers a unique visual character which sits easily with both traditional and contemporary architecture.

LYSAGHT ENSEAM® combines broad flat pans and a lower, yet substantial rib to create yet another distinct visual dynamic in a cladding which possesses clean good looks and an easy style that makes it an ideal solution for contemporary architectural designs.

And last, but not least, LYSAGHT SNAPSEAM® features the pan and rib profile of ENSEAM® while offering greater design flexibility enabling longer lengths and greater spanning capacity thanks to its clever concealed-fix clips. And these exciting architectural profiles offer even greater possibilities for the design palette when you consider the wide variety of finishes that can be specified. These include the contemporary COLORBOND® steel colour range, the superb COLORBOND® Metallic steel colour range and the extensive colour array available through the COLORBOND® steel STUDIO colour offer.

A modern, two-story house with a dark, vertically-slatted exterior and large glass windows. The interior is warmly lit, showing a dining area with a table and chairs, and a lounge area with a sofa and cushions. The house is set on a grassy lawn with a swimming pool visible in the background. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting sunset or sunrise.

Inspired by the best in European design, the six profiles in the LYSAGHT ZENITH™ range each offer a distinctive character which makes a dramatic style statement.

FOR MORE ON THE LYSAGHT ZENITH™ RANGE, VISIT

www.lysaght.com or call 1800 641 417 for technical enquiries

In essence, the exterior of every business is like a sign to welcome visitors within, even if no actual sign is posted anywhere on the property. A business' exterior must characterise and identify the mission and purpose of the commercial enterprise, as well as hold a certain aura of divine visual appeal.

So when it comes to stores and boutiques, restaurants and cafes, nightclubs and entertainment venues, what's in for outs in 2022? →

Commercial Exteriors:

THE OUTS AND OUTS OF COMMERCIAL DESIGN IN 2022







Designer: Frank Tabotta



Sustainable design.

Much like residential design, today's commercial building designs are being completed with pure timbers and economy of scope, and without the use of excessive building materials and nonrenewable resources. Timber exteriors are very much the norm for today's commercial buildings.

Colourful and character-driven.

From a boutique that boasts pastel signage and double French front doors to an ice cream shop designed to liken a whimsical ice cream cone, modern businesses are unique, animated, boldly colourful, and a whole lot of fun to visit.

LED lights.

From flashing signage to wall and window borders, not to mention door, sidewalk and staircase lighting, LED luminaires are a must for commercial structures--especially those open during nighttime hours.

Large windows.

Sizable and elaborate window treatments come as part and parcel of many commercial exteriors--especially for those whose businesses come centred around elaborate showrooms. 'Window shopping' has never been easier, thanks to elaborate and crystal clear window displays!

Natural or biophilic design.

Aside from the greenery and garden space that fronts many businesses, the businesses of 2022 frequently feature floral canopies blossoming forth from exterior walls, wreaths adorning doors, timber signage, commercial spaces that liken treehouses, and other biophilic novelties.

Size, scale and spectacle.

More and more these days, we behold commercial exteriors that are multi-level, multidimensional, and out and out beautiful.

Sometimes when it comes to selling any product or service, it is indeed the outside that counts!



An unavoidable showstopper, designed by Reece Keil



BACKWARD ABOUT COMING

2A

Forward

Having heard of his progressive and adaptive design boutique, the client, a professional Gold Coast couple, approached Building Designer Reece Keil to meet their brief for a very low maintenance home. Being the entertainers that they are, they wanted a home that would spark visual interest and invite the waterways of Surfers Paradise right into their living room.

“Back to Front House” got its name from the reversal of layout to the home. Toward the north-facing frontage is the views and therefore the main living areas. While the garage has been shifted to the rear of the block, maximizing the dwelling’s street frontage, creating a welcome canvas to inspire design.

In addition to an alluring façade, the client wanted the home to be made of a solid masonry material that was anything but brick. Having had poor experiences in the past with movement and cracking, they asked Reece to provide alternative solutions that would still offer a solid masonry aesthetic.

Strong and Solid

Permission to construct this Southport home out of materials other than brick was a win for Reece Keil. Not only did this request mean he could design something to visually separate the home from an architectural brick dwelling next door, but it also meant he could incorporate a product that maximises thermal efficiency, a building fundamental for the Australian climate, particularly in sunny Queensland.

Reece had considered a couple of different materials to propose to his client, a foam board option, and the Hebel PowerPanelXL. The clients weren’t overly thrilled with the thought of foam as external cladding, even though they liked the idea of its thermal performance. They wanted something they could knock on which would sound solid. Therefore, Reece suggested Hebel as it, “blocks, it holds, it repels, it does all of those things that a masonry type wall would do but the system itself is a lot easier to work with. That’s why I pointed them in the direction of the PowerPanelXL because it’s more robust, it’s got good thermal qualities and on the flipside of that, it’s quite easy for the builders to use.”

Reece was very familiar with the Hebel product having used it on several other projects. Its fast installation method was another factor that the client found appealing, as did the builder Tidal Constructions. “The builder loved



Curves are in, designed by Reece Keil

working with Hebel. They don’t know why it doesn’t get used more widely” Reece described comments from Tidal’s team.

This award-winning project featured Hebel on the entire lower level, so it was within reach of the client. Being of an older generation, they wanted something strong and solid they could touch and feel. From a design perspective, Reece wanted the bottom to get lost as to feature the decorative Cemintel cladding atop. And so, the Hebel plays an important role in providing peace of mind for the homeowners while complimenting the entire home’s dynamic.

Hebel not only offers a thermally efficient alternative to brick, but PowerPanelXL also provides durability with a seamless look to suit a broad variety of design solutions.

Hold Your Colour

What better way to disappear an element than to paint it black! Darker colours can disappear while light colours tend to stand out. With the top level of this home clad in Cemintel Territory™ Woodlands Whitewash, a light timber looking product, the black rendered finish of Hebel would be the perfect accompaniment for an engaging contrast, providing the client with the visual impact they employed Keil to execute.

However, the most important consideration to their brief was to ensure the home would not require ongoing maintenance. This is where Hebel excel in Reece's opinion. "The good thing about PowerPanelXL is you get a high-quality flat surface resulting in a brilliant, clean crisp finish." Hebel not only offers a thermally efficient alternative to brick, but PowerPanelXL also provides durability with a seamless look to suit a broad variety of design solutions.

Timber-Look Without the Upkeep

CSR Cemintel Territory™ was chosen to feature in this project, selected for its visual appearance and more importantly on this occasion, for its quality in minimal maintenance. The product itself is a cladding made of cement, bonded with fibrous wood particles, pressed with surface texture and prefinished using a durable paint process. The paint itself has a platinum coating technology that protects against UV damage and colour fade.

When given the client brief, Keil had to do some research to find a product that was going to tick all the boxes. Partial to trying new products and using materials that aren't so commonly used, Keil wanted to give Cemintel Territory™ the spotlight on this home. "If they have something different to offer, and in this case, it was pre-



Two tone cladding adds beauty and depth, designed by Reece Keil

finish and that realistic looking rough sawn finish, it's going to spark interest, and that's what I'm all about, it's sparking interest." Due to the pre-finish of this cladding, there is no touch up or repainting to be done years after install, making it a quick decision for Keil and his client. "Once you install it, you don't have to touch it again."

On selling the concept to the client, Keil said, "they're very house proud and they like to talk about the things on the house, the products and what not. I showed them some samples and we sat them out in the sun, and the rain, in the shade and all of that, and went through the acceptance process. They took all of it onboard and loved it, loved how it was, and ultimately used it."

Keeping the overall palette light to suit the coastal surroundings, Cemintel Territory™ Woodlands Limed was also added to the front façade to join fellow material Cemintel Territory™ Woodlands Whitewash over the rear garage. Reece was concerned that the cladding was not going to be light enough, but the depth created from the two colours makes for a dynamic and alluring aesthetic. He says, "it gives the house different identities throughout the day, depending on what the weather is doing." The cladding can look white in the sunlight and adopts a creamy appearance later when evening sets in. →

Installing a cladding such as this provided a nice contrast to the neighbour's architecturally designed brick dwelling. Keil's design had to compete with another building that is also interesting. Utilising the Cemintel products allowed for the two homes to sit proudly next to each other, both striking but very different. In fact, the cladding on Keil's design is so different, it prompts great curiosity among passersby. The client has been in their home now for over a year and their feedback to Keil is "they love the fact that everybody always asks about it."

When asked to describe the finish of Cemintel Territory™, Keil replied, "it's textural, it's natural looking from afar. The good thing about it, particularly in this case, is a lot of people that see this house don't know what that is, straightaway they think it's timber because it's got the rough sawn appearance to it and you can't pick up a pattern repeat in that. So straight away people's mind goes to timber, and then they start thinking about

maintenance and it looks great but it's going to need all of this maintenance stuff. And then once you actually start explaining to them what it is, they love it because it gets the look that people want without the maintenance." Compared to other pre-finished boards that either don't look as realistic or that need to be repainted every five years, the Cemintel Territory™ is a premium yet low-maintenance product.

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

Being a reasonably newer material to the market, this project was the first time Cemintel Territory™ was used by Reece Keil and builder, Tidal Constructions. The cladding comes in three-metre-long planks, fitted together with a weather-resistant tongue and groove joint. The biggest challenge onsite arose from the gorgeous, curved walls which wrap around the side of the front elevation. Keil and the builder were able to get a CSR Cemintel technician out on site to work through a solution.

"There's certain documentation that's readily available about the installation process and everything, but it's not until the guys are onsite and actually physically doing it those certain things come up, so to be able to get someone out there, after sales support, to educate them and hold their hand throughout the journey is really good." This was an important part of the construction as Reece continues to explain, "As soon as you start deviating from a set manufacturer's installation requirement, you void your warranty." Once a solution was found for cladding the curved walls, CSR Cemintel also assisted in providing the warranty. Like anything unknown, it takes getting used to new installation methods. The trades were accepting of the challenge and Keil compliments CSR Cemintel saying, "they were quite accommodating with educating the guys about the installation methods as well." Once the CSR Cemintel support had arrived, trades got what they needed to continue confidently with the rest of the construction, and in future projects.

As far as componentry, Cemintel's cladding systems come with all trims and flashing required for a seamless finish. A great example of this is the blade wall on the front elevation. What is a limitation of the board length, has been cleverly turned into an intentional feature, incorporating CSR Cemintel's flashing components to balance the wall, which is obviously taller than the three-metre length. Instead of installing the board and having the flashing randomly place at the longest length, Keil introduced a second flashing, so the break ended up in vertical symmetry, which easily disguises the construction requirement as another beautiful bespoke feature of the home.





PowerProfile®

Hebel has developed a simple system that replicates the popular look of traditional standing seam, Hebel PowerProfile.

The new system comprises a universal backing clip that is fixed to the Hebel facade, and a powder coated aluminium profile snaps onto the clip.

The profiles are available in two styles and three popular Colorbond® colours offering a myriad of design options for facades using just one product – Hebel.

Hebel. A beautiful way to live.



The Importance of Professional Indemnity Insurance

FOR DESIGN PROFESSIONALS

Every design project is unique and has its complexities. That's why it's so important you have Professional Indemnity Insurance to ensure you are covered for the vast range of exposures that are present within your industry.

What is Professional Indemnity Insurance and why is it important?

Mistakes happen, it's a fact of life.

It doesn't matter how experienced you are or how good your intentions were, mistakes still happen. That's why Professional Indemnity Insurance is vital for professionals who give advice or provide a service to their clients.

With the correct cover in place, Professional Indemnity Insurance will give you protection from legal costs and claims from third parties should you make a mistake – without the financial strain of having to defend yourself.

These claims could be for anything from damages that are perceived to have arisen from the professional's acts or omissions, to claims that professional duty has been breached.

For example, should a Building Designer do, or forget to do, something that is seen to cause injury or financial loss to their client and the client decides to take legal action against them, Professional Indemnity insurance would provide the Building Designer with the necessary cover to protect them and their business – ultimately saving time, money, reputation and stress.

Without the correct insurance, defending yourself can be financially crippling and your entire livelihood could be at stake. Even if your actions are carried out with the best intentions, you need to have backup in case a client feels you have been negligent or offered incorrect advice.

It's not uncommon for legal fees to run into hundreds of thousands of dollars. With a tailored Professional Indemnity Insurance policy in place, you have the peace of mind that in the event of a claim, your costs could be covered and legal teams will work diligently to defend you in any action taken against you or your company.

3 Common Mistakes Designers Make With Insurance (And How To Avoid Them)

If you want to avoid making a mistake with your Professional Indemnity Insurance, you should...

1 Immediately notify your insurer of any issue that arises.

The insurer has solicitors that handle these issues so you don't need to get your own lawyer first.

2 Always read the exclusions on your insurance policy.

Familiarise yourself with your policy, so you understand what you are and aren't covered for.

3 Speak to a reputable broker before taking out insurance.

Don't buy insurance online without speaking with a reputable insurance broker. Anything you buy online is at your own risk and you have no recourse against the provider if the cover is not suitable for your needs!



SCAN ME!

Get tailored advice &
a quote from an award-
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Insurance Tips.

webberinsurance.com.au/bdaa

WEBBER
INSURANCE SERVICES

Exterior Lighting Design

SHED A LITTLE LIGHT ON THE SUBJECT



No exterior lighting plan, be it commercial or residential, industrial or institutional, is truly complete without an adjoining and complimentary lighting plan, and for a vast variety of reasons:

1. Light lends security.

Especially during the nighttime hours, the illumination of a home or business can help deter trespassers and intruders; while at the same time heightening the visibility of the structure.

2. Light lends convenience.

A well-lit design is easier to reach and locate; and once an owner or guest reaches this destination, strategically placed lights will aid you in locating and accessing the building's entry points.

3. Light lends glamour.

The ideal illumination plan will most literally 'light up' any design; highlighting its most striking accents and casting the entire structure in a sparkling spotlight.

In Ground Outdoor Lights:

Likening light cups in their formation, these subtle and easy to place in ground lights serve to illuminate a landscape without any way disrupting its design scheme.

Above Ground Outdoor Lights:

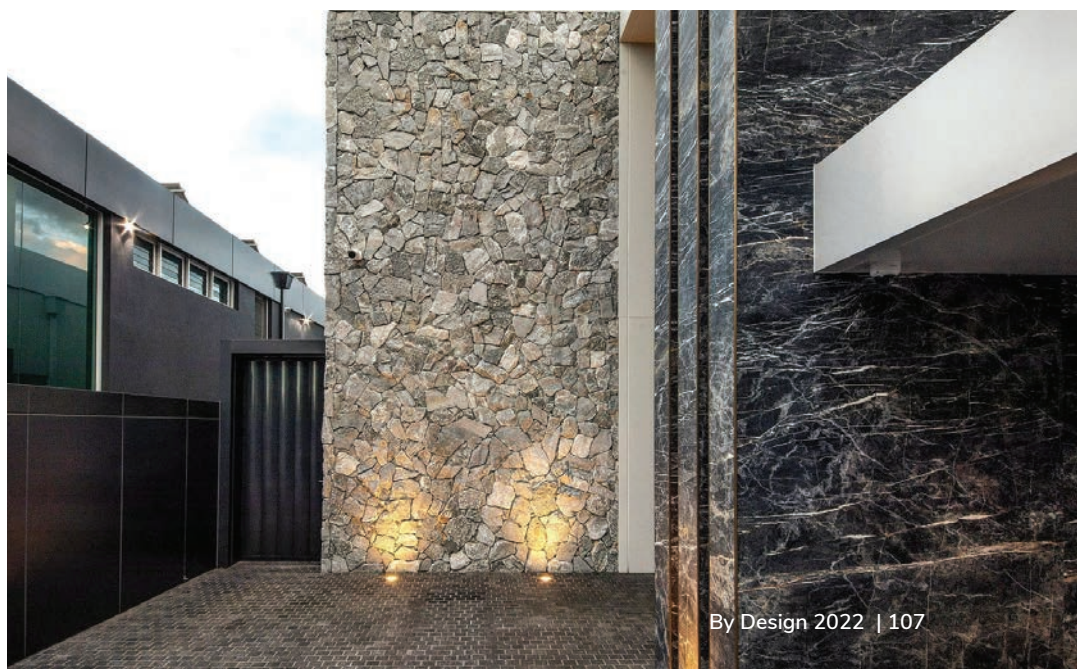
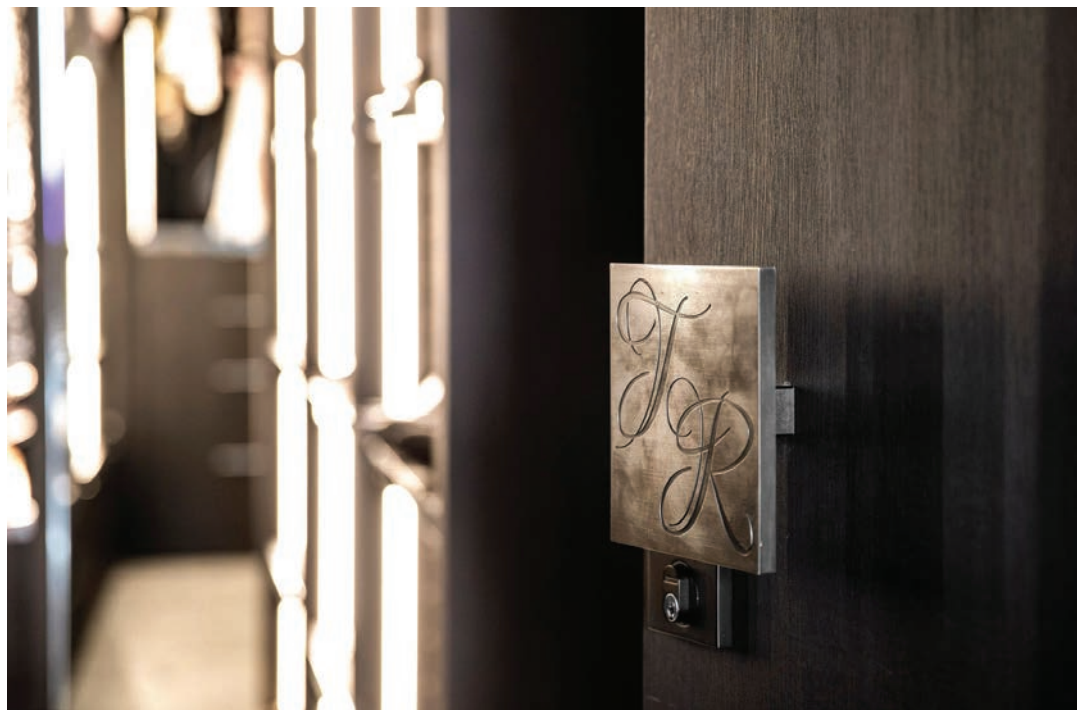
These compact, upward-facing luminaires are very sleek and modern in appearance, and usually liken spotlights as they cast streams of luminous LED light across your subject structure and surrounding landscape. And to illuminate steps and outdoor staircases, place some glittery samples of lightbar or looverlight luminaires for best effect.

On Wall and In Wall Outdoor Lights:

Have you ever passed a home or business that stood out from the rest? A structure that simply glows from wall to wall? Chances are, this design has been endowed and enhanced with outdoor wall lighting.

While these sparkly luminaires may assume the form of subtle lit gems installed within walls or elegant light boxes, wedges and up and down lights attached to walls, it's no doubt that this form of lighting provides wall to wall luminescence.

Light your design!



Is there something missing from your exterior design plan? Shed a little light on the subject!

With so many upheavals globally over the past two years, it has brought about changes in attitudes to our surrounds. Awareness of our landscape's natural beauty has reinvigorated our desire to own a piece of paradise and this has become the reality for many. We are looking for sustainable, resilient and enduring materials that mimic the strength and beauty found in the natural environment.

Words by Christine McCoy, COLORBOND® steel
Colour and Design Consultant

There is a new focus on transforming our spaces to better accommodate for the challenges we've all faced recently. Homes had to become offices, schools, workout spaces, our weekend away and our everyday and now we are out of lockdown we are using large spaces for entertaining family and friends. We have come to love our homes regardless of where they are and have learnt what we would like & need, so many are building from scratch. Walks around the neighbourhood have given us inspiration and let us appreciate the landscape we are surrounded by.

COLORBOND® steel gives you an opportunity to explore, design or build using a great range of colours – inspired by Australia. The landscape your house is surrounded by or the landscape you are inspired by, is a great start for your colour palette and the most successful colour schemes often synchronise with the surrounds.

New trends in colours, textures, building shapes and lines have all been inspired by nature. Designs are using the corrugated profile we all know in new and exciting ways as well as seeing roofs with flatter, broader profiles to show line and texture. Entrances, stairways, walls and windows feature curved shapes and large textured material that mimic the strength and beauty of the landscape. →



Designer: Collins W Collins Building Design



IT ALL STARTS WITH THE

ROOF



Designer: Collins W Collins Building Design

Looking at colours which have become so familiar on our interiors, we can see the transfer of the warm, organic colours onto our exterior materials. There's always room for greys but there is also a new trend to paler colours. So how does this translate to the COLORBOND® steel colour range?

The change in colour trends starts at the roof. Greys are softer and warmer, reflecting the undertones of our native trees. Woodland Grey®, Wallaby®, Dune® and Windspray® are the new go-tos.

Fresh coastal looks have become softer too; Surfmist® will always be a favourite but using warmer colours such as Dune® and Evening Haze® works beautifully with timber, natural stone and recycled bricks. Using the paler Shale Grey™ has always been a contemporary favourite and Windspray® gives us a neutral crispness. With a retro use of colours like Manor Red®, Pale Eucalypt® and Ironstone® we are starting to see a new bolder look on some architectural builds. Darker schemes have become a little softer with Wallaby®, Basalt® and a timeless favourite Woodland Grey®.

The right choice of roof colour means you have a large part of your exterior colour scheme already worked out.

It has become so important to have a greater understanding about building for the long term, and selecting materials that will stand the test of time. COLORBOND® steel incorporates Thermatech® solar reflectance technology which is designed to reflect more of the sun's heat on hot sunny days. Thermatech® technology optimises the solar reflectance properties in every colour (except Night Sky®) in the standard COLORBOND® steel range.

So why do people pick COLORBOND® steel roofs?

- Proven durability and long-life performance.
- Colour and design confidence, with colour schemes for designs- not just roofs
- Thermal efficiency and comfort
- Easy maintenance
- Strength of an iconic brand

The right choice of roof colour means you have a large part of your exterior colour scheme already worked out – letting the rest flow from the outside to in. COLORBOND® steel has been used on everything from roofs and garages, to tiny homes and large commercial buildings. With continuous investment in technology and innovation, COLORBOND® steel keeps pace with the changing needs of the building industry and building design regulations, ensuring it stays beautiful, strong and durable.

COLORBOND SWATCH SAMPLES



Woodland Grey®



Wallaby®



Dune®



Evening Haze®



Surf Mist®



Shale Grey™



Windspray®



Manor Red®



Pale Eucalypt®



Ironstone®



Basalt®

Bricks of Steel

In a residential setting, bricks can provide structural potency, acoustic shelter, and an opportunity for artistic expression. As Brown Street House suggests, bricks have a lot to offer when used for the right application.

A Perfect Example

Brown Street House involved major alterations and additions to a derelict, semi-detached house on a highly confined site in a dense inner-Sydney suburb. With adjoining neighbours on both sides, as well as the limited outlook from the rear, the architectural expression was purposely internalised and celebrated. All of the primary structural elements of the house were conceived as finished components and have been dramatically exposed.



Linear lengths of loadbearing masonry walls were key to this strategy, providing privacy and solidity to the sides without interrupting the sense of openness between front and rear. These walls have all been expressed as face brick both inside and out, providing a consistent material palette throughout and blurring the distinction between interior and exterior. This concept is further enhanced with the use of large format glazed doors which slide into cavities within the double-skin masonry, opening the house seamlessly to the garden.

Adbri Architectural Bricks in a Smooth Steel finish were utilised throughout. The soft, smooth texture of these bricks combined with the light, cool colouration provided an ideal palette to compliment both the warm timber finishes of the interior as well as the charred black external timber cladding. The result is a celebration of the structure and construction of the house, uncompromising in the expression and use of natural materials and forsaking of any internal cladding, linings or applied finishes. The simplicity and calmness of the interior belie the intricacy of the detailing and coordination required to realise this vision.

A leader in masonry products

Adbri Masonry is Australia's leading masonry manufacturer producing quality concrete bricks, Besser® blocks, pavers and retaining wall products. Australian-made and built to last, Adbri Masonry bricks are manufactured locally, with local materials for durability and longevity.

Adbri Masonry are building a better Australia, with a proud history of supplying products to many of Australia's most iconic projects including Sydney Olympic Park, Brisbane's Botanic Gardens, the Adelaide Oval, City of Sydney streetscapes and thousands of designer homes and landscapes.



Designer: Rod Pindar & Natalia Sciberras
Photography: The Guthrie Project

- adamhobilldesign.com.au
- APAC Construcion forcast
- awsaustralia.com.au
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 **weathertex**
a better choice, *naturally*

