

contemporary home design

by: Kishan Jeetun



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| sea creatures



Sculptural furnishings create drama throughout the home.

sea creatures

The owners of this sub-penthouse apartment live almost like sea creatures inside a smooth, shiny shell. Their contemporary home opens to bright sunlight, salty breezes and sea views, while its interior recalls the weathered colours and rough, natural textures of the beach.

Designed by Ruth Richardson from Pod Interior Design, the large northeast-facing apartment was remodeled to make the most of its picturesque location overlooking Broadbeach. As a starting point, Ruth used the existing oak timber flooring and white two-pack joinery as a base of which to blend textures and shades that work in counterpoint to the home's sleeker elements. As a result, rough natural materials contrast throughout the design with

chic refined surfaces. Furnishings add the finishing touch, casually scattered around the interior like driftwood. The overall effect is elegant and understated, evoking the relaxed mood of a seaside holiday.

Entry into the home leads directly to a large lounge room, where a textured rug lies beneath white leather couches. This area also houses a striking piece of furniture by New Zealand furniture maker David Trubridge.

The select artworks and sculptural pieces that Ruth has used in the home are positioned to create drama in the composition, but are balanced against more user-friendly furnishings that ground the home in practicality. Multi-function is the key to this more casual element of the design.

As the home's owner is an avid entertainer and cook, Ruth has placed great emphasis on creating a social, practical kitchen. Minimal changes needed to be made to the space, however a large island bench was incorporated with room for storage, cooking and seating. This room opens to an outdoor bar seating, which is a great place for afternoon drinks and children's meals.

All beds in the home were custom designed to meet each family member's sleeping and storage requirements. The children's

bedroom incorporates as many sleeping options as possible, with trundle-style bedding and extensive storage space.

This project was completed in close collaboration with the builder and a high level of quality in finishes can be seen throughout the design. By drawing on its surrounds and bringing these elements inside the apartment, Ruth has created an uncomplicated, family-friendly hme that moves naturally from the indoors out.

—CHD—

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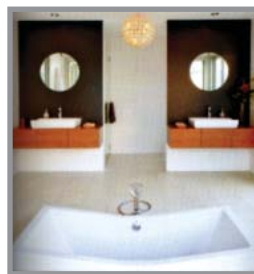
poolside paradise

...A modern beach house design for a busy young couple with a passion for resort-style living...

Modern interior design is one of the areas of architecture and design that has matured over the past decade in Australia. From early beginnings in the '90s, as a reaction to the excesses of the previous decade, modern interior design and decoration today reflect our unique contemporary lifestyle, providing comfort along with functionality.

New design trends are always shaped by what has come before. In this way, the advent of minimalist architecture is often seen as a movement away from clutter of the Victorian era.

"The main objectives in this home's design were to take full advantage of the site's orientation, embracing passive solar design techniques and to overcome existing privacy issues due to neighboring developments," said designer Max Thitchener.



The property was created for a career-focused couple with a busy lifestyle who wanted to make the most of the time they spend at home.

A design issue which had to be overcome was that the site, though close to the beach, has no particular views to speak of. Max decided to produce a plan which created a focal point for the home; a pool area encircled by the living accommodation. The kitchen, dining and living rooms, media room, main bedroom and ensuite surround this central outdoor living area, giving the home a real 'indoor-outdoor' feel.

The property has been designed around the central courtyard and pool.

By night the unusually shaped pool creates a unique focal point.

The excellent client/designer relationship meant the clients were more than happy to allow

Max decided to produce a plan which created a focal point for the home; a pool area encircled by living accomodation.

exploration and freedom with the design while also expressing their lifestyle preferences. Finishes include weatherboards and fibre-cement panel to the external building as well as rendered brickwork, a Colorbond roof and anodised aluminium windows and large sliding glass wall sections.

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The kitchen features polyurethane cupboards and select-grade greygym floors run throughout the house. The timber decking is merbau.

Max Thitchener specialises in creating individual and contemporary beach homes. With 18 years experience, he works mainly on the Central Coast of New South Wales.

Combining modern, contemporary design with the very latest technology, this home offers the best in luxury living. -CHD-



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