

Read all over



1.

IF YOU'RE THINKING OF INSTALLING JOINERY TO STORE YOUR BOOKS, MEASURE THE LARGEST BOOK YOU HAVE TO ENSURE THERE'S ROOM FOR ALL OF THEM



There's nothing like curling up with a good read from your own book shelves, writes Robyn Willis

The doyen of decluttering Marie Kondo caused a stir earlier this year when word got out about her advice on organising books.

The diminutive Japanese organisational specialist suggested that 30 books was perfectly sufficient for any adult, sending bibliophiles and book collectors worldwide into a spin.

After the excitement and novelty of ebooks and Kindles hit its peak a few years ago, books sales have slowly but steadily started to climb. It turns out we really love our books.

Books have long been used as a decorating device, whether stacked carefully on coffee tables.

SOURCE

1.

Ready to read

It doesn't have to be built in to do the job. The Baxter bookcase from Oz Design holds in excess of 30 books.

2.

Fact from fiction

This nook designed by Andrew Waller holds an array of fiction titles and provides good reading light. Picture: Nick Watt

3.

Book bonanza

This impressive system designed by architect Vokes Peters belongs to a couple active in their local writers' community.

2.



or colour coded on bookshelves.

More recently, there's been a trend to present books with their pages forward, although this can create a challenge identifying the hardback you want.

Their appeal is often thanks to their uniformity of shape so consider ordering them according to height and width.

If you're thinking of installing joinery to store your books, measure the largest book you have to ensure there's room for all of them to be safely stored.

Books don't do well in extremes of weather so keep them out of direct sunlight where possible and out of damp places where mildew can form.

While glass-fronted bookcases will protect your favourite read from dust, open shelves offer easy access. Remember to dust your collection regularly and away from the spine if possible to prevent dust gathering.