

10 steps to

MODERN CLASSIC

Inspired by its sun-soaked surroundings, interior architect Andrew Waller turned to texture and colour to revive this '70s home.



Sense of arrival

The breezy, double-height entryway creates both a sense of arrival and anticipation, offering clues to what lies beyond.

"The entry is an introduction to the whole scheme," says Andrew. It's an interplay of the textures, patterns, colours and materials used throughout the house. Filament pendants and timber stool from Julie Lewis Agency. Flinders console from Globe West. Tapestry in Prussian Blue artwork from Quercus & Co. Moroccan basket and *Rhapis excelsa* plant from Garden Life. ▶

Sage advice

2 Andrew brought the outside in with a masterful palette. "It references the local area – the house takes in views of a bush reserve, so I opted for slightly muddy colours, which are calming." Pale eucalyptus green on the kitchen joinery and slate-blue and aqua accents in the living room as well as entryway echo the harbour outlook. So, too, do the white timber furnishings – the whitewash gives them a sun-bleached look. Island and pantry in Dulux Sage Monica. Walls in Dulux Natural White.

Cabinet briefing

3 Once the kitchen was poky, now it's light and airy. "The kitchen was the starting point for the interiors," says Andrew. "It had to have a relaxed ambience, with the island bench and pantry like stand-alone pieces of furniture." On legs, they appear to float in the space. The cabinets don't extend all the way to the ceiling, adding to the breezy effect. Miniforms Lechuck stools from Cafe Culture+Insitu. Joinery by CMK Joinery.

Sea meets city in this four-bedroom home, remodelled by interior architect Andrew Waller. But it wasn't always this light and inviting. The owners, a couple with two teenage boys, bought the property on Sydney's Northern Beaches in 2014. Back then, the 1970s two-storey house lacked flow: walls sliced up the living spaces and the family had to zigzag through the house to catch water glimpses. Oddly, a spa abutted the living room, the two separated by a see-through glass wall. The challenge was to make the most of the harbour view and introduce the spirit of the sea, yet reflect the home's place in the city. "It's a city house, but it's also a family home in a beach location," says Andrew. "It had to feel calm and lived-in and more sophisticated than the traditional beach house." He removed walls separating the living spaces, creating a seamless open-plan layout with abundant light and water views. The spa went down the plughole, replaced with a spacious dining area. Then the decorating journey began...

Craft class

4 The kitchen has a distinctly Scandinavian feel. "With framed doors with routed V-joint style panels, the kitchen employs a spare, functional aesthetic," says Andrew. "I am attracted to the stripped-back look, with no applied decoration. The construction is the decoration." Similarly, the oak Tripod coffee table and the ash Gus Truss armchairs, from Globe West, have a simple yet sophisticated Scandi appeal. Paris floor lamp from MRD Home. Brasserie pendant lights from Emac & Lawton.

To see more of this kitchen, turn to page 164.

Artwork by Craig Ruddy. For Where to Buy, see page 232.



Ocean notions

5 "This house is not a period property – there were no cornices or mouldings, just square white rooms, so it was important to add texture and materiality," says Andrew. In doing so, it draws many of its cues from its bayside location. Here, woven kilims rub shoulders with ceramics and solid oak furniture, a rattan pendant hangs against a raw painted brick wall in the entryway. "Everything is natural, a layering of textures, like a pebbled beach," he says.

General pattern

6 In a house that provided a largely blank canvas, pattern also plays a key role. Geometrics – pixellated for a softer look – adorn the rugs, cushions and artwork. In the living room, a potted *Monstera deliciosa* and a bubble-like display of wall-mounted assorted plates explore pattern to add interest to the space. The motifs continue onto the adjacent terrace and into the entryway. Old Yarn kilim from Koskela. Triangle-print cushions in Morph fabric in Prussian Blue from Quercus & Co. Tripod coffee table, Globe West. Custom-made sofa.

Shade nous

7 Pendant lights punctuate the airy, lofty ceilings, which include light wells. The light fittings not only create warmth and ambience, they possess a sculptural quality, which changes its essence from day time to after dark. And they reflect Andrew's love of texture. "The woven light fitting over the dining table is like a tumbleweed. We wanted something very tactile," he says. By contrast, the pendant lights that hang above the kitchen's island bench have a cooler, more urban feel. Moloko pendant light in dining area from MRD Home. ▶

To enjoy Andrew's video tour of this house, use the free viewa app and scan this page.



Bleached & beached

8 This is a late 1970s house where you'll find a nod to traditional Australian weatherboard. "It's a warm, rustic aesthetic," says Andrew. Furnishings in solid oak and ash, including the coffee table, dining table and chairs, as well as the flooring, have a sun-soaked patina. Europlank engineered-wood flooring in Legacy White Extra Rustic Grade from Haywoods. Dining table, Globe West. Wishbone chairs, Cult. ▶





Green's the go

9 Easy-care plants forge a link between indoors and out. In the entryway and on the rear terrace, plants with elongated vertical leaves, such as mother-in-law's tongue (*Sansevieria*) and lady palm (*Rhapis excelsa*), emphasise the ceiling heights while echoing the greenery outside. "The foliage has sculptural value," says Andrew. "The *Monstera* in the living room is slightly lighter and more delicate than the *Sansevieria* to create a pattern overlay." Reef sofa, table and chairs from Globe West. Fitzgerald laser-cut screen and plants from Garden Life.

Drawing inspiration

10 Artworks include monochrome paintings and sketches that are subtle in nature so as to not intrude on the delicate palette. Examples include the *Dance of the In-Between* print above the bed in the main bedroom (right) and *Leo* on the kitchen wall, both by Craig Ruddy, as well as pencil sketches from Africa in the dining room. In the living room, a plate cluster, created by Andrew, is striking yet low-key. "The plates anchor the space and add pattern," he says. **H&G**

Andrew Waller Design, Redfern, NSW; 0422 992 676 or www.mrwaller.com.



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