

Outside *in*



Utilising the outside world and connecting it to the interior is beautifully achieved in this much-loved, refreshing and individual Gold Coast beach home

Spanning three levels, this glass-fronted, colourful home looks out over the ocean. Beachside living harmonises spectacularly with the interior design scheme and the exterior flows easily and effortlessly to the interior, thoroughly cementing a marriage between the natural world and the craftsmanship of design and decoration. →

ABOVE Great care was taken by landscaper Brad, from Blue Gum, to make the natural elements complement the interior



we love
Artistic elements feature from top-to-toe in this relaxed beachside space



ABOVE Soft hues combine with ornate patterns to create a warm and delicate space

LEFT Much-loved furniture items needed re-upholstering to refresh them and make the home feel young and new again

John Croft Design has a long and steady relationship with the homeowners of this rejuvenated home. They have worked together on three projects over the past 20 years so it's no great surprise that a trusting relationship has developed. Principal interior designer John Croft has worked with these clients twice before; once in their previous home in Brisbane and once for the interiors of this same property more than 12 years ago. This designer/client relationship was particularly exceptional as the homeowners were very attached to the existing design, which incidentally was also completed by John Croft Design. Filled with bursting colours and powerful patterns, the previous interior was greatly loved. Sadly though, after many years of wear and tear, the homeowners decided a refreshing refurbishment of the space was necessary. Interior designer Nyria McKew assisted John on the project, which involved reupholstering existing furniture pieces as well as supplying new furnishings and accessories where needed.

Like the colourful and mismatched environment that exists just beyond the patio, the interiors burst with the diversity between neutral and colourful palettes, textures, shapes and styles

ABOVE LEFT Natural timber side tables and bright fabrics contrast and complement each other

ABOVE RIGHT Half artwork, half mirror, this piece brings an individual and intriguing element to the bedroom

While the bright colours and eye-catching patterns may suggest otherwise, this home has, in fact, been neutralised. Compared to the bright pre-existing interior, this new space is calmer than before. A selection of natural tones and textures can be found sprinkled throughout the home and many of the walls have been painted in neutral hues with a softening ragged finish applied. Even walls with the brighter colours have been layered with tones of beige prior to the application of the bright hues.

While the project does feature many neutralising tones, it also undoubtedly features bright colours, too. "There was no brief," John explains. "The clients just wanted their home

to be liveable, relaxing and with a feeling of warmth. It was essential that it be robust and hardy to accommodate their young and active grandchildren so they wanted to avoid a 'precious' space." To achieve this, patterns and colours were utilised. Neutral furnishings and fabrics were not an option with young children around, and general wear and tear is better concealed for longer periods with colours and patterns for added longevity.

The homeowners wanted the six grandchildren — who were already so integral to the design concept — to feature more prominently in the home in some way. They desired to include some of the children's artwork in their home, but instead of sticking pictures on the fridge or framing them on walls, John suggested having their drawings incorporated in a custom-made hand-knotted rug for the hallway floor. The much-loved

and talked-about addition is very special and incorporates all the uniqueness that the young children originally drew. It now adds a very personal and special touch in a manner seldom encountered in other homes.

This refurbishment draws beautifully on the natural world outside. Like the colourful and mismatched environment that exists just beyond the patio, the interiors burst with the diversity between neutral and colourful palettes, textures, shapes and styles. The result is a very warm and comfortable home that is both relaxing and fun that all the family love and enjoy. **HD**

more info?
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