



Clockwise from top Muranti door frames, ceiling roses and large cornices give a traditional feel to the interior; the façade is finished with red brick quoins, sandstone and terracotta roof tiles; Dina Schirripa.

TUNED FOR SUCCESS

A custom-built Fairmont Homes design on a knock down site was the answer this music teacher needed

words **john merriman** photography **nick clayton**

Because it is not unusual to have drums playing in one room, guitars in another and a piano in a third simultaneously, an open-plan design was not an option for Dina Schirripa.

She needed lots of medium-sized rooms to fit her range of students and teachers, and chose a more traditional house design.

"Having rooms running off hallways and a classic facade with sandstone and bay windows appealed to me aesthetically; it was also practical, so it was the ideal mix for me," Dina says

Dina purchased the block with original home on it 10 years ago as an investment property before moving into it two years ago. "The original home needed work but after spending a bit of money on renovations I realised it was a bit of a waste. I was still going to be in a small home that didn't meet my needs and the renovations just felt like a 'sticky tape' job."

Overnight she decided to knock it down and start again. "I knew exactly what I

wanted and Fairmont Homes were great in building the home. Nothing was ever a problem and everything was done the right way and on time," Dina says.

The design has a large lounge room, accessed via sliding doors, in the centre of the home, which houses Dina's piano and also serves as her home office. Across the hallway is the music room where she gives piano lessons. The space between this room and the toilet serves as a waiting room for students. Behind the lounge is the drums and guitars area, which can be accessed from either hallway.

Dina uses the adjacent "spare" room as a sewing room. The U-shaped kitchen at the rear is simple and practical, and overlooks the dining zone. The main bedroom is located at the front.

"Most people comment the house is quite large but it doesn't feel that way to me at all," she says. "It is easy to keep clean, probably because there are no children, so it doesn't get very dirty." ■

customBUILD



Zoned off Bedroom two, above, has been covered into another living area; each room can be closed off and extra insulation was installed in every wall to help with sound absorption, below.



HOME VIEW

Classic finishes are ideal when you have a traditional design



ornate decoration

A solid strawberry fibro-plaster ceiling rose adds a classic traditional touch to the lounge room. Measuring 630mm in diameter the rose is glued to the ceiling and easily painted. An ideal do-it-yourself job with the right instructions. \$86.90, T W Ingham and Sons 8443 5577.



off the plan

Builder Fairmont Homes

Design Custom

Location Not on display. View similar homes at Folland Ave, Northgate

Price from \$185,000

Open Sun|Mon|Wed|Sat 1.30pm-5pm

Contact 8261 4300 or 8112 3112

Details 245.5sqm total size

220sqm living area | 17.39m width | 16.23m depth

2.7m ceiling | 3 bedrooms | 3 bathrooms



soft underfoot

Texture, a 100 per cent New Zealand wool carpet, is naturally stain resistant, rated extra heavy duty and is extremely durable. It provides excellent insulation properties. In Walnut Brown, it provides warmth and matches well with deep reds and neutral decor. From \$50sqm (installed), All Floors Carpet Choice 8293 3833.