

BUILD first home



SMART STYLE

This savvy buyer made sure all her wishes were fulfilled with a customised Fairmont home

WORDS Jenny Maisel PHOTOGRAPHY Nick Clayton

Being tight with space and budget, Anita Thompson was determined to be clever when it came to building her first home.

"I only have a 10m-wide block, so I needed a design that gave me the best possible use of space, but I also wanted it to have enough room for entertaining friends and family in comfort," Anita says.

An open-plan living and kitchen area at the rear of the design solves both of these issues.

"I wanted to build close to where I grew up so I could stay in regular contact with family and friends, and there are plenty of regular visitors, so having a large entertainment area was important," she says.

"I have two brothers and a sister; two of them are married and have two kids each. We are very close and they come around often. I needed to have plenty of room so we wouldn't all be squashed into a tiny living area."

There was one more thing that Anita wanted when she planned her home – an extended bench in her ensuite to accommodate grooming products and accessories.

"A lot of my friends have built their first homes recently as well, and one thing I learnt from talking to them was that the little corner

bench in the ensuite often was too small, so it was important for me to have that room," Anita says. "The ensuite and the main bathroom are my favourite aspects of the home.

"I love how they turned out. The space, the colours and the tiles all work great.

"I also splashed out on the taps a little bit and I am really happy with how everything came together. While I had to watch my budget, as this is my first home, I wanted to make the bathrooms a bit of a feature, especially as it is something that visitors see."

The second and third bedrooms are in frequent use, one as a guest room and the other one converted into a large, comfortable study.

The colour scheme throughout the house is mostly in black and white with pink accents.

Anita says she loved designing the home exactly the way she wanted it.

"I am not going to stay here forever, and I built it really just for myself, although there might be enough space for a partner and maybe one child," she says. "I love the home for what it is; it is exactly what I pictured it to be. I might choose to build again in the future, but right now I am comfortable and content here and have made it my own space."



GATHER AROUND There's plenty of space to entertain at the rear of the home, top, with a raised kitchen bench hiding the preparation area from guests, above; Anita Thompson relaxing in her living room

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JUST RIGHT Designing the home herself gave Anita all the elements to suit her needs; the home fits on a 10m-wide block, left

HOMEview

Make your house shine with sparkling white finishes

SQUARE UP

A square basin, with its clean, sleek lines, looks great in a contemporary bathroom. The ECT Global Adelaide half dropped basin (500mm x 460mm x 150mm) is not only stylish, but vitreous china makes it durable and easy to clean. Heat and stain resistance means it will withstand all challenges of family life and come out on the shiny side. \$269, Direct Interiors 8366 7788.



OFF THE PLAN

Builder Fairmont Homes
Design Custom
Location Not on display. See similar designs at Kerang St, Andrews Farm

Price from \$116,000
Open Sun | Mon | Wed | Sat 1.30pm-5pm
Contact 8284 8638

Details 140.52sq m total size
118.06sq m living area | 9m width
17.62m depth | 2.4m ceiling
3 bedrooms | 2 bathrooms



RUSH HOUR

Indiana Glossy Grey ceramic tiles (400mm x 400mm) were chosen for the open-plan living area. Their high-gloss white background has a light grey marbling running through to add visual interest. A wear rating of 4 means the tiles are suitable for high traffic areas such as passageways and living areas. \$33.95/sqm, Discount City Carpets 8346 2588.

