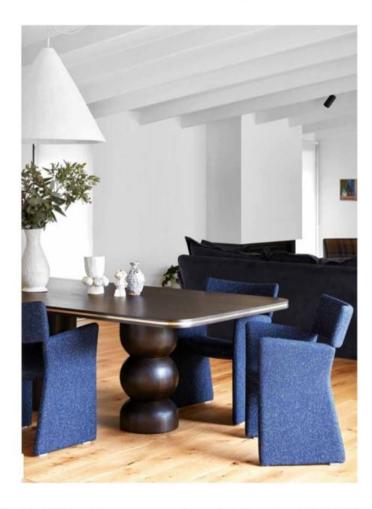




MODERN FAMILY



When his childhood home came on the market, the owner of this Melbourne property snapped it up – and jazzed it up – for his own young family.

STORY Carli Philips | STYLING Orr Design Build | PHOTOGRAPHY Jack Lovel

HOUSES H&G



THE SOURCE

Varying shades of green and blue deliver pleasing pops of colour that work with any architectural style.



1 Thoronet bronze dish, \$880, Studio Henry Wilson. 2 MissoniHome 'Brest 481' cushion (50x50cm), \$585, Spence & Lyda. 3 Australian House & Garden concrete soap dispenser, \$29.95, Myer. 4 Study for Pad artwork by Tom Alberts, POA, Charles Nodrum Gallery. 5 Flutter Two swing-arm wall sconce, \$6315.90, Paul Matter. 6 Massproductions 'Crown' armchair, POA, District. 7 Yos08, White vase by Asterisque, \$190, The En Gold Gallery. 8 HC28 'Oasis' coffee table by Frank Chou, \$3050, Domo. 9 Nara bath towel, \$12.95, Freedom. 10 Odessa 'Arborio' wool rug (240x300cm), \$5400, Armadillo. For Where to Buy, see page 188. H&G







reinterpreting them for a contemporary Australian setting with a fun colour palette and modern art.

With the addition of contemporary furniture and darker colours, warming the interiors up with oak flooring was a non-negotiable. "Sticking with humble materials and relatively understated fabrics was key to achieving a chic and comfortable home," says Rhiannon. Jane agrees: "This house isn't about bells and whistles, it's about liveability and functionality for its occupants. It's a family residence that can evolve as children become teenagers and accommodate visitors from overseas as needed. It's practical, fresh and completely timeless."

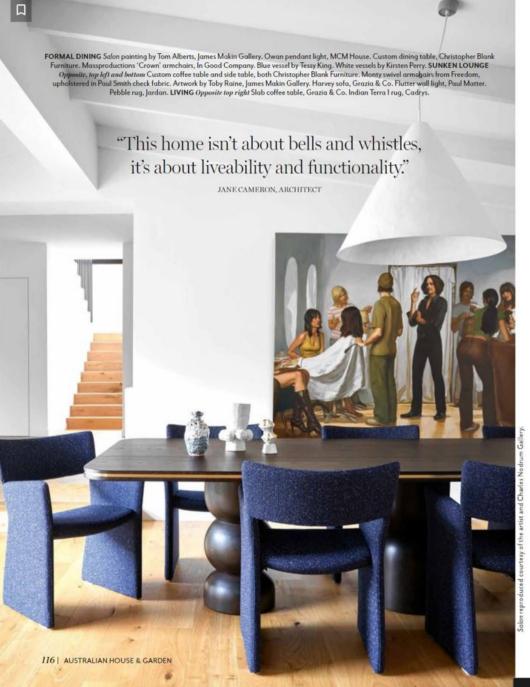
Jane Cameron Architects, Fitzroy, Victoria; janecameronarchitects.com. Orr Design Build, Mornington Peninsula, Victoria; ⊕designorrbuild. James McBride & Associates Master Builders, Mornington Peninsula, Victoria; jamesmobride.com.au.

PERGOLA Top left Porto extendable dining table and matching benches, Eco Outdoor. Blackbutt decking. EXTERIOR. Above Sequence curved bench, Coco Flip. There is direct access to this outdoor area from the living room. The cladding in finished in Dulux Monument, the brick is Dulux Natural White. REAR ACCESS Left Bluestone stepping stones. An existing pool was filled in to make way for an expanse of lawn and low-maintenance garden.

THIS IS THE LIFE The luxury of having two dining spaces isn't lost on the homeowner. The tables are in close The tables are in close proximity, but serve different purposes — one for everyday, the other for larger gatherings — which suits this family's style of living. The blue table, adjacent to the kitchen, is relaxed and playful, while the heavy-based table lends a sense of occasion when hosting special dinners. hosting special dinners.

"Humble materials and understated fabrics were key to achieving a chic and comfortable home." RHIANNON ORR, INTERIOR DESIGNER









uying this property was especially sentimental for the owner of this home in south-east Melbourne. Having lived in the house as a child, he knew the location and layout were ideal for family living, so was delighted to snap it up when when it came on the market in 2008 and begin a new chapter in the property with his own children.

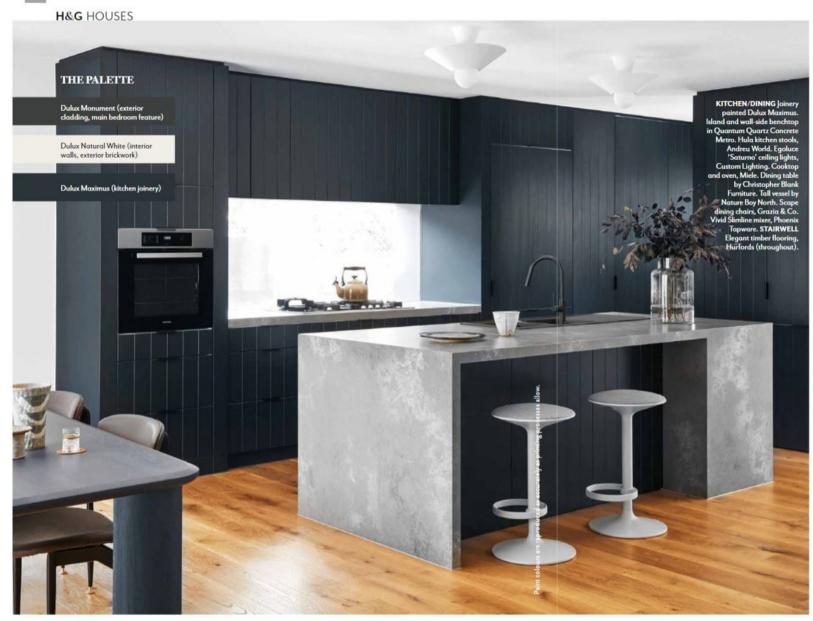
As special as the house was, a renovation was in order to make it absolutely perfect for its latest residents. Since the two-storey home backs onto a golf course, architect Jane Cameron decided to extend at the front, which required careful consideration of the streetscape so the new works didn't stick out like a sore thumb.

The floor plan consists of two wings at either end with a double-height communal zone right at the centre. This involved knocking out and shifting the front entrance, turning an old carport into a double-car garage, making room for a paved path to the side garden and adding a pergola to create a barbecue area.

Meeting the entryway is the main staircase, which leads to the first-floor addition and dedicated kids' zone with three bedrooms and hangout area on the landing. On the ground floor are two bedrooms and a bathroom to ▶









the right, and a sunken lounge/library in what was formerly a bedroom. At the heart of the house is the light-drenched central living/dining space with raked ceilings and exposed beams. A central fireplace was removed to create a more generous, open feel.

The existing kitchen, at the rear of the house, was gutted and refitted with full-height joinery and a smart island topped in a concrete-toned quartz composite. The kitchen's footprint was also extended to accommodate a new pantry. Jane also made space for a new study, powder room and laundry on the opposite side of the stairs that lead to the main bedroom suite.

Blue tones weave a soothing and sophisticated thread through the home. In the casual dining area, for example, the custom-designed table - made by Mornington artisan furniture maker Christopher Blank - is painted a bespoke blue hue to contrast with the soft taupe upholstery of the Scape dining chairs from Grazia & Co. "The table is finished with a coloured stain rather than paint to allow the timber grain to show through," says interior designer Rhiannon Orr of Orr Design Build. "The colour shifts from deep indigo to electric blue depending on the angle of the light at different times of day. It took some time to find it, but it was important that the table be just the right shade so it didn't look too green or fight against the deep navy in the adjacent kitchen."

The owner had been living in the US during the renovation and for some years before and loved the large-scale furnishings often found in spacious American homes. With this in mind, Rhiannon took conceptual cues from traditional Georgian-style furniture and the tartan, plaid and corduroy fabrics so popular in the US, »