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Top 50 Rooms

EXCITING IDEAS FROM OUR FAVOURITE ROOMS OF 2013





TOP 50 ROOMS

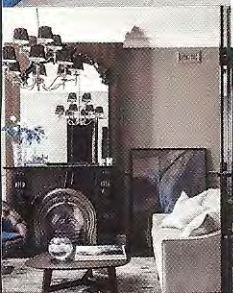
For 15 years *Australian House & Garden's* Top 50 showcase has been a window into beautifully resolved interiors, revealing the details that lie behind a truly wonderful room – and pegging trends along the way. So what does the 2013 crop bring to the table? Note the continued affair with natural materials – timber, marble and exposed brick in particular – used with ever-greater refinement.

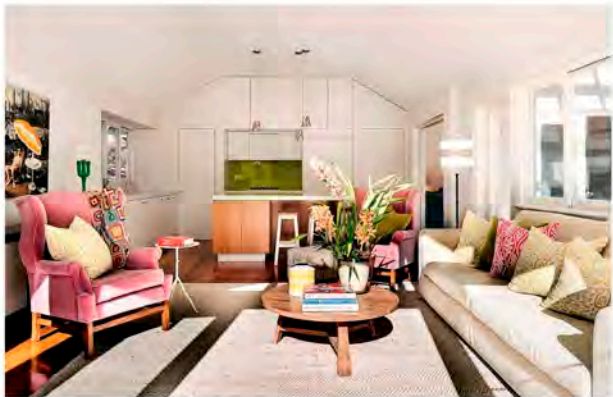
Reflective materials are out in force as well as oversized kitchen islands, pendant lights and decorative rugs too. Aside from the wow factor, useability or liveability is the focus, and the thing that most thrills the lucky owners.

Enjoy the journey.

PRODUCED BY ALAANA COBON & LISA GREEN

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Stewart Horton
Principal, Horton & Co;
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Shelf satisfied

2 "My client wanted his Sydney terrace to retain some of its grandeur but in a relaxed, modern way," says interior designer Stewart Horton, who realised this beautifully in this library/living room.

WHY IT WORKS Stewart's pared-back approach is based on clean architectural detailing and lighting. Starting with a black japan finish on the floor he has built up a canvas of black and white, layered with quirky patterns and colours. A custom-made rug adds a modern tribal flavour. The effect is cosy and liveable, creating an inviting place where the client can just as easily curl up with a good book as socialise.

OWNER'S VERDICT "This is my favourite space in the house. It's where I come to read and be quiet but also where I can hang out with friends. It serves, above all, as my reading room but instead of the heavy, dark and dusty feel of a library, it's colourful, bright and fun, while still managing to provide an instant feeling of calm."



Brett Mican
Principal, Brett Mican
Interior Design;
(02) 9690 0053 or
www.bmid.com.au.

Open house

3 This kitchen redesign in a home on Sydney's Lower North Shore is true to the owner's love of clean lines and colour. The result is a bright, inviting open-plan space that has become the centre of the house and now sees frequent use as an informal living space. With a seamless connection to the garden, the area functions as a modern interpretation of a conservatory.

WHY IT WORKS Layers of neutrals build up to stronger colours and textures. The white and timber kitchen, neutral rug and white surfaces allow the boldness of the green splashback, pink armchairs, Murano pendant lights and other accent pieces to pop. The views to the garden remain the focal point, borrowing a sense of light and space from outdoors.

OWNER'S VERDICT "The kitchen is the heart of the home. The colour is not overwhelming but gently present throughout. We love it all year." (See more of Brett's interior design on page 192.)