



Townhouse

TRANSFORMATION

This airy, light and open home has nailed the concept of family-friendly, while knocking the notion of laidback sophistication out of the ballpark. It is total, livable, luxe.

PHOTOGRAPHY HANNAH BLACKMORE / **STYLING** CLAUDIA STEPHENSON
WORDS JACQUI GREIG / **INTERIOR DESIGN** THE DESIGNORY





NEUTRAL DINING The home owners prefer to live with natural colours, so The Design Hunter made sure to layer textures to keep it interesting. Dining table from MCM House, Philippe Starck 'Masters' chairs; vessels from The Design Hunter.

LIVING "Choosing a lot of locally made products in light timbers and muted tones, maintained the relaxed aesthetic throughout," says Larissa. "We chose key pieces from Jordan, like the 'Fred' coffee table and 'Nook sofa', to celebrate the beauty of handcrafted, Australian design. The artwork by Georgia Zweep is where we introduced some colour with the stunning 'Drops' watercolour."

Velvet 'Croisette' armchair from Bastille and Sons; striped 'Taraz' silk velvet cushion and 'Isobel' throw from Cultiver; Icelandic sheepskin and purple cushion from The Design Hunter; 'Sierra' weave rug from Armadillo&Co.

Home to Adam and Lavinia and their two children, this 1970s townhouse in Sydney's Paddington, underwent a complete transformation from front fence to back fence, and everywhere in between.

Working with Larissa Raywood from The Designory to tackle the substantial venture, Adam and Lavinia were completely hands-on, which allowed for a seamless project from conception to completion.

"With an awkward existing layout, achieving the brief meant making every area of the home work harder," explains Larissa.

Walls were removed, new bathrooms and laundry installed, the creation of a new kitchen with bi-fold windows side by side a large expanse of bi-fold doors, wide board American oak engineered flooring was installed throughout, the stairs were re-configured, and new outdoor areas created, including low-maintenance faux grass.

In order to achieve all this, Brendon Bott from B2 Construction – an in-house building consultant with The Designory – was brought onboard.

"We were looking for a team who could manage the project end to end, spanning across DA application and planning, interior design and the building works. The Designory's relationship with B2 constructions made the project a breeze for us," says Lavinia.

Brendon worked on the design and development from the very beginning, ensuring the designs were buildable, on budget and able to meet the timelines required; "It is essential to have a builder's input right from the start when you are making a lot of key decisions. It's also critical during the build itself that the builder involves the designer, so that the overall design intent is maintained throughout the build. In some cases when the designer isn't involved, decisions can be made that loosen the connection from the initial concept," says Larissa,



LUSH COURTYARD "Connecting the lush surrounds spatially with indoor-outdoor living creates the ultimate retreat for this young and active family," explains Larissa. "The original home was quite dark before the renovation so we explored all opportunities to brighten it up with elements such as the large bi-folding doors and windows through to the back." 'Tio' barstools from Spence and Lyda; 'Bliss' chairs from The Design Hunter; and cushions and throw from Cultiver.

who believes it is important to note the builder is what makes a designer's visions become reality, so a collaborative relationship is key.

"We worked very closely with Lavinia, her husband Adam and even their eldest daughter Olivia! The decorating was more of Lavinia's project and we started with her wish-list of some key pieces and then added to that look to bring the home to life," says Larissa.

Creating a sanctuary was top of the agenda, and this was achieved by establishing a relaxed aesthetic with a muted palette and a light-filled, contemporary interior. Textures were layered in soft hues of blues, navy and metallic accents, and furniture was chosen

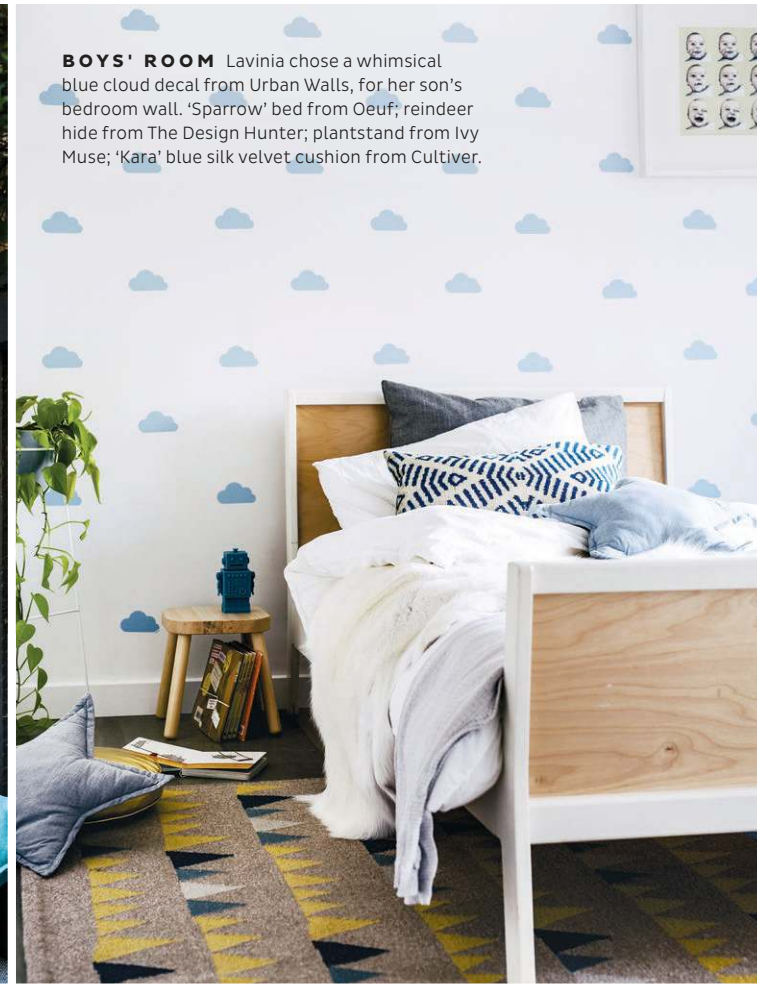
for its laidback sophistication.

Pre-renovation, the home was quite dark, "so we explored all opportunities to brighten it up," such as the large bi-fold doors and windows, keeping the kitchen white (including a mirror splash back), and an overall vivid white paint on the walls and ceiling.

The element with the most impact in the house is the new opening created in the kitchen/dining allowing it to connect effortlessly into the backyard; previously the laundry and powder room blocked this area and made the whole house feel extremely small and dark. "Adam and Lavinia just love that it all feels visible and connected," says Larissa, who is as thrilled as the family with the end result of the transformation.



Go for faux!
 Low-maintenance faux grass
 was used in the courtyard.



BOYS' ROOM Lavinia chose a whimsical blue cloud decal from Urban Walls, for her son's bedroom wall. 'Sparrow' bed from Oeuf; reindeer hide from The Design Hunter; plantstand from Ivy Muse; 'Kara' blue silk velvet cushion from Cultiver.





BEAUTIFUL BEDROOM "In the bedroom, we sourced the 'Sandy' bed by Staple&Co – a brand born and bred in Sydney," says Larissa (pictured). Other features in the room include a pair of handcrafted leather pendant lights by Who Did That, side tables from Jordan and a stunning piece of photography from Pampa.

The layering of various linen creates a sumptuous escape in the master bedroom. Dogwood (floral) duvet cover and pillowcases from Bonnie and Neil; quilt cover and pillowcases in dusk from Cultiver; and throw at end of bed from Kip & Co.



STYLE TIP: GO FOR A NEUTRAL COLOUR IN THE BEDROOM, LIKE A SOFT GREY, TO CREATE A CALMING ATMOSPHERE.



style
TO STEAL

Get this contemporary townhouse's neutral style, with these products.

COLOUR PALETTE

FRAMED PRINT Pampa 'Horse #37' framed print (print size 112 x 75cm) \$1495 thedesignhunter.com.au / **PLANTER** Ive Muse 'Planter Petite' in Peach Eggshell \$95 ivymuse.com.au / **CARAFE** Long neck black carafe \$65 thedesignhunter.com.au / **BOX** West Elm marble love box \$64 westelm.com.au / **COFFEE TABLE** Jordan 'Fred' coffee table with solid American oak top, steel frame with white powdercoat \$1837 jordan.com.au / **CUSHION** Cultiver 'Taraz' silk velvet cushion \$170 cultiver.com / **BEDCOVER** Cultiver quilted king-size bedcover in dusk \$395 cultiver.com / **ARMCHAIR** Honore Deco 'Croisette' velvet armchair in petrol \$1050 (available for pre-order) bastilleandsons.com.au / **THROW** Cultiver 'Isobel' throw \$150 cultiver.com / **TRAY** 'Iconic' tray (large) \$129 freedom.com.au