

LAKE HOUSE

A FRENCH ARCHITECT DRAWS ON HIS DESIGN SKILLS TO CREATE A CALM AND COLOURFUL HAVEN FOR HIS FAMILY IN THE MIDDLE OF PARIS

Fired up Having both lived in Sydney's Northern Beaches all their lives, Hannah and Paul enjoy the outdoors and have incorporated this lifestyle into their home. "We like to have our friends over for afternoon barbecues or a fire-pit session in the backyard, complete with roasting marshmallows! We have an amazing garden, so when we entertain we try to take it outdoors as much as possible," Hannah says. The fire pit was from the BBQ Factory and the chairs are from MCM House. →



Travel treasures "The rug is a vintage kilim that we bought in Istanbul while travelling," Hannah says. The sofa, coffee table and circle mirror are all from MCM House. The throw is from Pampa, the side stools were wedding gifts, from the Mark Tuckey store in Newport, and the lamp is from Beacon Lighting. **Vintage vibes** Hannah found the vintage leather armchair (opposite) on eBay. It fits perfectly with the aesthetic of the home. "We bought the circle artworks on a recent holiday in Hawaii. They're by artist Bree Poort, who works with resin and ply," she says.



WHO LIVES HERE?
HANNAH DENNIS, MARKETING MANAGER
AT N&A GROUP AND ARDROSSAN ORCHARDS,
AND HER HUSBAND PAUL DENNIS, BRAND
MANAGER AT THE ACADEMY BRAND.



THE COUPLE SAVED
MONEY BY RE-SELLING
MANY OF THE FIXTURES
THEY REMOVED

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FOR NEWLYWED COUPLE Hannah and Paul, it was love at first sight – with their first home! Hannah says, "We both knew straightaway that it was 'the one'. We moved in three weeks before our wedding day, which was rather hectic, especially as Paul's bucks weekend coincided with the move-in date."
PATIENTLY PLANNING Not wanting to take the shine off their honeymoon period, the couple waited a few months before commencing the renovation, to live in the home and get a sense of what changes they'd like to make. "We were lucky that the house was already in a very liveable condition when we bought it," Hannah explains. The only major changes they felt necessary were removing a small wall in the kitchen, to open up the dining area and make better use of the lagoon views upstairs. "We converted the upstairs second living space into our master bedroom, which was definitely the most rewarding part of the renovation," she says. "We used a barn-style ceiling support beam, which allowed us to raise the height of the ceiling by 30cm."
GREAT OUTDOORS "The biggest task was pruning the overgrown garden back to a manageable state," Hannah says. "The front pathway was so overtaken by lantana and weeds that you couldn't see the house from the street. My husband has since been stopped by locals who've said they've been walking past this spot for years and never noticed there was a house behind all the foliage!" →



“I come from a SURFING FAMILY, having grown up in NARRABEEN, and Paul grew up a surfer as well, so there are nods to surfing and SURF CULTURE THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE.”

Wide open Hannah and Paul added downlights to the kitchen and removed an internal wall to open up the space onto the dining room. **The bench stools** were a wedding gift from our friend Charles Hinckfuss at MCM House,” Hannah says. **Panda paws** “The panda artwork in the spare bedroom was given to Paul as a child by his parents, after they went to see Chi Chi the panda at London Zoo.” The vintage bed frame was an eBay find. The bedside stool, from Mark Tuckey, was a wedding gift. **OPPOSITE Impulse buy** “The chairs were bought from Orson & Blake several years ago – before we lived together or even had a dining table to sit at! I saw them one afternoon when I walked past the store and made an impulse purchase,” explains Hannah. “The dining table we found on eBay. A supplier in Victoria custom makes them from reclaimed timber to the size you’re after.” The Monte Neutral #36 rug is from Pampa. “The artwork is a print of Anacapri in Italy by our friend Eugene, from Aquabumps.” **Set sail** The ship light was handmade by Paul’s late grandfather, Ernst. “The artwork is by our good friend and photographer Pete Daly, which he gave us as an engagement gift. The photos were taken on a trip to Mackerel Beach with Paul,” Hannah says. The hall table came from an antique store in Mittagong. →



Black & white "Our style is simple, relaxed and uncluttered, with lots of natural finishes," says Hannah. The exterior of the house was already painted when the couple moved in. For a similar look, try Dulux Weathershield Low Sheen paint in Klavier.

SHOP IT / COASTAL MEETS COSY WITH NATURAL TEXTURES AND SOFT TONES



1 Monte Neutral #36 rug (2.2m x 1.77m), \$1390, Pampa. **2** Glow Rust Vivo fire pit (60cm x 60cm x 23cm), \$59, Bunnings. **3** Dark Denim pillowcase set, \$89, Kip&Co. **4** Plantation RV Indigo Linen quilt cover, \$269 for queen, Kip&Co. **5** Black Zephyr chair, \$390, Fenton&Fenton. **6** Tripod 1 Light floor lamp in Black, \$189, Beacon Lighting. **7** Himalayan Long Haired Goatskin rug in white (1.3m x 1m), \$219.95, Zanui. **8** Whispers in the Dark resin wall art by Jenny Dumont (93cm), \$810, Bluethumb. **9** Eggcup stool in radiata pine/soap finish (38cm dia x 45cm high), \$550, Mark Tuckey. **10** Joe armless sofa in Smoke 2200L, \$2350, MCM House. **11** Pop & Scott pot in Plain White (40cm x 35cm), \$210 for medium, Hunting for George. **12** Middle of Nowhere "Flynn" mirror in White (1m), \$365, Life Interiors. **13** Beyond The Horizon framed print in large (50cm x 70cm), \$390, Blacklist. **14** Mixte bicycle in White, \$599 for three-gear model, Papillionaire.



Colours and finishes
 FROM LEFT Quick-Step laminate "Wengé" flooring, \$42 a sq m (uninstalled). Dulux Wash&Wear paint in Vivid White, \$71.90 for 4L, Bunnings. Woodsman panels (2.44m x 1.196m), approx \$35 a sq m, Weathertex. Vistelle high gloss acrylic splashback in Salt (2.6m x 76cm x 4mm), \$265, Bunnings. For stockists, see page 142. **e**