



# MID CENTURY *Makeover*

THE RENOVATION OF A MID-CENTURY FAMILY HOME IN THE BRISBANE SUBURB OF ALDERLEY CREATES A FANTASTIC NEW LIVING AND ENTERTAINING SPACE.

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**An Entertainer's Dream**  
The new light and bright kitchen allows the owners to cook and entertain in one open, connected space



One of John Croft Design's experienced interior designers, Lloyd Hodgkinson, was tasked with injecting a modern feel while being complementary to the original style of the house, which was built in the 1950s, in a 1920s Brisbane Brick Executive style. While the street view is still very much in keeping with its original style, the home now includes a significant extension at the back – a spacious addition for entertaining and relaxed family living.

The extension makes room for a new kitchen, dining room, lounge area, powder room, outdoor terrace and swimming pool. The existing home's bathrooms were also completely renovated and an additional ensuite and walk-in-wardrobe have been added to the master bedroom.

"Throughout the entire project I was very focussed on selecting and designing elements that would correlate with the original home", explains Lloyd. "Although I didn't necessarily want the style of the extension to look as if it was straight out of the 1950s, I did feel there needed to be elements of the house that helped it connect to its past."

Travertine-look floor tiles, laid in a French Pattern throughout the extension, helped achieve a continuity between old and new.

**"MY CLIENTS LOVE ENTERTAINING WITH LARGE NUMBERS OF GUESTS, SO THE HOUSE NEEDED TO BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE THIS..."**



"My clients love entertaining with large numbers of guests, so the house needed to be able to accommodate this," explains Lloyd. The new open plan extension is an entertainer's delight. Expansive sliding doors meet at right angles, and when stacked back on each other, completely open the house up to the exterior entertainment area and swimming pool. It becomes one big, fabulous living area.

The kitchen now provides generous storage for entertaining and a large butler's pantry to incorporate an extra dishwasher, sink and storage space for small appliances.

Traditional cabinet fronts and aged bronze hardware give a classic feel to the kitchen and a respectful nod to the original home.

A neutral colour scheme throughout the extension now sets the backdrop for the drama created by brightly coloured accent pieces supplied by John Croft Design, including a spectacular Ikat chair and ottoman upholstered in hot pink and charcoal, turquoise grass-weave wallpaper and bright chevron style prints.

A chrome and black colour scheme in the bathrooms is simple yet stylish, with classic black bevelled subway tiles enhancing the old-world style. The bevelled subway tiles are repeated in various tones throughout the renovation, again giving continuity between the original and new areas of the home.

As the consulting interior designer on the job, Lloyd's involvement from the overall big picture to the minute detail is immense. The scope of the project included designing all the rooms including the kitchen and

bathrooms and all cabinetry, with full working drawings supplied directly to the builder or cabinet maker. Lloyd also designed a fabulous walk-in-robe off the master bedroom, which provides functional and stylish storage for client, Annette's, enviable shoe collection.

Lloyd selected every fitting and finish, as well as the paint colours used throughout. The decor and all new pieces of furniture, including window treatments, were also selected and supplied by John Croft Design. Explaining the project process, Lloyd says, "after establishing the clients' brief and the project direction, the interior designer sources samples of every conceivable component of the design. From art, tiles, taps, paint colours door knobs and lighting; the whole package is presented to the client in detail along with the overall layout plans and elevations for each room.

In that presentation the client gets a full understanding of how it is going to look and we get feedback from the client. Fortunately in this case, our clients loved everything we presented and what you see here is very much my original concept!"

The full renovation took ten months to complete and the family are delighted with their new living and entertaining space.

Lloyd's advice for those planning a renovation? "Plan ahead! There will always be unforeseen changes along the way, but if you can select every conceivable thing before the building process, it becomes much more stress-free!" 