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INSIDE ISSUE 33 20+ kitchen & bathroom designs; natural pools; all-electric solar homes; green roof guide; renovated Sydney semi; efficient appliances; design workshop Blue Mountains + more



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# **PLUS**

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Ways to avoid eco-design pitfalls
Cairns home adapted to the tropics

## **SUSTAINABLE STRATA**

Owner actions transform 7 apartment buildings



# Style and sustainability

### WHAT A DIFFERENCE AN EXTENSION CAN MAKE

to a home. The centrepiece of this renovation of a 1934 suburban house is a new kitchen and dining/living area that has brought it to life.

The extension, set back two metres from the original house and immersed in the surrounding garden, is a light-filled living space separated from the private space of the old home. Old and new are linked through a glass corridor.

Face cupboards in the kitchen have FSC-certified Tasmanian oak timber veneer sealed with natural oil free from VOCs, while the benchtops are oyster Caesarstone. The glass splashback hides a handy glass and spice cupboard.

Efficient electric appliances are used throughout in the kitchen, including a V-ZUG induction cooktop and Miele dishwasher. A highly efficient Stiebel Eltron heat pump supplies the hot water.



### **DESIGN:**

Nadine Samaha of Level Architekture Konstrukt

### PROJECT TYPE:

Extension and renovation

### LOCATION:

Glen Iris, Victoria

### PHOTOGRAPHY:

Matthew Mallett



### **SUSTAINABLE FEATURES**

### **APPLIANCES**

- V-ZUG induction cooktop and oven
- ZIP Elite square design tap with sub micron and sediment filters
- Tap Luz kitchen mixer Armando Vicario
- Fully integrated Electrolux fridge and separate freezer
- Qasair rangehood
- Miele dishwasher: energy rating 3.5,
   WELS water rating 4.5 stars
- Stiebel Eltron heat pump hot water system.

### **PAINTS AND FINISHES**

- Allergy-free brief for materials and finishes
- All timber flooring and veneer cupboards were sealed with VOC-free WOCA natural oil.

### **MATERIALS**

- Oyster Caesarstone benchtops
- Glass splashback
- Mix of recycled and Tasmanian oak timber flooring and panels for the ceiling was laid in the old and new extension from Britton Timbers, FSC-certified
- Tasmanian Oak Timber veneer on cupboard faces purchased form Timberwood Panels, FSC certified.

### LIGHTING

- All lights are LEDs.

### **OTHER FEATURES**

- Lowered section of the kitchen bench makes the preparation area accessible for children and wheelchair users
- Extension was set back from the original

- house by about 2 metres to create a garden where more light can penetrate and where residents can gain more enjoyment of the outdoors
- Graf Platin tank of 5000 litres installed underneath the grass in the backyard to collect rainwater for flushing toilets and watering the garden
- The whole house is insulated, with roofs reaching over R5
- Double glazing installed with low-e glass on the external layer and gap filled with argon gas to improve thermal performance
- All openings have blinds to reduce further summer heat gain and winter heat loss.