



Fresh & MODERN

A BLAND, BEIGE PALETTE IS SCRAPPED IN FAVOUR OF STRIKING BLACK, BRASS AND MARBLE IN A REINVIGORATED ENSUITE

Words KYLIE JACKES Styling JACKIE BROWN Photography MAREE HOMER

ACTUAL PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

Perfect pairing
 NATURAL STONE AND BRASS EVOKE A WARM, TACTILE FEEL. HERE, THE BRODWARE 'MINIM' WALL TAP SET AND 'PILSEN' WALL LIGHTS FROM LIGHT CO ACCENTUATE THE BRASSY TONES FLECKED THROUGH 'SCARPA' CALACATTA ORO SPLASHBACK MOSAICS FROM SURFACE GALLERY. THE LOOK IS COMPLETED WITH BRODWARE HAND TOWEL RAILS, 'HENLEY' VANITY HANDLES FROM HEPBURN HARDWARE AND VERTICAL THERMOGROUP 'THERMORAIS'.



Practical magic
 LITTLE DETAILS MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE. A NICHE IN THE SHOWER RECESS IS A SLEEK SHELF FOR SOAPS, WITH A BRODWARE 'CITY PLUS' HAND SHOWER AND SHOWER ROSE SUITING HOMEOWNER ALICIA'S PREFERENCES. "I ALWAYS USE THE HAND SHOWER BUT MY HUSBAND ROBERT LIKES THE OVERHEAD OUTLET," SHE SAYS. THE SHOWER OUTLET GRATE WAS CLEVERLY DESIGNED TO RUN INCONSPICUOUSLY ALONGSIDE THE REAR WALL.

Bold black
 "THE INTRODUCTION OF BLACK GAVE A MODERN EDGE AND CONTRASTED WITH THE NEUTRAL TILE PALETTE," SAYS DESIGNER LAUREN MAHONEY OF STUDIO TRIO. THE VANITY FRONTS ARE IN DULUX BLACK CAVIAR, WHILE MATT BLACK ALUMINIUM FRAMING WAS USED TO HIGHLIGHT THE MIRRORS' SCULPTURAL LINES AND THE SHOWER AREA CUSTOM MADE BY STUDIO TRIO. "THE SCREEN AND PIVOT DOOR IS MY FAVOURITE FEATURE," SAYS ALICIA. "TAKING THE GLASS ALL THE WAY TO THE CEILING MAKES THE BATHROOM FEEL LARGER." >

Renovations can have a snowball effect. As you begin planning improvements in one area, other spaces often quickly follow. That was the case for Sydney homeowners Alicia and Robert – they initially thought they'd simply update their kitchen, but after enlisting the talent of Studio Trio creative director Lauren Mahoney, they expanded the scope of the renovation to include four bathrooms and a laundry.

"The ensuite in particular had bugged me for years," says Alicia. "There wasn't enough clearance between the shower door and the toilet and the entry door, so we decided to tackle it all and moved out for the renovation, just two weeks before I was due to have our third child."

Despite the compact footprint, Lauren devised clever changes, which improved usability and transformed it from bland beige into a dramatic space layered with texture, bold accents and beautiful brass fixtures. "We solved the entry issue with a barn door, removed a bulkhead to level the ceiling, redesigned the shower area with a strategically placed pivot door for improved access and ran the custom vanity wall to wall, to accentuate the length of the ensuite," she says.

Now back home again, Alicia couldn't be happier with the result. "It functions wonderfully, and the design elements and combination of finishes create the illusion that it's more spacious than it is," she says.

Design tip

A tonal mix of tiles in a range of sizes, shapes and textures can create the foundation for a beautiful palette. "As a general rule of thumb, we tend to stick to a maximum of three different tiles," says Lauren. "We often recommend large-format tiles for the floor, which are a great practical solution, teamed with natural or textured tiles on vertical surfaces. Often it helps to choose your feature tile first, whether it's patterned, natural stone or a statement colour, then follow with complementary selections to pick up the tones of the focal finish."

Source book

Interior design: Studio Trio, (02) 9967 3060, studiotrio.com.au.
Builder: TPS & Co Construction, 0401 370 367, tpsconstruction.com.au.

GET THE LOOK



1. Troy Lighting 'Pilsen' wall sconce in Modern Bronze and Aged Brass, \$545.99, Ideas 4 Lighting. 2. Calacatta Vagli Oro natural stone, from \$880/sqm, Signorino. 3. 'Eccentric' hand shower and integrated wall union in Gold Brushed, \$599, Rogerseller. 4. Dulux Wash & Wear paint in 'Black Caviar', \$101.50/4L. 5. 'Gaspard' glass vase, \$249, Maison Balzac. 6. Floral Street 'Wonderland Bloom' scented candle, \$68, Mecca. 7. Moroccan zellige tiles in Igloo (100mm x 100mm), \$318/sqm, Surface Gallery. 8. Jentl 'Rose Quartz' facial roller, \$39.95, Hardtofind. 9. 'Paros Rib' bath towel set in Sand, \$179, Aura Home. 10. Saardé 'Lale' brass toothbrush holder, \$39, Jakk & Co.

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Savvy vanity

"THE TWO OF US ARE NEVER IN HERE AT THE SAME TIME," SAYS ALICIA, "SO IT MADE SENSE TO JUST HAVE ONE BASIN, WHICH MAXIMISED BENCH SPACE." SHE LOVES THE SLEEK APPEAL OF THE HONED CALACATTA ORO TOP FROM STUDIO TRIO AND THE ASTRA WALKER 'RONA' BASIN. "WE SPECIFIED DRAWERS WHICH RAN WALL TO WALL AND CONCEALED ELECTRICAL OUTLETS, SO AS NOT TO INTERRUPT THE MOSAIC SPLASHBACK," SAYS LAUREN, WHOSE TEAM DESIGNED AND MADE THE BLACK FRAMED SHAVING CABINET MIRRORS. THE SIDE WALL SHOWS THE MOROCCAN ZELLIGE TILES IN IGLOO, FROM SURFACE GALLERY, IN ALL THEIR TONAL, TEXTURAL GLORY.