

sea creatures

The subtle shades and sandy sensations of the seaside were the inspiration for this apartment interior on Queensland's Broadbeach







THE OWNERS OF THIS SUB-PENTHOUSE

apartment live almost like sea creatures inside a smooth, shiny shell. Their contemporary home opens to bright sunlight, salty breezes and sea views, while its interior recalls the weathered colours and rough, natural textures of the beach.

Designed by Ruth Richardson from Pod Interior Design, the large, northeast-facing apartment was remodelled to make the most of its picturesque location overlooking Broadbeach. As a starting point, Ruth used the existing oak timber flooring and white two-pack joinery as a base on which to blend textures and shades that work in counterpoint to the home's sleeker elements. As a result, rough natural materials contrast throughout the design with chic refined surfaces. Furnishings add the finishing touch, casually scattered around the interior like driftwood. The overall effect is elegant and understated, evoking the relaxed mood of a seaside holiday.

Entry into the home leads directly to a large lounge room, where a textured rug lies beneath smooth white leather couches. This area also houses a striking piece of furniture by New Zealand furniture maker David Trubridge. A driftwood sculpture, this piece draws the eye from the lounge through to the dining area.

The select artworks and sculptural pieces that Ruth has used in the home are positioned to create drama in the composition, but are balanced against more user-friendly furnishings that ground the home in practicality. Multi-function is the key to this more casual element of the design. In the lounge room, for example, the coffee table can become an ottoman, the side tables can be used as stools and the lounge converts into a bed, so the room is easily adaptable to any number of family and guests. It is also ideal for entertaining, with the square dining table perfectly positioned to enjoy the beautiful hinterland sunsets.

As the home's owner is an avid entertainer and cook, Ruth has

placed great emphasis on creating a social, practical kitchen. Minimal changes needed to be made to the space, however a large island bench was incorporated with room for storage, cooking and seating. This room opens to an outdoor bar setting, which is a great place for afternoon drinks and children's meals.

All beds in the home were custom designed to meet each family member's sleeping and storage requirements. The children's bedroom incorporates as many sleeping options as possible, with trundle-style bedding and extensive storage space.

This project was completed in close collaboration with the builder and a high level of quality in finishes can be seen throughout the design. By drawing on its surrounds and bringing these elements inside the apartment, Ruth has created an uncomplicated, family-friendly home that moves naturally from the indoors out. **-CHD-**

1 The square dining table is perfectly positioned to enjoy the beautiful hinterland sunsets 2 In the lounge room, a textured rug contrasts with smooth white leather couches 3 A large island bench was incorporated into the kitchen with room for storage, cooking and seating 4 All beds in the home were custom designed 5 Sculptural furnishings create drama throughout the home

PROJECT DETAILS

POD INTERIOR DESIGN

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