

The Design Builders little book of

# *home ideas*



DESIGN BUILDERS



# A home built around you



Every Design Builders home is a one-off. We're New Zealand's multi-award winning designers and builders of unique homes, and we work with you to create a home *just for you.*



This little book is a collection of ideas designed to get the imagination going. There may be something in here that really hits home for you, or it might get you thinking in a certain way, and lead you to another idea. We hope this little book gets you thinking about your home.



# Deck your *house* out

*From the classic Kiwi deck to the latest in contemporary styling, decks come in all shapes and sizes. It's the perfect way to extend your living area into the great outdoors. When Summer's here, the deck becomes a place to entertain guests, and you can even build in a barbie. All hands on deck!*





# Taking the indoors *outside*



When the days and nights warm up, it's time to open things up. Creating a house that's as comfortable outdoors as it is inside is a great way to increase your living area. Go with the flow, indoors and out.





# A warm glow *within*



*Keep the home fires burning.* The days of Granny's smoky old fire are long gone. The latest styles not only look good, they're also highly efficient at keeping your home warm and cosy. And you'll be as warm as toast snuggling up in front of the gentle glow of a modern fireplace.

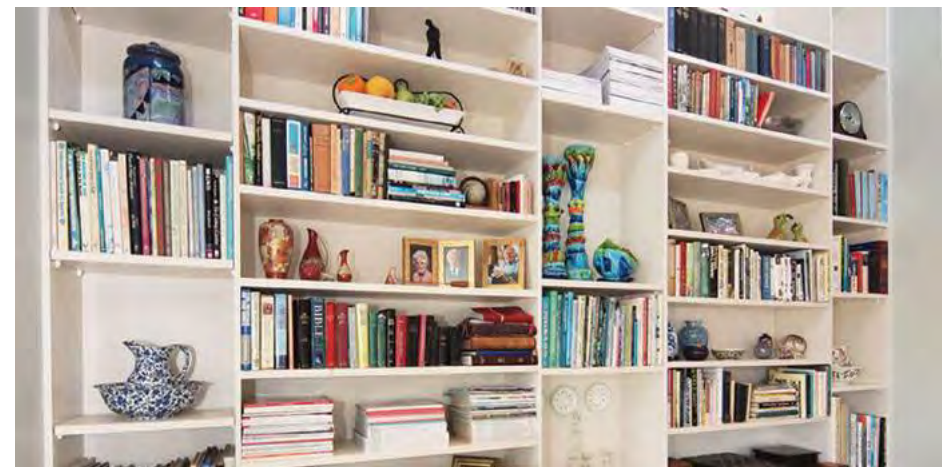




# Making *space*



*You'll have space to spare with smart ideas that are designed to maximise your available room. Storage isn't just about getting clutter out of the way, it can create a great look, from well-stocked bookshelves to anything you want to display.*



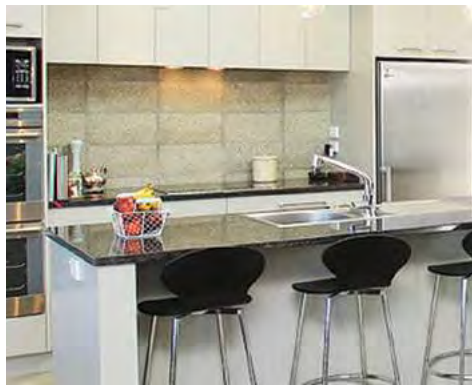
# Upstairs *downstairs*



*A staircase is more than just a way of getting from one floor to another. It can become a stunning feature in its own right. There are plenty of styles out there to choose from, classic, traditional or modern, and with a bit of inspiration, your home can have a heavenly stairway.*







Add a splash  
of colour or texture  
*with a splash back*

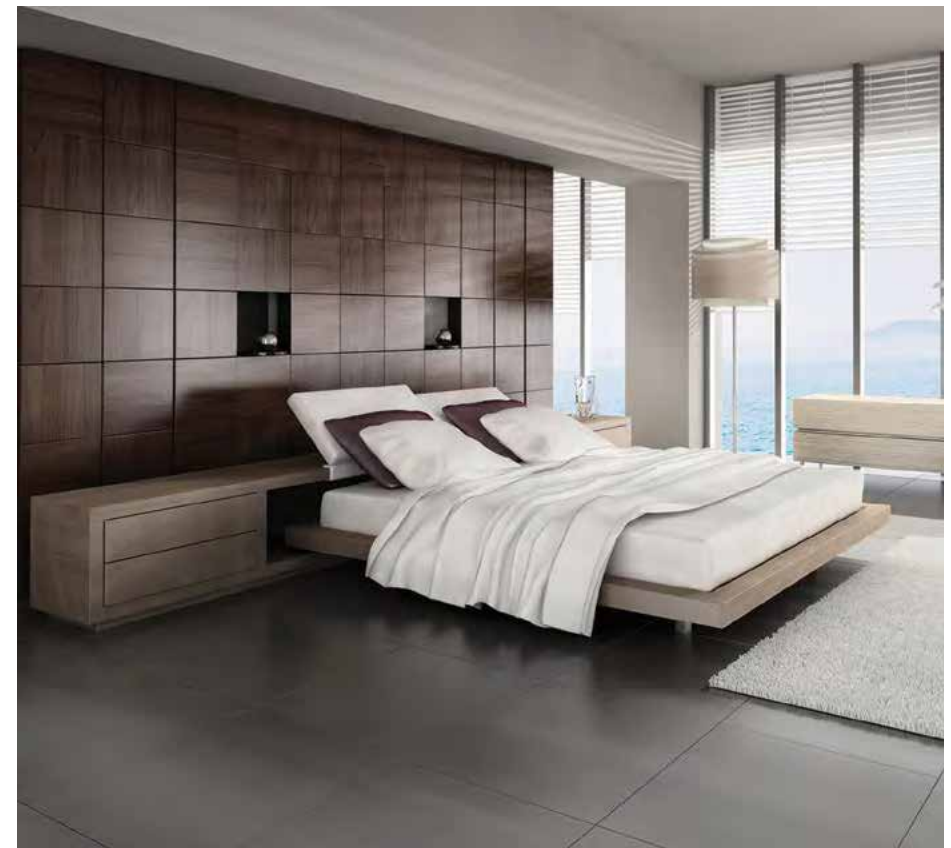


Here's a bright idea. You could add an easy-to-clean splash back, but why think of it from a purely practical point of view. Using interesting colours or textures creates a splash back that makes a splash - think of it as a mini-feature wall for your kitchen.





# Sleep *on this*



*On average, we'll spend 25 years of our lives asleep. So make sure your bedroom is a place where you'll want to spend a lot of time. Whether you go for modern and minimalist, bright and breezy, futon or four-poster, your bedroom can feature eye-opening design ideas, perfect for catching some shut-eye.*







# Everything in *its place*



*If there's one thing that homeowners can never get enough of, it's storage. Instead of just creating space, it makes sense to take a more orderly approach.*

From built-in wardrobes to carefully designed drawers you don't need heaps of room, just some clever thinking.





# Let the *sunshine in*



*Here comes the sun.*

There are lots of ways to light up your life and your home. Cleverly positioned skylights can throw light on the subject, and create a lovely fresh ambience that opens up your home to the heavens. And as an added bonus there's nothing quite like looking up at the southern stars on a winter's night from your warm home.





# Childs *play*



Everyone needs their own personal space, and kids can make theirs very personal indeed. Check out these amazing ideas, they're child's play. In these bedrooms, anything's possible, from a surfer's paradise to a boat-shaped bed, just the thing to drift off to sleep in. As well as being fun, with clever design a kid's bedroom can be practical, with heaps of built in storage.





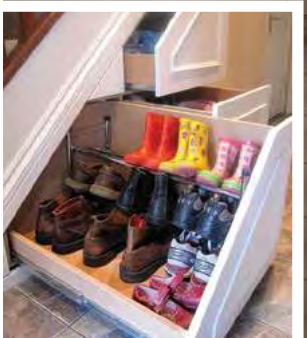




# Under stair *storage*

*You can make the most of your stairs, with some clever thinking.*

Whether it means making full use of the large area beneath the staircase for storage or using the individual stairs themselves, like the clever drawers that can be built into every step. It doesn't matter where the stairs are, whether in the hall or upstairs, some ingenious thinking is a step in the right direction anywhere. Take a flight of imagination.





# An upstairs *laundry chute*



*Here are some tidy ideas to stop dirty laundry piling up, particularly useful if you have teens in the house.*

The laundry chute carries the grubby gear down to the laundry, where it goes straight into the washing basket, ready for the next wash. Jocks away!





# The warmth of *timber*

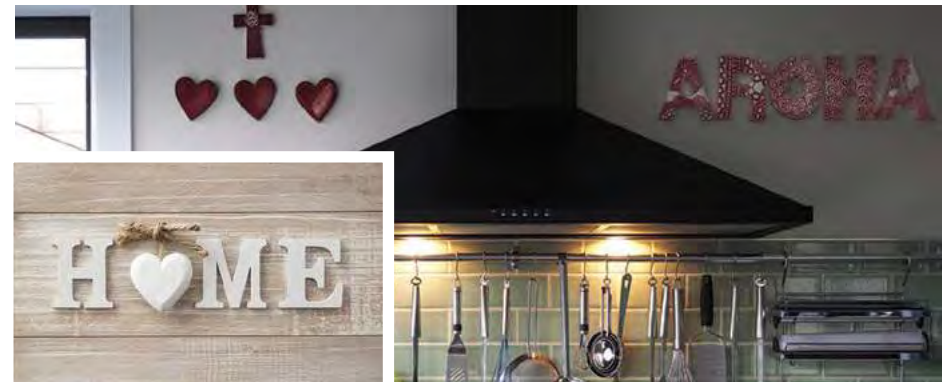


*Great ideas grow on trees.* The natural look has made a comeback in recent years. When it comes to adding colour, warmth and texture clever use of timber can create some stunning looks. Whether you go for plywood or pine, timber's natural warmth can be exploited both indoors and out. In fact, it doesn't look out of place in any room. Wood is always good.





# A word in *your* ear



*You can read into this what you want. Easy to apply transfers let you add a personal touch, in words. It could be a favourite quote, an inspiring thought, or a surprising statement. Whether you go for a quote from Shakespeare or a saying about soup, some cool typography can look great and be thought provoking. If you can't decide on the ultimate line, you could change it every day on a built in blackboard.*



# Sitting with *the chef*



*Here's something to get the creative juices flowing.* With an island and bar stools, no chef needs to be alone. Family or guests can pull up a pew and be part of the action in the kitchen. Eating a great meal is a social activity, and now cooking it is too.





# Fresh made *kitchens*



*Some kitchens rule.*  
Getting creative in the kitchen, starts with a great kitchen. There are loads of clever ways to maximise working space and give the chef plenty of elbow room to practise their art. Clever storage ideas make sure that the right implements are close to hand, and good lighting is a must. It's all food for thought.







# Food *for thought*

*Some say the dining room is the most important room in the home.*

It's where family and friends come together over a delicious meal.

These days, an open-planned dining room makes it even more sociable. When the dining area and kitchen are connected spaces, beautiful food is easy to serve.

The use of natural colours and materials add plenty of appeal.





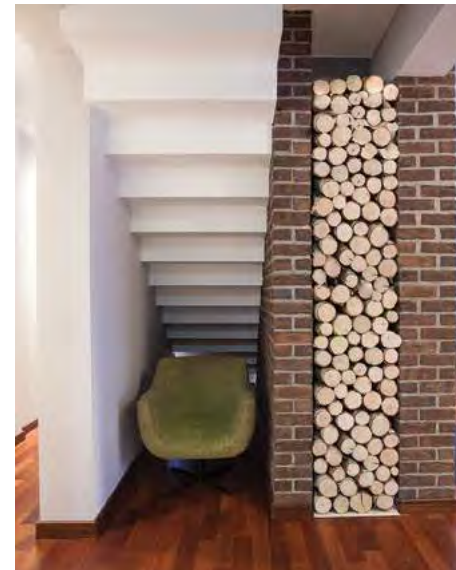




# Making big use *of small spaces*



*Every nook and cranny can be put to good use.*  
Why put up with clutter when there are plenty of ways to keep everything neat and tidy. Space needn't be the final frontier. You might be surprised how clever cupboards and secret spaces can be built into your home. Here are some ideas to get you thinking about making a journey into space.





# Soak in *the sunset*



*There are lots of ways to make the most of your site's natural advantages. It just takes a bit of imagination. For instance, how about soaking in the tub while you enjoy watching the sun sinking slowly in the west. For some, it could be the perfect way to finish the day.*

A window frame is like a picture frame. It helps focus the eye and makes the most of the view.





# Highlight *your home*



*Discreet lighting can be used to pick out features in your home, or throw a little light on the subject.*

That can be very useful in the kitchen, as you can clearly see here.

New generation LEDs put out a lot of light at a low wattage, so you can get the light you need without burning a hole in your pocket.





# Saturday night *at the movies*



*Let's go to the movies.* Loads of us have dreamed of a movie theatre in the comfort of our own homes.



As the price of technology drops, the dream has become a bit closer to reality. When you're building is the perfect time to add your dream screen and sound system. With careful design, it can be integrated into the overall room layout. Add some discreet lighting, and then all you need is the popcorn.



# A point *of view*

*We live in a beautiful country, so if your site gives you the opportunity to frame the vista, there are plenty of clever architectural design ideas that can give you a room with a view. Floor to ceiling windows are a great way to maximise both the view and light. You could use smaller windows to frame the outdoors to create the perfect picture.*





# Room *for two*



*How about a bathroom made for two.*

Twin wash basins and a big wide angle mirror makes it stylish and practical.

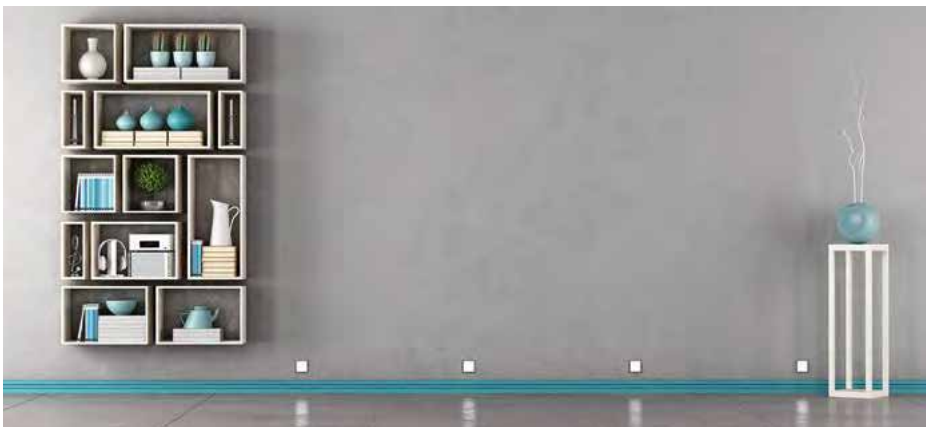
Forget His and Hers towels, now it's a bathroom for both of you.

It'll certainly save time in the morning.

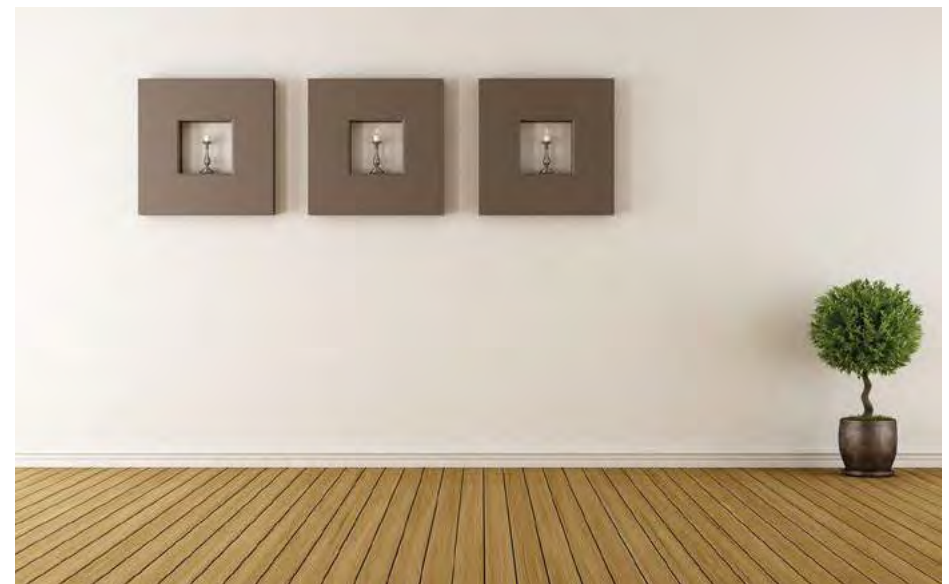




# Keeping *it simple*



*They say 'less is more'. It's often a question of taste, but minimalism could well be to yours. Look at these ideas here. It's a question of getting the balance right, using modern furniture, muted colours and an eye for style. Getting the materials right is vital, and natural colours like timber and stone look seriously cool.*

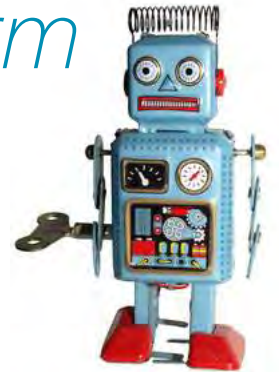




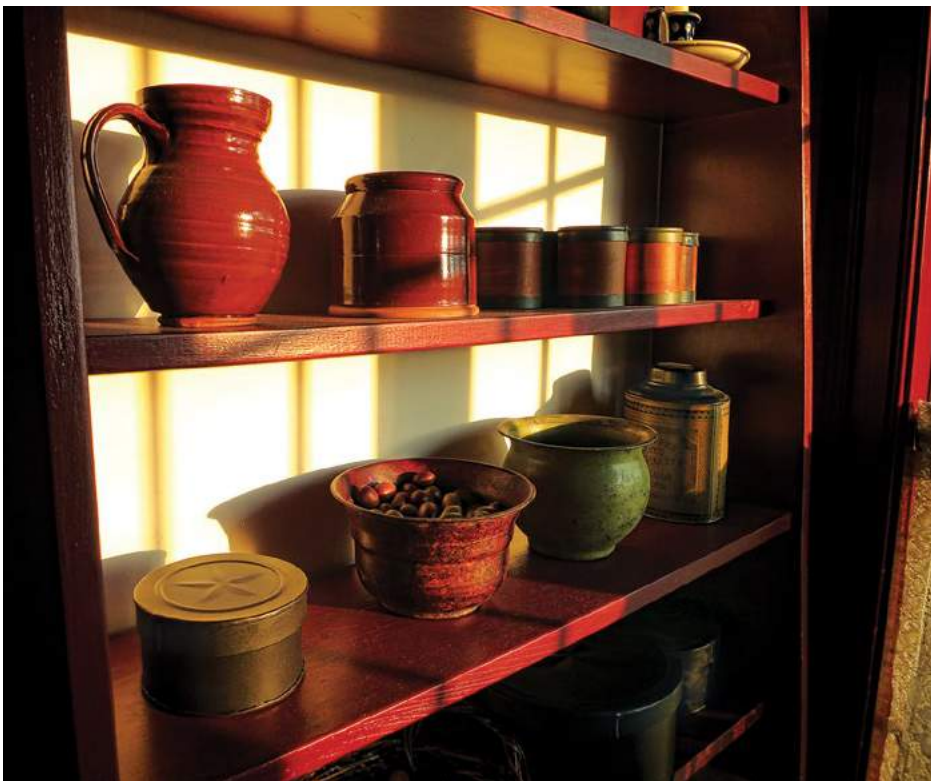
# Old world *charm*

*If you're a bit of a collector, then no problem.*

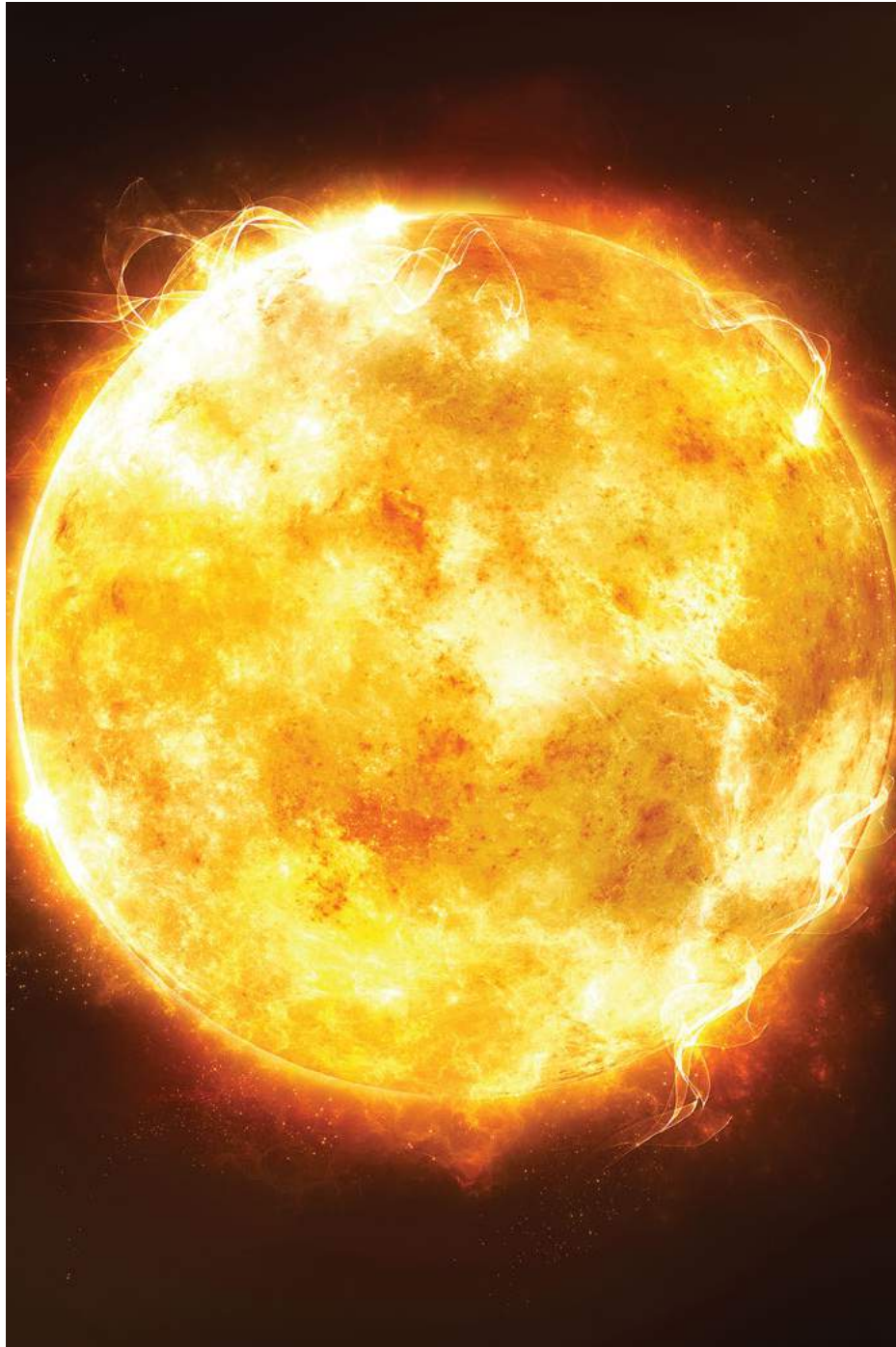
Old, treasured or just plain interesting, all kinds of objects can bring a sense of style and personality to a home. It's just a question of finding the right way to display amazing objects from days gone by. Or even something you found just last week.











# Using the sun *to heat your home*

The sun is  
15 million degrees  
centigrade,  
and you can use  
the sun to heat  
your home.



*It means making sure that  
windows are perfectly  
positioned to let sunlight in,  
and you can trap the heat in  
with double-glazing.  
Or cleverly using materials  
like concrete, which collect  
heat during the day, and  
release it at night to keep  
your home warm and  
healthy, and cheap to heat.*



# Landscapes *to escape*



*Step outside.*

Landscaping your garden can bring out the best in your outdoors.

Whether you're into plants, trees or want to keep it minimal, a carefully thought out garden can create your very own Eden – and you don't need green fingers, all it takes is a fertile imagination.



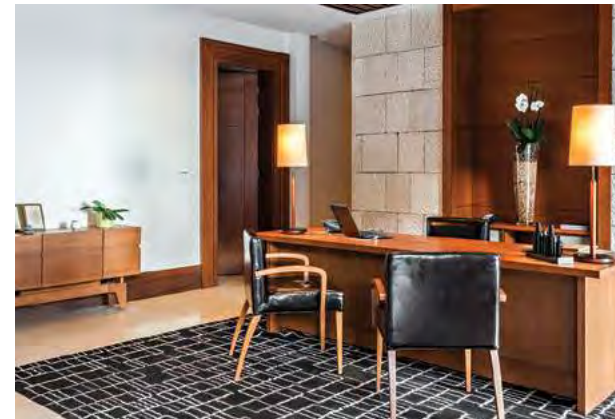




# Home *work*



*When the work just can't wait, it's no problem. A home office is the perfect place to get things done. Whether catching up on business, doing the personal finances or planning something exciting, like a holiday, a well designed office is ideal. With technology cleverly built in and a total lack of distractions, the job's soon done.*





# Colour *your world*



*Any colour you like.* Adding a feeling of fun, brightness and vibrancy can be achieved with a serious splash of colour. Using primary colours to cover big areas creates a bright blast of energy, perfect for the kids rooms, or if you'd like to add personality in other rooms, grab the paint, a brush and go for it.









Every home we  
build is a one off

*Built just  
for you*



Call us for a chat on freephone 0800 456 456

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