



HOME TRUTHS with editor Robyn Willis

Swinging plans for the clothesline

I know it's out of fashion, and a trifle uncool but I love my old Hills Hoist. With apologies to Martha and The Muffins for that line, I can't think of a better way to explain my affection for our old rotary clothesline.

Judging by the 1940s-style styling, I'm guessing it was installed in the post war years, about the same time our frangipani tree went in.

Long before gardens became known as outdoor rooms, it was hooked right in the middle of the block to catch the best natural light.

And it has done its job exceptionally well over the years, drying several loads of washing at a time.

These days, the hassle to increase or decrease the height takes considerably more effort to take and the whole thing is on a slight angle, but there's something so Australian about it that I can't bring myself to part with it yet.

I'm not the only one to think so. The Hills Hoist has been in so many Australian films from Strictly Ballroom to Muriel's Wedding because of its association with suburban life.

Hey, it even had a starring moment at the Sydney Olympics.

And while we mostly use ours for drying clothes, when we do have parties, it's a handy structure for stringing up a sea of fairy lights or bunting to set the scene.

These days though, the old Hills Hoist is considered a bit cumbersome, with more of us opting for a more compact clothesline positioned out of sight, generally down the side of the house.

And while I understand the desire for a backyard where you can place your furniture anywhere you like, the idea of hanging clothes up in the most attractive part of the garden is hardly appealing.

So I'll stick to the Hills Hoist for now, breathing in the scent of frangipani. Backyard bliss.

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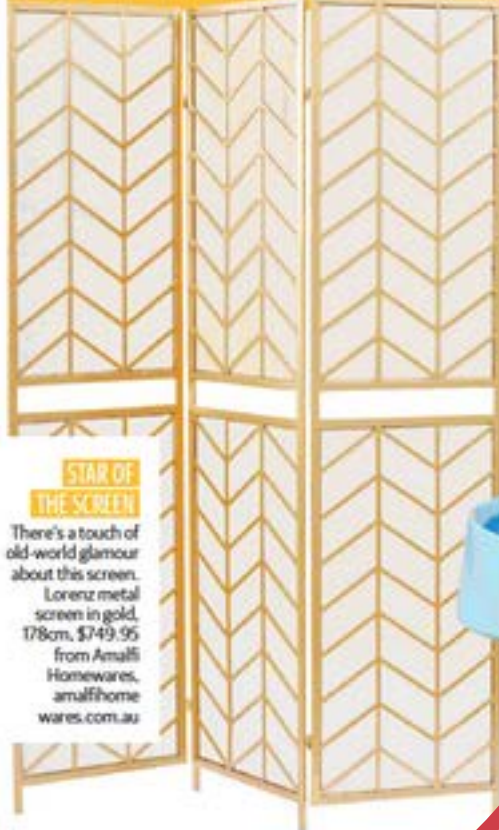


SWEET DESIRE

The simple sugar bowl is elevated into something beautiful. The Vital sugar box with handmade copper spoon by Marble Basics. \$100 from Kitchen Temple, kitchentemple.com.au

WISH LIST THIS WEEK'S MUST-HAVES

Compiled by Robyn Willis



STAR OF THE SCREEN

There's a touch of old-world glamour about this screen. Lorenz metal screen in gold, 178cm, \$749.95 from Amalfi Homewares, amalfihomewares.com.au



RAMP IT UP

The cute egg storage option makes a clever change from the traditional crate. Blue egg ramp, \$29.95 from Omlet Australia, omlet.com.au

GO TO BED

Once you've tried linen sheets, you'll never look back. Eadie Luca linen bedspread set in natural \$599.95, and Landscape throw in white and natural linen flax, \$239.95 from Eadie Lifestyle, eadielifestyle.com.au



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