

HOME TRUTHS
with editor Robyn Willis

Comforts of a less than perfect house

I'm beginning to realise that I may never have a grown-up house.

You know the kind of place I mean — where every piece of furniture has been thoughtfully selected, where the light fittings are in harmony with the architecture and the window coverings perfectly co-ordinate with the soft furnishings on the lounge.

A house like that requires a design discipline I just don't have where anything that doesn't quite fit has to go, regardless of its sentimental value or its stand-alone beauty.

A beautifully curated bookcase has room for colour co-ordinated books and some well-chosen ceramics but not for the kids' handmade artwork.

These days, I'm doing well to occasionally buy fresh flowers once the weekly grocery shopping is done.

More often than not, any cut flowers in the house come directly from the garden so we have a feast of hydrangeas and roses in early spring and a few beautifully blue but fragile plumbago stems for the rest of the season.

There's the small matter of my budget not quite matching up with my tastes so that we have a pair of sturdy but unattractive lounge chairs still waiting for re-upholstery eight years later.

No matter. While it is hardly perfect, hopefully it reflects the creative life I've tried to foster for my kids while providing a welcoming home.

Yes, it could be better organised but it's a home, a place of sanctuary where we can be ourselves.

Growing up can wait.
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This week's cover

The Sienna 33 by Hudson Homes is part of a new breed of cleverly designed single-level homes breaking the mould to offer families what they want. More on page 14. Picture Bob Barker



TRIPLE THREAT

These handmade vases have roots in Japanese and Nordic cultures. Lindform vases from \$47-\$139, from The Woods Folk, thewoodsfolk.com.au

WISH LIST
THIS WEEK'S MUST-HAVES

Compiled by Eric Watson

MAKING A PLACE AT HIGH TIME

Take your serving suggestions to the next level with this plate with removable stencil. Stained oak Spore plate with black tripod legs, \$109.95, from Kitchen Temple, kitchentemple.com.au



DREAM WEAVER

Sort out the mess in style with this versatile basket. Twist hamper in aqua, grey and white, \$69.95, from Annabel Trends, annabeltrends.com



INTO THE DEEP

Join the dark side with these new season pieces. Miller sofa, \$2299.95. Kumo leather jute rug, \$349.95. Grayson floor lamp, \$299.95, and Archie coffee table, \$499.95, from Albi, albi.com.au



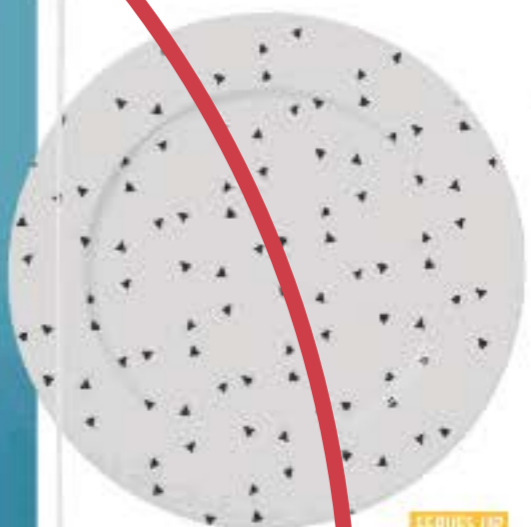
TOP DRAWER

This recycled teak table would work just as well in the hallway as it would in the study. Recycled teak Howans recycled teak desk, \$1060, from Luma, luma.com.au



BOWLED OVER

Lift a dull corner with this handmade ceramic bowl. Rainforest bowl from \$59, from Angus and Celeste, angusandceleste.com



SERVES UP

This pretty bone china plate is perfect for afternoon tea or dinner. Scatter dinner plate, \$34.90, from Citta Design, cittadesign.com

NEWLY MINTED

This soft pastel pendant is a subtle way to update your look. Craft 1 light pendant in brushed copper and mint, \$169, from Beacon Lighting, beaconlighting.com.au



HEART IN YOUR HAND

This sweet measuring set in pewter makes a gorgeous addition to the kitchen. Beehive hearts measuring spoons, \$65, from Blackbird and Fox, blackbirdandfox.com.au



IN THE FRAME

A mix of powder-coated steel and soft Italian leather, this stylish seat strikes the perfect balance between function and form. Starley armchair, \$2495, from Urban Couture, urbancouture.com.au

HANDS ON

These utilitarian kitchen essentials take on a sculptural element all their own. Eva Solo soft and pepper grinder, small \$79.95, and large \$89.95, from Opus, opusdesignco.com.au



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