

{CLEVER KITCHEN}

# *points of* VIEW

Smart design solutions and warm finishes combine to create the ultimate live-in kitchen

WORDS & STYLING TAHN SCOON  
PHOTOGRAPHY JOHN DOWNS



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risbane couple Carlye and Trevor bought a rundown Queenslanders predominantly for the aspect. "You can see out to the city but have all the greenery in the foreground, so you get the best of both worlds," explains Carlye.

When the couple decided to renovate, the back of the house was opened up by Darren James Interiors to make the most of the spectacular views and create an open-plan kitchen, dining and study area. The more practical elements are either concealed or take a back seat to the room's standout blend of finishes and elegant touches, forming a stunning living space.

Contact: *Darren James Interiors, interiorsbydarrenjames.com.au*



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**WELL GROUNDED** *The kitchen features an earthy colour scheme of Eveneer wood veneer cladding in EvenAlmond, custom cabinetry in Resene Tea and a feature island bench in a mid-grey Caesarstone (try Taj Royale). The mix of finishes and choice of spotted gum timber for the floor creates interest and gives the zone a relaxed, living-room feel.*

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**GLASS ACT** *A run of stacker doors (right) brings in the sun and can be pushed back for easy access to the deck beyond. A full-length sheer curtain helps diffuse the morning sun, which streams in at breakfast-time. The use of a toughened glass window in place of a splashback adds to the room's airy ambience. >*

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**ALL BAR NONE** The island bench is designed to be tall enough to hide any potential mess around the sink, but low enough to accommodate the replica Johannes Andersen 'Allegra' bar stools from Matt Blatt.

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**BOXING SMART** Designer Darren James incorporated an open display shelf in the solid-surface section of the large island. The small cut-out section doubles as a light box at night.

"Think about the height of your *bench stools*. I didn't realise they came in *two sizes*. If they're too high you'll bump your knees!" ~ CARLYE, HOMEOWNER

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**HIDDEN HELPER** A butler's pantry has been tucked behind a timber veneer cavity slider (left) and houses the fridge and everyday appliances. "Every storage item has been thoughtfully located in terms of function and frequency," says Darren. The matching trio of coffee machine, oven and combi-oven were selected to sit in harmony within the cabinetry design – other functional items, such as the rangehood, are hidden.

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**NEAT NOOK** To integrate the space seamlessly, the cabinetry design and finishes have been repeated in the study area (right), which has display shelving and a glazed section that can be written on with whiteboard markers.

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**COLOUR POP** Bright Eames-style chairs (right) add fun while complementing the all-white versions around a replica 'Tulip'-style dining table, all from Replica Furniture. >

