

"The natural materials we've used make a strong statement on their own. They don't need any further adornment."

RICHARD COLE, OWNER-ARCHITECT



Richard Cole

36 | BRANCHING OUT

Owner-architect Richard Cole extended his house to include a large deck with a kitchen that runs along one side. The extension was designed to sit lightly under the branches of a magnificent old magnolia grandiflora. A wall of large sliding doors stacks back into a cavity tucked into the main house, allowing the kitchen and deck to become one for living, eating and playing. The tree provides cooling shade in summer while in winter the sun penetrates deep into the kitchen. Richard Cole Architecture, Avalon Beach, NSW; (02) 9918 3843, www.richardcolearchitecture.com.au.



Richard Cole

Nick Tridente
and Paul Boyce

20 | LUXURIOUS DETAILS

With its sliding doors opened to invite in the lush garden views, this bathroom (above) offers a direct connection with the outdoors. Designed by Sydney architect Richard Cole, it's part of a new addition to his 1930s cottage on the northern beaches, and is the main bathroom for the family of six. "We wanted one luxurious bathroom, so we decided to achieve this by including a lot of detail," says Cole. Designer fittings, jarrah-veneer joinery and white mosaics achieve the contemporary finish. "There's a slatted timber floor, and all the water drains to a concrete slab underneath," he adds. "We used a lot of natural materials, combined with raw concrete and steel, so the overall design works with the original sandstone."

Richard Cole Architecture, Avalon, NSW; (02) 9918 3843 or www.richardcolearchitecture.com.au.

21 | COMPARE AND CONTRAST

This seriously chic living room (opposite) in a seafront duplex at Adelaide's Henley Beach reveals a clever use of space and light, as well as smart attention to detail. It's one of the corners of quiet contemplation in the home's open-plan ground floor, which flows from the front deck to the rear courtyard. Architects Nick Tridente and Paul Boyce also ensured that the space could cater for full-on entertaining, with ample space for guests. Wall-mounted joinery with recessed handles reinforces the crisp architectural lines, while a simple black-and-white colour scheme, which includes softly veined marble floors and a duo-tone shag rug, ensures that the contrast isn't too severe. The deep-pile texture of the rug and the wooden sculpture also bring visual warmth to the room. ►

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