



**WELCOME ALL**

**18** "This is a harbour-front home in Sydney that started life with a brick-veneer exterior and slightly Art Deco proportions. We redesigned it to bring to it the sensibility and style of homes on the US east coast," says interior designer Thomas Hamel.

**Why it works** In collaboration with architect Michael Hesse this room was transformed into a sitting room, off a large kitchen, with casual terrace dining. It is sheltered from the wind, but engages with the outdoors through windows on three sides. The custom-made *dhurrie* rug and tray-shaped, cream, panelled ceiling contribute a casual breezy elegance.

**Owners' verdict** "We adore this room. It's adult-friendly, kid-friendly, dog-friendly and most importantly party-friendly. This room is like a member of the family."

**SOFT FOCUS**

**19** The owners of this Melbourne-city apartment wanted their bedroom to have a sense of sanctuary. Editing furniture and fittings down to bare essentials, architect Stephen Jolson and his team were able to connect the interior with the vista of water, sky and trees.

**Why it works** "While the bedroom is of modest dimensions, the use of limed American oak as the single material for the floor, wall and bed creates a sense of tranquillity," says Stephen. When combined with honed travertine and white-painted surfaces in the adjoining ensuite, there is a visual softness that absorbs any harsh exterior light. Clever planning allows views from the shower without compromising privacy.

**Owners' verdict** "We love retreating to this space after a busy day. It's so peaceful, relaxing and restful." >



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