



The impressive house was built with clean, modern lines and designed to bring the outside in.



## Light, bright and contemporary

### MAYA ANDERSON

With quality finishes, generously proportioned rooms, entertaining areas and a real indoor-outdoor feel, this Dalkeith custom-built home is impressive inside and out.

It was built by Exclusive Residence, which designed the family house in conjunction with the owners.

Exclusive Residence director John Douglas said his company focused on about 20 properties a year, aiming for consistency in producing high-quality homes with up-market finishes.

Most of the luxury homes the company builds sit in the \$850,000 to \$1.5 million category. With this project, the 1100sqm block previously held a plain five-year-old home, which was bulldozed. The double garage had been left on the site so the level of the new house would be correct, so the layout of the new home was worked around this building.

Mr Douglas said the clients wanted something contemporary and open-plan with lots of natural light, that brought the feel of the outside in.

This indoor-outdoor feel was achieved by using big windows throughout the

house, particularly along the walls of the huge open-plan kitchen, living and dining area. A small atrium-like courtyard area with a pond helped to bring the feel of the outdoors, as well as natural light, into the centre of the home.

The house has a dynamic elevation with clean lines and timber and Kimberley-stone feature walls. The front door features a huge timber slab surrounded by glass.

To the right of the entry is a sitting room with a gas fireplace. Across the hall are a guest bedroom and a study. The staircase is sleek and contemporary and opens to a light-filled landing with an outlook to the pond below. A parents' retreat has his-and-her walk-in robes and an ensuite with a natural stone tile feature wall. The his-and-her vanity has been placed in the centre of the room, with a wall behind it that neatly conceals the shower on one side and the toilet on the other. A big spa bath has been set by one of the windows.

The house has five bedrooms, all with big built-in robes. Aside from the main suite, there are three bedrooms on this floor, set in a wing of their own with a three-roomed bathroom — one room with

a twin vanity, the other a bath and shower, and the third a separate toilet.

The ground floor contains the heart of the home, located past double doors off the entry hall at the rear. Here is the spacious open-plan kitchen, living and dining area with polished blackbutt floors and tall windows and bi-fold doors looking out to the garden.

Outside there is a big, tiled patio with a cedar-lined ceiling.

The roof of the alfresco area was designed to slope gently to add a dynamic look to the rear elevation of the home. There is a granite-benchtop kitchenette and wood-fired pizza oven for alfresco entertaining and a massive pool.

The kitchen is impressively big, with masses of benchtop space, granite benchtops, timber-veneer cabinetry and a scullery with pantry storage.

A study nook with a built-in desk was created off the living area.

By the laundry is a bathroom with glass-fronted shower which is designed for pool users.

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