

MODERN GREEN HOMES

Sanctuary

ISSUE
75

RENOVATION &
RETROFIT SPECIAL

Garage converted to cosy retreat; two rental home upgrades;
slow architecture for a fast world; choosing your block & more

SECOND LIFE

Eco homes
without starting over

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Wilam Ngarrang

Apartment block retrofit
ticks all the boxes for tenants

PRODUCTS

These featured products are independently selected by our editorial team. If you have recommendations for products you think would be of interest we'd love to hear from you. Email: sanctuary@renew.org.au

1 Recycled plastic panels

Most of us are well aware of the need to recycle plastic packaging (as well as reducing our use of it in the first place), so it's great to see more product manufacturers making innovative use of the material. Resourceful Living's recycled plastic panels are formed under heat and pressure using plastic flake from recycler iQRenew, creating a durable product that can be cut and shaped much like timber. Unlike timber or plywood, though, it won't rot or absorb moisture, and is resistant to UV and termites. Suitable for a wide range of uses including furniture and joinery, planter boxes and construction, the panels are recyclable and support a practical, circular approach to material use. They measure 2,400mm x 1,200mm and come in a range of thicknesses.

resourcefulliving.com.au



2 Inno-vation

Innowood cladding offers a timber look and feel with the extra durability and low maintenance of a composite material. The InnoClad product is made from around 70 per cent recycled wood waste combined with polymer binders, diverting material from landfill and providing resistance to rot, termites and moisture. InnoClad's shiplap design uses an interlocking tongue-and-groove system, making it easy to install. Made for external use, there's no sealing or repainting to worry about, reducing maintenance costs.

innowood.com/shiplap

3 Decked out for durability

Timber decks can deteriorate quickly without protection from sun and rain. Tanacoat is a penetrating timber oil made with additives to help repel water, limit UV damage and resist mould. It's designed to soak into the timber rather than sit on the surface, giving a natural-looking finish and protecting against weathering and greying. Suitable for decks, cladding and outdoor furniture, it reduces maintenance and repair costs, and is low-odour. Prices start at \$100 for five litres; check with Dynagroup for stockists.

dynagroup.com.au/tanacoat





4 Want your paints curated?

Breathe Architecture and Australian paint brand Haymes have teamed up to release the Breathe Palette, an architecturally curated paint collection. The range is limited to 63 colours, helping reduce decision paralysis – and, we hope, reducing the need for sample pots and the associated waste. The palette is inspired by the Australian landscape, with exterior colours drawing on the colours of weathered sandstone, driftwood, banksia leaves and ironbark. There are plenty of beautiful colours in the interior range, too. The paints are low-VOC to support a healthier indoor environment, and high-performance pigments improve colourfastness and durability, extending the time between repainting.

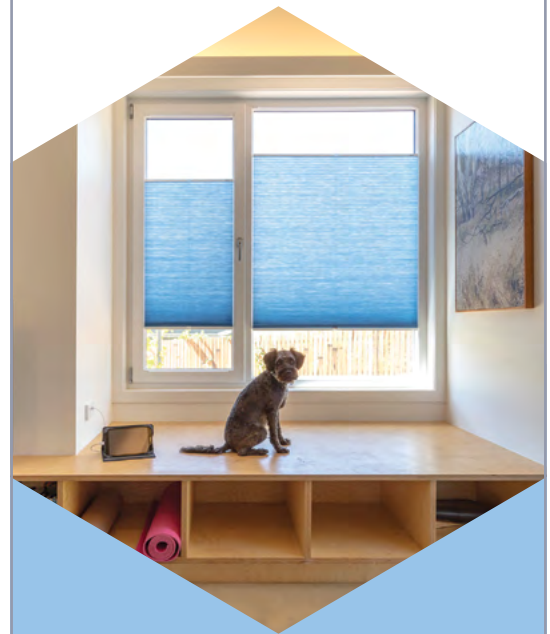
haymespaint.com.au/pages/breathe

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PRODUCTS



5 Cleaned up cleaners

US brand Kirby has been making vacuum cleaners since 1907, and their products have a reputation for longevity and repairability. Australian-based Breeze Living is extending the life of these appliances with its preloved Kirby program, keeping them out of landfill. Units are repaired, tested and resold, offering a lower-cost alternative to buying new. The program supports a 'repair, don't replace' approach, reducing waste and demand for new manufacturing. All preloved Kirbys are refurbished with genuine Kirby parts and have a one-year warranty. Breeze will also buy back your old Kirby for restoration.

breezeliving.com.au

6 Solid floor, lighter footprint

AlphaFloor gives the feel and some of the performance of a concrete slab in an easy-to-install prefabricated thin panel system. At just 35 millimetres thick, these concrete panels use significantly less material than a conventional suspended slab, lowering embodied energy while maintaining strength and durability. With high thermal mass, AlphaFloor can help with passive heating and cooling, even when installed under flooring such as timber. Locally made and non-combustible, the panels also have acoustic benefits for a quiet home.

xcem.com.au



7 Porcelain power

In the search for silica-free benchtops, porcelain is emerging as a lightweight and durable option. Wonder Green slabs are made to look like marble but without the weight, coming in a thinner, more manageable format that even suits splashbacks. Made from mineral-based materials and fired at high temperatures, Wonder Green resists scratches, stains and heat for problem-free kitchen use. The thin design uses less material than thicker stone slabs, and the product's long lifespan and durability can reduce the need for replacement.

Soft green tones and subtle veining give each installation a unique finish.

anteriorxl.com.au/product/wonder-green-porcelain-slab



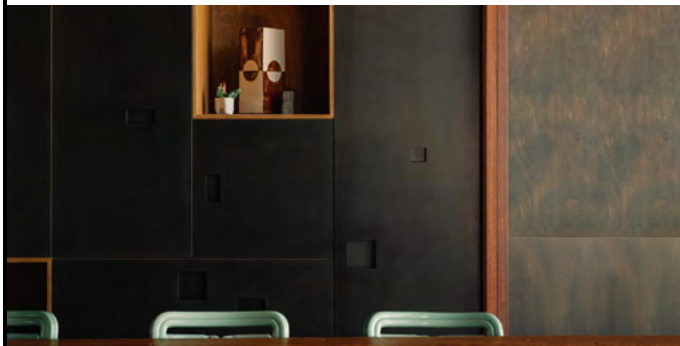
8 Indoor air check

We can't usually see the pollutants in our home, so an air quality monitor can help us understand what impacts the air we breathe. The Inkbird IAM-T1 air quality monitor tracks carbon dioxide, temperature and humidity, and shows how ventilation and daily activities such as cooking affect indoor air quality. Using a CO2 sensor, it provides real-time readings on a compact screen, with an app available for ongoing monitoring. Alerts can be set to prompt residents to open windows or improve airflow. Battery-powered and energy-efficient, the Inkbird operates without wifi.

au.inkbird.com



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