

BREATHE OUT

THIS HOME HUB IS DESIGNED WITH KNOCKABOUT FINISHES FOR BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

WORDS KYLIE JACKES STYLING WENDY BANNISTER
PHOTOGRAPHY PATRICK McGRATH

FLOOR PLAN The extended breakfast bar is the ideal spot to convene over refreshments and meal preparations perched on the extra seating delivered by the Green Cathedral 'Babanees' stools.



BEFORE

WHY THE MAKEOVER? Interior designer Jo McIntyre of Beautiful Home and her family wanted a laid-back feel for their 1970s beach bungalow. The key to this was making over the previously clinical kitchen into a low-maintenance, well-planned space that would allow the family – and their occasional weekend renters – to be able to switch into holiday mode as soon as they arrive. (See their stunning living room makeover on page 8 and the bathroom renovation on page 82.)

TIME FRAME: Four months.

THE WORKS: Out with the old and in with new joinery in super-tough vinyl wrap. “It won’t chip like 2-pac can,” says Jo. The new resin-coated Carrara marble benchtop was extended to create a breakfast bar and a new splashback of hexagonal marble tiles was installed.

MAJOR CHANGES: To open up the space, the pantry originally attached to the end of the island was ditched in favour of a slim pull-out cupboard beside a Miele fridge, now integrated for a neat, unfussy finish.

SMARTEST SPLURGE: Although timeless, Carrara marble isn’t the first material that comes to mind when it comes to a low-maintenance benchtop, especially one that can stand up to holiday renters. Jo employed a genius renovator’s hack and had the surface coated in resin to seal it.

STYLE NOTE “You want a holiday house to be both user-friendly for guests and low-maintenance for yourself, so opt for easy-care surfaces and reliable appliances,” advises Jo. Storage is also carefully planned – pots and pans by the stove, cutlery at the breakfast bar – so that first-time guests can use the kitchen intuitively. With cupboards stocked with all the essentials, the only thing the family needs to take when they stay is clothing.



FINISHES A splashback in small ‘Hexagon Mix’ Carrara tiles from Perini, paired with Carrara marble benchtops and white handle-free cabinetry, are key elements of the restrained palette.

LAYOUT										
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="width: 150px;">Appliances</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$5000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Benchtops</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$3000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Joinery</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$12,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Splashback</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stools</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$900</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">TOTAL \$21,900*</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BUILDING & INTERIOR DESIGNER: <i>Jo McIntyre, Beautiful Home, 0417 341 853, beautifulhome.net.au.</i></p>	Appliances	\$5000	Benchtops	\$3000	Joinery	\$12,000	Splashback	\$1000	Stools
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*PRICES QUOTED ARE A GUIDE ONLY AND WILL VARY