





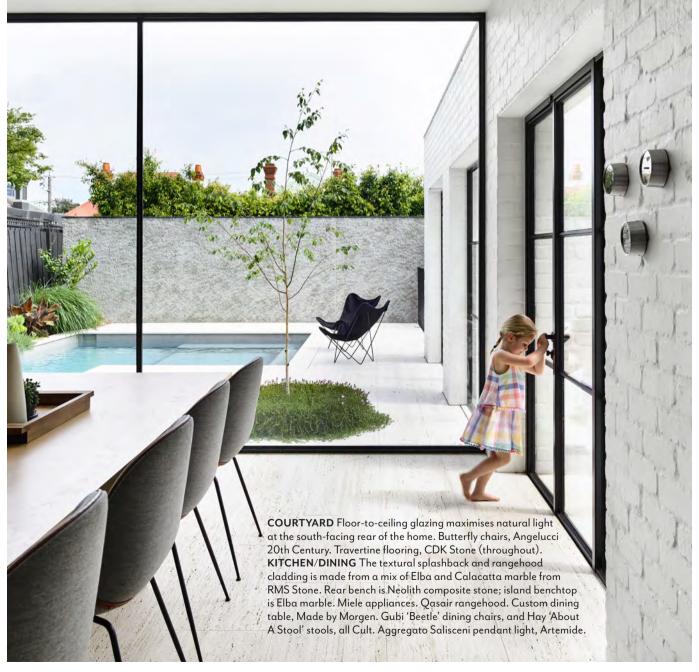




Demolishing the extension cleared the way for a contemporary addition with a less intrusive footprint and more functional floor plan, including zones for the family to spend time in together and more private spaces to retreat to when 'me time' is needed. Being generous and enthusiastic hosts, Ben and Sarah also wanted a home that was conducive to entertaining.

A key decision was locating the girls' bedrooms together in the original part of the home and creating a luxurious main suite for Ben and Sarah on the first floor of the replacement extension. "The bedrooms really are sanctuaries - so quiet and beautifully proportioned," says Rachel. They are also well serviced, thanks to the addition of two new bathrooms, and convenient to communal living spaces.

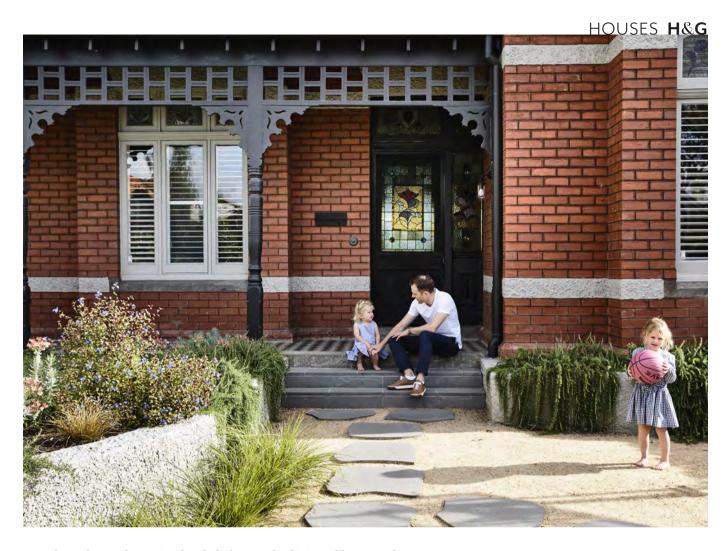
Rachel played with scale and shape in the new zinc-clad addition that accommodates the kitchen/dining and family areas. A white-painted brick wall runs along the spine of the building, anchoring the architecture and linking old and new. A circle motif











runs throughout: a large circular skylight over the dining table, a round window in the kitchen, rotund chairs in the living room, mirrors in the bathrooms, right down to the pulls on the bespoke cabinets. "The graphic profile is part of the home's personality," says Rachel.

The design approach was "more experimental" in terms of colour and texture in the extension, says Rachel. It's based on a modern yet serene palette of blue and green, a change of pace from the neutral scheme at the front of the home. Interior designer Nicole Bell was tasked with choosing the furniture, art and decorative items; her selections tie the contemporary and traditional together beautifully.

Sarah and Ben's brief also included two off-street car spaces. "The challenge was including the parking but still making the front yard look like a garden rather than a carpark," says Rachel. Rather than paving, landscaper Amanda Oliver opted for granitic sand – visually 'soft' but stable enough for cars to drive on – with loosely planted beds of textural, low-maintenance plants.

Every inch of the home, inside and out, is calm, peaceful - and now futureproof to boot. "We feel relaxed from the moment we step through the door," says Sarah.

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## The Layout

