



LIVING ROOM

Indoor/outdoor living was the priority when reworking this part of the home. "The old living room was narrow and impractical," Maria explains.

Forgoing a big island bench ("They're not always the answer," says Maria) allowed the living area to flow seamlessly into the kitchen, creating a light-filled space. Bi-fold doors open onto the deck and breakfast bar servery.

Whitewashed wide plank floors were an obvious choice to meet the beachy brief, and a beaded black chandelier is the hero of the space, balancing the kitchen's matt black cabinetry.



BEFORE >

The old design didn't match today's style of living or take advantage of the gorgeous views.

**B E F O R E >**

The kitchen was closed off from the living room by the breakfast bar and could only be accessed via a corridor.

**2****KITCHEN**

The dated 1980s-style kitchen was reconfigured into a more practical and modern open-plan design.

"We changed the layout a lot," recalls Maria. "The breakfast bar used to face the living room and access was only via a corridor (where the fridge is now). We turned it into a more functional layout by facing the kitchen towards the outdoor space."

A new gas strut window opens over a stone servery to the deck for easy alfresco entertaining, capitalising on the amazing view out to Noosa Hinterland and Cooroy Mountain.

**plan ahead**

"We had to use some heavy-duty hardware so that the hanging chair would be suitable for anyone to sit on. This was fixed into a roof beam. Talk to your builder or carpenter before purchasing a hanging chair – it might save you from headaches later," advises Maria.

**3****EXTERIOR**

At the back of the house, a generous 5.2m x 8.6m deck was built to take advantage of the Noosa National Park views.

"To make it even more enjoyable all year round, we added an insulated panel roofing product above the deck in a 'flyover' style roof. This helps to cool down the house in summer and adds a sizeable amount of extra usable living space to the house," says Maria.

Looking to create some street appeal, Maria completely changed the tired brick facade by spray-painting the walls in Taubmans 'Veridian Green' and painting the roof and gutters in Taubmans Endure 'Colorbond Surfmist'.

Maria points out that painting directly over the brick was cheaper than rendering. Another budget-savvy move was to keep as many of the plants as possible. "We were fortunate enough to have well-established native plants in the yard to work with," recalls Maria. "Also – never underestimate the power of laid lawn!"

Now it's the happiest looking home in the street.

** Think about street appeal at the beginning of the renovation.*



B E F O R E >
The '80s exterior was dated and lacked street appeal. The front garden also needed a refresh.



BATHROOMS

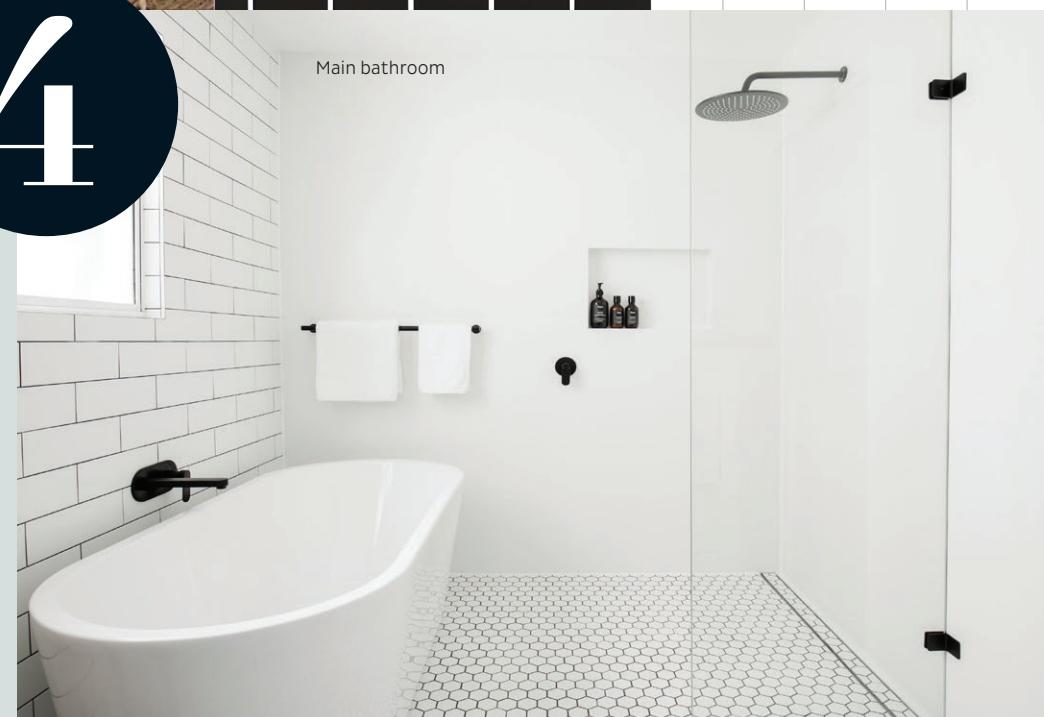
The main bathroom was designed as a practical, high-traffic area for holidaymakers. White hexagon tiles and subway tiles were used on the floor and wall respectively. "I chose black grout to give it design interest while also keeping it airy, clean, crisp and spacious," Maria explains.

Bathers have the option of soaking in the Posh Solus freestanding bath or rinsing off beach sand in the open shower. Matt black tapware and robe hooks keep the look contemporary, while an antique console sourced by Maria has been given new life as a vanity, adding warmth and character to the space.

In the tranquil, unfussy ensuite, a beautiful floating Australian hardwood shelf was custom-made for the vanity and paired with a Roca Inspira soft vessel basin.

In both bathrooms, touches of greenery and natural textures bring the outdoors in.

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Main bathroom

Ensuite

Salt&Pepper 'Amarna' hamper (small) \$69.95
saltandpepper.com.au

SHOP THE LOOK >

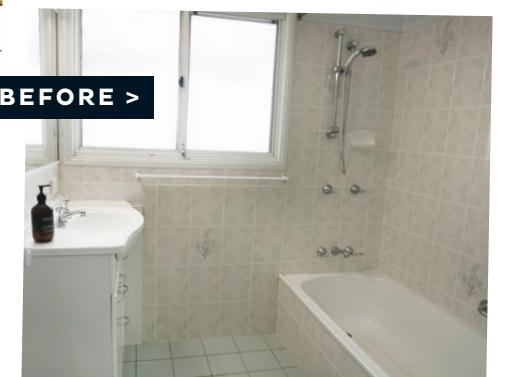
Saya
Hand Wash
Lime + Bergamot
\$36
sayaskin.com

Milli 'Pure Progressive' wall basin mixer in matte black \$717.99 reece.com.au

Roca 'Inspira Soft Vessel' basin \$529 reece.com.au

'Hex' tiles \$76m2
thetilepalette.com.au

BEFORE >



A wall between the master bathroom and separate toilet was knocked down to create one larger space.

MARIA'S TOP TIPS

1 Mood board: Having a clear direction is paramount. Assemble all your final product selections on a mood board to help you visualise the overall look.

2 Floor plan: Get your plumber in early to see what plumbing is easy to move and what isn't.

3 Tiling: Tiles are the best way to make a big impact in a bathroom reno.



Main bathroom



BEDROOM

In keeping with the home's monochromatic colour palette, the master bedroom was given the same treatment, albeit a little moodier. Making a bold statement in the master, the panelled wall painted in Taubmans 'All Black' allows the timber bed and crisp white linen to pop.

The black cockatoo art print pays homage to the local wildlife that regularly visits in the home's garden.

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