

Moody blues

Taking colour cues from its beach location, this bathroom paints a calming scene.

STORY *Stephanie Hope* | STYLING *Julia Green* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Armelle Habib*

BATHROOM design notes

WALL TILES Meppel finger mosaics in Blue, KWD & Co.

FLOOR TILES Casablanca subways in Sea Blue in a herringbone lay, KWD & Co.

JOINERY Shaker profile vanity in Porter's Paints Mariner.

BENCHTOP Carrara marble, KWD & Co.

TAPWARE Manhattan wall set and shower fixtures in Rumbled Brass, Brodware.

MIRROR Custom by KWD.

LIGHTING Bryant sconce with white glass shade, The Montauk Lighting Co.

When Melbourne designer Kate Walker *was tasked with the whole-home renovation of this Mount Martha property belonging to a family of four, she didn't have to look far for inspiration. With the beach and Port Phillip Bay within close proximity, she chose coastal shades of blue to feature throughout the home, using them to great effect in this main bathroom. A classic vanity with a shaker profile is painted a striking dark grey-blue - Porter's Paints Mariner - while two tiles from Kate's KWD & Co range continue the colour theme, laid in contrasting patterns to lend texture and interest to the space. Carrara marble and brass accents break up the blue. "Being creative and innovative with stunning hard finishes adds a sense of wonder and drama to this bathroom, with clean lines and symmetry so the whole effect is easy on the eye," says Kate. "And while tapware is a functional element that is used multiple times a day, it can also be beautiful and timeless. Every detail works in harmony."*

KWD, katewalkerdesign.com.au

What was the brief for this space? To create a striking and inviting bathroom in coastal colours. It was important to ensure a spacious feeling in the compact 2.1m x 2.1m space.

What was the inspiration behind the colour palette? The owners requested a lakehouse-inspired design with colours to reflect the coastal location.

How long did the renovation take? Eighteen months for the whole house.

Your top bathroom design tip? A successful bathroom design carefully balances a considered floor plan that maximises a luxurious sense of space while creating a sanctuary that is light, bright and inviting.

See the light

Classic and contemporary elements come together in this beguiling bathroom.

STORY *Rebecca Hooton* | STYLING *Julia Green*
PHOTOGRAPHY *Armelle Habib*



BATHROOM design notes

WALL TILES Zellige Bianco tiles, KWD & Co.

FLOOR TILES Jumbo Carrara marble herringbone mosaic tiles, KWD & Co.

JOINERY Custom Shaker vanity by KWD & Co painted Dulux Terrace White.

HARDWARE Domino Brass handles in Aged Brass.

BENCHTOP Carrara marble, KWD & Co.

TAPWARE Astra Walker.

BATH Hugob freestanding bath, Stonebaths.

LIGHTING Katie Cylinder sconces in Hand-Rubbed Antique Brass, The Montauk Lighting Co.

This primary ensuite has a neutral colour palette that's made intriguing by mixing textures. The wall panelling, shaker joinery and herringbone floor pattern ensure white and grey look anything but ordinary. Gold touches in the tapware, lighting and shower hinges transform it into a room for luxuriating in. "While tapware is a functional element that's used multiple times a day, it can also be beautiful and timeless," says interior designer Kate Walker.

KWD, katewalkerdesign.com.au; **Cahill Building Group**, cahillbg.com.au

What was the brief for this space? It was a new build intended for sale, and we were asked to design a striking space that's hard-wearing and easy to clean and maintain.

How did you decide on the colour and materials palette? We were given a blank canvas when it came to the design aesthetic, colour palette and styling. By creating a home that's so elevated in terms of the design, it offered something fresh and inviting in a flattened real estate market.

Were there any challenges along the way? We pushed the client in terms of the style and colour palette, and the quality of the hard finishes and fixtures. It was so rewarding working with Cahill Building Group because they embraced the design intent and executed it perfectly.

Into the blue

A laundry renovation embraces deep water hues to provide a calming hub for a bustling life.

STORY *Rebecca Hooton* | STYLING *Julia Green* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Armelle Habib*



LAUNDRY design notes

WALL TILES Casablanca tiles in Sea Blue, KWD & Co.

FLOOR TILES Casablanca tiles in Sea Blue, Cloud and Cerulean, KWD & Co.

JOINERY Custom shaker profile cabinetry in Porter's Paints Blue Pewter.

HARDWARE Domino Brass.

BENCHTOP Carrara marble, KWD & Co.

TAPWARE Brodware 'Manhattan' mixer in Rumbled Brass, Reece.

SINK Franke stainless steel sink, Reece.

APPLIANCES Miele.

A family was looking to upgrade their laundry, so this space needed to maximise on functionality. "I personally love the washer and dryer to be separated by the laundry sink, so you can take your wet washing out of the machine, put it in the sink to sort, then either hang items in the drying cupboard or pop them in the dryer," says interior designer Kate Walker. Beauty was top of mind, too. "If you choose carefully, the finishes will last for the lifetime of your laundry," says Kate, who went all in with a brilliant blue palette and premium materials.

KWD, katewalkerdesign.com.au

What was the brief for this space? A lakehouse-inspired laundry design suitable for a young family.

Were there any challenges along the way? None. We work closely with our clients to understand how they live and what they will use the space for. Having a designer look at the room and reconfigure it to make the best use of the space can often be the most important part of a renovation. This is what helps things go smoothly.

How did you decide on the colour palette? The palette was inspired by the coastal location.

How long did the renovation take? Eighteen months to renovate the home.

What do the owners love about this space? They say that they never thought they would have a house as beautiful as this. They can't believe this is their home.

"If you choose carefully, the finishes will last for the lifetime of your laundry." Kate Walker

Drop zone

This understated mudroom brings order to the chaos of life with kids.

STORY *Stephanie Hope* | STYLING *Julia Green* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Armelle Habib*

MUDROOM *design notes*

JOINERY Shaker profile painted Dulux Snowy Mountains Quarter.

HARDWARE Jute rope pulls in Satin Brass, Hepburn Hardware.

FLOORS Engineered Italian oak, KWD & Co.

Adjoining the children's study and flowing out to the pool area, this hard-working mudroom in Victoria's Mornington Peninsula is packed with storage solutions tailored to a busy family. "One of the most underrated rooms in a home, which is often forgotten during the design phase, is the mudroom," says its designer Kate Walker of KWD. "Provided there's space, we always try and design a family home with one of these functional rooms." For this space, she specified warm engineered Italian oak floorboards, which flow through to the neighbouring kids' bedrooms and casual living space. An upholstered bench seat offers a spot to perch, while the surrounding white joinery is fresh and befitting of the beachy

locale, encompassing high cupboards, drawers and wall hooks. "It's the perfect drop zone for school bags, sports bags and all of the paraphernalia associated with running a household with children," says Kate. "The perfect transitional space when you enter from the pool area where you can remove wet towels and bathers, and store pool toys."

KWD, katewalkerdesign.com.au

How did you decide on the material palette? It was inspired by the coastal location, and ties in with materials used elsewhere in the home.

How long did the renovation take? Eighteen months for the entire home.

What do the owners love about the space? They are so happy with the spatial planning and wonderful flow in the home.