

This page The informal dining area has an Eero Saarinen 'Ellipse' table and Cherner chairs all from De De Ce. 'Morocco' rug from Robyn Cosgrove. 'Gala' chandelier from Living Edge. The living area leads directly off this room. Knoll Bertoia 'Diamond' chairs from De De Ce. Opposite page An 'Akari' pendant light from Space hangs in the entry above the 'Royal System' shelving from Great Dane.



JUST RIGHT

Faced with a blank canvas *Arent & Pyke* focused on creating a personality for this home that perfectly matched the owners.

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This page The living room has a Minotti 'Leonard' sofa with Claire 'Relax' cushions, and an 'Astor' sofa upholstered in Verde Olio all from De De Ce. Stellar Works 'Lunar' coffee table from Living Edge. Rain drums from Orient House. Meller stools from Great Dane. Serge Mouille 'Lampadaire 3 Bras' floor lamp from Cult. 'Segovia' rug from Robyn Cosgrove. Opposite page, from top 'Johnsen' hall table from Great Dane, Mater 'Bowl' table from Cult. Artworks by John Firth-Smith (left) and Tjapaltjari (centra) from Artbank. Dining area has an Eero Saarinen 'Ellipse' table and Cherner chairs from De De Ce. 'Gala' chandelier from Living Edge. 'Morocco' rug from Robyn Cosgrove.



Predominantly empty was how Juliette Arent and Sarah-Jane Pyke along with senior designer Shannon Dogon of Arent & Pyke initially found this home. The interior design studio, established in 2007, has crafted a formidable residential resume over the past decade. And so when they received the call "to help select 'a few' furniture items", they were not daunted, but excited at the prospect of filling the home with furniture that was to reflect the personality of the residents.

The family of five, including parents, three teenage boys, plus Tilly, "the friendliest little schnauzer", live on a fairly busy eastern suburbs street in Sydney, lined with leafy oak trees. "Standing at the front gate, there is no sense of what lies beyond," says Juliette. "You assume there might be a little quaint 1970s home with a small footprint. As soon as you walk through to the front door, there is an immediate change in aesthetic and atmosphere."

A sense of Hollywood glamour is immediately established through the architecture, with a separate glass-fronted structure, distinct from the main home, placed on a generous patch of glass. The house "sits proud, with two sculptured potted trees on either side of the front door", Juliette says, and a sense of elegance and lightness is carried through with the large pitched roof.

Initially, the brief was to furnish the three-level home with "functional, relevant and timeless furniture" but the parameters quickly expanded. "As our relationship with the client evolved, we soon realised there was scope to introduce a secondary joinery language, which would create a stronger backdrop for the furniture, and enhance the functionality of each space," explains Juliette.





During the structural renovations, the clients had chosen to exclude some joinery items, knowing that later on they would bring in interior designers to add the furnishings. "When we became the designers on this home, it was our job to workshop the blank walls and make sense of each space through the inclusion of joinery," Juliette says. "One of the biggest challenges was grounding the fireplace, and making it look as though it was always intended to be housed in the way it has been." This has been achieved through harmonious proportions of timber, stone, steel and shelving.

A sense of serenity was already present, "largely thanks to the space of the rooms, coupled with the timber selected for the flooring. Our aim was to furnish the home, but still maintain, and enhance this feeling of serenity with the correct tones, textures and number of pieces," says Juliette.

Furniture was chosen from high-end brands including B&B Italia, Minotti, Walter Knoll, Jaime Hayón and DKJ, alongside Serge Mouille lights and graphic rugs from Robyn Cosgrove, to bring a sense of timelessness to the design. Custom-designed pieces by Arent & Pyke add a unique signature.

"Meticulous, smart and sophisticated" are words the designers use to describe the family, and these qualities are exemplified in the home. The comfortable surroundings will work throughout the seasons, the overall serenity and lightness a cooling antidote to summer heat, while layered textures and warm colours translate well into the winter months. With a variety of spaces, all options – whether formal or informal – are catered for in the design. Arent & Pyke have created a home that goes well beyond the brief of "filling it with furniture".

For more go to arentpyke.com.



This page The formal dining area has a Lowe Furniture 'Atticus' table from Hub and Cassina 'Cab' chairs from Cult on a 'Morocco 3' rug from Robyn Cosgrove. 'Halo' cabinet from Zuster, Roll & Hill 'Modo' chandelier from Space. Opposite page, from top B&B Italia 'Tutti' sofa from Space and 'Wilfred' occasional chair from Jarden with the clients' existing Noguchi coffee table, Minotti 'Cesar' table from De De Ce. 'Winter Nightsky' rug from Robyn Cosgrove. 'Outside' is a Minotti 'Evans' table from De De Ce and Roda 'Harj' chairs from Domo. A mirror from Zuster hangs above a Studioisè 'Companions' writing desk by De La Espada from Anibou. Serge Mouille 'Antony' wall light from Cult.



These pages, clockwise from left Custom bedhead and ottoman by Arent & Pyke. Custom 'Pearl' bedside tables from Zuster with lamps from Orient House. 'Platner' side chair from De De Ce. 'Mayoma' rug from Cadrys. Artwork by Heidi Yardley from Artbank. Hallway view to the outdoors. 'Akari' pendant light from Space. The master retreat has a Maxwell 'Fabo' sofa from Space and an Oluce 'F' floor lamp from Euroluce. Artwork by Napurrula from Artbank.

SPEED READ

» A family of five living in a spacious house in Sydney's eastern suburbs called on interior designers Arent & Pyke to fully furnish the home after a renovation was completed. » The designers added joinery throughout which is integrated with existing elements. » Subtle tonal arrangements and layering of textures create warmth and complexity in the interior. » Describing the owners as 'meticulous, smart and sophisticated', the designers selected modern classic furniture from a range of brands including B&B Italia, Walter Knoll, and Jaime Hayón with rugs from Robyn Cosgrave to reflect their aesthetic. » Formal and informal spaces abound, catering for all occasions and seasons.

