

AUSTRALIAN

Celebrating 65 years

HOUSE & GARDEN

Kitchen solutions
for all budgets

10 STEPS TO A
SIXTIES HOME
REVIVAL

HOW TO SHOP FOR
BEDS & PAINT

DECORATING
Put the pretty
into black & white

At home with...

An architect, curator
restorer, Francophile,
and a PR queen

TRADE SECRETS

COLOUR, LAYOUT & DESIGN AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

9 13 13006 000709
MAR 2013 • \$7.95 • NZ\$8.90 (incl. GST)



03

CURTAIN CALL

THE BRIEF

This family bathroom in Melbourne's east had already been renovated when Carolyn Burns-McCrave first saw it, but it lacked those all-important finishing touches. "It was white, beige and nondescript, a real blank canvas," says the interior designer. The homeowners gave Burns-McCrave the task of bringing some personality and individuality into the space.

Against vivid textiles and character-rich furnishings, Dulux Hog Bristle at one-quarter strength forms a calming backdrop.

THE DESIGN

For this cosmetic makeover, the starting point was the curtain fabric, a beautiful cotton print from Warwick Fabrics, made up by Pratt Interiors. "It's a great, modern floral with a fun, graphic edge and an affordable price point," says Burns-McCrave.

The curtains go some way to taming the skewed proportions of the small, but tall, room and prevent the bath from being overpowered by the height of the ceiling. They also lend a good dose of glamour and character.

"The homeowners' children are eight and 11, past the age where they splash water everywhere, so the practicality of using fabric in a bathroom was never a concern," she says.

The timber and glass armoire from Town & Country Style is another inclusion that works well with the vertical axis of this space. It's an inspired choice — the fact that it's transparent on the sides means there isn't a heavy, confronting

piece of furniture that dominates the view as soon as you walk into the bathroom.

"The items on the shelves pick up on the tones in the curtain and are reflected in the mirror opposite, so there are always splashes of colour visible, no matter where you are in the room," says Burns-McCrave.

The freestanding bath from Recollections is a traditional slipper model, but constructed from thoroughly modern acrylic. "It's a great bath and another very affordable choice," says Burns-McCrave. Teamed with the classic Oxford bath diverter tapware set, also from Recollections, it recalls the grandeur of a slower, bygone age and promises hours of indulgent soaking.

THE DETAILS

"Balance is key in this bathroom," says Burns-McCrave. "The curtain height counters the low position of the window and the armoire complements the heavy-framed mirror and the ladder opposite."

'MY TASK HERE WAS SIMPLY TO ADD, NOT TAKE AWAY. IT WAS A MATTER OF INTRODUCING TEXTURE, COLOUR AND STORAGE.' CAROLYN BURNS-MCCRAVE, INTERIOR DESIGNER

3 of a kind: ceramic stools



LEFT TO RIGHT Jolie painted ceramic stool, \$179, Domayne; 1800 366 296 or www.domayne.com.au. Chinese porcelain stool, \$620, Orient House; (02) 9660 3895 or www.orienthouse.net.au. Crackle ceramic stool in Turquoise, \$245, Orson & Blake; (02) 8399 2525 or www.orsonandblake.com.au.

Fittings

Curtains in Warwick Fabrics Adachi Alhambra cotton in Onyx	\$121/m
Recollections acrylic slipper bath with chrome feet	\$1300
Mamoli Epoca chrome-plated bath diverter with hand shower	\$700
Stratos 30x30cm matt black porcelain floor tiles	\$40/m ²
White gloss 30x30cm rectified wall tiles	\$27/m ²
Victorian ash vanity	\$1200
White Stone Hox above-counter basin	\$370
Decorative timber ladder	\$70
Ceramic stool	\$250

For Where to Buy, see page 236. Prices are approximate and pertain to time of installation.

Burns McCrave Design, Nunawading, Victoria; (03) 9894 0586 or www.burnsmccrave.com.au.