

property renovate



TRANSFORMED: A 1950s Kenmore home is modernised to link the inside with the outside and open up living areas.

Modern makeover magic

HERE is a lesson in how to turn an old-fashioned, closed-in 1950s home into a modern, open plan entertainer.

Located in the leafy western suburb of Kenmore, the home had been owned by the family for three decades and was in desperate need of modernising.

Dion Seminara, manager of Bulimba-based Dion Seminara Architects, said the owners wanted to keep the bulk of the existing home but make it more comfortable for their retirement.

"Each room was a separate space and the

owners wanted a more modern layout, so we opened up the kitchen, living and dining space to form one larger space with connection to a good-sized deck area," Mr Seminara said.

The team then went about modernising all other spaces in the home, including the addition of an ensuite.

Mr Seminara said that a contemporary edge was important.

"The interiors were all about providing real comfort and linking the inside with the outside," he said.

The exterior of the home was also completely renovated.

"The exterior was all about design for climate to maximise light and airflow," he said. "The project included a range of sustainable features like windows and doors designed to capture the breeze, good overhangs to protect the house from the sun, quality insulation to all walls, solar heating systems and a large underground water tank."

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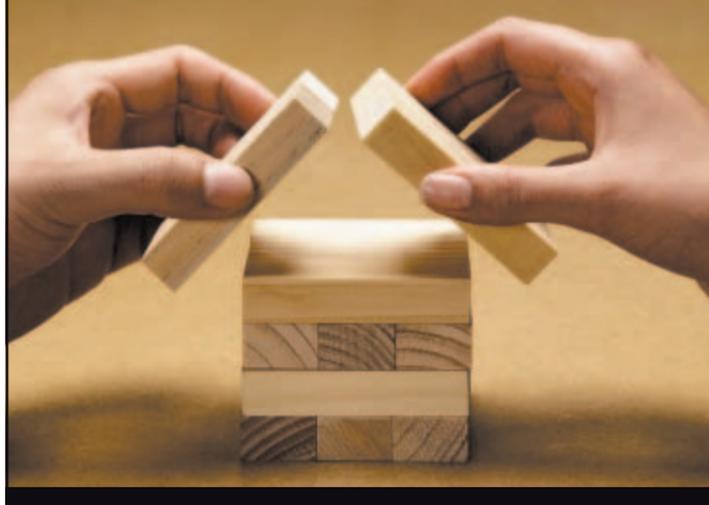
Our top 5 tips

DION SEMINARA SAYS:

1. Ensure your house is light and airy
2. Know how you live before renovating
3. Ensure you have great street appeal
4. Stay sane via pre-planning changes
5. Understand how a great aspect can significantly enhance a property

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