



3 of the best ... **SWINGS**

Childhood memories inspired Rachael to install a swing for her young kids. To avoid losing valuable space in the compact backyard, she placed it under the wide eaves outside the main bedroom. As a rule of thumb, there should be around 2.5 metres between the swing and the structure on both sides.

**1.** Busk+Hertzog 'Me&U' indoor swing, from \$880, from Interstudio, call 1300 785 199. **2.** 'Daisy Double' limewash swing, \$249, from House of Orange, (03) 9500 9991, [www.house-of-orange.com.au](http://www.house-of-orange.com.au). **3.** 'Tyre Basket' swing, \$39.77, from Bunnings Warehouse, call (03) 8831 9777.

**Art house** Wit and whimsy help personalise the home of Rachael and David, an Auckland-based couple with two young daughters. There are playful sculptures, blackboard scribbings, graphic wallpaper and treasured photos. To create a cohesive feel, strong block colours are used in light shades, furnishings and upholstery, all punctuated by timber flooring for warmth. This confident – at times daring – approach turns a rather unassuming weatherboard property into an ever-changing art gallery.



# IN DETAIL

ideas from the Lovelace home



## LOVE THAT, TRY THIS

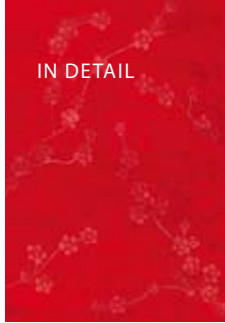
← **BRING IT IN** When it comes to outdoor furniture, the latest high-tech materials and futuristic aesthetics make many ranges so functional and fabulous, they are almost too good to leave outside. David and Rachael brought their table from Alfresco, Auckland (left), into their open-plan interior. Its simplicity makes it stunning inside and out. (Above right) 'PicNik' table by Dirk Wynants & Xavier Lust, \$7769, from Corporate Culture, [www.corporateculture.com.au](http://www.corporateculture.com.au). (Right) 'Chuckel Dine' table by Brian Steendyk, \$775, from Anon & Co, visit the website, [www.anonandco.com](http://www.anonandco.com).

## Something fishy

When designing a master bedroom, few people would select this wallpaper decorated with cans of fish roe, but Rachael "fell in love with it" and wanted to add an element of decorative surprise. 'Caviar' photo-pattern wallpaper from Germany's TapetenAgentur utilises a set of lightly embossed motifs of vintage cans. "I think we may have gotten tired of this wallpaper quickly if it was in the kitchen," says Rachael. "Here, we glimpse it as we walk past; we don't see it when we are in bed."

(Above) TapetenAgentur 'Caviar' photo-pattern wallpaper (372 x 257cm) in Black & White, POA, from Auckland's Netti & Gee, +64 9 360 0214, [www.nettiandgee.co.nz](http://www.nettiandgee.co.nz). →

IN DETAIL



(Below, from top) 'Gloss Biscuit' tile (100 x 300mm), \$40 per sqm; 'Gloss White' tile (200 x 500mm), \$43 per sqm, both from Beaumont Tiles, [www.tiles.com.au](http://www.tiles.com.au).



## THINGS TO SOURCE . . .

↑ **BUTCHER'S TILES** Authentic butcher's tiles in the main bathroom celebrate the patina of age in this 1930s-built residence. "I love the tiles," says Rachael. "They are very fitting for the period and the working-class nature of the original cottage." Peter Kurtze, of Beaumont Tiles, says original butcher's tiles were quite small, around 150 x 75mm; to get a contemporary twist, try upsizing to 100 x 300mm dimensions. Larger options have the benefit of less grout joints, which makes cleaning easier.

← **RED RUG** This piece provides an injection of graphic and tactile beauty. The wool and viscose composition makes it hard-wearing and helps reduce ambient noise – a handy option when the floor is polished concrete. A wool rug also has innate stain-resistant properties, which is helpful for maintenance. (Above left, from top) '**Bangkok Flower**' rug, \$3590 (2 x 3m), from Designer Rugs, (02) 9550 9933. '**Posie**' rug, POA, from Rugs Carpet & Design, (02) 9519 8555. '**Peony**' wool rug by Catherine Martin, \$5445 (2 x 3m), from Designer Rugs, as before.

## COLOUR BURST

Rachael has introduced many hues throughout the house - inky-black walls in the study, a rich burgundy feature in the kitchen and the playful striped effect in the girls' bedroom. To make disparate colour tones work throughout a house, it's worth compiling a mood board, by placing paint chips, and paper and fabric swatches together on cardboard before actually buying.

Semi-Gloss Acrylic in **Imminent**, from \$35 for 1L, from Aalto Colour, 1800 009 600.

Wash & Wear 101 Advanced in **Lippie**, \$40.95 for 1L, from Dulux, 13 25 25.