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Terrace/Balcony

REVIEW YOUR SPACE AND HOW YOU'LL USE IT

Consider how you plan to use your balcony throughout the seasons. Depending on location, balconies are usually put to good use by their homeowners all year round. But if you live in a coastal area that is exposed to harsh wind and salty air, during winter you'll need to take this into consideration before you begin your design, as this will impact your choice of materials and plants.

MAKE IT LUSH

Plants create an incredible ambience that promotes a sense of calm and brings the outdoors in. Monitor the amount of sunlight you receive and the direction it comes from. If you receive the hot afternoon sun you will need to choose plants that can handle that amount of heat and sunlight.

FURNITURE AND SCALE

A balcony is the natural extension of a home, so carrying out the styling of your interiors will ensure you have a seamless décor. If you have a fairly big area, you're lucky, because you can afford to create seating or hang out zones with the right placement of furniture and plants. If not, then remember to leave ample space around your furniture, making sure that passage areas are free and not cluttered. When it comes to choosing outdoor furniture the options are endless, however scale is very important. You may fall in love with an outdoor lounge that looks amazing, but if it's not weather resistant or if it's too big for your space, you must resist the temptation to purchase it because you will regret it later.



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main bathroom

HIRE THE RIGHT PEOPLE

Bathrooms are often the most costly rooms in the house, so it's important to make sure you have the right advice and expertise. For example, waterproofing should be done by someone who is licensed, or the costs for fixing a leak further down the track could be astronomical.

SET A BUDGET & MAKE A LIST

Before you start, it's good to establish a budget for your bathroom, and then determine what will be your must-haves and which items on that list are optional and negotiable. We all love the idea of a big freestanding bathtub, but many considerations need to be taken in to account including functionality and cost. Luxurious items should be considered when the final costings are completed.

SOFTEN YOUR BATHROOM

With so much glass and so many tiles in one space, a bathroom can often come off as quite cold, or even clinical. By adding some aesthetic touches such as indoor plants, and some timber grain as an option for a shelf or vanity top, the entire space can be softened with some added warmth.

INVEST IN FIXTURES

When allocating your bathroom budget, consider spending money on quality tapware. Tapware has the ability to make a big impact, and can really tie in the whole feel of the bathroom space. Spend some time researching different options, and then visit showrooms to touch-and-feel in person and to get a visual understanding for the quality and workmanship.

ALL IN THE DETAILS

Take some time researching the latest in bathroom design, as the small features can often make the biggest impact. An example of this is shower drains! Commonly thought of a simple hole in the middle of the shower area, however now we have access to a wide range of floor grates that give a modern twist.

TIE IN YOUR TILES

Aaah, tiles! Such a crucial decision in any bathroom renovation, they can really make or break the overall design. Make sure you do your research and look at determining factors such as the colour palette (do the chosen tiles visually connect back to any other areas of the house?), size (is the size of the tile in proportion to the space?) and if using a vignette of different tiles; do they all go together?

