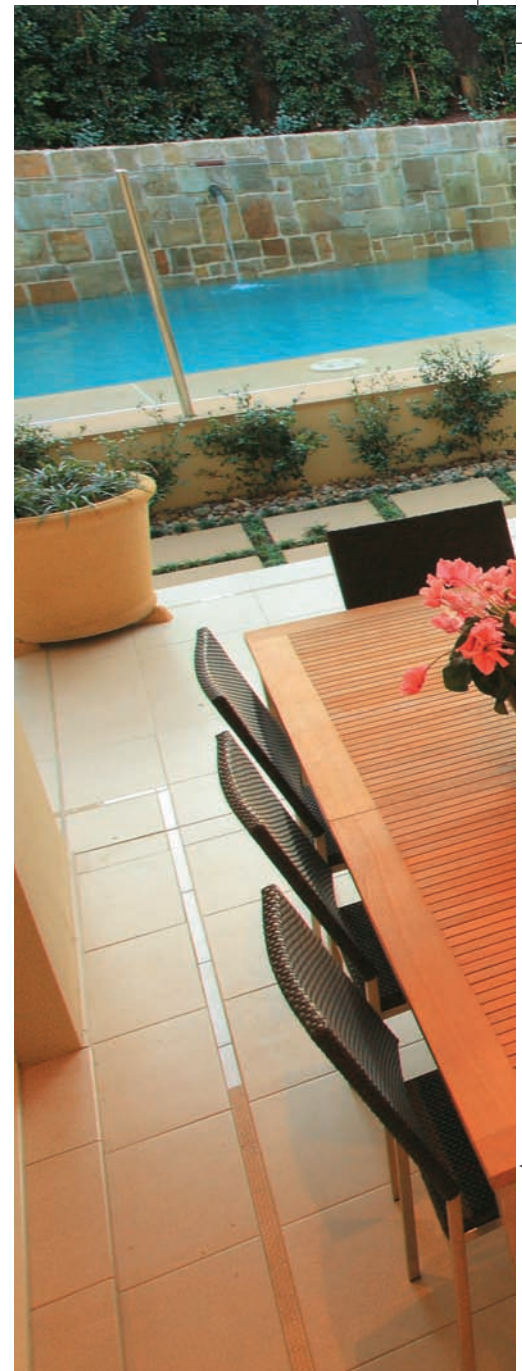


designer landscapes



Modern elegance

Classic yet contemporary, this garden is an entertainer's delight

Sophistication and functionality can go hand in hand as this elegantly modern garden, constructed by Design It Landscapes to a design conceived by company director Mike Cass, so lavishly proves.

"The brief from the owner was to create an extravagant outdoor space that focused on the large pool," says Mike. "What we have given them is an elegant, formal design that is totally functional."

The garden is brimming with special features, including the large swimming pool and the elegant undercover entertaining area. Even though the amount of usable space beneath the pergola was quite modest, Mike has managed to create a comfortable entertaining area complete with a roomy dining setting and a fully equipped outdoor kitchen in stylish stainless steel.

"The level changes did present some challenges so a large retaining wall was required, however, its position was limited due to the existing conifers," explains Mike. "To overcome this, we removed the most exposed corner of the wall and inset a raised water bowl into the structure."

The plants, supplied by Four Seasons Nursery, are integral to the design. Lilly pilly (*Syzygium australe*

'Aussie Southern') was used on the boundary to create an 'instant' hedge and provide colour contrast against the stone wall. The other plants are a mix of the formal and the fragrant, including gardenias, lavender and jasmine.

To ensure they continue to thrive there is drip irrigation which is computer controlled by the home's CBUS system.

For the paving Mike chose Almond sandstone; for the pool, Clancy Ashlar Walling. All paving and walling products, as well as the outdoor furniture, were supplied by Eco Concepts.

The LED lights, from ME Lighting, add the final flourish, ensuring the garden is as enticing at night as it is during the day. The result is a well dressed garden that is the epitome of modern elegance.

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