

Keeping Character

A classic Queenslander receives a masterful and modern renovation with L.A.K. Constructions and their project partners.



NEW LIFE
A link to the home's past has been respectfully maintained in the elegant facade.



This Bulimba beauty was not always so impressive. Originally two separate dwellings that had been joined to make one large home, it was a rabbit warren of small, closed off rooms. A rear deck that had a very low ceiling meant the home became quite hot during the summer months, and too dark due to the lack of natural light that could enter the premises. But it had the promise of character, thanks to its Queenslander bones.

L.A.K. Constructions came on board with a client brief to deal with the above issues and create a welcoming, light and spacious home fit for modern living.

"The existing home had the classic Queenslander features which the clients wanted to protect and carry through to





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the new renovations,” explains Luke Kruberg, Director of L.A.K. Constructions. “The challenge for us was extending and balancing the roofline, as the two old houses had different ceiling heights. To create that open-plan living, dining, kitchen and deck area transition they wanted, it was essential to get it right and enable the areas to flow seamlessly into one.” With the focus on keeping the new extension in the same character as the original home, they sourced products that would complement this style from their trusted suppliers.

“We worked with Smith Architects, who always produce quality designs that we love to build,” says Luke. The new design allows a better flow of the living, kitchen and outdoor entertaining areas, with the large timber stackable doors completely opening up the home and allowing for that relaxed Queensland lifestyle to play out with ease.

And, with clients who love to cook, the kitchen space became a priority. L.A.K. Constructions sought only the finest craftsmanship from the team at Maytain Cabinets, for a kitchen design that is at

once classic, beautiful and chic. An all-white palette and Shaker-style cabinets offer all the right kind of highlights, with the skylight overhead flooding the space with natural light. “The kitchen has been designed not only to be functional but to be the centre of the open plan design,” adds Luke.

The interior of the home has been painted in a light colour to make the most of the open plan layout and to not impede on the light coming in from the new skylights, while the exterior colours enhance the beautiful character features.

“This renovation is very typical of the projects we complete for our clients. We have a lot of people living in these beautiful old Queenslanders who want to change their home to suit their lifestyle,” says Luke. “It is great to see people keeping the original character of these homes and enhancing them with modern facilities and products.”

This Bulimba project by L.A.K. Constructions was a Finalist in the 2016 HIA-CSR Brisbane Housing Awards Renovation/Addition \$300,001 to \$600,000 category.

