



# On the beach

Three young children and a love of the seaside drove the design of a new home for City Beach couple Adrian and Noeline.

**A**DRIAN AND Noeline wanted their new home in City Beach to take advantage of sweeping ocean views as well as provide plenty of play areas for their children.

The 1400sqm corner block originally housed a 1960s-built home which they intended to renovate.

However, architect John Kannis says the existing house had been added to several times which made it difficult to renovate, so they decided it would be easier to demolish it and build a new house.

Noeline says they asked John to design an open-plan home with a casual feel to suit their needs.

Another significant factor was Noeline's need to be able to see both front and back yards — so she could keep an eye on the children — as well as enjoy the views.

In the initial client-architect briefing, Adrian and Noeline described their preference in architectural styles as French provincial.

But overall, according to John, a more contemporary style was eventually adopted.

"A few of the influences are French provincial, like the doors and balconies, but we let the house develop itself," he says.

Blackbutt parquetry was used on the floors in the entry, kitchen and casual living area while the kitchen cupboards feature beech doors and stainless steel handles.

Stainless steel was also used in the hob and splashback areas.

A huge pantry provides enough storage space to cater for a small army.

From the kitchen, steps lead down to the casual TV room and children's play room. The laundry provides access to the garage and a sliding glass door leads outside.

The formal lounge and dining areas are separated by a curved bar which features pressed metal and marble benchtops.

Noeline says that although they wanted formal areas to entertain guests, they didn't want those spaces to feel sterile.

To achieve the formal entertainment areas without creating a sterile atmosphere, the lounge, dining and bar

"The plan was to be able to lie in bed and look at the ocean."

"My husband loves the beach and so do the kids so we wanted to be able to see the beach from the house," Noeline says.

"The old house had a balcony which we used a lot so we wanted to have a big verandah."

The wide verandahs provide ample shade and protection from sou'-westerly winds, as well as space for alfresco entertaining.

Adrian says they wanted the new home to include plenty of areas for their three children to play in.

"The front and the back areas were just as important as the inside of the house," he says.

They made use of the spacious frontage to build a play area with brightly coloured swings and slides.