

"THE KEY TO DESIGNING WITHIN A WAREHOUSE IS TO AVOID CARVING THE BEAUTIFUL LARGE SPACES INTO SMALL CELLS," SAYS ARCHITECT, ANDREW MAYNARD.



it's all fun until...

Recyclable materials and blood red vinyl are evidence of the fun that architect and client had

designing this inner-Melbourne warehouse.



The front door, **ABOVE**, hints at the graphic nature of the interior fit-out to come. The kitchen's cabinetwork, **LEFT**, is designed in Oriented Strand Board – a cost-effective, recyclable material that alludes to the building's former industrial life. The five metre island bench is long enough to "fillet a shark". A wall of storage hides laundry, pantry and a "micro-bathroom", **BELOW**, lined in blood-red vinyl – "the flesh inside the object" – with its green "beam-me-up Scottie" skylight. The owners delight in challenging visitors to find the hidden bathroom, "especially when they are in urgent need of using it".





**DESIGN:** Andrew Maynard of Andrew Maynard Architects.  
**BUILDER:** Enviroline. **JOINER:** UK Kitchens. **BENCHTOP:** 3100 Jet Black from CaesarStone.  
**JOINERY:** as before from Gunnersens. **WALLS:** Polyflor Marbleized Vinyl. **COOKTOP:** 'Viking Professional 46' VGSU' from Michael's Appliance Centre. **OVEN:** Fisher & Paykel 'Titan Double Oven' from Clive Peters. **BATHTUB:** Domaine oval bath from Reece, and **TAPS:** Bifold tap from Eidos Tapware. Details, last pages.



The ensuite bathroom on the ground level, **ABOVE LEFT**, and **TOP**, is lined in the same blood-red vinyl as the upstairs micro-bathroom. "We don't like chicken-out colours," says the architect. "I suggested a hot one so that when you walk into it you feel cerebrally warm."

**BELOW LEFT:** the ensuite is doorless to avoid it feeling 'cell-like'. **ABOVE RIGHT:** the kitchen is viewed from every vantage point on the first floor.



**DESIGN NOTES**

- For the fit-out of an **old industrial warehouse** in Melbourne's North Fitzroy, architect **Andrew Maynard used joinery to define spaces** rather than "carve the beautiful large space into small cells" by installing walls.
- Maynard typifies the owners as a **young couple with two dogs** who care more about their lifestyle than keeping up with the Jones's.
- Architect and client were "**hellbent on having fun**", and brainstormed plenty of "playful ideas", especially for the kitchen.
- One owner, Mick, a professional actor and passionate cook, "**wanted to be able to fillet a shark on his benchtop.**"
- The **kitchen** is the first thing seen from the landing at the top of the stairs. It's also **seen from every vantage point** on the first floor.
- Oriented Strand Board was chosen for the kitchen joinery, a **recyclable material with a strong industrial feel.**
- The five metre-plus bench is indeed long enough for a shark. The wall behind it

conceals laundry, pantry and 3 sqm micro-bathroom, **lined in blood red vinyl**, "the flesh inside the object", with a green-rimmed skylight - very "beam me up Scottie".

• The ground floor ensuite, is lined in the same red vinyl, apparently **a dream to keep clean** – simply wipes down with a squeegee, no grout to scrub. "Sure we could do a beige bathroom but **we don't like chicken-out colours.**"

**THE ARCHITECT**

• Andrew Maynard is one of the **new breed of 'under 40'** architects well versed in the art of self-promotion, computer graphics, and environmental awareness.

• His projects are hallmarked with a **bold expressive style** that is more puritan than folly, and more a subtle commentary on modern culture than an articulation of it.

• He says, "**Houses are about life. I want the ones I do to be playful without being naive.** In the end we are professionals so we have to apply some rigour, but I don't do buildings that are a monument to the client or me." AK