



## A matching pair

Carry the same look through your kitchen and bathroom to give your home a sense of flow. Here are six timeless styles to try

WORDS KYLIE JACKES





## colour code

### For the kitchen:

Flooring can create a unifying aesthetic within an all-white scheme. Whitewashed floating timber will lend a coastal or casual country feel, while slip-resistant tiles and tinted polished concrete provide a slick finish, ideal for minimalist interiors.

For a wall of white, integrate appliances into cabinetry or opt for truly 'white goods' such as Smeg's 'Classic Professional' freestanding cooker in white. If you don't want to go handle free, invest in snowy hardware for a barely there finish.



## The key...

to a successful white-on-white look is using a variety of finishes. "All-white colour schemes can feel stark and clinical, so it's important to play with texture and pattern to create an inviting space with depth and interest," says designer Erika Forster of White Door Design. "For benchtops and cabinetry, use a combination of honed and satin finishes, and include whitewashed timber to add visual warmth."

### For the bathroom:

A sea of white will boost the sense of space. Enhance the look with coordinating hardware, an oversized mirror with a textural frame and fluffy cream and white towels.

Add interest to surfaces by varying tile size and finish. Try glass mosaics or textured tiles to create a feature wall, and contrast with large format rectified tiles on the floor and opposing walls. Finish with white grout for a unified look, but have it sealed to preserve its good looks for longer.



## natural wonder

### For the kitchen:

Start with one key finish to help refine and guide the decision-making process. "Inject warmth with cabinetry, such as Briggs Veneers' TrueGrain' BlackOnyx veneer in a sealed matt finish," suggests Erika. "If your base is a dark timber floor, a soft green, like Laminex's Paper Bark melamine, or Porter's Paints Sable will lighten the space."

Soften lines with organic-shaped timber furniture, textural sea-grass mats and earthenware, suggests interior designer Di Henshall. "A feature light, or cluster of pendants made from natural fibres, is another way to create a focal point and echo the scheme."

### For the bathroom:

Natural stone adds texture to the look. "The subtle colour variations in granite and composite stone work for floors and vanities, a panel of stacked stone exudes tactile appeal, while free-flowing shapes like Apaier and Boyd Alternatives baths combine form and function," says Di.

Create the illusion of timber flooring with porcelain timber-look tiles, such as Italian Doga tiles from Amber Tiles, laid in a horizontal pattern to emulate floorboards. >

## The key...

to a seamless nature-inspired look is in the balance. "Go for neutral walls in pale taupe or warm cream and pair with natural materials, such as timber accents. This will reflect a leafy backdrop or cool coastal environment," says interior designer Di Henshall of Di Henshall Interior Design. "If possible, add large windows to allow maximum natural light to flood the kitchen, with louvres for controllable air flow."

### The key...

to a monochrome style is focusing on differing tones of one hue – sophisticated black and white is a popular example. "This scheme is easy to master because you simply work with tonal neutrals and add in one accent colour," explains Lorraine Brigdale of The Laminex Group. Light, softer shades will enhance an open feel, while darker tones will enclose the space. A simple trick is to use black or white kickboards and architraves to frame the room.



### monochrome moment

#### For the kitchen:

The island bench is a bold place to showcase a hero colour that can be accented with accessories and benchtop appliances.

Express tonal variation by using slightly different shades on drawer fronts and cabinetry.

#### For the bathroom:

Grey is ideal for a monochromatic scheme as it boasts variations offset beautifully by stainless-steel tapware and hardware. "A great combination is light concrete grey floor tiles, and white satin wall tiles paired with a silver mosaic feature wall and a charcoal-toned vanity," says Erika Forster of White Door Design. The range of sheens creates subtle variations that are perfect for a tranquil backdrop.

"It's important to incorporate the 'loose parts' of the bathroom in your design concept," says interior stylist and designer Angela Morrison of Style Create Design. "Hunt down towels, mats, soap dispensers and accessories in your chosen colour to unify the room."



### colour code

#### For the kitchen:

Using your favourite colours in unexpected ways is a great way to add personality. A simple addition like contrasting cabinetry hardware is a small way to achieve big impact. Or, use coloured LED lights to set the mood in an entertainer's kitchen.

Find a patterned tile you love and use it en masse as a splashback. "Hand-painted Turkish tiles or traditional-looking damask tiles form a real point of difference," says Erika.

### The key...

to bold colour blocking is to be fearless. "Increasingly we're using colour in a whole new way, with the intermixing of two, three or more colours to create interesting and vibrant schemes," says Lorraine Brigdale of The Laminex Group. "Colour can act as a date stamp, so use it thoughtfully," says Angela. Pair it with crisp white to keep it looking fresh. For those who are a little unsure of lime green cabinetry or a vivid red wall, don't forget it's only paint, and can be easily painted over if need be.

#### For the bathroom:

"The aim is to create a serene space which is easy on the eye, so keep colours to a maximum of three as often there is not enough space to work a multi-coloured scheme successfully," advises interior designer Di Henshall.

A crimson red, paired with white, forms the ideal foundation for a dramatic ensuite. As colour is a feature in itself, keep other design elements subtle. >



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