



**Top team:** This award-winning home was built by Chase Building Group and designed by Architects Ring and Associates and Archertec Interiors.

## The house that has it all

LOCATED in Forrest among the smallest streets in Canberra is a suburban house built by Chase Building Group and designed by Architects Ring and Associates and Archertec Interiors.

On first viewing the block the firm was surprised to see that the original house was not taking advantage of the amazing views to parliament house. There were also remnant trees on the block which were to be considered in the design.

The blocks width exceeds its depth and as the northern sun is at the rear of the block Architects Ring and Associates designed the house to be long and narrow so all the rooms capture the northern sun.

The design of the house is almost see through from the street to allow the rooms to take full advantage of solar gain and the streetscape.

### Design

On entry to the interior there is a large double storey void which is coffered to create volume and scale to the space. In front of you are stairs which begin narrow and expand as you descend to the lower floor.

At this level you are able to glimpse the pool. To your left is the formal lounge and to the right is a theatre room.

You then move forward to picture windows and a large terrace to take full advantage of the sun and the afternoon breeze. At this juncture you can then move into the private zone of the master bedroom or the informal zone of the family room and kitchen. The family room and kitchen are all in one room so the family can interact with one another while cooking, talking, playing board games or just chilling out. This area is the central hub of this family home.

The lower ground floor is accessed by the central

stairs or the lift. As you descend the stair you are aware that the stair becomes wider and this allows the house to be one with no distinct demarcation between the upstairs and downstairs. The downstairs contains the children's wing, a central rumpus room, a garage, ample storage and a gym.

### Exterior

The exterior design creates a home which borrows the language of the neighbour's houses while taking its own form with the use of various materials to create the palate of colour for the home.

Stone is the major feature of the home and has been used as a horizontal element as well as a vertical elements.

Combined with a light natural coloured wall, Alucobond eaves and charcoal slate roof tiles, the colour scheme is classic and elegant.

### Environmental controls

- Solar panels are used to heat the pool and the water;
- Two 20,000 litre tanks of water are stored at the rear of the block;
- E' glass was used to all windows to create comfort;
- The house has a six-star energy rating;
- Insulation has been used externally through the house with sarking to the roof;
- LED lighting was used throughout the house;
- Central gas heating throughout the house; and
- The width of house allows for natural cross ventilation and highlighted windows are used to create a chimney effect for hot air to escape.

### Conclusion

The team worked together to produce an uncomplicated style while still creating a bold statement through the quality of the exterior and interior design.