



Naturally chic



Durban designers Bruce Fyfe and Kelsey Boyce reveal how they mixed contrasting styles to give their home a natural look that's sleek rather than rustic

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1. FRONT ROW SEAT

A low-slung Italian corner unit gives the impression of a laid-back lifestyle, while simultaneously lending a chic international feel to the living area. Bruce and Kelsey added raw silk scatters which not only echo the colour, but also the texture of the grass cloth on the walls.

Grass cloth is available through Bruce Fyfe & Associates.

2. GLAM, YET GROUNDED

Nothing says glamour like a chandelier; by swapping the crystal drops for clay beads, this one's been given a more earthy appeal. The same applies to the finishes chosen for the other ornate furnishings in this small dining area. The richly carved table has been left in its natural state, while chocolate leather was chosen over a fussier plush fabric for the upholstered chairs.

The table, chairs, Nguni hide and Mud chandelier are from Bruce Fyfe & Associates. The artworks by Lesley Magwood Fraser are available from Stepping Stones Gallery.



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3. AROUSING INTEREST

Stop a neutral scheme from seeming bland by introducing contrasting textures and a sophisticated black and white fabric as an accent; choose a botanical print, like this one from Design Team, to tie in with a natural theme. In this sitting area, the rough texture of the grass cloth and jute rug is offset by the smooth finish of the frameless glass coffee table. ▷

The coffee table and jute rug are available from Bruce Fyfe & Associates. The woven basket is from the KwaZulu-Natal Society For The Blind. The Design Team fabric is from Walnut Interior Fabrics.

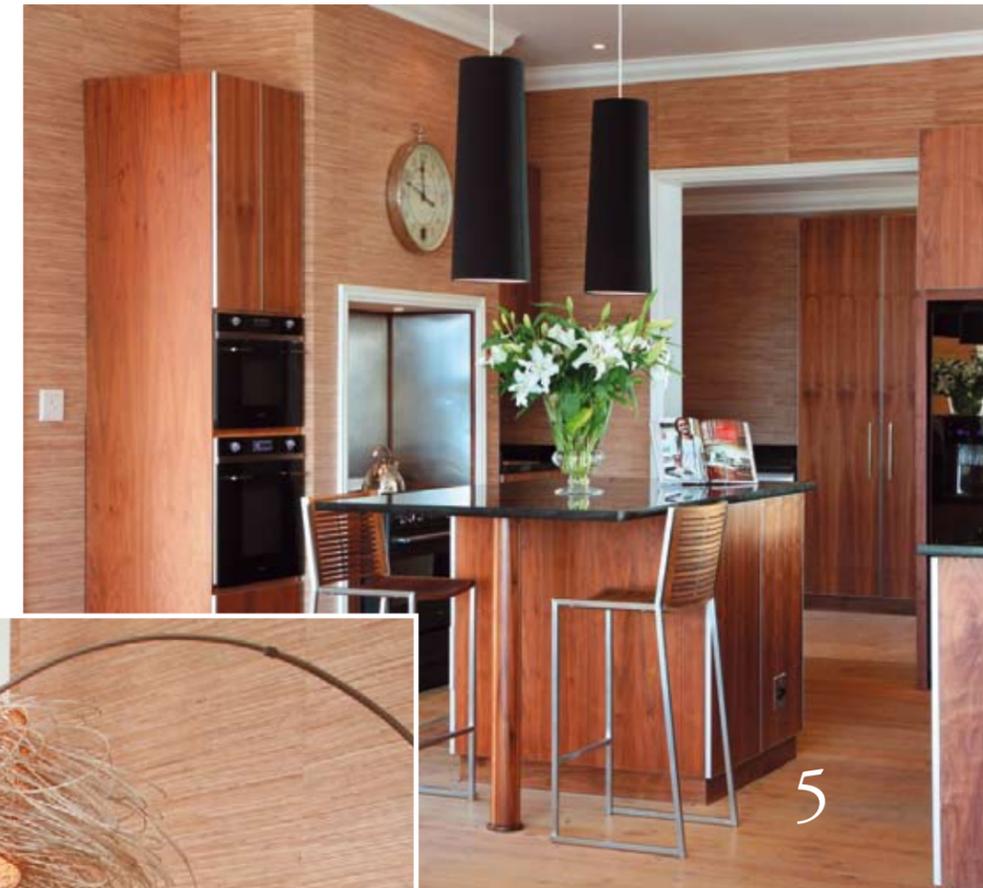


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4. DINNER THEATRE

Create drama in a dining area by using oversized elements, whether it's in the form of fashionable pendant lights or a simple arrangement of delicious monster leaves. Strike the right balance between smart and casual by teaming formal upholstered chairs with an asymmetrical grouping of art on the wall.

The lamp shades are from Cécile and Boyd's and the mirror is from Stepping Stones Gallery.



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5. SILVER LINING

Choose natural materials like wood and granite for the kitchen, but stick to clean lines for a mod streamlined look. Here, the walls are papered with grass cloth, while the area around the gas hob is clad with stainless steel. Besides being a practical choice, the steel adds a subtle gleam that's an essential part of any luxe scheme.

The Kenkoon stools are from Out The Box Trading.

6. MONOCHROMATIC MIX

"Traditional and contemporary pieces can work well together if the colour hues are similar," says Bruce. Case in point is the harmonious paring of a classic wingback armchair with a contemporary standing lamp and an ethnic stool in this tranquil reading nook. ▷

The lamp is from Couch & Interiors.



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7. INSIDE OUT

Complement the clean lines of modern furnishings with plants with bold, sculptural forms, like palms and aloes. "This little courtyard is so private it is the ultimate place for an open-air bath and shower," says Bruce. **GMH**

The black Kenkoon chair is from Out The Box Trading.



SOURCES

Bruce Fyfe & Associates

031 764 5931 or www.brucefyfe.co.za

Cécile and Boyd's 031 303 1005

Couch & Interiors 031 312 5999

KwaZulu-Natal Society

For The Blind 031 202 7277

Out The Box Trading 031 764 5931

Stepping Stones Gallery

031 764 0222

Walnut Interior Fabrics 031 303 8203

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