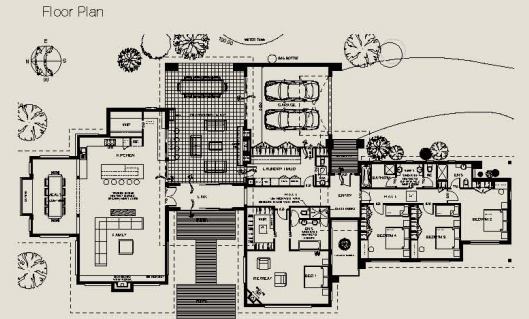


BEST CONTEMPORARY COUNTRY HOUSES



EDITED BY GARY TAKLE

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Room With a View

Perched delicately at the top of a slight hill, this impressive property is the epitome of modern, luxurious, country living. From its prominent exterior design, to the intricacies featured within, this home by Peter Jackson Design does not disappoint.



Iconic from the outset, wide eaves are a notable feature, extending beyond the walls of the home and effectively enhancing its length visually. A raised section of the roof creates a focal point in the design of the home – which was constructed by Steve Fisher Innovative Homes – highlighting the expansive alfresco dining area.

With a lake to the front and sweeping vistas of the undulating countryside to compliment, extensive glazing is only natural in the design. From within the home, clean lines and a simple palette help to maintain focus on the magnificent views with large floor-to-ceiling fixed glass windows to frame the magnificent landscape. The orientation and layout of the home has been carefully considered, allowing for residents and guests to enjoy the changing scenery throughout the day.

An open plan design is facilitative of a natural flow, allowing light to fill the home organically from the front, through to the back. In addition, specific windows around the home have been selected to open, aiding and maximizing the effective cooling principle of cross ventilation.

The outdoor living room is unique in that it is enclosed within the walls of the home. Averting wind and rain, it achieves gorgeous views through the floor to ceiling glazed sliding doors and clerestory windows. This is without a doubt the perfect place to entertain year round.

Back inside, the master bedroom – a haven for adults – fares as one of the most impressive points of the home. Aside from million dollar views that extend across to the horizon and a generous footprint, the adjoining ensuite is highlighted with the inclusion of large opening to allow the view to be admired from the freestanding bath.

Another feature of the home is the extensive walk in pantry located behind the kitchen. With light coloured stone bench tops sympathetic to the theme of the home, it is the odd flash of colour in furniture and cabinetry around the home, which adds to its character and attraction.



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Photos: Brett Holmberg
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Rule, Britannia

Attuning itself to a unique approach in design for the modern era, this home by Peter Jackson Design is influenced by traditional English architecture and reflects the demands of a typically rural setting.





Built by Steve Fisher Innovative Homes, it presents an emphasis on recycled materials, possesses an accurate authenticity, while at the same time, modern principles and methods of the design and construction aid in maximizing the sustainability of the home. Its orientation is complementary to solar gain, while the roof was designed to harvest rainwater.

In keeping with the style of the home, the footprint of the home was designed so that roof spans were kept to a minimum, allowing the steep pitch of the roof to fall below height restrictions.

Positioned atop a carefully selected undulation, the partially stone clad home facilitates views over the farm and river, as well as of the ocean nearby.

Inside, the true essence of the style is realized. An oversized fireplace and sitting area is characterized by traditional features such as the stone work and timber lined cathedral ceilings. Together with exposed timber trusses, these elements bring the clients' brief to fruition.

From the inside out, the home maintains the conventional 'English Country' style, which is attributed to the inclusion of key traditional elements. This ranges from elements such as the conservatory style glazing, and projecting windows, the dormers, benching and joinery.

Attention to detail is prevalent throughout, with smaller sized windows intentionally used to once again instill authenticity into the design.

Columns and purpose built trusses inside also afford the exposure and use of rough-sawn recycled hardwood timbers to dramatic effect, bolstering its 'rural' environment.



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Traditional Extension

One of the first built in Inverloch, this country residence has period features, heavily timber clad interior walls, and was covered by a council heritage overlay. The extension offers functionality for modern living with two wings now bursting forth from the original box home, closely respecting its heritage and origins.





The owners of this traditional Australian homestead style home commissioned Peter Jackson to increase the original dwelling's functionality with the creation of open shared spaces.

The gorgeous original dwelling was one of undeniable charm, though its usability for a modern family was lacking. Hence, the owners wanted new living spaces to be included in a renovation that was sensitive to the existing detailing and respectful to the character of the charming spaces and facades. The changes needed to take advantage of the site's orientation, maximise opportunities for northern light and capitalise the water views.

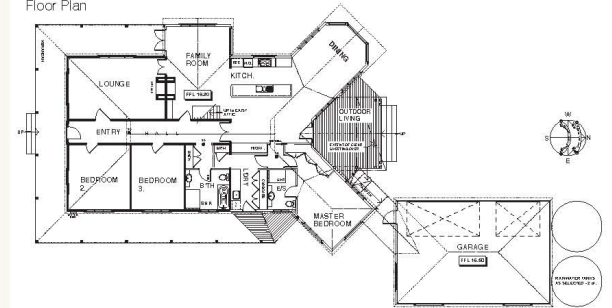
The airy, light-filled extension is a clear divergence from the character of the original dwelling whilst elements in detailing marry the two sections seamlessly. The internal and external design elegantly balances the juxtaposition of old and new, light and dark, private and open spaces to maintain the character filled 'Australian homestead' style home whilst offering functionality for modern living.

Similar cladding materials and colours maintain the characteristics of the original dwelling. Elements such as the corrugated cladding materials for roofing and external walls were used to integrate the two sections seamlessly. A fan-like design developed that saw all the new rooms take in a water view. An appropriate mix of large sheets of glass and segmented period style windows have been used in selected locations depending on the room's use, outlook and solar gain.

Crowned with gable end roofing, a full height north facing bay window graces the main feature of the house, with a generous gallery style kitchen that was introduced for maximum flow. The clean white kitchen is flooded with sunshine from a window behind the cook top that acts as a splash back. To either side project the lounge and the dining areas.

A large north facing deck was added to increase usable outdoor space. Spreading its timber floor out towards the scenic rural outlook, the deck provides a lovely place to recline and relax.

Floor Plan



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Asian Influence

The owners enlisted Peter Jackson, of Peter Jackson Design to create for them a functional home that expresses uniqueness in a one-of-a-kind form.

They wanted the home to have a distinct Asian influence to give it a relaxed, resort ambience.



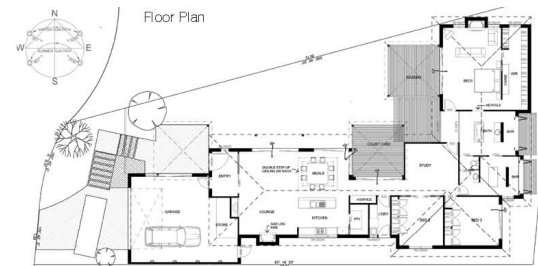
Constructed by Steve Fisher Innovative Homes, the residence wraps around an expansive, north-facing outdoor area that provides a vital link for the entire design. Here, a series of gazebo type areas sit below raised and extended roofs that jut out from the house. These features see the materialisation of the Asian aesthetic with the use of elegant vertical and horizontal lines capped off with the extended, exposed rafter tails.

A circular access way adds to the mystique and interest of the space as it frames exotic plantings and tranquil water features and crazy paving.

Inside, all the major rooms are oriented to access or overlook the beautifully landscaped outdoor areas so that the many sliding doors throughout can extend the house outdoors. Furnished with Asian inspired colours and textures, the oversized master bedroom – which includes an open fire – enjoys direct access to the landscaped courtyard through a huge sliding door. The ensuite, exposed through a circular opening in the wall sees a truly different layout. A free-standing bath is made particularly luxurious by its outlook through the adjacent window. The shower is accessible from outside and there is space for a massage table.

The communal areas are cosy and inviting thanks to a number of interacting elements. Chocolate brown floor tiles oppose a grand bulk head ceiling under which rich furniture is highlighted with strategic lighting. Two walls of sliding doors permit flow out to the alfresco area for effortless entertaining all year round.

This is a unique residence, with Asian influences set amid a typically Australian township, and is a testament to the design skill of Peter Jackson and his team.



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