



**LANTERN** Potterybarn 'Caleb' lantern in white weathered from \$64 potterybarn.com.au



**CANDLEHOLDER** Menu 'POV' table candleholder \$60.65 finnishedesignshop.com



**CHAIR** Kartell 'Liza Mat' by Piero Lissoni chair in white \$465 spacefurniture.com.au

**SHOP THE LOOK >**



**CARAFE** IKEA '365+' carafe with stopper \$3.99 ikea.com.au



**SHELF** 'Fjällbo' shelving unit \$79 ikea.com.au



**POTS** The Balcony Garden 'The Squeeze' pots from \$50 thebalconygarden.com.au

*“WITH A CUP OF COFFEE IN THE MORNING, WATERING MY GREENHOUSE IS LIKE DOING YOGA BEFORE WORK.”*

– Kobus Truter

With the brief of creating an inviting, entertaining space for relaxing with friends, Kobus Truter and Marc Knickelbein set about transforming their concrete backyard into a verdant kitchen garden – along with outdoor entertaining and barbecue area – perfect for hosting an afternoon party.

“As an ex-chef, I wanted a greenhouse garden attached to my kitchen, with fresh herbs and vegetables readily available,” says Kobus. “With a cup of coffee in the morning, watering my

greenhouse is like doing yoga before work.”

The kitchen garden has gravel on top of a concrete floor (which assists with drainage), and roofing of clear sheets, to maximise sun exposure. The pair opted for custom-made, brickwork vegetable boxes in lieu of pots, as the boxes retain water more effectively. Furthermore, raising pots would have created more maintenance – and weeds to pull.

The concreted barbeque area was painted with a good-quality, durable paint, and covered by a wood latte roof that provides beautiful dappled shade.

Kobus and Marc put much thought into their selection of plants, preferring specimens they can use: “We have lemon trees around the pool, bay trees lining the perimeter fence, and lime trees either side of the braai – so gin and tonics are sorted,” says Marc.



**PRODUCE TO EAT**  
*“Currently, I’m growing rhubarb for the odd rhubarb and apple tart, spinach for the times I need a green vegetable, and fresh tomatoes for cheese and tomato sandwiches.”*

– Kobus Truter





**BREEZY COURTYARD** The use of breeze blocks allowed the creation of a private courtyard for the family, with large alfresco, in-built seating; lawn and sandpit. Moroso side table and coffee table from Mobilia; round rug (pictured on previous page), cushions and Mongolian sheepskin from Empire Homewares.

Marimekko 'Veljekset' cushion cover \$39.50  
finnishdesignshop.com



“  
I designed the breeze block wall to create a durable screen that was private and secure...”  
– Ascher Smith



Sunday Supply Co. 'Dunes Beach' umbrella \$239 sundaysupply.co

SHOP THE LOOK >

The Balcony Garden 'Pineapple' pot in white from \$145  
thebalconygarden.com.au



Mr Green Grass 'Tweed' pot in sky \$20  
jonesandco.com.au

Moroso 'Net' side table by Benjamin Hubert \$1580 mobilia.com.au

“With the unusual request to blend garden styles, we came up with the 'Spamtons' design (Spanish-meets-Hamptons), which somehow came together perfectly in the end,” says Ascher.

Homeowners Freddy and Jenn Hollow were looking for a relaxed garden with plenty of lush greenery that would be an extension of the living area. Key factors to be included were grass and a sandpit for their children.

“The kids love playing outside, and our dream was to be able to provide them with a space that would allow them to grow and learn independence, but also be safe,” explains Freddy.

With the original front door hidden behind a security

fence, Ascher tackled the challenge of relocating the front door and creating a distinctive entry path, using feature artisan-glazed, BonTon tiles.

“The mosaic tiles were 100 percent Ascher's suggestion, but that's the beauty of having a designer that you can trust,” says Freddy.

In addition, the carport and parking were also relocated to the back of the house, increasing the space of the front yard that now boasts a large grassed play area with cubby house and gardens.

“The front garden is exposed to full summer sun, so we recreated the tropical style using a carefully selected mix of exotic and native species that are suited to our Perth climate,” says Ascher.