

With unique views of Newcastle Harbour to the North and views of the Cathedral to the South, this penthouse apartment needed an internal design befitting of its location.

Webber Architects met with the client to ascertain their requirements, their lifestyle and their preferences. This resulted in an oversized ensuite being converted into a walk in robe and ensuite, a large open planned kitchen/dining area that connected with an outdoor terrace, and a new lounge area that included a fire place and a study that takes advantage of the calming ocean views.

The design has made better use of the penthouse and has transformed a seemingly dark and uninviting space into an open and functional area that makes the most of the unique location and views. Using minimalist detailing and sleek lines has meant that although the apartments' footprint did not increase, the illusion of expansive space has been created. Built around a central fireplace, the lounge area has been transformed into a cosy, inviting space, that is perfect for entertaining and taking advantage of unique views over Newcastle Harbour.

The design of the kitchen was to be a functional, usable layout offering a monolithic island bench as the focal point of the space. In contrast with the typical 'breakfast style' island, the Client was after a bench purely as a workspace.

The concept behind the design was based upon two simple interlocked volumes. Particular attention was paid to the detailing of each element through the use of mitred junctions, giving the illusion of a solid mass yet allowing concealed storage.

The material palette is inspired by the site's unique outlook onto Newcastle's working industrial harbour, with memories of the steelworks captured through the use of Axolotl feature panels along the side wall, and the Coal industry mimicked in the form and colour of the island bench located at the heart of the space. The industrial palette is spliced by the crisp and clean turquoise of the splashback to represent the natural beauty of Newcastle's coastal setting.

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