

LIVING

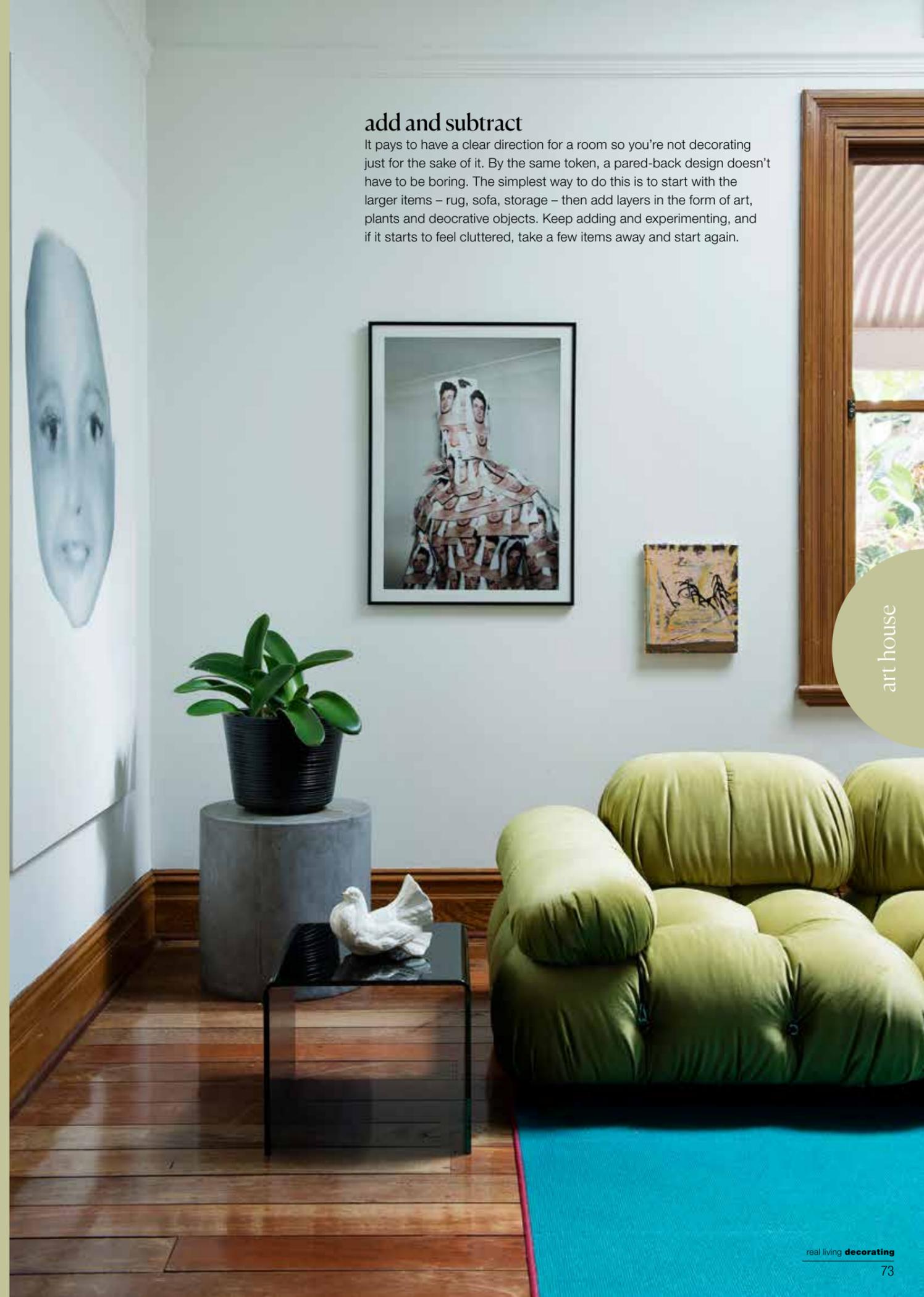
While art, colour and texture are the stars of this room, the rest of the decor has been kept relatively simple to create a usable and comfortable space.

art house

This Federation-style home belonging to artist Waldemar Kolbusz celebrates art in all its forms. Prints and paintings by his contemporaries fill the walls, while bright rugs, statement light fittings, freeform ceramics and velvet furniture add to the visual effect.

add and subtract

It pays to have a clear direction for a room so you're not decorating just for the sake of it. By the same token, a pared-back design doesn't have to be boring. The simplest way to do this is to start with the larger items – rug, sofa, storage – then add layers in the form of art, plants and decorative objects. Keep adding and experimenting, and if it starts to feel cluttered, take a few items away and start again.





KITCHEN

Stained glass windows and colourful paintings provide light relief against the dark walnut cabinetry and floors.

paint your front door

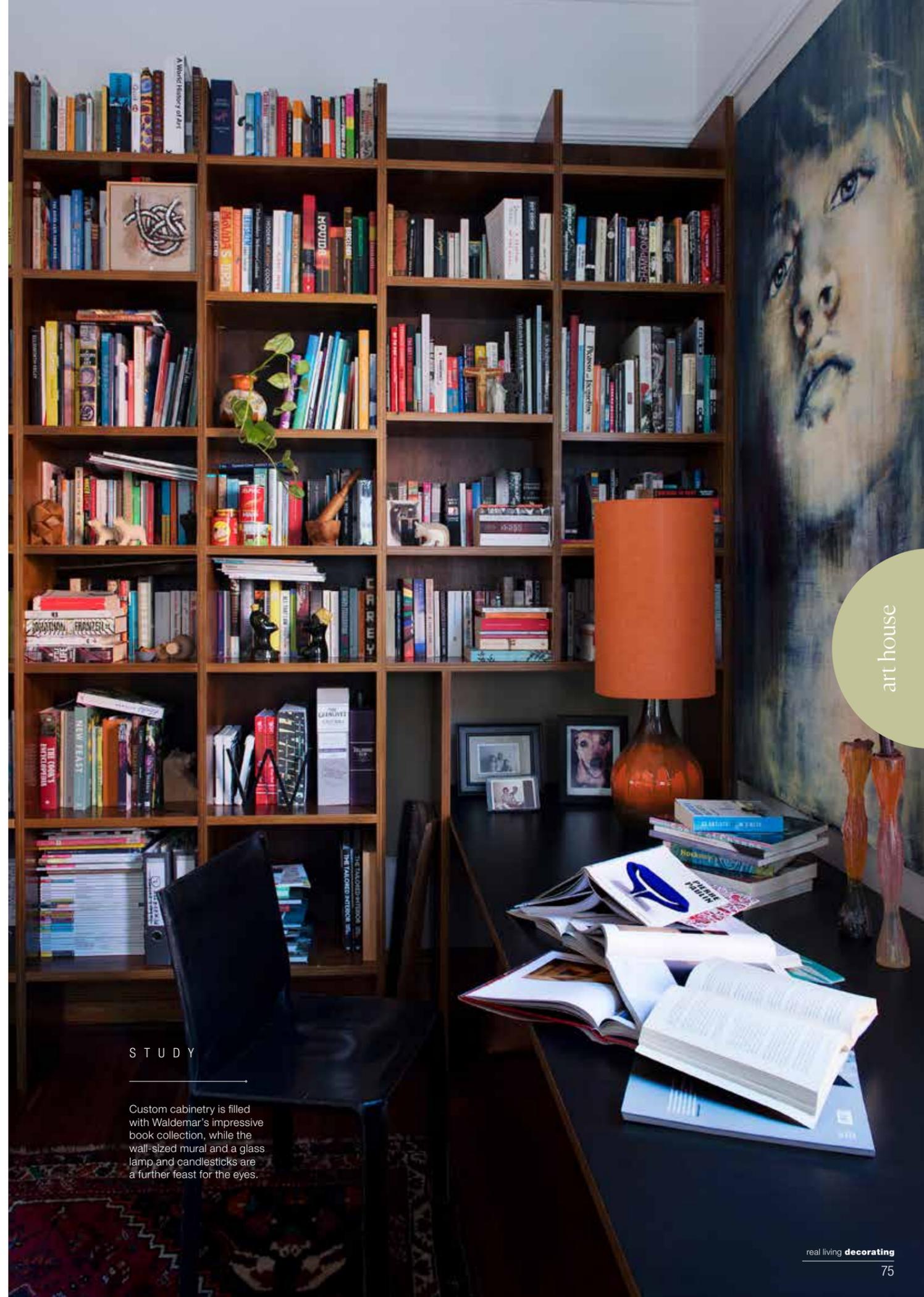
It's the easiest way to add instant curbside appeal and give a glimpse of your home's personality. Try mint green for a cottage farm house, coral for mid-century modern vibes, bright blue to pop against a white exterior or sunny yellow for the perfect warm welcome.



LIVING

A vibrant painting fits snugly in its corner spot, and ties in perfectly with the colours of the rug and couches.

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STUDY

Custom cabinetry is filled with Waldemar's impressive book collection, while the wall-sized mural and a glass lamp and candlesticks are a further feast for the eyes.

art house

go nuts for velvet

This soft and tactile fabric brings an opulent touch to a room, while also giving off calming and nostalgic vibes. Pretty in jewel tones or pastels, it's also incredibly durable, so a good choice for hero pieces. Start small with a few scatter cushions or a plush ottoman, or dive right in with a velvet lounge, bedhead or dining chairs.



3 quick and easy style tricks to try

1

Revamp a simple cupboard or cabinet by adding some ornate handles or knobs. Brass, marble, leather, acrylic or glass variations make a stylish statement.

2

Make a feature of an empty wall with wallpaper or a wall mural. It will add an extra layer of warmth, depth and style to a room, and renters can use removable styles.

3

Add a dose of colour to a lifeless bathroom or give an old tub a new lease on life by painting it. Look for an epoxy-based paint in any shade of your choosing.



embrace reflective surfaces

Glass tabletops, glossy furniture and mirrored light fittings are all great for creating the illusion of space. They also help brighten a room when light reflects off them – handy if your home struggles for natural light.

D I N I N G

The sensory journey continues in the dining room, which features a geometric rug, glass table, velvet chairs and a gallery of artworks on the wall.



make your bed properly

After all, it's the focus of the bedroom and where you spend most of your time. Start with soft, clean sheets, layer on a quilt, then drape a blanket or throw casually at the end. Pile on the pillows – the larger the bed, the more you should use.

B E D R O O M

The bedroom is a study in subdued, calming colour, thanks to the two-toned walls and muted bedding.



D E T A I L

Ornamental objects on the black timber sideboard pick up on the vibrant shades in the artworks on the wall.

BATHROOM

Green accents and a low-set window link the bathroom to the plant-filled courtyard outside.

OUTSIDE

Waldemar and his dog Maggie enjoy a quiet oasis in their paved courtyard, which features established trees, garden beds and a hedge of jasmine.

make use of a ledge

Mantelpieces, window sills and box mirror frames make the perfect perch for small vases, candles, framed pictures, dishes, toothbrush holders, soap dispensers, you name it!



Endure low-sheen interior **paint** in Jockey Silk, Taubmans.



White Gloss wall **tiles**, Beaumont Tiles.



Cretement slab textured outdoor **tiles** in Grey, Beaumont Tiles.



SpaceCote low-sheen **paint** in Bondi Blue, Resene.

dog-proof your outdoor areas

For an outdoor space that suits human and non-human inhabitants equally, be sure to choose non-toxic plants and give your furry friend a wide area to run around on. Keep breakable items like pots off the ground and lock away pesticides, fertilisers and chemicals. ●



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