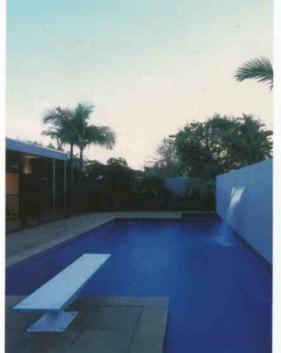


## Open appreciation

This outdoor area extends a remodelling project that opened up the back of the home. The design gives the modest-sized space an expansive feel









Architect:

Architects Les Dykstra (Auckland) *Landscape and pool designer:*Natural Habitats

Builder: Brian Cosford
Paving: Coloured concrete with
etched squares from Peter Fell
Hard landscaping: Pool and
feature wall plastered by
LC Plastering

**Pool:** Quartzon plastered concrete, concrete blockwork by L & J Gagen Bricklaying **Pool chlorination:** Chlorine in-line feeder from

GB Pool Suppliers **Pool heating:** 250,000 BTU
mini Maxdas heater from GB

Pool Supplies

Pool filtration: Sand filter from

**Pool filtration:** Sand filter fro GB Pool Supplies

**Pool cleaner:** Baracuda pool cleaner from GB Pool Supplies **Spa:** Quartzon plastered concrete **Plants and lawns:** Palms from Glenbrook Palms, cycads from Kings Plant Barn, other plantings from Wholesale Tree Co

**Water feature:** Sheer Descent from Leisuretime Products **Gates and fencing:** Moduline

Colorsteel **Outdoor furniture:** Table, chairs from Freedom Furniture; swing chair from Nags Head Hammocks

Photography by Kallan Maci end

n outdoor space constantly in view from the home requires a multifaceted design approach. Elements to consider include ensuring the area connects well with the house, giving the outdoor area an expansive feel, and lastly, screening off unattractive views.

All these aesthetic factors were addressed when Natural Habitats designed this outdoor retreat as part of a contemporary addition to the home. Work included designing the pool shape, the feature rear wall, the shape of the patios and individual garden spaces. Design principal Mike Jack explains some aspects of the clean-lined project.

"The minimalist landscape and pool design is in keeping with the house upgrade," he says. "For example, grooved concrete paving echoes tiled floors found on the adjacent interior floors."

To maximise the sense of space, the pool expands at the rear, increasing its size visually when viewed from the home. A spa extends out on one side, and is symmetrically balanced by the pool steps on the other.

A strategically placed wall at the rear of the pool screens off unsightly elements.

"The wall provides a sculptural feature and allows existing mature palms to appear above it."

Facing page: This minimalist project by Natural Habitats connects well with the home.

Top left and right: The pool's deep end is closest to the patio, allowing children room for diving and jumping. A submerged shelf on the opposite side lets bathers sit beneath the water feature.

Above left and right: All-weather furniture contributes to the feel of an outdoor living room.