

pretty in pink

This inner-city pad comes alive with rich textures and daring colour

WORDS ANNA McCOOE STYLING VICTORIA WATERS
PHOTOGRAPHY SUE STUBBS

before



open book In Anne-Marie's Sydney apartment, interior designer Victoria Waters introduced a new wall of built-in bookshelves and cabinetry to frame the living and dining room's main entryway, using a piece of the old skirting as inspiration for its traditional look. Detailed shelf edges and door profiles echo the original architecture, giving the impression that the new shelving has always been a part of the space. >



elegant additions

The sapphire 'Deco' sofa from Coco Republic, upholstered in Elliot Clarke 'Brussels' velvet in Navy, provides a vivid contrast to the Orson & Blake fuchsia cowhide (try NSW Leather Co for similar). "The sheen of the velvet sofa has a lovely sophistication but it needed a different texture to ground it," Victoria explains. An Elle 'Round' coffee table from Globe West contributes to the Art Deco vibe, along with a chic brushed nickel lamp with a 'Mona Lisa' shade from Bloomingdales Lighting. A pop of pattern comes courtesy of the sofa's Missoni 'Montgomery' cushion from Top3 By Design.

HOT PINK COWHIDE and sapphire blue velvet isn't an easy combination to pull off. Pre-makeover, this Art Deco apartment near Sydney Harbour had a decor scheme equivalent to a brown paper bag: cream walls and polyester carpet. Yet it also had high ceilings, large proportions and detailed windows that could carry a big personality. Enter the new owner, Anne-Marie, who wanted more; "I could sense the magnificence of the space when I first saw it," she recalls. "An Art Deco building provides so much opportunity."

With uptown New York style as her visual reference point and an overflowing folder of tearsheets showcasing modern opulence, Anne-Marie called in Sydney interior designer Victoria Waters.

In the combined living and dining area, the Art Deco elements now set the stage for rich layers of colour and texture. The pink and plum hues were inspired by Anne-Marie's existing art collection, while the shimmering sapphire velvet is a nod to the apartment's harbourside outlook.

The secret to pulling off high-voltage colour, says Victoria, is a monochromatic background. "The combination of dark carpet and white walls makes the other colours really pop," she explains. Victoria dressed a whole wall with practical built-in bookshelves, carrying the original skirting and architrave detailing through to the new joinery to ensure a seamless look.

Now, "It's a lot of fun to live here," says Anne-Marie. "I'm surrounded by colourful pieces that make me smile."

"We wanted to retain the **Art Deco** elements and incorporate rich textures into the design" - Victoria Waters, interior designer



colour crush

Victoria chose a backdrop of Dulux White On White and opulent Supertuft 'Escape Velour' wool carpet in Stomp. The flooring's dark colour makes it the perfect base for the pink cowhide. Lounge Designer Furniture 'Ali' armchairs covered in Elliot Clarke 'Brussels' velvet in Plum contribute a soft, luxe-like shimmer.

dining delight

A chic 'Tulip' dining table with a white marble top from Glicks and 'Serengeti Halo' dining chairs from Globe West carry the elegant theme through to the dining zone. Here, the monochromatic scheme is reved up with a peek through to the Sandberg 'Elton' wallpaper from Ascraft lining the hallway.



The cool curves of the 'Kingston' console table from Interiors Online complement a round mirror – for similar, try the 'Seriana' mirror from Laura Ashley. Khroma 'Any Touch' wallpaper in Silka Blue from Ascraft creates a feature wall.

BUDGET BREAKDOWN	
Carpet	\$1500
Furniture	\$20,000
Joinery	\$7000
Lighting	\$1000
Paint and wallpaper	\$3000
Total cost:	\$32,500*
Includes labour.	
SOURCE BOOK	
Interior design: Victoria Waters, 0421 900 049, victoriawatersdesign.com.au.	
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