

The New CLASSIC

Modern flair and streamlined simplicity reign in a charming two-story Victorian townhouse.

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Photography by Jason Busch

Step Inside

- **WHAT:** 2 bedroom, 1½ bathroom townhouse
- **RESIDENTS:** 1 person
- **SIZE:** 860 square feet

TIP: Install built-in bookcases extending the length of the entire wall to create a dual-purpose library and living room in a small space.



"In a small house like this, my best advice is to keep furniture to scale."

THIS DINING AREA serves as a multipurpose space, functioning as both the hallway and entertainment hub. Its cheerful midcentury modern flair was created with key elements, including the Saarinen dining table, yellow Thonet chairs and a Turbine clock.

TIP: An unused transition space becomes a dining room with the addition of a pedestal table and comfortable sofa.

TIP: Dark gray carpet grounds this chic space, while light walls draw the eyes up.

Creativity conquers space limitations in this Darlinghurst townhouse located just east of Sydney, Australia. When designer Stewart Horton tackled the design of this bachelor pad, he utilized a combination of restraint and whimsy for a fun but functional result.

In the living room, Stewart had bookshelves built into the space on either side of the original Victorian fireplace. "The areas beside fireplaces are always such a waste of space, so [shelving] helped by [providing] homes for the client's impressive selection of books," he says.

This answer, however, created the need for yet another creative solution: where to put the TV. The owner loved the living room's cozy, library-like ambience and didn't want a TV infringing on the space. That left only the dining area, which presented additional challenges.

"One of the biggest problems with terraces is the weird middle room," Stewart says, "usually the dining room, which ends up being a hallway between rooms."

To address the dining room's need for multipurpose functionality, he took away several dining chairs and installed a leather settee custom-built to the dining room's height and that complemented the dining table perfectly. As a result, all the furniture was off to one side, creating a cozy breakfast nook, as well as ample, airy walking space.

While efficiently using the space, Stewart also imbued the home with fun splashes of color. Pink and blue with yellow accents in the living area added pizzazz and pop—all thanks to the otherwise neutral palette.

See Sources, page 128.

TIP: Add a credenza in a walkway (that won't block too much of the path) for extra storage in a living room. It's also a great opportunity to add a display on top.

(Above left) **THE GEOMETRIC PATTERNS AND PINK AND BLUE ACCENTS** from the living room are reprised in the bedroom's décor. Geometric shapes on the bed linens maintain the contemporary vibe yet still work well with the home's timeless appeal.

Get the Look: Contemporary & Classic

Take cues from this home's eclectic style using designer Stewart Horton's tips:

- 1 Use geometric shapes.** Linear patterns are echoed throughout the home, in the contemporary painting, throw pillows, living room rug and even the robots on the mantelpiece. The circular shapes on the dining room rug, table and wall clock play into the geometric theme while also providing contrast to the linear elements.
- 2 Add vintage flair.** The Eames lounge chair and artwork, miniature robots and Turbine clock all lend a cohesive modern vibe juxtaposed by the home's Victorian architecture.
- 3 Restrain your color scheme.** Be aware that too much of a bold color can overwhelm a small space. Reserve color for accents against a predominantly neutral backdrop or limit a paint color to just one wall.