

# By Design

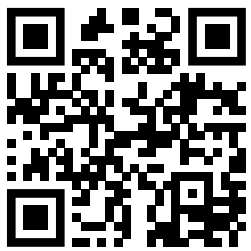
DESIGN EXTERIORS 2024



ISSUE 10 | JUNE 2024

# GET ACCREDITED

Through the BDAA Today



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## Become an Accredited Building Designer

Now more than ever, it is vital for today's building designers to seek full and timely accreditation in their industry; not only to stand in accordance with new laws and codes but to keep up with the demands of a continually evolving and ever challenging built environment. This is why the BDAA facilitates the accreditation of building designers in Australia and is streamlining the accreditation process for today's ambitious, conscientious building designers.

The BDAA has made it an association objective and mission to offer full and official accreditation services for members. Our association has updated documents, systems and processes, effectively removing outdated documents to provide a more streamlined application process.

Within the building industry, accreditation is an acknowledgement of the competency of a company or individual to perform a range of tasks or skills within an occupational framework. The formal recognition of that accreditation typically comes in the form of a license or registration, usually issued by State or Federal Government department. Building Designers in Tasmania, Queensland and Victoria are regulated in this manner, with each state having its own regulations and providing certified documentation as proof of accreditation.

Indeed, beyond the value of this process for building designers and regional governments, accreditation matters to every building design client who wants the job done right. For every building designer that gets accredited, this single accreditation can guarantee the supreme quality of countless home and business designs throughout Australia.

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# Editor's Note

Welcome to the June 2024 issue of By Design Magazine. In this edition, we delve into the innovative and sustainable practices that are revolutionizing exterior design in Australia.

Our cover story, Courtyards as Connectors, explores how courtyards enhance natural light and airflow, creating healthier and more harmonious living spaces. We also feature Design for Durability, where we discuss weatherproofing strategies and material selections that cater to Australia's diverse and challenging climates.

Elevated Entryways provides insights on crafting welcoming and functional residential thresholds that make a lasting first impression. In Aging-in-Place, we focus on designing accessible exteriors to support independence and improve quality of life for seniors.

With the increasing threat of bushfires, our article on Bushfire-Resilient Design highlights essential principles for constructing safe homes in fire-prone areas, ensuring both safety and aesthetic appeal.

The rise of green roofs and rooftop decks is transforming urban landscapes, turning rooftops into sustainable and vibrant living spaces. We delve into the benefits and design considerations that make these green spaces a valuable addition to any building.

In Adaptive Reuse and Heritage Conservation, we showcase how historic buildings can be thoughtfully repurposed to meet contemporary needs while preserving their historical significance. This approach not only conserves resources but also breathes new life into our architectural heritage.

This issue aims to inspire and equip you with practical knowledge for your projects, helping you create exteriors that are not only beautiful but also resilient and sustainable. We hope you enjoy exploring the latest trends and innovations in building design.

Thank you for joining us on this journey of discovery and innovation. Enjoy the issue!



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# Find the inspiration

All the information needed to create your own winning designs in By Design





# Courtyards as Connectors

DESIGNING FOR OPTIMAL

NATURAL LIGHT & AIRFLOW



For centuries, courtyards have served as hearts of homes and gathering spaces. Today, they offer a powerful solution within contemporary design; acting as connectors to enhance natural light, airflow, and the overall living experience. When well-designed, a courtyard becomes a powerful tool for building designers, architects, and thermal performance assessors seeking to create healthier, more harmonious spaces.

○ Careful consideration of windows, glazing, and even roof overhangs **ensures the courtyard fulfills its potential as a climate control and wellness tool.**

### The Benefits Beyond Beauty

- **Abundant Natural Light:** Courtyards act as light wells, flooding surrounding interior spaces with daylight. This reduces reliance on artificial lighting, improving energy efficiency and enhancing the ambiance with the dynamic shifts of sunlight throughout the day.
- **Maximized Ventilation:** Courtyards encourage natural cross-ventilation. Strategic placement and the use of windows, louvers, or open breezeways facilitate air movement, keeping interiors cool and minimizing the need for air conditioning.
- **Biophilic Boost:** Incorporating plants and water features into a courtyard creates a microcosm of nature. The greenery, sounds, and subtle changes with the season offer a revitalizing visual connection to the outdoors, known to improve well-being and reduce stress.
- **Indoor-Outdoor Fusion:** A well-designed courtyard blurs the boundaries between the indoors and out. This expansion of living space adds flexibility, ideal for entertaining, relaxation, or even creating dedicated work-from-home areas bathed in sunlight.

### Designing with Intention

- **Positioning and Orientation:** Consider sun path and prevailing wind directions to maximize light and regulate temperatures passively.
- **Sizing:** The courtyard's size is crucial. A smaller courtyard creates a more intimate feel, while a larger one allows for diverse usage and potential zoning (dining area, plantings, etc.).
- **Integration with the Floorplan:** Think of the rooms the courtyard will 'serve'. Bedrooms may benefit from morning light, living spaces from all-day sunshine, etc. Place windows and doors thoughtfully to capitalize on this.
- **Materials Matter:** Flooring choices impact heat absorption and drainage. Permeable pavers promote rainwater infiltration. Light-colored surfaces reflect heat, potentially reducing the heat island effect in urban environments.
- **Privacy and Tranquility:** Balance openness with screening elements. Plants, trellises, or architectural features can offer visual separation without compromising ventilation or a sense of space.

### The Success is in the Synergy

A courtyard's effectiveness lies not just in its form, but in how it harmonizes with the surrounding structure. Careful consideration of windows, glazing, and even roof overhangs ensures the courtyard fulfills its potential as a climate control and wellness tool. A skilled thermal performance assessor can model different scenarios, helping refine the design for maximal benefit.

Courtyards offer not just aesthetic charm, but tangible solutions for healthier, more sustainable living spaces. By embracing this ancient architectural device, designers can create buildings that breathe with nature, enhancing both the human experience and the home's overall performance.

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# Design for Durability

WEATHERPROOFING STRATEGIES

AND MATERIAL SELECTION FOR THE

RIGORS OF AUSTRALIAN CLIMATES

Australia's diverse climates pose unique challenges for building designers. From tropical downpours to bushfire threats and intense solar radiation, the exterior of a structure must be carefully designed for longevity. Strategic design for durability, incorporating weatherproofing principles and material selections tailored to specific environments, ensures a building's long-term performance.

## Weatherproofing Principles

The principles of deflection, drainage, and drying remain crucial in Australia. Australian Standards (AS) provide specific guidance. Flashings, roof design, and cladding systems should comply with relevant standards (e.g., AS 3959 'Construction of buildings in bushfire-prone areas').

## Materiality and Environmental Forces

- **Solar Radiation:** Australia receives high levels of UV radiation. Material choices and protective finishes are essential to prevent degradation. Consider coatings with UV inhibitors or integral pigments resistant to fading.
- **Temperature Fluctuations:** Extremes are common, particularly in arid regions. Detailing must accommodate expansion and contraction. Select

materials with low coefficients of thermal expansion or design for movement with appropriate detailing.

- **Rainfall and Moisture:** Design varies based on location. Tropical climates demand excellent drainage and ventilation, while temperate zones must address freeze-thaw risks. Reference relevant standards like AS 3700 (Masonry) for region-specific guidance.
- **Wind:** Coastal and cyclonic regions require robust fastening and materials able to withstand high wind loads. Adherence to wind loading requirements within the Australian Standards is critical.
- **Biological Agents:** Termites are significant threats. Use termite-resistant timber (naturally durable or treated), and implement termite barriers in line with AS 3660. Bushfire-prone areas warrant fire-resistant materials and detailing to reduce ember penetration.





## Climate-Specific Design Considerations

### ○ Coastal Environments:

Saline air necessitates corrosion-resistant materials. Use galvanized or stainless steel fixings and select materials specifically designed for coastal exposure.

### ○ Arid Climates:

Focus on reflecting solar radiation with light colors and managing thermal expansion stress. Materials with low coefficients of thermal expansion are preferred.

### ○ Temperate Climates:

Protection from rainfall and freeze-thaw cycles is paramount. Roof overhangs, water-resistant claddings, and compliance with standards like AS 1684 (Timber Framing) are crucial.

### ○ Tropical Climates:

Prioritize ventilation, use rot-resistant and mold-resistant materials. Generous roof overhangs shield from driving rains.

### ○ Bushfire Zones:

Adhere to the Building Code of Australia (BCA) and relevant Australian Standards for BAL (Bushfire Attack Level) ratings for materials and construction methods.



## Conclusion

Design for durability in Australia demands a nuanced understanding of the local climate and careful material selection adhering to Australian Standards. Beyond aesthetics, the success of a building lies in detailing that promotes watertightness, accommodates movement, combats biological threats, and mitigates the impact of environmental stresses. By approaching design with this foresight, architects and building designers ensure their creations not only look beautiful but also withstand the unique challenges presented by the Australian landscape for years to come.



Reece Keil - Haight & Ashbury - Weathergroove Woodsman - Dulux Natural White & Dulux

# Curved to Durability

In the world of design, the allure of curved shapes and structures is undeniable. The graceful flow of curves adds an element of organic beauty, creating a sense of fluidity that stands in contrast to the rigidity of straight lines. It's an aesthetic that architects, designers and builders are increasingly drawn to... and for good reason.

The interplay of light and shadow on curved surfaces, the harmonious integration with the natural environment, and the sheer elegance of such designs have made curves a top trend in contemporary design.

Once deemed too complex or costly, curves have become a symbol of innovation and creativity in the construction industry. The freedom to mould and shape spaces with curves, whether in residential or commercial projects, is a trend that continues to gain momentum. It's a trend that speaks to our desire for spaces that transcend the ordinary and evoke a sense of wonder.

As we explore the possibilities of curved designs, the role of materials in bringing these visions to life cannot be underestimated. This is where Weathertex enters the stage, offering a solution that seamlessly aligns with the curved revolution. Crafted from 100% natural materials, Weathertex cladding provides the perfect canvas for curved designs. Its flexibility and versatility are assets that specifiers and builders can leverage to create stunning curved facades and structures. And all Weathertex products come with an industry-leading warranty of up to 25 years against rotting, cracking or splitting.

When installed horizontally with a minimum radius of 2500mm, Weathertex Selflok weatherboards are fully warranted to help you achieve the smooth, curved look that's in high demand.



Reece Keil - Hustle&flow - Weathergroove 150 Woodsman - Dulux Natural White & Dulux Night Sky

For those who favour a vertical linear approach, Weathergroove architectural panels are the perfect choice. These panels are fully warranted when installed with a minimum radius of 7000mm, providing endless design possibilities. Talk to Weathertex if your vision calls for a more tightly curved design.

○ I love the versatility of Weathertex products and their installation systems, paired with their vast range of available profiles and surface textures. This gave me confidence in sourcing and specifying a suitable cladding product from Weathertex to complement the built form of these detailed projects. **In both cases, Weathergroove Woodsman provided a balance of vertical and textural aesthetic to a detailed yet somewhat refined facade.**

*Reece Keil Design*



Scott Burrows Photo - Corella Cres House



Weathergroove panels can be ripped down and segmented to accommodate a curve with a minimum radius of 1200mm. While this particular solution may fall outside the standard Weathertex warranty, it still meets Australian building code requirements, making it a viable option for those who dare to push the boundaries of design.

While Weathertex cladding opens the door to incredible design flexibility, the successful execution of curved designs often calls for expert guidance. Each project is unique, and the advice of an expert builder is invaluable in achieving your desired outcome. Also, the Weathertex technical team is always ready to assist.

With Weathertex cladding, your vision of curved perfection can become a reality and here's some amazing inspiring curvaceous designs to let your imagination flow.



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# The Elevated Entryway:

DESIGNING WELCOMING &

FUNCTIONAL RESIDENTIAL THRESHOLDS

The entryway of a home is more than just a doorway – it sets the tone for everything that lies within. An elevated entryway amplifies this impact, creating a sense of distinction and subtly delineating the boundary between the public street and the home's private domain. With thoughtful attention to materials, lighting, and landscaping, designers can transform this elevated threshold into a welcoming and functional statement piece.

An elevated entryway, even if only a few steps above street level, creates undeniable visual presence. It draws the eye upward, emphasizing the entry and adding a sense of hierarchy to the home's façade. This technique is especially effective on sites with natural slopes. Beyond aesthetics, the elevation subtly defines a semi-private transitional zone, offering a moment of pause before one steps inside. Additionally, there are practical benefits: in flood-prone areas, a raised entry adds protection, and it can cleverly integrate discreet storage or landscape features underneath.





Designer: Helen Lloyd-Martin - Lennox



Materials play a crucial role in balancing the elevated entryway's style and function. Natural stone steps exude timeless elegance, while large-format concrete pavers create a clean, modern aesthetic. Whatever the material, a non-slip finish is a safety must. Consider how the riser material complements the steps themselves – contrasting textures often create beautiful visual interest. Railings also blur the line between function and aesthetics; from sleek metal to frameless glass, they provide safety and add to the overall design. The hardscaping surrounding the entryway should flow seamlessly, extending the entry material as a welcoming landing or creating space for a decorative element.

Lighting in an elevated entryway is essential for both ambiance and safety. Discreetly integrated LED step lights illuminate the path, while a stylish pendant fixture or recessed lighting above the door adds overall brightness and elegance. Consider accent lighting, subtly uplighting landscaping features or highlighting architectural details on the house. Timers, motion sensors, and dimmers add both flexibility and a sense of security to your entryway's lighting scheme.

○ Discreetly integrated LED step lights illuminate the path, while a stylish pendant fixture **or recessed lighting above the door adds overall brightness and elegance.**

Landscaping softens the transition within an elevated entryway. Tiered planters cascading down the steps work beautifully, as would a statement-making plant in a prominent container on the landing. A lush vertical garden alongside the steps can produce a dramatic effect. Groundcover or ornamental grasses planted below the elevated area help seamlessly integrate the design into the surrounding landscape.



Beyond aesthetics, consider universal design principles and weather protection when crafting an elevated entryway. A gentle ramp alongside steps provides more inclusive access. An elegant overhang or canopy protects the doorway from rain or snow. Most importantly, ensure the scale of your elevated entry is proportional to the home to avoid a jarring mismatch.

A well-designed elevated entryway is a home's sophisticated calling card. By carefully blending materials, lighting, and greenery, designers create memorable and functional spaces that elegantly bridge the gap between the outside world and the sanctuary within.

# Aging-in-Place:

DESIGNING EXTERIORS FOR

ACCESSIBILITY AND INDEPENDENCE



As the global population ages, the concept of aging-in-place has become increasingly important. This approach to living emphasizes the ability of individuals to remain in their own homes safely, independently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income, or ability level. A key component of aging-in-place is the modification of home exteriors to enhance accessibility and adaptability. Thoughtful design changes can empower seniors to navigate their daily lives with ease and maintain their quality of life.





## Prioritizing Accessibility in Exterior Design

The exterior of a home is the first barrier to accessibility for many seniors. Steps, uneven surfaces, and inadequate lighting are just a few of the challenges that can make a home feel like a fortress rather than a sanctuary. To address these issues, designers and builders are focusing on creating barrier-free entrances, installing ramps with gentle slopes, and ensuring that pathways are well-lit and free of obstacles. These modifications not only aid in mobility but also help prevent falls, which are a leading cause of injury among older adults.

## Ramps and Railings: A Path to Independence

Ramps are a critical feature for wheelchair users or those who find stairs difficult to navigate. The design of ramps should adhere to the appropriate slope ratios and include handrails on both sides for added safety. Materials used for ramps and walkways should be non-slip and able to withstand various weather conditions, ensuring year-round accessibility.

## Doorways and Thresholds: The Gateway to Ease

Widening doorways and reducing or eliminating thresholds can make a significant difference for those using mobility aids. Lever-style door handles and keyless entry systems further enhance accessibility, allowing for easy operation by individuals with limited hand dexterity.

## Adapting Gardens and Outdoor Spaces

Gardens and outdoor spaces provide numerous physical and mental health benefits, but they can become inaccessible without the right modifications. Raised garden beds and container gardens are excellent solutions that allow individuals to engage in gardening without the need to bend or kneel. Incorporating seating areas within reach of these gardens enables seniors to rest and enjoy the outdoors comfortably.

## Smart Landscaping for Safety and Enjoyment

Landscaping should be designed to minimize maintenance while maximizing safety and enjoyment. This includes choosing plants that require minimal upkeep and ensuring that walkways are clear of overgrowth. Additionally, installing sensor-activated lighting along pathways and in garden areas can help seniors navigate their outdoor spaces safely at night.

## Leveraging Technology for Enhanced Outdoor Living

Technological advancements have also played a role in making home exteriors more accessible. Smart home technology can control lighting, security systems, and even irrigation systems, allowing seniors to manage their outdoor environment with the touch of a button. These systems can often be operated remotely, providing peace of mind for family members and caregivers.

## Security for Peace of Mind

Security features such as motion-sensor lights and surveillance cameras can provide an added layer of safety for seniors living alone. These systems can be monitored from inside the home or through mobile devices, ensuring that help is readily available if needed.

## The Importance of Personalization

Every individual's needs are unique, and exterior modifications should be tailored to the specific requirements of the homeowner. Consulting with occupational therapists or aging-in-place specialists can help identify the most beneficial modifications. Personalization might include custom handrail designs, specific landscaping choices, or the installation of a motorized lift system for porch or deck access.

○ Gardens and outdoor spaces provide numerous physical and mental health benefits, but they can become inaccessible without the right modifications.

Aging-in-place exterior modifications are more than just practical adjustments; they are investments in independence and dignity. By considering accessibility and adaptability in exterior design, we can create environments that support the aging population in living safely and comfortably in their own homes. As we look to the future, the importance of inclusive design that accommodates the full spectrum of mobility and ability will only continue to grow. Through thoughtful modifications and a commitment to accessibility, we can ensure that our homes evolve with us, providing a foundation for a fulfilling and independent life at any age.



CONSTRUCTING WITH CONFIDENCE IN

# Bushfire Regions

Constructing structures that helps safeguard lives and property while achieving design aspirations requires strategic planning and careful material selection. The first step in designing a fire-resilient dwelling is understanding the property's Bushfire Attack Level (BAL). This rating system evaluates factors such as terrain, vegetation, and the local fire danger index to determine the severity of potential bushfire exposure, ranging from BAL-LOW to BAL-FZ, which indicates direct flame exposure, plus embers and heat.



Euroa House by Harwood Architects, situated in regional Victoria

Consulting with relevant state agencies like RFS NSW, Fire Protection WA, or Tasmania Fire Service is also essential for ensuring compliance with bushfire safety regulations. Each state and territory have specific guidelines and resources tailored to their unique fire conditions, making it imperative for design professionals to be aware of local requirements before choosing material.



Take Euroa House by Harwood Architects, for example. Situated in regional Victoria, this bold design is rooted in its rugged, bushfire-prone landscape. Located in a BAL-40 zone, which indicates an increased risk of ember attack with the possibility of direct flame contact, Euroa House demonstrates the balance between form and function. Here, AWS systems were integral to achieving this outcome, with expansive glazing maintaining a vital connection to the landscape while the BAL-rated, thermally broken window construction provides essential protection and energy efficiency. The result is a breathtaking, compliant residence that displays how fire safety and stunning aesthetics can coexist.

With AWS' extensive range, designers can confidently find solutions for varying levels of bushfire risk. This includes Vantage®, Elevate™, and ThermalHEART™ aluminium windows and doors, all of which exceed Australian Standard AS3959-2018 for BAL-40 bushfire zones.

○ **Windows and doors play an important role** in designing for fire-prone areas, and this is where AWS offers Australia's broadest selection of laboratory-tested, BAL-rated products.

These local regulations guide the use of non-combustible construction materials such as brick, concrete, steel, or aluminium, which are vital in fire-prone areas. Incorporating fire-resistant design elements like ember guards, sprinklers, and fire-rated cladding, adds additional layers of protection. Smart landscaping choices, such as creating defensible zones with low-flammable plants and maintaining a wide buffer around structures, can also significantly reduce the risk of fire spread.

Windows and doors play an important role in designing for fire-prone areas, and this is where AWS offers Australia's broadest selection of laboratory-tested, BAL-rated products. Emphasising safety with design flexibility, AWS delivers on aesthetic appeal and the appropriate levels of protection. AWS systems are designed to withstand harsh fire conditions, offering a ready-made design solution.



For climatically responsive dwellings in bushfire-prone areas, explore AWS' BAL-rated offerings

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Fabricator: Monaro Windows  
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In the world of design, the exterior of a building is not just a shell but an integral part of the architectural expression. As we continue to seek sustainable and innovative solutions in building design, the concept of the “fifth façade” has gained significant traction. This term refers to the often underutilized space at the top of buildings: the roof. This article delves into the transformative potential of green roofs and rooftop decks, exploring how they are reshaping the way we think about and interact with the uppermost layer of our urban environments.

# Rooftop Revolution:

**GREEN ROOFS, DECKS, AND**

**RETHINKING THE “FIFTH FAÇADE”**



Designer: Salvatore Chiodo - High Street, Ashburton





## The Multifaceted Benefits of Green Roofs

Green roofs are not a new concept, but their adoption has seen a resurgence as the benefits they offer align with contemporary concerns about urban sustainability and biodiversity. A green roof is essentially a vegetated layer grown on a rooftop, and it comes with a plethora of advantages.

### Ecological and Environmental Impact

Green roofs serve as a natural insulator for buildings, reducing the need for heating in winter and cooling in summer, thus leading to significant energy savings. They also play a crucial role in managing stormwater, as they can absorb and delay the discharge of rainwater, reducing the load on sewer systems and mitigating the risk of urban flooding. Moreover, by filtering particulate matter and converting CO<sub>2</sub> into oxygen, green roofs contribute to air purification and the reduction of the urban heat island effect.

### Enhancing Biodiversity

In cities where concrete and asphalt dominate, green roofs provide a much-needed habitat for a variety of species, from birds to butterflies and insects, thus increasing urban biodiversity. This not only benefits the local ecosystem but also enriches the urban landscape, making it more vibrant and diverse.

### Psychological and Social Well-being

The presence of greenery has been linked to faster recovery for patients, higher pain tolerance, and reduced stress levels. Green roofs can also foster social interaction and community building, as they offer a shared space for relaxation and enjoyment.

## The Rise of Rooftop Decks

Parallel to the green roof movement is the increasing popularity of rooftop decks. These spaces are being transformed into luxurious extensions of the living area, providing a private oasis in the sky.

## Design and Functionality

Rooftop decks are being designed with both aesthetics and functionality in mind. From sleek, modern designs with built-in seating and fire pits to more traditional setups with pergolas and lush plantings, these spaces are tailored to the needs and preferences of the occupants.

## Versatility and Adaptability

Rooftop decks can be adapted for various uses, such as outdoor dining, gardening, or simply lounging. They offer a flexible space that can be customized to suit different activities and times of the day.

## Expanding Living Spaces

In urban areas where ground-level space is limited, rooftop decks provide an invaluable opportunity to expand living spaces vertically. They offer a unique vantage point and a sense of escape from the hustle and bustle of city life.

## Rethinking the “Fifth Façade”

The concept of the “fifth façade” encourages us to rethink the role of the roof in building design. No longer just a protective covering, the roof is now seen as a dynamic and versatile element that can enhance the building’s performance, aesthetic appeal, and the well-being of its occupants.



Colourful Melbourne Apartment



## Integrating Technology

The integration of smart technology and renewable energy sources, such as solar panels, is turning rooftops into energy-generating hubs that contribute to a building's sustainability goals.

## Fire Safety Considerations

As we push the boundaries of rooftop design, it's crucial to consider fire safety measures. The use of non-combustible materials and thoughtful design can ensure that these spaces are not only beautiful and functional but also safe.

## Policy and Community Engagement

To realize the full potential of green roofs and rooftop decks, supportive policies and community engagement are essential. Incentives for installing green roofs and creating accessible rooftop spaces can drive widespread adoption and community well-being.

○ The concept of the “fifth façade” encourages us to rethink the role of the roof in building design.

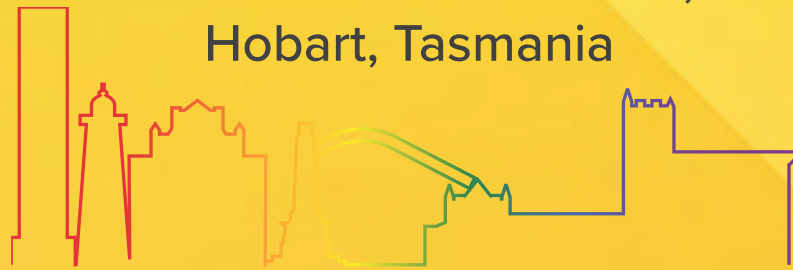
## Conclusion

The “fifth façade” is undergoing a revolution, with green roofs and rooftop decks leading the charge. These spaces are transforming our relationship with the urban environment, offering sustainable solutions that cater to ecological, social, and individual needs. As designers, architects, and builders, we have the opportunity to embrace this trend and create exteriors that are not only visually stunning but also environmentally responsible and life-enhancing.



**NATIONAL FESTIVAL  
OF DESIGN 2024  
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7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> November 2024,  
Hobart, Tasmania



Join us for a vibrant celebration of design innovation under the inspiring theme, "The Home of Design." This year, we are excited to offer a rich lineup of events, including an immersive two-day conference, a dynamic tradeshow showcasing the latest in design solutions, an elegant Gala Dinner, and a special Networking Evening. Don't miss the exclusive tour of MONA, adding a cultural dimension to your festival experience.

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# WHAT TO EXPECT



## Trade Show Extravaganza

November 7<sup>th</sup>, 5-9 PM  
Wrest Point Casino

Engage with industry leaders through our Trade Show Extravaganza, a dynamic evening where the latest design solutions and trends are showcased. Dive into insightful talks and interactive workshops on critical topics such as condensation. This vibrant gathering is an essential meeting point for designers, architects, and specifiers committed to advancing the future of design.



## Enriching Conference

November 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>  
Hobart Function and Conference Centre

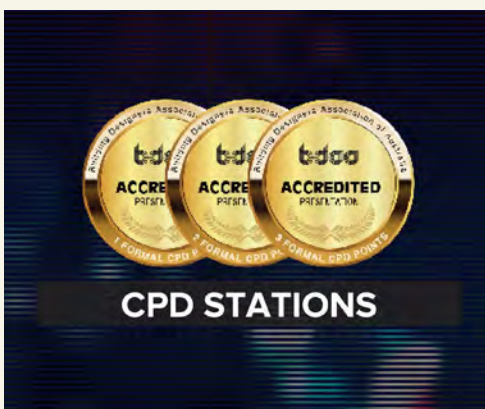
Join us at our Conference, a core part of the festival where the latest in design innovation and sustainability is front and center. This two-day event will feature a series of key note presentations and workshops, providing fresh insights and fostering deep discussions on the future of design.



## Networking Evening

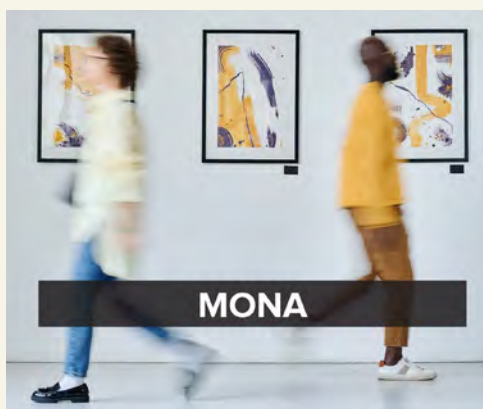
November 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30 PM  
Deep South Brewery Co

Don't miss our Networking Evening, an exclusive event designed to foster connections within the design community. This evening will provide a perfect backdrop for professionals to mingle, share ideas, and build relationships that shape the future of design.



## CPD Stations

Enhance your professional skills at our CPD (Continuing Professional Development) Stations, designed to provide quick and impactful learning experiences. As part of the National Festival of Design, these stations offer accredited presentations that cater specifically to the needs of design professionals.



## Festival Extras

November 10<sup>th</sup>

Experience the blend of art and architecture at Mona, the Museum of Old and New Art. Stay tuned for an exclusive event that will engage your senses and expand your perspectives on design. Details coming soon.



## Awards Gala Dinner

November 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM  
Midnight at Crowne Plaza

Celebrate excellence in design at our prestigious Awards Gala Dinner. Recognise the creativity and innovation of top designers in a gala that highlights the best in the industry. Join us for an evening of inspiration and celebration at the conclusion of our festival.

# Accessible and Inclusive Outdoor Spaces:

## DESIGNING FOR ALL IN THE AUSTRALIAN CONTEXT

There has been a growing recognition of the importance of creating accessible and inclusive outdoor spaces that cater to the diverse needs of all Australians. As our cities and towns continue to evolve, it is crucial that exterior designs prioritize the principles of universal design, ensuring that everyone, regardless of age, ability, or background, can fully participate in and enjoy our built environment.





Australia is home to a wide range of exemplary exterior designs that showcase the power of accessibility and social inclusion. From public parks and gardens to urban plazas and beachfront promenades, these spaces demonstrate how thoughtful design can break down barriers and foster a sense of belonging for all.

One such example is the recently revitalized Cairns Esplanade in Queensland. This iconic waterfront destination has undergone a significant transformation, with a strong emphasis on accessibility and inclusivity. The redesigned space features wide, smooth pathways that accommodate wheelchairs and mobility aids, as well as tactile paving and clear signage for those with visual impairments. The Esplanade also boasts a range of adaptive play equipment, sensory gardens, and shaded rest areas, ensuring that people of all ages and abilities can enjoy the space comfortably.

Similarly, the Yagan Square in Perth, Western Australia, stands as a testament to the power of inclusive design. This vibrant public space, located in the heart of the city, was conceived with the goal of celebrating the area's rich Aboriginal heritage while creating a welcoming gathering place for all. The square features a seamless integration of accessible pathways, ramps, and lifts, ensuring that visitors with mobility challenges can easily navigate the space. The design also incorporates indigenous artworks, cultural storytelling, and educational elements, fostering a sense of understanding and connection among diverse communities.

○ There is a growing trend among Australian designers and planners to embrace the principles of universal design in all aspects of exterior spaces.



There is a growing trend among Australian designers and planners to embrace the principles of universal design in all aspects of exterior spaces. This includes the incorporation of accessible seating and picnic areas, the provision of ample shade and shelter, and the use of clear wayfinding strategies to help people orient themselves and move through spaces with ease.

Moreover, the push for accessibility and inclusion extends beyond the physical realm, with many outdoor spaces now incorporating social and cultural programming that caters to diverse audiences. From community gardens and outdoor classrooms to multicultural festivals and adaptive sports events, these initiatives help to ensure that everyone feels welcome and valued in our shared public spaces.

As Australia continues to lead the way in creating accessible and inclusive outdoor environments, it is essential that we celebrate and learn from these exemplary designs. By prioritizing universal design principles and social inclusion in all aspects of our built environment, we can create a more equitable and livable future for all Australians.



# Mixed Fusion

In the realm of architectural design, it's the magic of Fusion that often brings the most captivating and innovative creations to life. This magic is precisely what Weathertex cladding and, in particular, Weathergroove Fusion provides.







○ One of the great  
● features of all  
Weathertex  
products is their  
consistency.

All primed and natural profiles maintain a uniform thickness of 9.5mm, ensuring that you can effortlessly mix and match different profiles.

Paving the way for limitless design possibilities, Weathergroove Fusion architectural panels provide a canvas of creativity. With what appears to be a random placement of vertical grooves machined into each board, Weathergroove Fusion comes in both Smooth and Natural textures. Like all Weathergroove panel products, Fusion features universal edging, enabling the panels to be flipped so that even more random groove spacing can be achieved and offcuts can be used, reducing waste.

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Weathertex - SandstonePoint



Weathertex - SandstonePoint

The true magic comes to life when designers and architects embrace the art of mixing and matching. Check out the many inspirational projects that incorporate a mix of different profiles, each offering contrasting styles and colours.

The result is a showcase of individual design that will add texture, volume, and symmetry to projects in an unparalleled way.

One of the most striking Fusion design styles is the combination of the Weathertex Natural range with various Weathertex primed profiles. The combination of the rich, earthy texture of Weathertex Natural with the sleek sophistication of primed profiles adds depth and character to your design.

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# Adaptive Reuse and Heritage Conservation:

INNOVATING AUSTRALIA'S EXTERIORS

Australia's built heritage is a tapestry of historical narratives, architectural triumphs, and cultural landmarks. As the nation strides towards a sustainable future, the conservation community faces the dual challenge of preserving this heritage while adapting it to contemporary needs. Adaptive reuse emerges as a transformative approach, breathing new life into historic structures, ensuring their relevance, and contributing to sustainability goals. This article explores the innovative strategies in exterior design that harmoniously blend Australia's rich past with modern functionality and environmental consciousness.

## The Essence of Adaptive Reuse

Adaptive reuse is the process of repurposing historic buildings for new uses while maintaining their heritage value. This practice is not merely about conservation but is a creative reinterpretation that allows historic buildings to serve present and future generations. It is a sustainable alternative to demolition and new construction, avoiding the waste of materials and preserving the embodied energy within the existing structures.

## Balancing Preservation with Contemporary Functionality

The key to successful adaptive reuse lies in the delicate balance between preserving the integrity of the historic fabric and introducing modern amenities and technologies. Heritage buildings were not originally designed to accommodate contemporary infrastructure or meet current energy efficiency standards. Therefore, architects and designers must employ innovative solutions to integrate modern functionalities without compromising the building's heritage significance.

## Integrating Modern Systems with Minimal Impact

One of the most significant aspects of adaptive reuse is the integration of modern building systems, such as electrical, plumbing, and HVAC, into historic structures. Designers often use reversible interventions, where the new systems are added in a way that does not permanently alter or damage the original fabric of the building. For example, using raised flooring systems to house cabling or employing slim-profile ductwork to minimize the visual impact on historic interiors.



THE MANOR BARGARA

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## Navigating Regulatory Frameworks

Adaptive reuse projects often require navigating complex regulatory frameworks that protect heritage buildings. These frameworks ensure that any modifications uphold the building's historical and cultural significance. Collaborating with heritage consultants and local authorities from the project's inception can facilitate a smoother process and foster innovative solutions that meet both preservation and regulatory requirements.

## Sustainability Goals in Heritage Conservation

Sustainability is a cornerstone of adaptive reuse, aligning with global and national directives to reduce carbon emissions and promote energy efficiency. By retaining and repurposing existing structures, the need for new materials and the energy associated with new construction are significantly reduced.

## Energy Efficiency in Heritage Buildings

Improving energy efficiency in heritage buildings is a complex task, given the need to preserve their character-defining elements. Innovations in exterior design include the use of high-performance glazing on windows, which improves thermal performance while maintaining the appearance of historic glass. Insulation can be discreetly added to roof spaces or behind existing walls, and renewable energy sources, such as solar panels, can be integrated in non-intrusive ways.

## Water Management and Green Spaces

Water management is another critical aspect of sustainable adaptive reuse. Rainwater harvesting systems can be incorporated into the design, and green roofs or walls can be added to historic buildings to manage stormwater runoff, reduce urban heat island effects, and provide additional insulation.



## Case Studies and Examples

Australia boasts numerous successful adaptive reuse projects that exemplify the balance between heritage conservation and modern functionality. These projects serve as benchmarks for how adaptive reuse can revitalize communities, stimulate economies, and contribute to sustainable development.

### ○ The Old Clare Hotel, Sydney

The Old Clare Hotel in Sydney is a prime example of adaptive reuse, where two heritage-listed buildings were transformed into a boutique hotel. The project preserved the original facades and key interior elements while introducing contemporary design elements and modern amenities. The result is a vibrant space that respects the past while catering to the needs of modern urban life.



## ○ The Goods Shed, Melbourne

In Melbourne, the Goods Shed has been repurposed into a multi-use space that houses offices, retail, and public areas. The exterior has been carefully restored, and new elements, such as glass enclosures, have been added to create a dialogue between old and new. The project demonstrates how adaptive reuse can activate underutilized urban spaces and foster community engagement.

**Adaptive reuse projects often require** navigating complex regulatory frameworks that protect heritage buildings.

## Conclusion

Adaptive reuse and heritage conservation in Australia present an opportunity to showcase innovation in exterior design. By balancing the preservation of built heritage with contemporary functionality and sustainability goals, designers and architects contribute to a legacy that respects the past while embracing the future. These projects not only protect the cultural and historical narratives embedded in Australia's architecture but also promote a sustainable approach to urban development. As Australia continues to evolve, adaptive reuse stands as a testament to the nation's commitment to sustainability, heritage conservation, and innovative design.



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# The Sky's the Limit

It's all about strong connections – and understanding a client's preferred aesthetic when it comes to creating a beautiful home, says award-winning architect Sky Tiong from Sky Architect Studio.

Sky connected with a recent client in an unusual way – he was her architecture lecturer at university. This spectacular modern home is located in Melbourne's Mt Eliza on the Mornington Peninsula and the owners were keen to create a contemporary take on a beach house.

His architectural firm was an obvious choice, with a portfolio of many elegant, modern homes designed and built throughout Melbourne.

"The client approached me because she liked my modern style," says Sky. "The first thing she said to me was, 'can you design a house for me?' I said, 'yes, for sure!'"

The finished project has won numerous awards, including the 'People's Choice Award' at the 2023 Design Matters National (DMN) Building Design Awards (VIC, NSW, QLD, TAS).

Architecture by Sky Tiong from Sky Architect Studio

Photography by Tatjana Plitt



## The brief

Because the clients understood Sky's design aesthetic, communication was easy and straightforward, he says. "They gave me a very simple brief," explains Sky. "They wanted something super clean, with straight lines – minimalism. And that's exactly the way we approach our designs. They just trusted me."

The clients said it was about building a home for themselves and their three children: a space that fostered family connection and closeness, functioned smoothly for their daily lives and where they felt immersed in the natural surroundings.

Other elements of the wish list were equally simple: lots of full-length windows and extensive glazing to flood the home in natural light and take advantage of the views with an emphasis on indoor/outdoor living.

## The design

The house was built in a U-shape, with private bedroom wings on either side (one a parents' retreat and the other for the kids) along with a central living area, overlooking a light-filled courtyard garden with pool. The living spaces face north, with Sky saying that the building's orientation was designed to make sure the home captured as much natural light as possible.

Just a few minutes from the beach, the home was a new build, created as part of a subdivision of their previous home. It was built behind the existing house, but still secluded from neighbours.

With three teenage children, the floorplan was created to give the almost-grown children their own private spaces, while still encouraging family bonding in the communal living areas.

For the finishes and furnishings, the couple leaned towards a Scandinavian aesthetic with minimalist white interiors warmed by timber and other natural materials.

## Why Hebel?

All external walls of the house were constructed with Hebel and Sky says that he is a big fan of the building material, specifying it for almost all his projects. Hebel's clean lines and modern detailing work well with the contemporary style of homes that Sky Architect Studio creates, he says.

While this project only had Hebel used for the external walls, Sky says he often specifies Hebel PowerFloor when working with two-storey projects, or basements.



○ Hebel is  
● a great  
product to  
use especially  
for modern  
designs.

Resistance Levels (FRLs) of 60 minutes through to 240 minutes and meet or exceed the requirements for all six Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) categories.

Sky usually finishes Hebel walls with Unitex render, which allows him to provide different textures, depending on the client, the design and the budget. This project included a smooth finish in line with its modern style.

The Mornington Peninsula beach house is exemplary of Australia's modern lifestyle. Designed for function and family connection with a seamless tie to the outside environment, the home fits the brief of both timeless and modern.



"Hebel is a great product to use, especially for modern designs," he says.

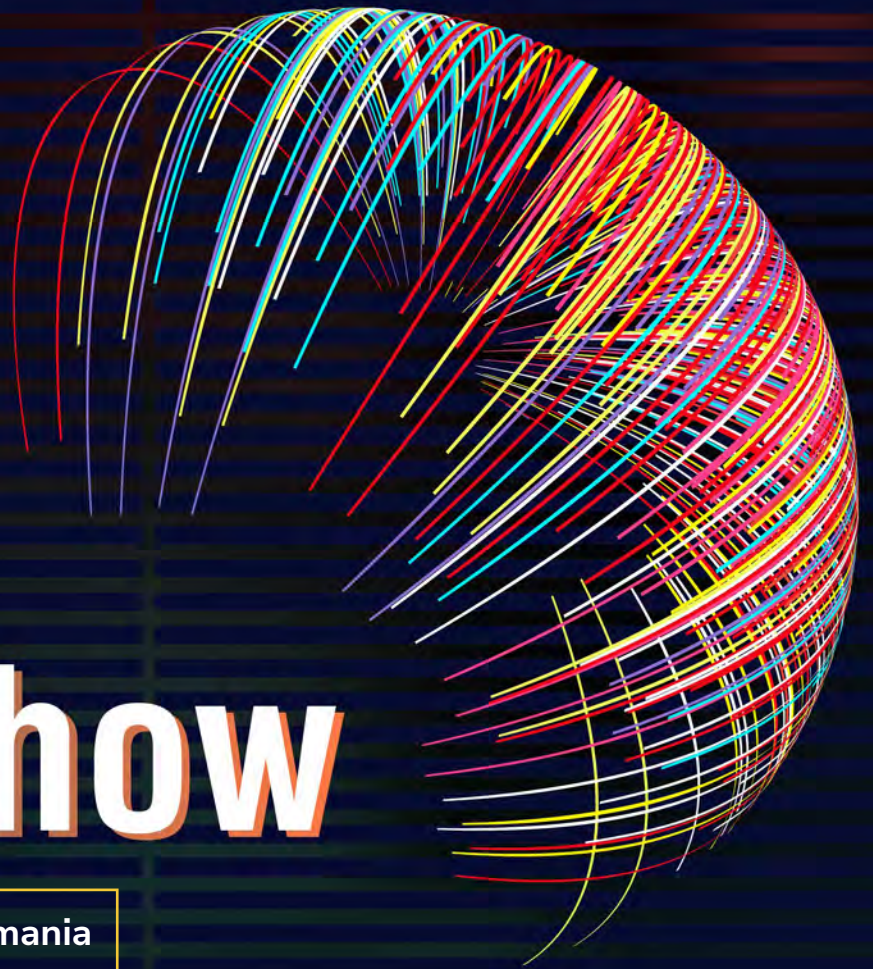
"It is so durable," he adds. "I love Hebel for noise reduction as well, and it is so strong and solid. It's a very reliable product and such a fast install as well, compared with single brick, which can take much longer to construct."

Another reason to choose Hebel is its solid fire rating. While this project only needed Class 1 materials, Sky says it is an ideal choice when he designs homes for areas requiring Class 2 or 3 materials, common on the Mornington Peninsula. Hebel systems achieve Fire



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# Exterior Shading Solutions:

CONTROLLING SOLAR GAIN AND

REDUCING COOLING LOADS

In the quest for energy efficiency and comfort in buildings, controlling solar gain is a critical challenge, especially in regions with significant sun exposure. Solar gain, the increase in temperature in a space, object, or structure due to solar radiation, can lead to increased cooling loads, thereby elevating energy consumption and costs. However, innovative exterior shading solutions offer a sustainable way to mitigate these effects, enhancing both the environmental performance and occupant comfort of buildings.



Designer: Reece Keil - The Palapa

## Understanding Solar Gain

Solar gain occurs when the sun's rays penetrate windows and heat up the interior of buildings. While this natural heating can be beneficial in colder climates or during the winter months, it can cause discomfort and high energy bills due to air conditioning in warmer climates or seasons. The key to managing solar gain effectively lies in the strategic use of shading devices that can block or filter sunlight before it enters a building.

## The Role of Exterior Shading Systems

Exterior shading systems are designed to control the amount of sunlight that reaches the building envelope, thus reducing heat gain and glare. These systems can significantly lower indoor temperatures, enhance visual comfort by reducing glare, and decrease the reliance on air conditioning, leading to substantial energy savings.



## Types of Exterior Shading Devices

### ○ Fixed Louvers and Brise Soleil:

Fixed panels of louvers, also known as brise soleil, are permanent shading structures that can be customized to block sunlight during specific times of the day while allowing for natural light and views.

### ○ Retractable Awnings:

These are flexible shading options that can be extended or retracted based on the sun's position and the desired level of shade. Motorized awnings offer added convenience and can be integrated with building automation systems for optimal solar control.

### ○ Exterior Roller Shades:

Made from durable, sun-blocking fabrics, these shades can be rolled down to prevent solar radiation from entering the building. They are particularly effective when combined with low emissivity (low-E) coatings on windows, which reflect infrared light.

### ○ Exterior Venetian Blinds:

These adjustable blinds allow for precise control over light and heat entering the building. With slats that can be tilted, they offer the flexibility to balance daylighting and solar heat gain.

**These systems can significantly lower indoor temperatures, enhance visual comfort by reducing glare, and decrease the reliance on air conditioning**

## Benefits of Exterior Shading

**Reduced Cooling Loads:** By blocking or filtering sunlight before it enters a building, exterior shading devices can significantly reduce the need for air conditioning, thereby lowering energy consumption and costs.

**Enhanced Comfort:** Shading systems mitigate glare and reduce indoor temperatures, creating a more comfortable environment for occupants.

**Sustainability:** By decreasing the reliance on mechanical cooling, exterior shading contributes to the sustainability of buildings, reducing their carbon footprint.

## Considerations for Effective Shading

**Orientation and Climate:** The effectiveness of shading devices depends on the building's orientation and the local climate. Solutions should be tailored to address specific solar exposure and weather patterns.

**Integration with Building Design:** For optimal performance, shading devices should be considered early in the design process, allowing them to be seamlessly integrated with the building's architecture and mechanical systems.

**Material and Durability:** Selecting durable materials that can withstand local weather conditions is crucial for the long-term performance of shading devices.

## Conclusion

Exterior shading solutions offer a practical and efficient way to control solar gain and reduce cooling loads in buildings. By carefully selecting and integrating these systems, architects and builders can enhance the energy efficiency, comfort, and sustainability of their projects. As the demand for green building practices continues to grow, exterior shading will undoubtedly play a pivotal role in shaping the future of architectural design.



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Roof garden at Crossrail Place, London, UK



# The Great Outdoors:

RETHINKING COMMERCIAL SPACES FOR HUMAN CONNECTION

In the heart of the city, amidst the steel and glass monoliths that dominate our skylines, a quiet revolution is taking place. It's a movement that sees the value of the outdoors not just as a luxury, but as a necessity for the well-being of a community. This is the renaissance of outdoor amenities in commercial spaces, where the line between nature and commerce is blurred to create environments that foster human connection and rejuvenate the spirit.

## A Breath of Fresh Air in Commercial Design

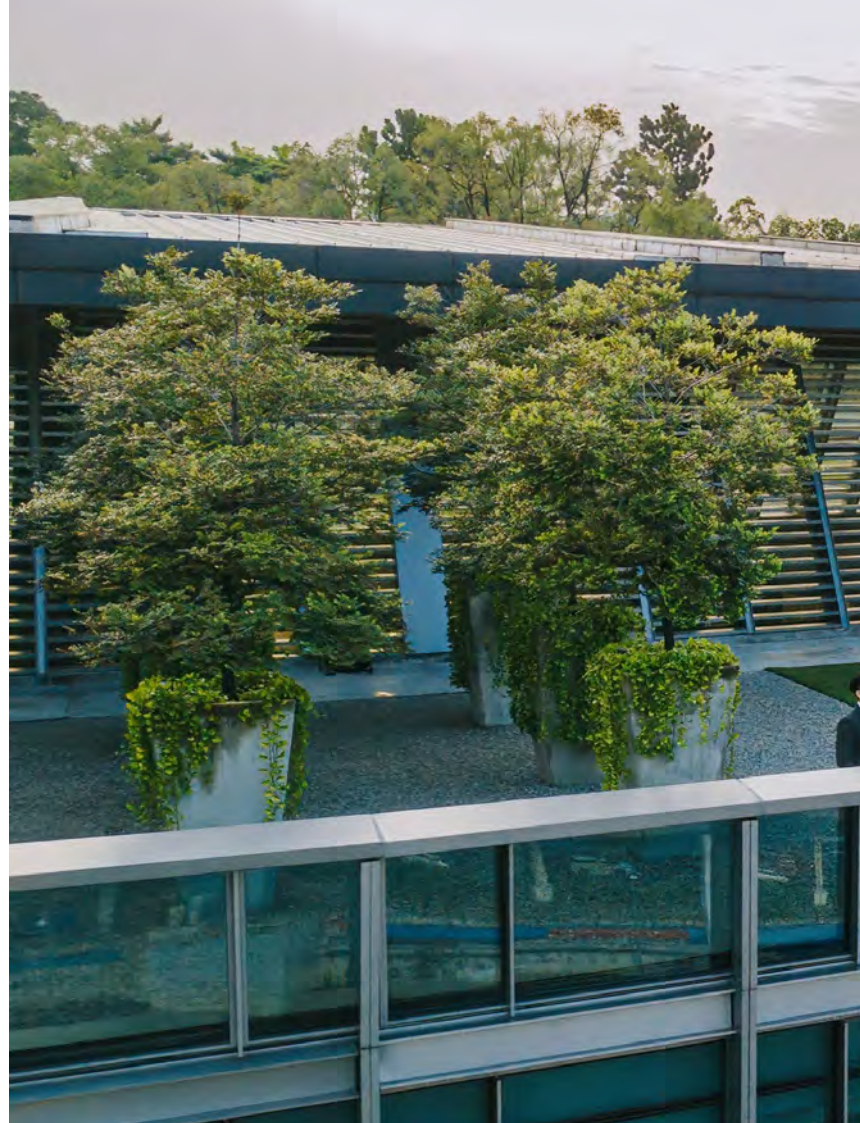
The traditional view of commercial spaces as purely functional entities is being challenged. No longer are outdoor areas an afterthought—a few potted plants here, a bench there. Today, they are vibrant hubs where people can gather, work, and relax. These spaces are being transformed into extensions of the workplace, into communal areas that invite interaction and provide a respite from the confines of the indoor office.

### The Human Element

At the core of this shift is an understanding of the human element. We are social beings, and our environments play a significant role in our mental and physical health. Outdoor amenities in commercial spaces offer a sanctuary from the relentless pace of the workday. They provide a setting for impromptu meetings, a quiet corner for contemplation, or a lively venue for corporate events. These spaces are not just amenities; they are a return to the communal roots that underpin our society.

### The Draw of Nature

The draw of nature is undeniable. The sound of water, the rustle of leaves, the warmth of the sun—these are sensory experiences that ground us. Incorporating elements of nature into commercial spaces can reduce stress, enhance creativity, and improve overall well-being. It's no surprise that commercial spaces with attractive outdoor amenities are highly sought after. They are not just places to work; they are places to thrive.



## Designing for Versatility

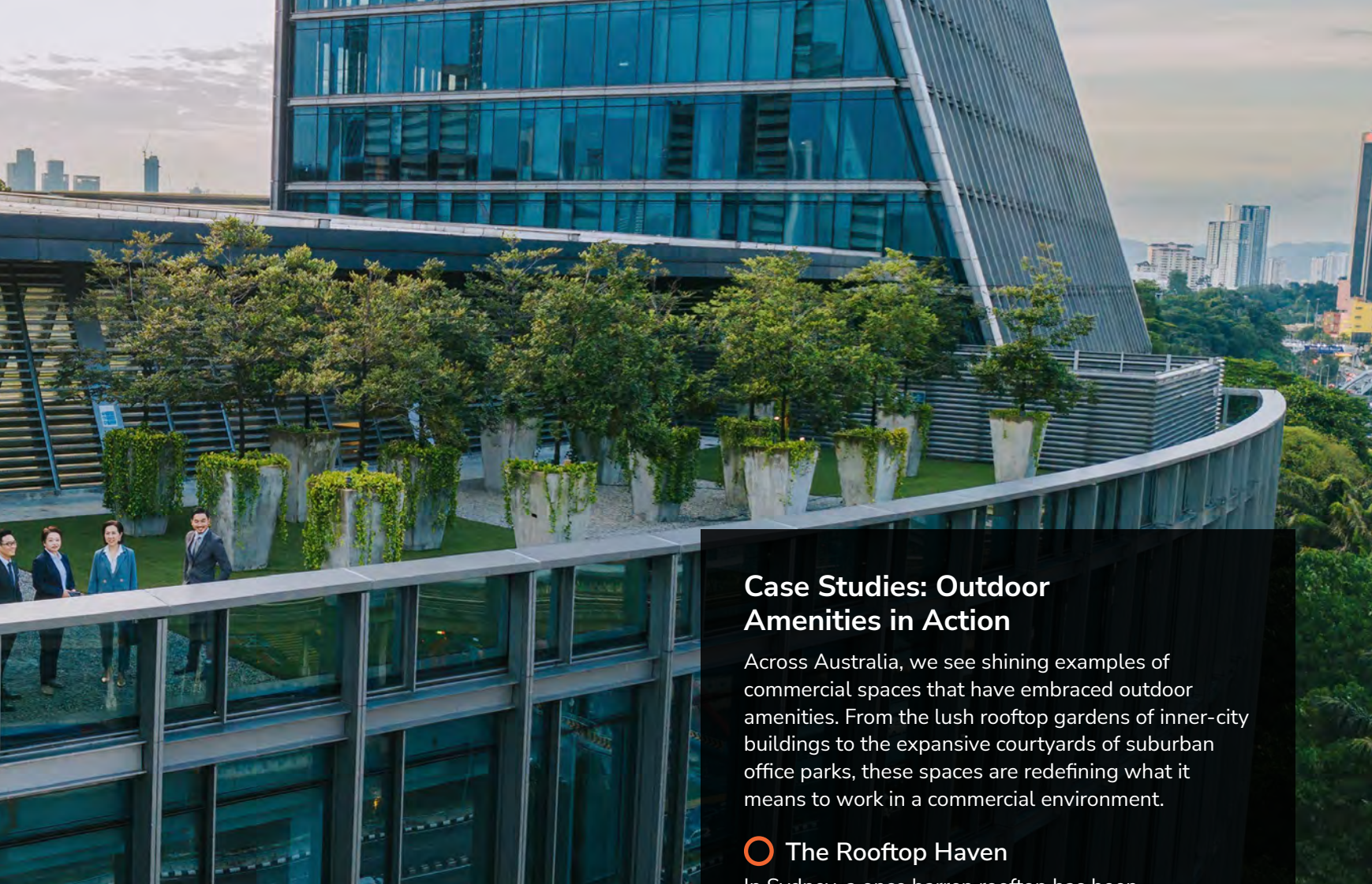
The design of outdoor amenities must be versatile to cater to a wide range of uses. From open-air lounges for casual meetings to landscaped gardens for corporate events, the possibilities are endless. The key is to create spaces that are adaptable and can evolve with the needs of the users.

## Connectivity and Technology

In our connected world, outdoor spaces must also cater to the technological needs of their users. Wi-Fi access, outdoor charging stations, and smart furniture are just a few of the features that enable people to work and connect with others seamlessly, blurring the lines between indoor and outdoor work environments.

## Sustainability at the Forefront

Sustainability is more than a buzzword; it's a commitment to future generations. Outdoor amenities that utilize sustainable practices, such as rainwater harvesting for irrigation or solar-powered lighting, not only reduce the environmental impact but also serve as a visible statement of a company's values.



○ Commercial spaces with attractive outdoor amenities are highly sought after. **They are not just places to work; they are places to thrive.**

## Case Studies: Outdoor Amenities in Action

Across Australia, we see shining examples of commercial spaces that have embraced outdoor amenities. From the lush rooftop gardens of inner-city buildings to the expansive courtyards of suburban office parks, these spaces are redefining what it means to work in a commercial environment.

### ○ The Rooftop Haven

In Sydney, a once barren rooftop has been transformed into a verdant haven. Complete with a kitchen garden, shaded seating areas, and panoramic views of the city, this space is a testament to the power of outdoor amenities to elevate the work experience.

### ○ The Courtyard Collective

In Melbourne, a series of interconnected courtyards provide a communal space for workers from various companies to come together. With features like an amphitheater for presentations and social gatherings, this space fosters a sense of community and collaboration.

## The Future of Commercial Spaces

The future of commercial spaces is one where the boundaries between work and leisure are fluid. It's a future where outdoor amenities are not just nice-to-have features but essential components of a holistic work environment. As we continue to navigate the complexities of the modern world, these spaces offer a touchstone, a place to reconnect with ourselves and each other.

**In conclusion**, outdoor amenities for commercial spaces are more than a trend; they are a movement towards a more humane and connected way of living. They are a recognition that the great outdoors has a vital role to play in the health and happiness of the community. As designers and developers, we have the opportunity—and the responsibility—to create spaces that not only meet the functional needs of businesses but also enrich the lives of those who use them.

# Exterior Lighting:

ILLUMINATING THE OUTDOORS

WITH STYLE AND FUNCTION

Exterior lighting is a crucial component of outdoor design, combining aesthetic appeal with functionality to enhance the safety, security, and usability of outdoor spaces. When planned and implemented effectively, exterior lighting can transform the way a building and its surrounding landscape are perceived, particularly after sunset. This report aims to guide architects, builders, and designers in making informed choices about exterior lighting that balances style and practical considerations.

## Strategic Planning of Exterior Lighting

Effective exterior lighting begins with strategic planning. The primary goal is to illuminate the environment in a way that enhances visibility, improves security, and creates an inviting atmosphere. It is essential to conduct a thorough analysis of the space to determine key areas that require lighting, such as walkways, entry points, driveways, and decorative elements. This planning stage should also consider the impact of lighting on neighbors and the night sky, aiming to minimize light pollution and glare.

## Choosing the Right Fixtures

The selection of lighting fixtures plays a pivotal role in achieving the desired aesthetic and functional outcomes. Fixtures should be chosen not only for their style and compatibility with the architectural character of the building but also for their durability and resistance to

weather conditions. LED lights are often preferred for their long lifespan, energy efficiency, and lower maintenance requirements. Additionally, fixtures with motion sensors or timers can enhance security and energy efficiency by ensuring lights are only active when needed.

## Integration of Style and Function

Integrating style with function involves selecting lighting types and placements that both serve a purpose and enhance the beauty of the outdoor space. Pathway lights, for example, ensure safe navigation through gardens or walkways while also highlighting landscaping features. Wall-mounted lights can provide necessary illumination for entrances and perimeters without intruding into the space visually. Strategic placement of these fixtures can create dramatic lighting effects that accentuate architectural features and draw attention to key elements of the building and landscape.





Designer: Michael Tomlinson - Elysium

## Lighting Techniques for Outdoor Spaces

Various lighting techniques can be employed to achieve different effects:

- **Ambient lighting:** Provides overall illumination for general use and safety, often achieved through post lights or overhead lighting fixtures.
- **Task lighting:** Focuses light on specific areas required for activities such as grilling or reading, typically involving directional lights or spotlights.
- **Accent lighting:** Highlights architectural features or landscaping, using spotlights, floodlights, or in-ground lights to create focal points and add depth to the outdoor space.

## Environmental Considerations

Environmental considerations are integral to modern exterior lighting designs. Designers must ensure that lighting schemes comply with local regulations regarding energy use and light pollution. The use of solar-powered lights can reduce energy consumption and operational costs, offering an eco-friendly lighting solution that harnesses renewable energy. Furthermore, choosing fixtures and bulbs with appropriate light intensity and color temperature can prevent disruptive glare and contribute to a comfortable and aesthetically pleasing outdoor environment.

- The design of exterior lighting should be **a balanced integration of style, function, and environmental sensitivity.**

## Conclusion

In conclusion, the design of exterior lighting should be a balanced integration of style, function, and environmental sensitivity. By carefully selecting fixtures, employing various lighting techniques, and considering the environmental impact, designers can create outdoor lighting schemes that enhance the usability and appearance of exterior spaces. Ultimately, well-planned exterior lighting not only ensures safety and functionality but also enriches the visual appeal of the outdoor environment, making it an essential element of any architectural project.

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# Wayfinding Meets Design:

## INTEGRATING SIGNAGE AS AN ARCHITECTURAL FEATURE

In today's complex built environments, wayfinding signage is essential. But all too often, signage becomes a visually jarring afterthought, compromising the design aesthetic. It doesn't have to be this way. A thoughtful approach can integrate wayfinding as a seamless element of architectural design, enhancing both clarity and visual appeal.

### Beyond the Basics: Signage as Design Opportunity

Successful signage begins with function but elevates it to an art form. Consider these principles:

- **Materiality Matters:** Choose materials that complement the architectural style. Metal, wood, glass, and even textiles can be used effectively. Backlit signage can offer a modern touch, while projecting signage integrated into the building's façade creates a streamlined look.
- **Scale and Placement:** Signage should be sized appropriately for visibility but harmoniously integrated with the space. Take advantage of natural sightlines and create intuitive wayfinding flows. Clever placement can transform signage into a focal point rather than an eyesore.

- **Typography and Legibility:** Font choice significantly impacts both readability and style. Clean, sans-serif fonts are often ideal for wayfinding. Ensure sufficient contrast between text and background, especially in high-traffic areas.
- **Lighting Integration:** Illuminated signage offers 24/7 clarity. But lighting can go beyond utility – backlit signs can create a dramatic ambience, while spotlighting creates dynamic visual emphasis.
- **Accessibility First:** Design for visual clarity, utilizing braille and tactile elements when appropriate. Consider those with low vision by incorporating a strong color contrast scheme into your design.





Designer: Reece Keil - TalleCasa

## Strategies for Integration

- **Walls as Canvases:** Treat walls not just as surfaces to mount signs upon, but as opportunities for large-scale graphic design. Textured wall treatments, integrated maps, or artistic interpretations of wayfinding cues elevate the visual experience of the interior.
- **Floor Power:** Flooring often presents an underutilized canvas. Embedded directional cues in contrasting materials, inlaid maps, or even playful path markers add an unexpected element of wayfinding to floor surfaces.
- **Embrace Technology:** Digital signage provides flexibility. Rotating displays can direct visitors while also showcasing artwork or incorporating branding elements. Interactive kiosks offer a more in-depth information hub for larger spaces.
- **The Power of Nature:** Biophilic design principles extend to wayfinding. Incorporating plants alongside signage softens the feel and adds organic cues to direct foot traffic flow in desired directions.

## Case Study: The Museum as Masterclass

Imagine a modern museum where large-scale, minimalist directional arrows are etched into concrete walls. Exhibit names appear in a clean typeface on projecting metallic plates, seamlessly integrated with the gallery's architecture. Digital kiosks offer interactive floorplans and exhibit details in a sleek, branded format.

## The Success is in the Synergy

The most effective wayfinding signage doesn't merely exist within a space; it flows from it. By working closely with architects and interior designers from the project's outset, signage becomes part of the holistic vision. Color palettes, material choices, and the overall aesthetic vocabulary inform the design of the wayfinding system, creating a true sense of unity.

Signage should enhance a space, not disrupt it. By embracing the intersection of wayfinding and design, we create built environments that are both intuitive to navigate and visually inspiring.

○ The most effective wayfinding signage doesn't merely exist within a space;  
● **it flows from it.**



# Adapting the Approach:

## COMMERCIAL VS. RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS

While the fundamental principles of integrating wayfinding as design hold true across different building types, the specific approach varies between commercial and residential spaces.

### Commercial Considerations:

**Scale:** Larger commercial buildings or campuses require a hierarchical signage system. Start with major directional signage at entry points and scale down to room-specific identifiers.

**Branding:** Signage in commercial settings is often a tool for reinforcing brand identity. Incorporate logos, color schemes, and the overall brand aesthetic into wayfinding design.

**Accessibility and Regulation:** Commercial spaces are often subject to stricter ADA accessibility codes and fire safety regulations governing signage. Design must prioritize compliance, but creativity within those constraints is key.

**Adaptable Systems:** Modular and updatable signage is invaluable in commercial environments where layouts or businesses within the space might change over time.

### Residential Considerations:

**Intimacy of Scale:** Residential wayfinding is typically subtler. Address markers, unit numbers, and any internal directory signs should integrate with the architecture without being too visually dominant.

**Creating Atmosphere:** Wayfinding in residential settings can be an opportunity to enhance the sense of arrival. Custom-designed address signs, illuminated pathways, or even artistic house numbers set a unique tone.

**Multi-Unit Projects:** In apartment buildings or developments, wayfinding should balance individuality with a cohesive system. Unit identifiers that complement the architecture of the buildings are essential.

**Landscape as Guide:** Subtle, natural wayfinding cues can be woven into landscaping in residential settings. Changes in paving materials, guided plantings, or even lighting can intuitively lead visitors in the desired direction.

## The Evolving Language of Wayfinding

Technology continues to reshape how we interact with our built environment. Augmented reality wayfinding superimposing directional arrows on your smartphone view, or personalized digital guides in large spaces, represent the future. While high-tech solutions are exciting, the enduring principle remains the same: whether physical or digital, elegant wayfinding is achieved by integrating it seamlessly into the overall design vision of the space.

# Elevating Seaside Living:

**THE MODULAR MARVEL  
OF SEVENTEEN SEVENTY**





## A Visionary Approach To Panoramic Living

In the serene expanse of Seventeen Seventy, QLD, a unique building project unfolds, embodying the essence of panoramic elegance and modular ingenuity. Frameology Constructions, at the helm of this venture, embarked on a mission to leverage the unparalleled views offered by the site's geography. "Our goal was twofold: to capture the breathtaking vistas and to navigate budget and local resource constraints through modular construction. This approach not only preserved the project's aesthetic ambition but also resulted in significant cost savings," shares Matthew, the owner of Frameology Constructions.

○ LYSAGHT®  
● steel building products were the natural choice, **meeting our requirements for fire safety and low maintenance.**

## Material Selection: A Harmony of Aesthetics and Functionality

The pursuit of panoramic perfection significantly influenced the architectural design and, subsequently, the choice of building materials. Faced with the challenge of adhering to stringent BAL fire ratings, the project gravitated towards materials that promised both safety and visual impact. It was this quest for excellence that led to the selection of LYSAGHT® products. "We needed materials that would stand up to the environmental demands without compromising on the design. LYSAGHT® steel building products were the natural choice, meeting our requirements for fire safety and low maintenance, crucial for our clients who reside interstate," Matthew elaborates.



The sleek silhouette of the structure, combined with the durability and low maintenance of LYSAGHT® steel cladding, has made this build a quintessential retreat," Matthew proudly states. The choice of COLORBOND® steel colour Shale Grey™ for the cladding, a bold deviation from conventional colour schemes, underscores the project's modern ethos, resonating with the contemporary design aspirations.

### Collaborative Insights and Future Horizons

Matthew's experience with the project underscores the value of early engagement with Lysaght specialists. "Working closely with our Lysaght representative was a game-changer. The expertise and support offered streamlined our decision-making process, enhancing the project's overall efficiency," he notes. This partnership not

### LYSAGHT® Solutions: Customised for Excellence

The project saw the strategic use of LYSAGHT MINI ORB® and TRIMDEK® cladding, chosen for their adaptability and aesthetic appeal. Corrugated MINI ORB® was utilised for its dramatic visual impact, ideal for walling and ceiling linings, while TRIMDEK® was chosen to meet the requirements of the low pitch roof..." The ability to custom-design flashings and gutters was paramount. Lysaght's readiness to tailor solutions ensured we could maintain symmetry and seamless transitions, critical in realising our vision of indoor-outdoor harmony," reflects Matthew on the collaboration.

### Enduring Elegance and Environmental Resilience

The project's success is vividly encapsulated in the homeowners' satisfaction and the resilience of the build against the harsh tropical climate of central Queensland. "Our clients were enamoured with the outcome.

only facilitated a seamless execution but also cemented Frameology Constructions' confidence in LYSAGHT® products for future endeavours.

### In Summary

The Seventeen Seventy project stands as a testament to the synergy between visionary architectural design and material innovation. Through the strategic application of LYSAGHT® products, Frameology Constructions has crafted a space that marries the tranquility of panoramic views with the pragmatism of modular construction, setting a new benchmark for residential architecture.

For more design inspiration and product information visit [lysaght.com.au](https://lysaght.com.au)

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## PLUS CASH PRIZES FOR OUR CATEGORY WINNERS!

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### PRIZES

The project judged as the winning submission in each category will receive a \$5,000 cash prize.

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RESIDENTIAL Winner 2021  
Kenny Street House  
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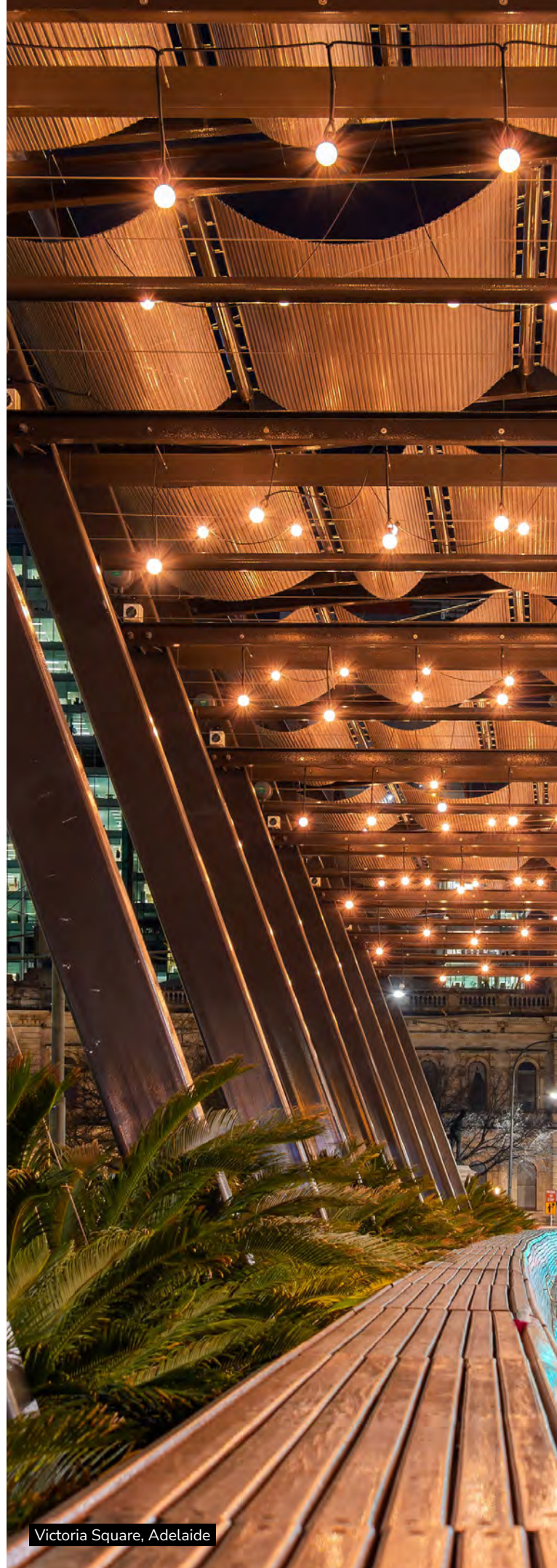
\*Entry eligibility, prize eligibility, terms and conditions apply. Visit [www.lysaghtinspirations.com/terms](http://www.lysaghtinspirations.com/terms) for details. LYSAGHT® and ® product names are registered trademarks of BlueScope Steel Limited and ™ product names are trademarks of BlueScope Steel Limited. © 2024 BlueScope Steel Limited. ABN 16 000 011 058. All rights reserved. LYH2461 - 05/24

# The Power of Public Space:

**DESIGN TO ELEVATE**

**URBAN LIFE**

Well-designed public spaces serve as the beating hearts of cities and towns. They offer places for respite, connection, and a vibrant reflection of community life. From grand plazas to revitalized pedestrian streets, thoughtful design can elevate urban living by prioritizing the human experience.





## The Plaza: A Stage for Community

Plazas, whether historic or newly conceived, act as flexible gathering points. Successful design features include:

- **Human Scale:** A sense of enclosure, often via surrounding buildings, creates a welcoming, 'held' feeling. Break up large plazas with seating areas, landscaping, or water features to avoid a sense of vast emptiness.
- **Multi-Purpose Functionality:** Incorporate versatile spaces to accommodate markets, performances, casual seating, or simply room to relax.
- **Focal Point:** Public art, a fountain, or a stage draws the eye and offers a reason to linger.
- **Accessibility:** Design for all ages and abilities, utilizing smooth pathways, ample seating, and clear sightlines.

## Community-Centric Design Principles

Effective public spaces put people at the center of the design process:

- **Inclusivity:** Reflect the diversity of the community the space serves. Design for a range of cultural backgrounds, ages, and ability levels.
- **Organic Evolution:** Leave room for informal uses to emerge. The most beloved spaces accommodate a touch of the unpredictable alongside planned activities.
- **Nature Connection:** Integrating trees, plantings, and water features creates a restorative connection with the natural world amidst the urban bustle.
- **Maintenance Matters:** Well-maintained spaces signal they are valued. Durable materials, lighting, and cleaning protocols are vital components of successful design.

## Pedestrian-First: Reclaiming the Streets

Pedestrianization reimagines spaces traditionally dominated by cars:

- **Traffic Calming:** Slowing vehicle traffic via narrowed lanes, textured paving, or raised pedestrian crossings makes streets safer and more inviting for those on foot.
- **Widened Walkways:** Generous pavements encourage strolling and create 'spill out' zones for cafes and shops.
- **Tactical Urbanism:** Temporary interventions like parklets and pop-up seating areas can test pedestrianization concepts, generating community support for permanent changes.
- **Eyes on the Street:** Active storefronts, public seating, and street-level windows provide natural surveillance, enhancing a sense of security.

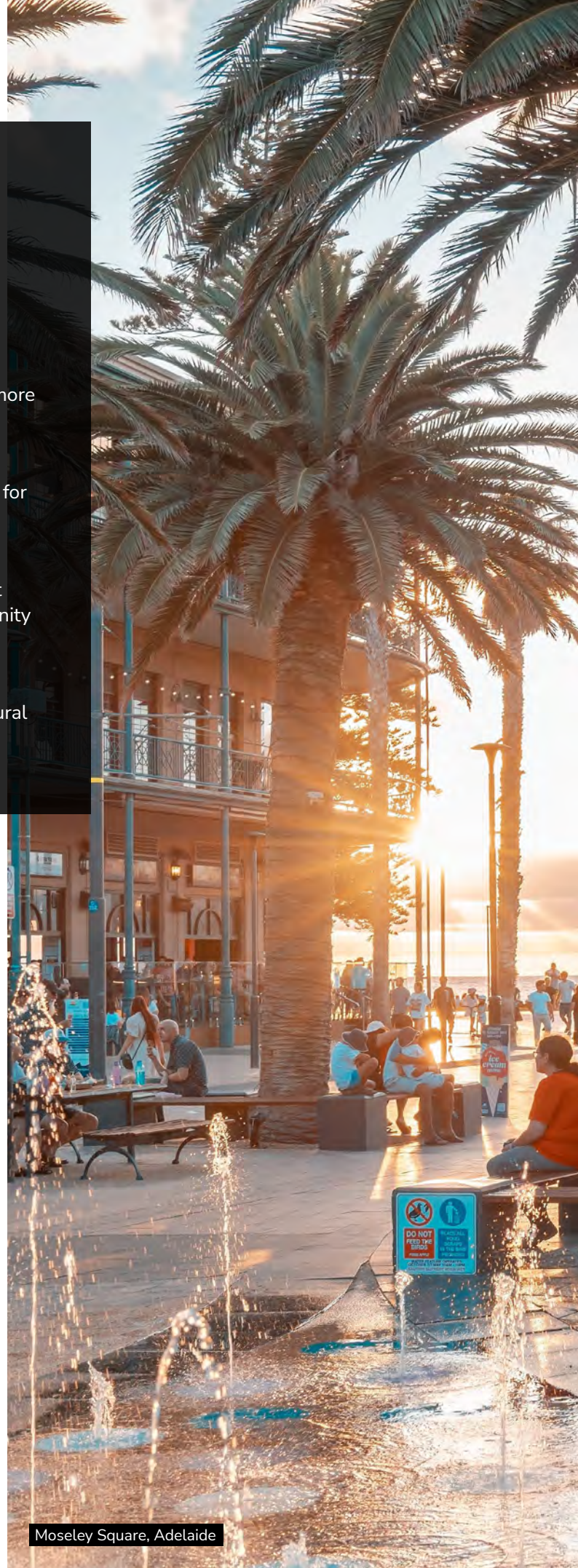
## Case Study: The Revitalized Waterfront

Imagine a former industrial waterfront transformed into a thriving linear park. Wide promenades accommodate strolling and cycling. Terraced seating offers views, while a playful splash pad delights children. Food vendors and flexible performance spaces attract crowds, revitalizing the entire area.

### The Success is in the Synergy

The most impactful public spaces are those woven into the urban fabric. They seamlessly connect with transit stops, create a network of pedestrian-friendly routes, and complement the adjacent businesses. Beyond design, successful public spaces also require thoughtful programming – regular events, farmers' markets, outdoor movies, or art installations keep these spaces vibrant.

Public spaces are an investment in the social, economic, and environmental health of a city. By prioritizing walkability, a human scale, and design that inspires both spontaneous and planned interactions, we create urban environments where people not only live, but truly thrive.



Moseley Square, Adelaide



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