Episode 35: My Forever Home LIVE
Mirror and Window Splashbacks

https://www.whitepebbleinteriors.com.au/mirror-and-window-splashback/

Hi and good morning, everyone. Welcome to this morning's My Forever Home live. It's I know I talk about the weather, but it is so foggy and chilly here today, so I've got my big woollen scarf on. I know I had one on at Phillip Island, which my lovely mum made, and today it's the same.

She made this one too. Yeah it's really nice to to be able to wear something that my mum has made, and this one is super cozy as well. I am rugging up because it is so cold, and it's funny because one of my team members actually lives overseas, and her idea of cold is twenty-five degrees.

So I was like you should come and try it here." So I'm back from holidays. Hi, Carolyn, thanks for checking in again. Back from holidays, back into work. Had so many contacts this week, people using... I know I mentioned this last week, but more and more people are now using their holiday money and their holiday fund to do some things around the home.

And I think, I'm based in Melbourne, as a lot of and Victoria, metropolitan Melbourne is in lockdown again. So it's homeschooling again for us. My kids are at home now in homeschooling and yeah, it's back into it. So look, we've actually cleared out our studio as much as we can in terms of having the ability to still specify and to still do things for our clients, even if we go into hard lockdown.

So we're pretty pretty prepared and organized here. My home office has become what it was a couple of years ago before I moved into the studio, and it's now just full of tiles and splashbacks and bench tops and cabinetry materials because of course our goal is to keep going and service our clients remotely, which we've been doing for quite a number of years now with our remote clients.

So that's business as usual for us. It's just, it's being offered to a lot more people. Now, what I wanted to chat to you today about was something that has been coming up for a couple of our clients, but I'm also seeing it on Facebook groups, and that is mirrored and window splashbacks. Now, I think window...

Sorry I'll deal with mirrored splashbacks first. Probably the disadvantages for them are the same across both. But in terms of a mirrored splashback, they work really beautifully in a small spa- a small space. So if you've got a, an apartment with a, a galley kitchen and it's reflecting back into the lounge room, look, a mirror can look absolutely beautiful, and it is really quite sophisticated.

I particularly love smoked mirrors and tinted mirrors. They just- add another element and another edge. So a coffee or smoked colored mirror is absolutely beautiful. I've also put them into larger homes where that has been the aesthetic that the client has really been after.

With me, as always, letting them know that the disadvantages of perhaps going down that route, which is what I'm gonna talk about today. The great thing about the mirror is it reflects light, and it does have that fantastic ability to reflect what's going in the space, so it makes the space feel larger too.

And it looks very sophisticated. For a window splashbacks are becoming really popular at the moment, and I think there's good reason for that. They let a lot of natural lighting in. They look beautiful, particularly when the landscaping on the other side of that window is beautifully done.

If you're gonna be looking at a charcoal paling fence then there's not really some great advantages. I don't wanna be having a window looking out to a charcoal fence as part of a feature in my kitchen. So if that's landscaped beautifully and has been really considered, wow, it's such a beautiful way to link to the outdoors and have this beautiful vista.

So I'm definitely I think that there's definitely a reason to have a window as a splashback so what I suppose we need to consider though, if we are thinking about a mirror or a window as a splashback are perhaps some of the maintenance and cleaning considerations. And I suppose when you're thinking about this for yourself, you need to think about what you're like and the sorts of things that are gonna drive you crazy or the things that you're not really going to mind as to whether these two suggestions are going to work for you, being the mirror or the window.

So they are going to involve more cleaning. And it is going to be after every cook if you want that window to be clean and free of splashes and oil and spaghetti sauce and all those sorts of things. For a mirror or a window, it is daily cleaning. And I suppose the other thing with that is it's not just a quick, wipe with a sponge because then you're going to get the streaks.

So it's going to mean that you need either a special window cleaner using no chemicals or you'll need to use a Windex or that sort of product. But there are fantastic window cleaners out there, just the, the special material, the special microfiber that you don't need to use any cleaning products.

But it means that's going to need to be on hand for you to be able to clean that. Now, for the client that I was doing this for a couple of years ago in his home he just had no issue with that at all. He said, "I'm always cleaning that anyway." It's not a consideration for him. We've got a client currently

who has got a beautiful window which runs the whole way, the whole length of the kitchen, not just over the sink, the whole length right into the walk-in pantry, right through the, to the laundry.

It's really quite a spectacular feature. And she said, "I do not want a window. It is going to drive me crazy." And that's what the architect had put in because yes, it looks amazing. So what we made sure is that we had a tiled area, a beautiful splashback, which she was really happy about 'cause she loved the splashback tile so much.

And we created a splashback tiled area for her, which wasn't going to require such particular cleaning on a daily basis. She knew in advance that not having that clean would drive her nuts, but she also knew in advance she didn't want to be worrying about that every single time she cooked or her sons cooked.

So I think you need to work out the sort of person that you are as to whether that sort of cleaning is gonna drive you nuts. I know it would for me. I do not wanna be wiping my splashback down with a special cloth every single time I cook to make sure that mirror or that window is looking good.

And to make it streak-free. I think there's... I think the streak-free would actually... Sorry, if it was streaky, would drive me more crazy than having a bit of a splatter of spaghetti sauce. The other thing to think about is mirrors can scratch. So if you're not using a special cloth or your cloth has got fragments of grit or something in there 'cause you've wiped something else.

And think about kids, they're not as particular about their cloths as we may be. I am always trying to train my children that this cloth is for the floor, this cloth is for the dishes. We don't use the dish cloth to to wipe our floors. If they have done that and there's a little pebble or whatever it is, it can really scratch those surfaces, even glass, even windows.

Think about that. And again, that's just another thing to think about in terms of a maintenance perspective if that's really going to be something that you're going to desire. They are really popular. Mirror has been around for quite some time and and again, for the right environment and for the right sort of person it works beautifully.

But I suppose my key here is it's around understanding you, understanding how you wanna be able to live in the space to make sure that what you're specifying is actually gonna work for you. That's the most important thing. And so I'm just using the mirror and the the window as an example. But of course, this goes for all your material selections, right down to the handles.

How are those handles going to work? Are they going to drive you nuts the way you've got to grip your finger around them? All those sorts of things. So we are constantly talking to our clients about the advantages and disadvantages, and you may not like this because of X, but it might look great. Or we think you should go down this path because it came out in your brief that blah, blah, blah is is really important for you.

And so all of those things form the complete material specification for you, and that's what makes it so unique to you because the way you use a space and the way you clean and the way you wanna maintain are all quite different. So that's what my top tip is for today that I wanted to cover.

Do we have any, Oh, the English Tupperware company have joined. Hello, and thank you. We've been, Oh, we're loving all those handles from the English Tapware Company. They are definitely something to look at. So is there any questions today before I pop off for the weekend? Today I'm going to be viewing a few clients' homes.

It's all very in very specific lockdown mode. I don't leave the house without a mask now. Masks are almost becoming just such a common sight now. I think the first lockdown people were a little bit reticent to wear masks, and now it's just like we're all wearing masks. So I'm gonna go and get myself some fancy looking mask with a beautiful fabric.

So that that's what I'm probably gonna be doing on the weekend. I might even get the sewing machine out and do it myself. So do we have any questions today? Anything about mirror or window splashbacks? We've got a couple of clients on the call, but I know that's not going to affect them.

On one of them, it's very high up, so it's not going to make a difference. And that is actually a good point. If one of the reasons you want a window splashback is because you wanna let more natural light in, and hey, that's a really good reason is you can actually have it high, and as long as it's above the cabinetry and your ca- cabinetry is not stumpy and short and it's not affecting that, then you can have a highlight window in your kitchen, particularly if it's facing the right direction to bring more natural light into the space.

So there's always that option if the cleaning thing is gonna drive you nuts. All right, everyone, I don't have any questions today. That's fine. Sometimes we don't. You can always listen back to this on Facebook, Your Forever Home. You can also always listen to it on the podcast. Oh, I nearly forgot.

Special announcement. It hasn't been announced yet, so you're hearing it here first. Because the Kitchen Design Essentials podcast series is going so well, we're getting such great feedback, we're getting lots and lots of listens and I'm just getting beautiful emails about it as well. I'm going to be running the Kitchen Masterclass webinar on the thirtieth of July at seven o'clock Australian Eastern Standard Time.

So that is normally an in-person live event that I hold in the Cosentino showroom. But in our new life of lockdown it is now going to be run as a webinar. So there's still all the amazing information that I share, lots of information around design, materials, layouts, and so forth for your kitchen.

So if you haven't been part of that before, then I highly suggest if you are going to be renovating, makeovering, or creating a new kitchen, then join me for a super informative very generous with what I share with you on the thirtieth of July. There will be a- an email going out for people that follow us today so that you can register.

Registration details will alway-- also be on the whitepebbleinteriors.com website under Events. So let anyone else know that is also looking at renovating or makeovering or creating a new kitchen and they can then learn from that as well. Okay, everyone I bid you a really lovely weekend, and I will be here next week Same time, same place.

See you everyone. Have a great weekend.

END OF TRANSCRIPT

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