

# let's get organised!

The magic of tidying up starts with clever storage. Spark joy in every cupboard and on every shelf with these ideas WORDS VIRGINIA JEN



PHOTOGRAPHY: (LEFT & OPPOSITE) MARNE HAWSON FOR MLS BUILT; STYLING: (LEFT & OPPOSITE) THE REAL ESTATE STYLIST; ARTWORK: (OPPOSITE) CACTUS GARDEN BY NICOLE REED

**1 perfect match** Finding the right storage solution starts with thinking about what you need to store in the space you have. A closed cabinet, such as this one in a project by MLS Built (mlsbuilt.com.au) and Neil Architecture (neilarchitecture.com.au), creates a calm space, while open shelves allow for personal style.

**2 on the table** If floor space is tight, turn to wall-hung joinery and multi-purpose pieces. This Magnet 'Table Plus' unit (magnet.co.uk) consists of a storage cupboard that folds out to reveal a dining table - there's even a spot for your favourite magazines.

**3 hide & seek** Every empty space is an opportunity for a storage spot. Nooks in this fireplace surround offer a chance to add style touches in a project by MLS Built (mlsbuilt.com.au) and Neil Architecture (neilarchitecture.com.au).

#### hidden from view

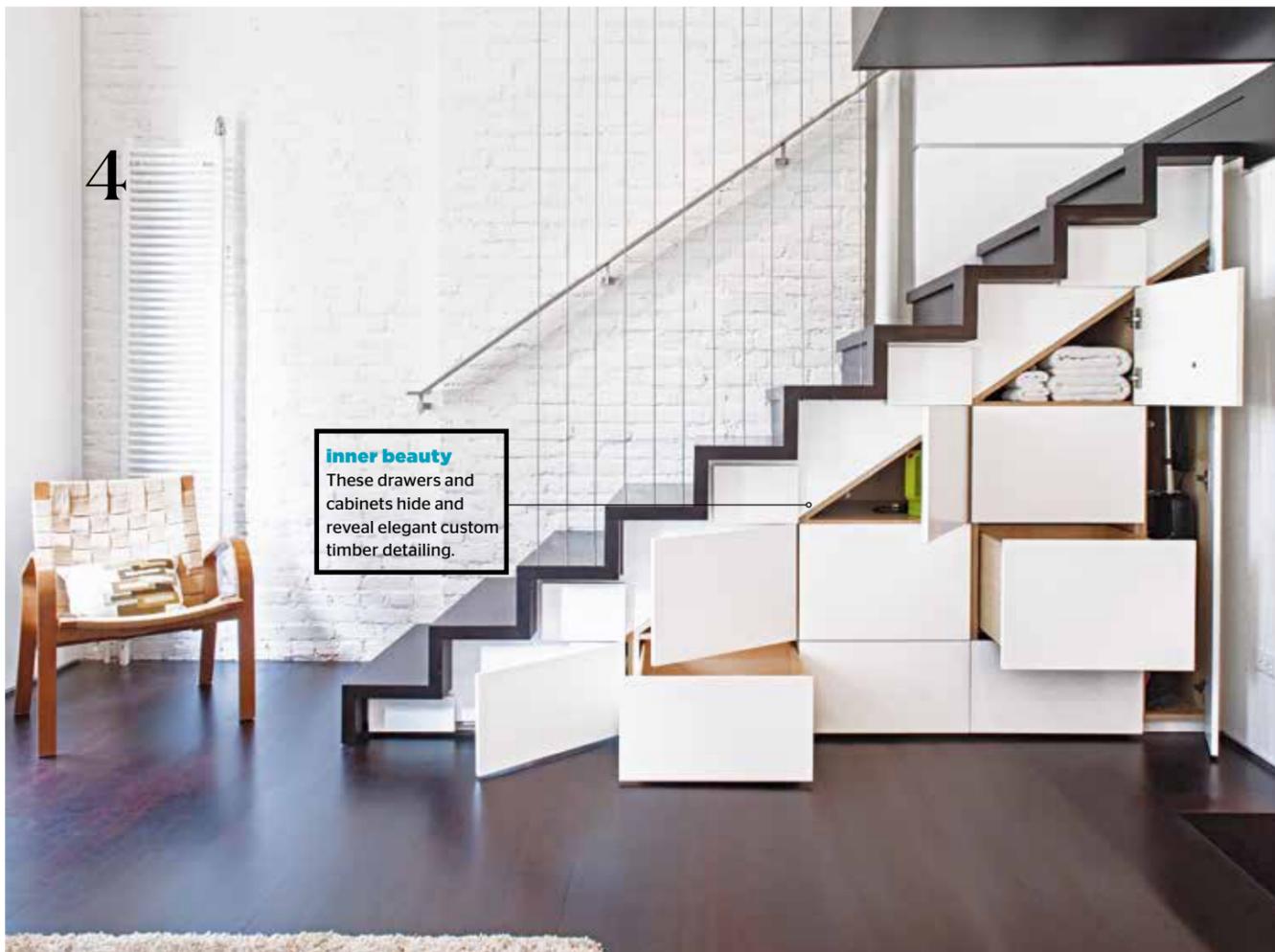
Baskets and boxes help conceal all manner of clutter in open shelving units.

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## the framework

Building bespoke solutions into your space will ensure there's a place for everything. Take this approach to your joinery design and consider a variety of open and hidden spots for a calm, clutter-free home.





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**inner beauty**  
These drawers and cabinets hide and reveal elegant custom timber detailing.



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**fine lines**  
Timber shelf supports tie in with the bench seat, breaking up the expanse of white.



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PHOTOGRAPHY: (CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP) TAGGART SORENSON, ARMELLE HABIB, GAP INTERIORS/BILL KINGSTON, (OPPOSITE) SHARYN CAIRNS

**4 step by step** Harry Potter should've called on Specht Architects (spechtarchitects.com) to craft him a proper staircase home. Instead, this advent-calendar-like joinery in a tiny Manhattan loft was inspired by *kaidan dansu*, classic Japanese step chests. This design maximises the use of the under-stairs zone with different compartments.

**5 height of style** A zone with odd dimensions is the perfect canvas for an expanse of custom shelving, seen in this bedroom. Neat finger pulls in each cube door front keeps the look streamlined.

**6 lifting the bar** Bring functionality to a zone with feature joinery. There's a hidden bar area behind the doors of this elegant cabinet, designed by Bloom Interior Design & Decoration (bloominterior design.com.au) and built by BM Building Solutions (bmbuilding solutions.com.au). Party time!

**7 family first** For busy families, it's hard to go past a mudroom if you can swing it. This example by Steven Whiting (whiting architects.com) and Carole Whiting (carolewhiting.com.au) features hooks, shelving and storage cubes for everyone under the oak bench.

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## the details

Now that you've decided on the big-picture feature elements, it's time to sort out the best ways to use your newly designed nooks and crannies within those storage spots.

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PHOTOGRAPHY: (OPPOSITE) DEREK SWALLOW, (TOP LEFT) PRUE RUSCOE, (TOP RIGHT) KRISTA KELTANEN, (BOTTOM RIGHT) EVE WILSON, STYLING: (OPPOSITE) MIKAYLA ROSE, (TOP LEFT) JOSEPH GARDNER, (BOTTOM RIGHT) JACQUI MOORE, ELFA OVER THE DOOR UTILITY RACK, \$27, HOWARDS STORAGE WORLD, HSWCOMAU

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**1 hole in one** We love the pegboard appeal of this storage wall in a project designed by Heartly (heartly.com.au). Builder Ben Thomas (benthomasbuilder.com.au) was tasked with creating this flexible solution that can store bikes, schoolbags and shoes. The best bit though? The oak pegs and shelves can be easily repositioned for more options.

**2 timeless quality** If there was one storage unit to add to our list of favourite things à la Oprah, it would be the String system (string.se). Chosen for a Pipkorn & Kilpatrick project (pipkornkilpatrick.com.au), this flexible modular form can be customised to suit any space with different shelf heights, units, desks and magazine shelves available.

**3 wardrobe wonder** The walk-in wardrobe of your dreams is possible. Having the luxury of this space means you're obligated to make the most of it and the best approach is a variety of hanging storage, drawers, racks and shelves. This IKEA system (ikea.com.au) is a great option as it's height adjustable so every centimetre is covered.

**4 behind the scenes** A space-smart spot for extra storage is behind the door. Caddies, such as this one from Howards Storage World (hsw.com.au), keep household staples on hand.

**5 shelf life** Carving a wall niche for open shelving adds a distinctive style element to a cooking zone, like this example by One Girl Interiors (onegirlinteriors.com.au).