

97 Minute Makeover

A NEW LIVING ROOM FOR A LUCKY CHRISTCHURCH FAMILY

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Before

“With over 20 people piled into the Osborne’s living room... the early morning start turned into a morning of organised chaos.”

WHEN PENNY AND PETER OSBORNE HEARD ABOUT THE 97 Minute Makeover on Christchurch radio station Classic Hits 97.7 FM, they saw it as a lifeline for their living room. Earlier in the year, what was planned as a renovation for their living room turned into a disaster, leaving them with an unfinished room that might never have been completed. So the opportunity to have their living room re-styled was a chance they didn’t want to miss out on.

Two weeks of hearing about it on the radio and over 50 entries later, Penny wasn’t sure they stood a chance of winning. “It’s a true blessing,” she says, of being chosen. “We just couldn’t believe it when they announced we’d won.” It was the circumstances surrounding their personal renovation disaster that really secured them as the winners; with all the judges feeling the Osbornes were the most deserving of the entrants.

When the Osbornes started renovating, disaster struck almost immediately. “We had this awful wallpaper, so we just started by ripping it off,” says Penny. Unfortunately the layers of wallpaper had been hiding more than expected. “Suddenly we could push our fingers through the walls, and the ceiling was all just black mould.” So their precious renovating cash then had to be spent on re-doing the exterior walls, pulling all the lining off the ceiling and re-lining with Gib board. The end result was a mixture of old and new plasterboard, no money left, and certainly not the renovated room the Osbornes had hoped for. “It makes you feel really tired. I was just sick of looking at it, and sick of trying to make it look nice when it was so bad,” says Penny.

On the day of the makeover, Penny and Peter seemed surprisingly relaxed, amidst the 6:45 am chaos. Along with their delightful children, Zak (6), Matthew (4) and Hannah (3) they were whisked off to an early breakfast, while their living room was made over and broadcast live on Dave’s Red & Black Breakfast show on Classic Hits. With all hands on deck and the clock ticking, it was a race against time to complete the makeover in 97 minutes!



After



Before

While the Osborne's were whisked away for breakfast, their living room was made over in 97 minutes to give it a brand new look. What was once a dark and unfinished room was transformed into an interior haven for the family to relax in.



Before



After



After

With over 20 people piled into the Osborne's living room, including carpet layers, painters, electricians, designers and photographers all competing to get their part completed in time, the early morning start turned into a morning of organised chaos.

Interior designer Melissa Henneken, from the New Zealand Home Presentation Company, created a stunning new look for the Osbornes living room, and supplied all of the furniture and accessories. "I wanted to re-energise the room in time for spring; to create a fresh, light haven for the young family," says Melissa. "My inspiration for the design was the bold green stripe Esprit Tapete wallpaper from Vision Wallcoverings. "I really wanted to add a bit of fun and texture, whilst defining the dining area, and giving the narrow room a sense of space and depth." The remaining walls were finished in neutral Resene colour White Pointer, with the ceilings in Barely There. Switched on Property Maintenance stepped up to hang the wallpaper, plaster, paint, and do an assortment of other essential odd jobs in the room.

Melissa also took great care in selecting neutral carpet, supplied and laid by Independent Carpets. The Feltex Habitat style in colour Café Taupe is from a darker palette, and adds

depth to the room. A shade similar to the new sofa was chosen for the Guthrie Bowron supplied drapes and new tracks, allowing the natural timber window frames to remain centre stage. Over the dining table, a stunning contemporary light fitting falls over the space, from Total Lighting. As a final added bonus for the family, The Listening Post installed a serious surround sound package, including speakers, a subwoofer and a DVD player.

With the countdown on, the final accessories were placed around the room and homestyle's own marketing manager stepped up to the mark with a hurried vacuum to complete the new look and all just in time for the Osborne's to pull up outside. Stepping out of the white Crown Limousine, Penny and Peter were a little nervous, but the look on their faces said it all once they stepped inside. "Oh wow," said a stunned Penny as she walked in. "Now we can just relax. What a relief not to have to worry about it anymore." The kids seemed equally excited, bouncing on the soft new L-shaped couch for family photos.

What was once a rather dark and certainly unfinished room turned into an interior haven in less than two hours, and the Osbourne family are clearly thrilled. They now have a selection of gorgeous furniture and accessories, and a warm, modern room they can enjoy for years to come. ■



Inspiration From The Decorating Specialists

Your home is yours to relax, raise your family, have fun and live your life, so it's important to decorate living spaces that reflect you and your lifestyle.

Make your home your own by getting creative and stamping your unique personality on it. Whether it needs a simple refresh or a complete makeover, the right advice and a little inspiration can work wonders.

At Guthrie Bowron we're the experts in quality paint, wallpaper, carpet and curtains, and offer friendly, professional advice to help achieve the look that suits your style and your home.



Home Styling WITH MELISSA AND PAM FROM NZHPC

► According to interior designer Melissa Henneken, it is the accessories that often make the most impact, and she used them lavishly here. "Cushions were key to add colour and texture to this living room, and are a great way to add pattern and layering. I love the mixture of patterns, stripes, spots, spring leaf patterns and plains, and you can mix them all! It's a great way to welcome in the new season and get the latest look without spending too much money."

► The L-shape living room is a practical design, especially in hardwearing Herringbone Macro Suede. It gives heaps of seating for the family, while the slim lines give the room an open feel.

► The cube wall unit is practical and looks great - good for storage and a fantastic way to display books and all the family treasures.

OPPOSITE PAGE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Esprit Tapete Wallpaper from Vision Wallcoverings, Image Vault Stellar Graphic Cubes, Decor 9 Cube Wall Unit, KAS Cushions, Decor Noughts & Crosses Board, 8 Finger Bowl Footed Platter, Cintesi Chair, Freedom Furniture Polaris Table, Decor Blooms Tall Green Vase, Glass Vase & Bamboo, KAS Cushions, Alectra Prague Sofa.

All products except wallpaper available from The NZ Home Presentation Company, and other leading retailers throughout New Zealand.



FRESH FOCUS

Inspired by back to nature colours this season's colour palette can add a fresh spring feel to any room. Get the look from our 97 Minute Makeover with these great spring inspired accessories.

