



Residential Attitudes' #38 design.

Design trends for 2018

+ BY CASSIE GUNTHORPE

This year will see a trend towards bold and exciting home designs, according to industry experts.

Perth's take on coastal plantation style will be a key trend to emerge this year, according to Oswald Homes and Residential Attitudes Principal Designer Brook Leber.

"Think Australiana's take on Hawaiian plantation, with weatherboard, summer, tropical plants and pools," he said.

"Byron Bay does it very well, and with the ever-growing designers in this region it is turning into quite the design mecca."

Western Australia's love of industrial design is tipped to continue its reign.

"Industrial homes will always have a place in our hearts," Mr Leber said.

"We love exposed brickwork, black powder-coated balustrades, steel staircases, some feature timberwork, industrial light fittings and expansive spaces and ceiling heights."

Mr Leber said metallics and blacks would

be popular requests in the new year.

"Metallics are still working well and we are infusing spaces with metallic objects," he said. "Think copper, brass and gun metal grey."

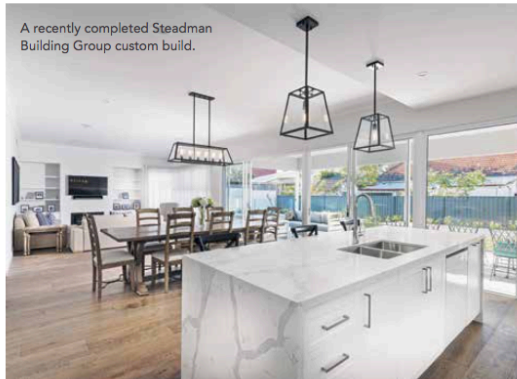
Mr Leber believed 2018 would also bring bolder design choices, with requests for black kitchens, bathrooms and moody powder rooms.

Weatherboard homes and framed construction will continue to evolve as builders try to innovate and find more economical forms of construction.

Steadman Building Group General Manager Jake Steadman said 2018 would see a shake-up in traditional housing styles.

"I feel we will see the requests begin to increase dramatically for spaces to be more intergenerational and multi-purpose in design," he said.

"With constant changes like the cost of living increasing, advances in technologies and the occupants of homes



A recently completed Steadman Building Group custom build.

swinging more and more from traditional families to multiple generations, the purpose of a home's use has begun to evolve with them."

Mr Steadman added lightweight and pre-fabricated construction were starting to become popular in WA.

"They are certainly starting to make a bigger footprint in our state," he said.

"One product about to launch in the WA market is a pre-fabricated insulated internal wall system. I'm not sure if 2018 is enough time to get this product off the ground, but its potential in the future is significant."

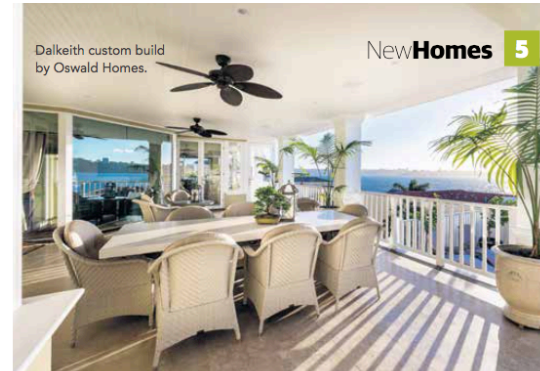
Mr Leber agreed WA's building market would see a shift towards different housing construction methods.

"Weatherboard homes and framed construction will continue to evolve as builders try to innovate and find quicker more economical forms of construction," he said.

Mr Leber added Perth's building market would present a great time for homebuyers looking to build in 2018.

"There has never been a better time to build, with low interest rates and plenty of trades and builders keen to do business," he said.

"A dream home no longer needs to be over the top in terms of size – that is not necessarily what people want anymore – rather, style, detail, customisation and quality fixtures and fittings reflective of their lifestyle."



Dalkeith custom build by Oswald Homes.



Jake Steadman.



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