

Dramatic flair takes a bite of the Big Apple

KAYLEE CRANLEY

The city that never sleeps offers a wealth of inspiration for bold, dynamic home design.

The New York style is all about unashamed individuality, raw authenticity and practical beauty, according to Summit Homes Interior Designer April Murray.

“What sets it apart is its ability to be both expressive and liveable,” she said. “Whether it’s zoned layouts, clever micro spaces or industrial details softened by natural finishes, this aesthetic offers timeless appeal with a contemporary twist.

“It also respects the past, often drawing from mid-century modern influences with sleek lines and iconic furniture pieces.”

Ms Murray said the look blended gritty urban edge with refined comfort.

“Think open-plan living with soaring ceilings and sculptural lighting doubling as art,” she said. “Materials play a starring role too – exposed brick, brushed metals and raw timber create a layered textural palette which is anything but ordinary.

“The colour scheme is just as striking – monochromatic bases, crisp whites, soft greys and moody blacks are energised by pops of colour like navy, red and yellow, echoing the vibrancy of street art and pop culture.”

Trendsetter Homes Design and Strategy Executive Rachel Maree Smith said the confident New York style could translate beautifully into Western Australian homes with the right interpretation.

“What I love most is the balance New York designers strike between raw and refined – it’s not just about luxury but also about atmosphere,” she said. “There’s always a sense of purpose behind every design choice.

“When we interpret that philosophy here in WA – especially within the context of our light, landscape and

lifestyle – it creates homes which feel sophisticated, yet grounded.

“You get the drama and elegance of a New York-inspired interior but it still feels relaxed, warm and completely liveable.”

Ms Murray said the New York style was also a perfect match with Perth in a practical sense.

“One of the greatest benefits is how adaptable and space conscious it is,” she said. “In Perth, we’re seeing land sizes shrink and cost of living rise, so the New York ethos of condensed, well-planned living is more relevant than ever.

“It’s about making smart design choices – open but zoned layouts, purposeful rooms and multi-functional spaces offering both connection and privacy.

“Little retreats like central courtyards or cleverly designed nooks replace large unused areas while maintaining a sense of sophistication and edge.”

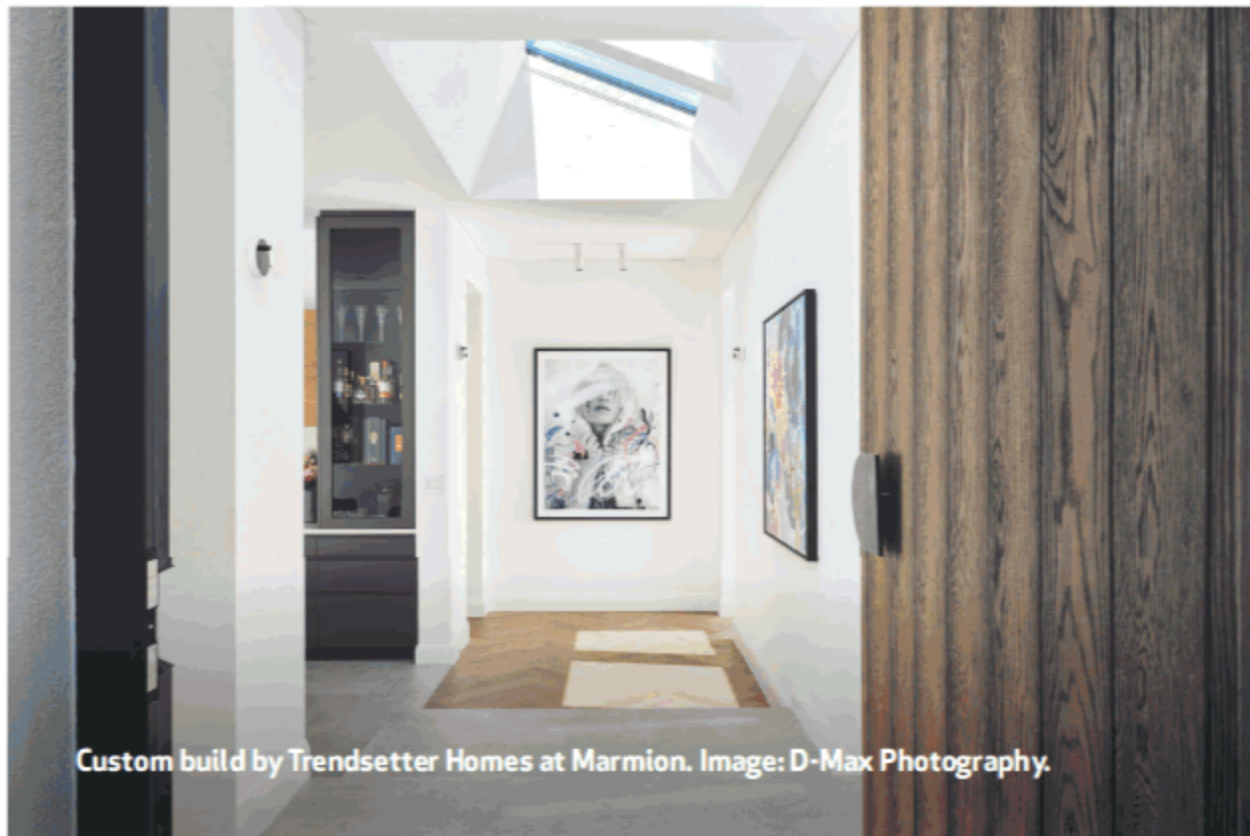
Ms Murray said the approach was a great way to integrate personal taste into your dwelling.

Whether a reclaimed brick wall or a statement light fitting, she said New York design encouraged homeowners to express themselves, creating a space which felt both custom and considered.

Mrs Smith echoed this sentiment, saying she has noticed a growing trend among clients requesting walk-in robes inspired by iconic New York-based shows like *Sex and the City* and *Gossip Girl*.

“These series didn’t just showcase fashion – they broadcast a distinct design language to the world,” she said. “They offered an insider’s view of New York’s elite, where high fashion and interior design worked hand in hand to create spaces full of drama, beauty and personality.”

Mrs Smith said these dream dressing rooms included layering considered lighting with plush materials, incorporating gritty textures and infusing character into every corner.



Custom build by Trendsetter Homes at Marmion. Image: D-Max Photography.