



YEATH



Ethan

DESIGN **KATHRYN HAWKES, HOUSE OF HAWKES**
PHOTOGRAPHY **LANEL DE VILLIERS**
WORDS **CELINE BARNES**





With Ethan being eight years old and having reached a point where his youthful hobbies and passions are clearly formulated, his mother, Kathryn Hawkes, felt it was an opportune time to start considering how to evolve the room to reflect who Ethan is now.

Kathryn explains, "Ethan loves the great outdoors and is particularly passionate about the beach, surfing, life-saving and wildlife". "We started with the blue-grey feature wall. I first saw the colour, Arctic Grey, when Jotun Paints launched it and couldn't wait to use it. When I showed it to Ethan, he loved it too. No regrets on the wall colour!" she confirms. The coolness of the Arctic Grey feature wall partnered with three white walls and white furnishings create a sublime chillout zone for Ethan. By developing a monochromatic foundation, Kathryn has ensured any future evolutions in Ethan's personal tastes are able to be easily incorporated and celebrated.

Real and motif cacti such as the Cactus Cushion from Mono Shop feature throughout the room, providing wonderful pops of green, daring you to play spot-the-cactus as you move around. The choice of cacti was a strategic yet thematic move as they are a durable low maintenance plant and they inspire a sense of the frontier. In developing the wildlife element Kathryn included items like the black & white cow hide rug from IKEA® and the wooden Nguni head from Vogel Design. These tie in beautifully with the intrepid explorer feel of the wall art and, of course, the cacti.

Being an optimistic mother, Kathryn has incorporated subtle yet stylish reminders for Ethan to keep things tidy, like the House Doctor Striped storage bag and the three hanging shelves. The white metal PS IKEA® cabinets continue the hint with a tough, utilitarian stance along one whole wall. The grey stripes on the bed linen from H&M Home echo the feature wall and, like little tracks, draw your eyes into the space. The Blue Jean cushion by Natti Natti with its cheeky cartoon eyes provides comedic relief by giving a playful nod to any mischief which might occur.

Kathryn explains, "The hardest part of the process was determining the layout as it isn't a particularly big room and

there is really only one wall that could accommodate a bed, so we had to plan the rest of the room around that." With limited size and layout options, the decision to use the Perch bunk bed by Oeuf solved both dilemmas simultaneously. Kathryn acknowledges it as her favourite piece. "It has such an amazing design aesthetic and it's really sturdy," she says.

Kathryn Hawkes is the style maven who heads up House of Hawkes, an interior design studio and interiors/lifestyle blog, which started four years ago. Kathryn laughs and admits "I remember explaining to my first few clients that this was just a hobby, but they were undeterred and would not take no for an answer." Luckily for Kathryn (and us) technology changed the rules on how the industry communicated with potential clients. Kathryn clarifies "Social media changed the dynamics of business – people are watching your portfolio come to life and have a clear sense of your style by the time they reach out to you."

HOUSE OF HAWKES
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01. Cacti Scatter Cushion R300.00 – R350.00 monoshop.co.za // 02. Natti Natti Pillow 'Blue Jean' € 45,00 www.bysomethingels.com //
 03. Ikea PS Cabinet \$199 ikea.com // 04. Stripes Laundry Basket \$21 royaldesign.com/au // 05. Nguni Head POA vogeldesign.co.za //