

RENOVATE



# HERITAGE MAKEOVERS

*Heritage can be a bit of a dirty word when it comes to buying and renovating property.*

THE thought of having to navigate a complicated set of building restrictions has many prospective buyers lumping an otherwise great house in the 'too-hard' basket. While it is true a decent dose of bravery is needed to restore a heritage-listed house, there is also something magical about peeling back the layers and breathing new life into a tired beauty.

"It's a topic close to my heart, having just completed the restoration of an iconic 1929-built property in Fremantle's West End for my latest venture, World of Renovation – a multi-level retail store where people can come and explore ideas to transform their own homes," World of Renovation chief executive officer Sasha deBretton says.

The development restrictions imposed on heritage properties are there to protect what is worth preserving for future generations, and while they can make the renovating process trickier, heritage-listed homes can still be renovated to suit the way we live today.

Day-to-day maintenance and other small tasks, such as repainting or replacing missing materials, don't usually require development approval if the same colour scheme is applied and the work is done with like-for-like materials.

"If you're planning to change the original fabric of your home, such as re-roofing

or replacing window frames with different materials, you will need development approval," Sasha says.

Regardless of the scope of work, it is always worth calling your local council first to avoid any costly mistakes.

"Knowing your home's story can also help inform the restoration decisions you make," Sasha says.

The charm of an old home is in its character details, so get those ornate ceilings and timber sash windows looking shipshape.

In contrast, contemporary colours and fixtures will help your home's period details to shine. Think playful wallpapers juxtaposed with freshly painted picture rails and cornices and vintage window trims with modern roller blinds that don't hide or swamp any restored features.

"At World of Renovation, we've used simple glass pendant lighting and a palette of mostly soft greys and crisp whites to best highlight the building's stunning art deco features," Sasha says.

Using a simple colour palette can help hide imperfections in an older building, but if it is a feature or quirk worth celebrating, consider helping it stand out with a darker shade or a glossier paint product.

World of Renovation opens Saturday May 13 at 86 High Street in Fremantle.



HALF PAGE VERTICAL AD  
Artwork Size: 126 x 356