

Resene
the paint the professionals use

COLOUR HOME AWARDS

WINNER

great idea

MAKE THE SMALL
KITCHEN SPACE
LOOK BIGGER BY
EXTENDING THE
COLOUR INTO THE
DINING ZONE.





Meet & greet
Arna and Dave Marshall,
Willa, eight, and
Nash, five.

Fortune favours the bold

This year's Resene Colour Home Awards winner had some sleepless nights about her edgy paint colour choice, but it was a champion decision

Text **Caroline Moratti** Photography **Florence Charvin**

The 2022 Resene Colour Awards winner rewrote the rule book when it came to using bold, unapologetic colour without compromise.

Awash in a world of white kitchens, Arna Marshall's fearless use of Resene Black paid off in all the right ways.

Softened by rattan pendant lights and creative wood panelling, the inky kitchen brings a depth of maturity to the new-build. It's as coy as the *Mona Lisa* portrait, which takes pride of place on a wall across from their dining table – a secret smile that comes only from the triumphant use of colour.

Arna was thrilled with the result, after it

gave her more than a few sleepless nights. "It's super edgy and not at all dark because of our big skylights," she says. It's also balanced by the use of Resene Black White in the kitchen. The couple was so fond of the shade that it now features in their dining room and on internal doors too, proving once again you can't have too much of a good thing.

After the thrill of that success, the adventure continued to the children's bedrooms, where colour continued to tug on the heartstrings. Resene Waiouru, a martial olive green, was the winner for daughter Willa's room, while Resene Rusty Nail, a dry lemon-tinged ochre, adds warmth to son Nash's space. "I wanted a



great idea

MAKE A ROOM APPEAR WIDER BY PAINTING A THREE-QUARTER COLOUR-BLOCKED WALL.

Arna added more warmth and character to Nash's bedroom with soft furnishings in different textures.

unisex option so the kids could swap rooms if they wanted to," Arna explains.

The delightful hues complement a multitude of soft furnishing textures and shades, from pastel plaids to woven greys. "I love this deep army green. I think it works really well in Willa's room because it offsets all her pretty pink and pastel linen, so it's a little less girly and a little more edgy," Arna says. The three-quarter colour-blocked style is offset by the Resene Black White upper quarter to define the earthy pigments, elongating the space while still maintaining the cosy trappings of warm colour.

With such a fierce love of design, it's no surprise that Arna and her family are walking away with the coveted title and \$5000 cash prize. "We're over the moon," Arna says, although admits she hadn't given the competition much thought since she was the first finalist. "I was really thrilled and really surprised since all the other entrants were so cool too."

"Every time the new magazine came out, I'd go straight to the back because I knew that was where they were," Arna confesses, "and every time I thought, this could be tough."

Meanwhile, colour continues to define and dominate the Marshall family's domestic life. A large white wall in Arna's media room drives her mad "because it's so boring". Brainstorming is

already underway for a street-artist friend to do a large mural to counteract the blank space. Arna says, "We're thinking pretty seriously about getting him to do something edgy on that wall. You won't see it from the rest of the house, but if you enter that room it'll be a real 'woah' moment."

As for the \$5000 cash prize, Arna has more than a few ideas. "We'd really like to go to Rarotonga, but in saying that, our house is reasonably newish and a portion of it will definitely go towards finishing our landscaping," she laughs. "Plants are so expensive." The dream would be an outdoor courtyard, complete with a pizza oven and built-in barbecue.

The Marshalls have played by the rule book and they advise others to do the same: "If anyone else is thinking about colours and is nervous using colour, just go with your heart and do it because it's only paint. You can change it later," says Arna.

That mentality allowed Arna to break the mould and have fun with the process. "We really enjoyed playing with the colours and choosing, because obviously, as you know with Resene, there's like 50 million choices," she laughs. "Even if you think it's hideous two years down the track, it's quite an inexpensive change to make, so just do it! You know? Be bold."

More Resene colours to try:



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For more colour ideas and inspiration, visit your local Resene ColorShop, or order free colour charts online, resene.co.nz/ordercharts.

Jumping for joy. Nash and Willa are happy about their family being this year's Resene Colour Home Awards winner.



Resene Waiouru on the walls helps to counterbalance the pink and pastel linen.



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ARNA MARSHALL

Resene Black not only makes an impact in the kitchen and dining area, it also looks great on this door.

