



# Award Winning Style

A Master Builder House of the Year Gold Award winning home is a builder's own private family sanctuary.

Words **Charlotte Lane**  
Photography **Kevin Bills**

JUST PRIOR TO TAKING OVER THE **Fowler Homes Manawatu** office, Shane Walker and wife Megan built this quality modern home for themselves. "When we built this house, we wanted to show the type of home we would build for our clients," says Shane. "It was about committing to quality, and our own home sets the standard for the way we build each

and every new house." The home was a true collaboration between the couple, with Shane taking charge of the construction and practical considerations, and Megan enjoying the challenge of decorating the home.

Now that the home is finished, it is hard for the Walkers to choose a favourite room or favourite aspects of the house, although Shane is

An outdoor pergola adds visual strength to the home's exterior, and creates a comfortable outdoor entertaining area. James Hardie Linea weatherboards are painted in colour Dulux Whakaronga and Titan board in Dulux Taihape.





particularly proud of the cathedral ceilings inside. "This was a really important part of the design, and it took a significant amount of steel work to create the look, but it was worth it."

A key part of the home's design is the mono-pitch roof style, which has endowed the dwelling with a very simple, contemporary feel. This type of style creates a very spacious interior for a single level house, and establishes a greater sense of presence for the exterior. The different cladding also makes a statement, with James Hardie Linea and Titan board fixed to the exterior.

The home has vast expanses of glass due to the height of the mono-pitch roof and the high interior ceilings. This allows light and sun to flood the interior, through modern aluminium joinery from **Altherm Window Systems Manawatu**. They supplied their Residential series for the

home, which was colour matched to complement the interior colour palette. Large bi-fold doors open back on two sides of the living room, establishing effortless indoor/outdoor flow, and the fixed and opening windows provide views out to the hills. The bi-fold doors are not just great aesthetically though, they are also very practical, featuring a bottom rolling system to carry the weight of the door on the sill. Pressure-fit glazing also features on the doors as well as the windows, meaning there are no wedge rubbers on the outside of the home.

Megan is well versed at creating modern interiors, having worked on many homes Shane has built before. For their own house, she wanted a neutral yet warm style, which was largely achieved by different strengths of Resene colour Tea adorning the walls. The soft floor coverings were also carefully chosen to work with



**ABOVE** A substantial schist stone pillar, large double doors and sharp design angles create a point of difference at the entrance to the home.

The interior decor is painted with shades of Resene Tea throughout, enhancing the large open-plan living spaces. Space is accentuated by the warm wall tones and the high cathedral ceilings, which were possible due to the height of the mono-pitch roof.



<b>THE SPECS</b>	Manawatu \$300 000 - \$400 000 240 sq m	 3	 5	 3
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the interior colour scheme, and **Midway Flooring Xtra** supplied the carpet selected by Megan. She chose Cornus Tree cut pile carpet which is made from 80% wool and 20% nylon, in a heavy duty finish. This meant the carpet would be hard wearing for many years to come, and the wool/nylon blend would retain its crisp appearance. Colour Slate was selected because it added depth to the interior, without detracting from the home's other features.

"I gave our designer a brief of what we wanted, which was that something classy with great street appeal was a must, and he came up with this fantastic design," says Shane. Reflecting back on the process of designing and building their home, Megan agrees that the design brief has been comfortably achieved. "It's everything we imagined it would be." From the high ceilings to the luxurious bathrooms and kitchen, it is everything they wanted in a home. ■

**ABOVE** The red splashback in the kitchen is made from tiles, and was chosen as the accent colour for the entire home.

**BOTTOM LEFT** Shane made a polished concrete hearth to create additional visual depth to the fireplace.

## Directory

### BUILDER

Fowler Homes Manawatu  
06 355 5279  
[www.fowlerhomes.co.nz](http://www.fowlerhomes.co.nz)

### FLOORING

Midway Flooring Xtra  
06 357 0953  
[www.flooringxtra.co.nz](http://www.flooringxtra.co.nz)

### ROOFING

Pro Roofing  
06 356 7764  
[www.gerardroofs.co.nz](http://www.gerardroofs.co.nz)

### WINDOWS & DOORS

Altherm Window Systems  
Manawatu  
06 358 4641  
[www.altherm.co.nz](http://www.altherm.co.nz)