



THE KEY, UNIFYING CONCEPT  
BEHIND THIS DESIGN IS UNDOUBTEDLY  
THE POOL AND SPA



other – busy landscapes are not tranquil or relaxing. What’s most important is to create an environment that’s inviting and calming – somewhere the occupants enjoy being in.”

For Mark, Tim and Stephen to fulfil their clients’ vision, there were three restrictions in particular that had to be overcome – the garden had a footprint that was small relative to the owners’ ideas (190 square metres); the site had a slope with a one metre fall; and there was an easement on the rear of the property.

The slope was utilised to its best advantage by creating levels within the space, which immediately added interest without intruding on the overall serenity. That serenity is achieved in part by the muted tones around the pool and spa in the sawn bluestone paving and steps, and the dry-stone wall feature at the southern end of the pool. The space cascades from the pavilion to the spa at floor level, which then gently tumbles down a blue tiled wall to the pool.

The pavilion has an expansive opening to the decking and spa. It provides a sanctuary from the heat, and stackable glass doors can

close it off from the extremes of weather when necessary while still retaining a lovely open feel. The tranquillity of the tones is continued with muted external finishes and the pavilion incorporates the same dry-stone walling as on the feature wall to the pool, which creates a blended look between the areas.

The biggest problem for Tim and Stephen was the size of their canvas; it was a real challenge to satisfy every one of the owners’ dreams. By locating the 12,000 litres of water storage under the decking, the team solved a space problem as well as an aesthetic issue in one fell swoop. More ingenious still was installing the pool cover in the floor of the pool and the spa cover under the deck – this was possible as both are automated.

The water tanks and pool covers play an important environmental role too. The tanks provide water for topping up pool water levels and irrigating the garden, and the covers minimise water evaporation and keep the water cleaner for longer, which in turn means using a smaller volume of pool chemicals.

Having an easement on your property,

as was the case here, doesn’t have to mean your land becomes a no-go zone; however, Tim and Stephen did have to apply for additional building permits and factor in more engineering requirements.

At the end of a tough design, Tim summed up with what I feel best reflects the success of the project: “Our favourite element of the design was the clever use of space for a small garden and the way the outdoor pavilion integrates with the pool and spa.” A simple way to describe the execution of turning a paradox into a paradise.

## CONTACTS

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