A house of retreat and stillness uses a simple but effective palette on a tight suburban site. Architect Henri Sayes reckons the site on which he built a house for his family was one of the toughest he's worked on, but thanks to a few deft moves, the place has an elegant sense of retreat to it.

The brick house's closed exterior contrasts beautifully with its sensuously curving interior, painted throughout in Resene Double Alabaster to create an ethereal, calm space. Resene Woodsman Charred Black, meanwhile, marks out dramatic angled soffits and walls of stained timber in the entry: proof that the simplest combinations can be the most effective.

Colours are



Woodsman Charred Black

Resene

Resene

Double Alabaster