

Design in colour

Modernism, colour and smart thinking collide in a climate-resilient house.

Architect Dean Cowell's own home in Ōtautahi Christchurch is optimistic and practical. Designed to withstand both earthquake events and future flooding, the house is elevated above the floodplain with a palette inspired by 1960s modernist architecture and the coastal environment.

Outside, steelwork is in a crisp shade of Resene Dusky Sound, while the steel staircase that leads to the front door is clearly marked in the grey-green of Resene Bach. Inside, ceilings and roof beams are in Resene Wan White, while timber features – including rimu door jams and plywood linings – are finished with Resene Qristal Clear. Black comes in via doors in Resene Bokara Grey and black MDF skirtings in Resene Qristal Clear. Cabinetry doors, meanwhile, are highlighted with Resene Foggy Grey, Resene Napa and a wonderful pop of Resene Glorious – which creates a glowing pink hue at night.

