

Text by Laura Barry, Alaana Cobon, Deborah Grant, Lisa Green, John McDonald, Tamarah Pienaar, Rosa Senese, Elizabeth Wilson. Thanks to this year's judges: Dana Tomic-Hughes, Yellowtrace; Lucy Sutherland, colour expert; Nancy Everingham, RMIT; Janey Ridge, Warwick Fabrics; Kate Nixon, H&G houses/interiors editor; Lisa Green, H&G editor in chief.

# TOP 5 rooms

The elements that make a winning room are many and varied. After all, everyone's idea of a place they'd like to spend time in is different. *H&G's* 19th annual showcase rounds up new projects from homes all over the country, revealing current wants and whims. Submitted by Australia's top interior designers and architects, the greatest number of entries ever – all amazing in their own way – were eagerly evaluated. Turn the page to enjoy our judges' picks. You can vote for your own favourites online, and read about all the winners next month.

*Produced by Lisa Green & John McDonald*

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*'This design maximises the connection to the yard, tennis court and outdoor lifestyle.'*

*Shaun Lockyer, architect*

**DESIGN NOTES** Indoor/outdoor furniture: 'Mac' sofa and armchair, 'Fred' coffee table and 'Lionel' chairs, Jordan. Smeg barbecue. Lighting, Inlite. Concrete dining table poured in situ. Sandblasted off-form concrete (walls). Silver travertine floor tiles. Rosewood doors and windows, Architectural Timber Joinery. Custom fireplace and bench.



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**MAXIMUM CONNECTION**

**39** Inspired by Brazilian Modernism, this outdoor room attached to a new Brisbane home drinks in its subtropical surrounds. The home design, and in particular this room, explores the idea of transparency between living spaces and supports the owners' agenda to encourage their three boys to spend time outside. Built from natural materials left raw, and equipped with all-weather furniture, a kitchen and fireplace, the outdoor room is a world of its own. "This is our special place where friends and family come together," says the owner. "It sets up an acreage lifestyle within the inner city." ▶

Styling by Kate Nixon. Photographs by Murek Harmon.