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personal touch

How to create a home that tells your story



Alisa's kids' room secrets

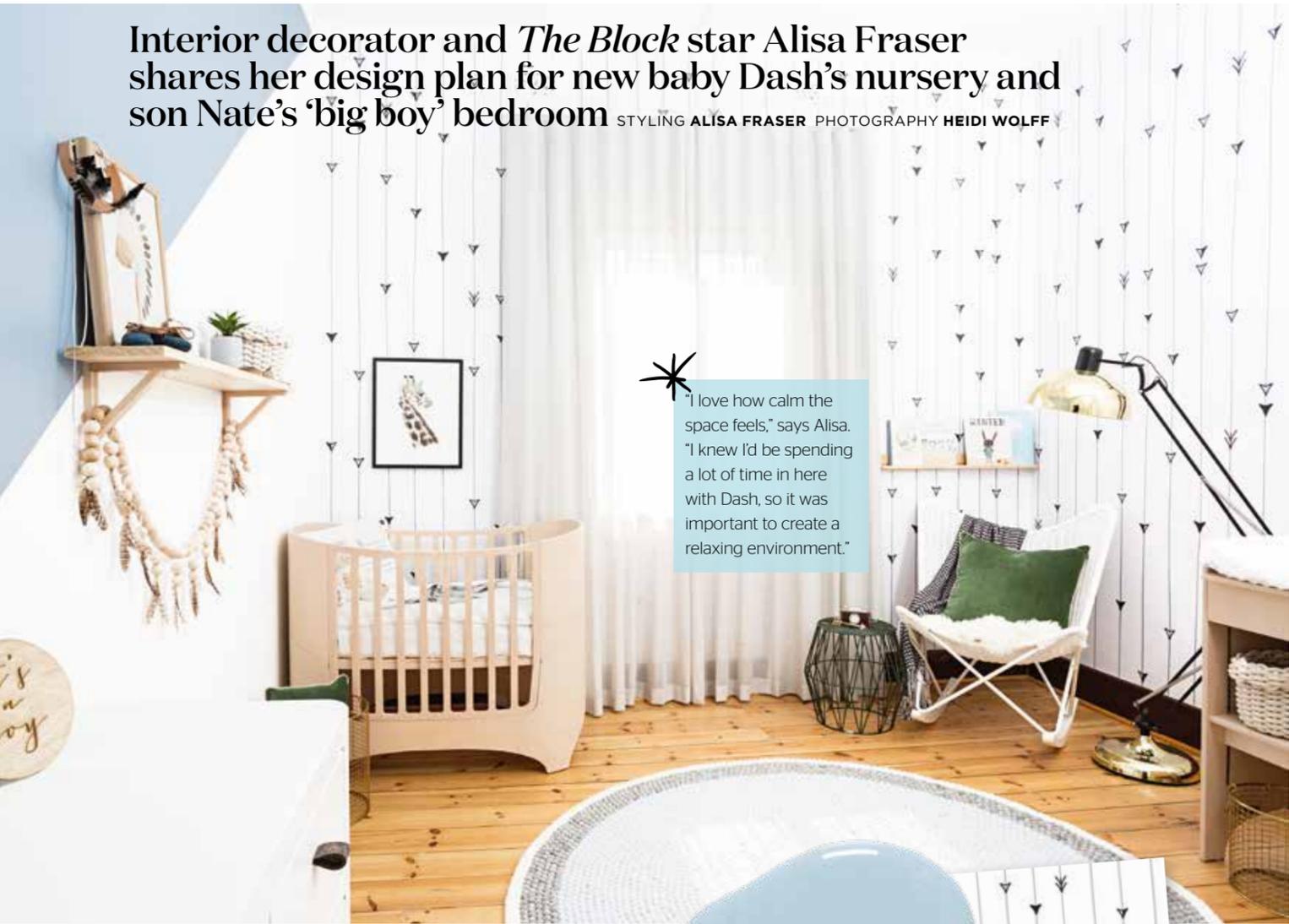


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sweet dreams

Interior decorator and *The Block* star Alisa Fraser shares her design plan for new baby Dash's nursery and son Nate's 'big boy' bedroom STYLING ALISA FRASER PHOTOGRAPHY HEIDI WOLFF



* "I love how calm the space feels," says Alisa. "I knew I'd be spending a lot of time in here with Dash, so it was important to create a relaxing environment."

step 1 Alisa took her time refining the plan, and discussed her ideas with sister and design partner Lysandra. "I've seen a lot of nurseries that look the same," says Alisa, "so I wanted something that wasn't stock-standard."
step 2 A key decision was the wall treatments. It helped that Alisa was in the middle of collaborating on a wallpaper range. "I decided to use wallpaper on two walls and create a geometric paint feature on another. The wallpaper is self-adhesive so my husband was able to put it up himself. Bonus!"
step 3 "After trying lots of swatches, I settled on the perfect not-too-pastel blue for the paint feature," says Alisa. "After choosing the cot and change table in pale timber, I picked the giraffe print and pulled out a mustard colour from that. Along with a mossy green, that felt like enough colour for a nursery."
step 4 "I used sheer curtains, a felt rug, cushions and a throw to soften the space and make it feel inviting," says Alisa. 
 For more on Alisa's work, visit alisaandlyandra.com.au.

'Interior Expressions' low sheen acrylic paint in Sorcerer, \$38.95/1L, Haymes Paint, haymespaint.com.au.

'Interior Expressions' low sheen acrylic paint in Modesty White, \$38.95/1L, Haymes Paint, as before.

'A New Beginning' wallpaper, \$88/sqm, Grafico, grafico.wallcoverings.com.au.



PHOTOGRAPHY: (PORTRAIT) DOMINIQUE CHERRY OF DEC CREATIVES; ARTWORK: GIRAFFE PRINT BY NAVANA ILIFFE, DOWN THAT LITTLE LANE.COM AU/THE WILD WOODS; INDIAN HEADDRESS BY BILLY & SCARLET, BILLYANDSCARLET.COM; STAG ARTWORK: UNITED ARTWORKS; UNITEDARTWORKS.NET; PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

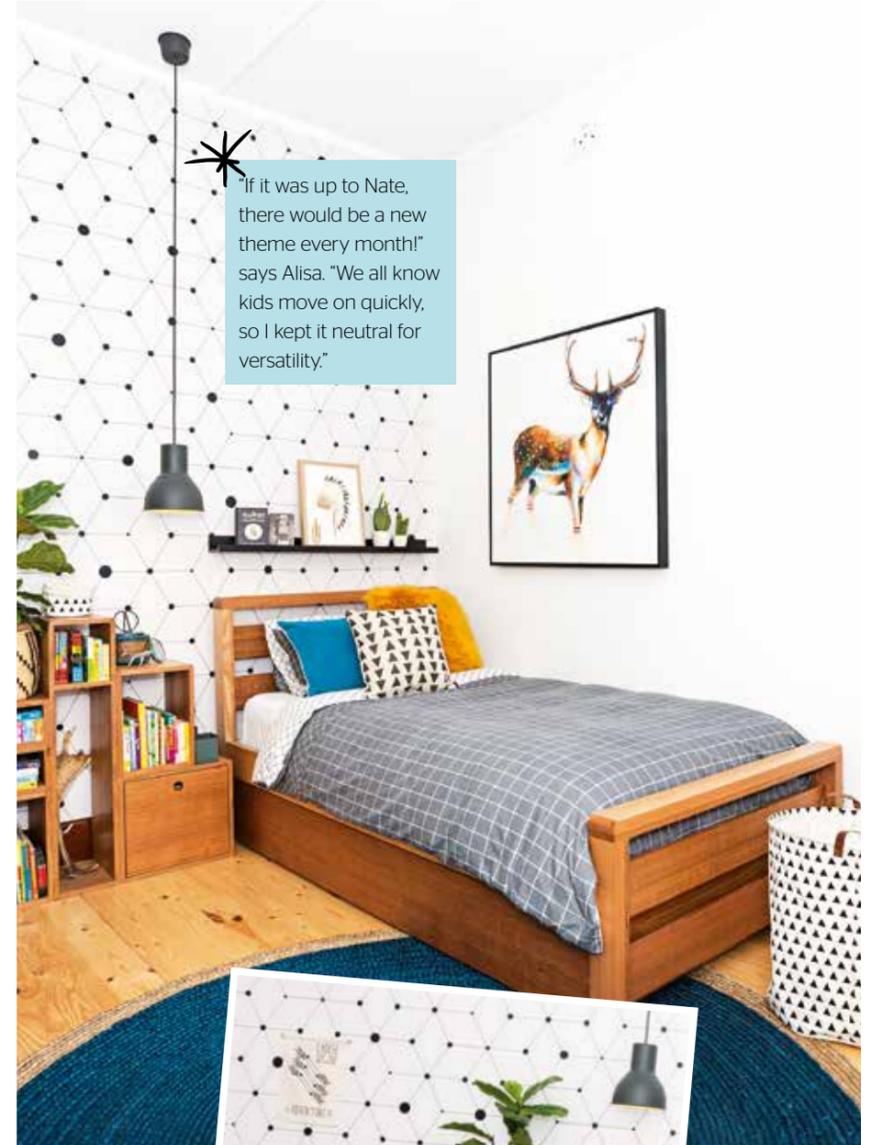


Alisa's practical tips on nursery design

- + **Take into account power-point locations** when positioning furniture. You may need a baby monitor near your cot and a lamp near your easy chair for late-night nursing.
- + **Include a shelf or display spot** for all those sentimental keepsakes, gifts and milestone cards.
- + **Storage is so important** when you have kids. Dash's nursery has a built-in wardrobe but I also added a chest of drawers and wall shelves - you can never have enough!

designed to last

For her preschooler, Nate, Alisa changed up the palette. "I wanted the design to last for a few years, so I used darker colours - navy and grey rather than baby blues," she says.



* "If it was up to Nate, there would be a new theme every month!" says Alisa. "We all know kids move on quickly, so I kept it neutral for versatility."

* "My special time with Nate is reading with him at the end of the day," says Alisa, "so I wanted to make a feature of his books."