

your **home** & garden

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**THE \$250
LIVING ROOM
MAKEOVER**



**MAKE YOUR
HOME A BUYER'S
dream**

**EASY
GARDEN
COLOUR**

**HOST A LAZY
ITALIAN LUNCH**

Stunning
FAMILY SPACES



This photo: A deep shagpile rug in the centre of this living area is sensuous and fun. The globe light is a retro touch.
Below, right: Beech timber walls and cedar blinds create a natural feel.



SUNKEN AND SENSUOUS

This Nelson solar-heated home has retro touches designed to add fun and impact, says David Killick

Most living areas are rectangular, but not in Nelson architect Helen Richards' house. Richards favoured a curving shape – partly for aesthetics, partly to maximize the view.

The other interesting aspect is the sunken space for the sofas and coffee table. Steps and a planter box separate this space from the kitchen and dining area.

Bi-folding doors open to a deck facing north west. There are no curtains. Cedar blinds can be lowered or raised, opened or closed, to achieve the desired level of shade or light. Sun streams in, creating ever-changing patterns. Although the walls

are white, they change colour throughout the day. "It's a dynamic environment," says Richards.

Concrete floors and a concrete wall running through the spine of the house add thermal mass, storing and regulating the sun's heat.

A deep shagpile rug in the centre of the living area is sensuous and fun. The globe light is a retro touch. The coffee table is ash veneer and the lounge suite is covered in a micro-suede fabric. Two cube-shaped seats provide handy additional seating for guests.

