



SCOTT BROWN LANDSCAPE & POOL DESIGN

A COMPLETE PACKAGE

Space for the family pet, an outdoor kitchen, play area for football and soccer ... this backyard has the lot

A "staggered" or "stepped" design of what otherwise would have been a simple rectangular pool creates interest and allows the swimming pool, paving and surrounds to blend into an asymmetrical backyard – the rear boundary is not square with the side fence or the house.

"The original site was what I used to describe as 'our desert,'" laugh owners Joe and Silvana. "It was hard, dry soil and had the brick shed in the rear right corner of the block (now our change room and pool equipment area). It had a barren feel, and with no trees around our fence line it always felt as if we didn't have any privacy. We did have a good view of the neighbouring sheds, though."

Scott Brown, who has been in the business for more than 18 years and works on projects throughout Victoria and interstate, says his clients wanted a fully functional outdoor area which also had visual appeal.

"I remember telling Scott that I wanted the view from every window to be pleasant, which I think has been achieved. I didn't want the pool to be the first thing you would see, and I wanted the backyard to be set up in a way that we could entertain outside, have the kids splashing around in the pool, yet be able to see them clearly," says Silvana.

Their active children needed a backyard with plantings that would be resilient enough so they could play soccer, football, run around and not worry about damaging anything.

"I also wanted to have everything I needed outside, so that on a hot summer's day we wouldn't have to go back into the house for anything. Hence, having the barbecue, fridge, sink and pool change room complete with shower, toilet and vanity – all outdoors – is perfect."

The family's dog Max was a key figure in the equation, and Scott suggested a "dog run" be incorporated seamlessly into the outdoor area.

"I still remember Scott drew our dog into the first design. I think Scott understood what we wanted from our first meeting and didn't take too long at all to have it drawn out for us. What we imagined our backyard was going to look like was exactly how it turned out in the end."

Joe and Silvana now have an outdoor area that's easy to maintain, great for entertaining and can handle children and pets running around and still be a very attractive space.

"Scott and his staff were always available when we had dilemmas or questions, and I am sure this is why the project ran as smoothly as it did. In the end, it was no way near as overwhelming as we thought it would be," the couple says.

"We were and still are thrilled to see how the pool looks. It is pleasing to the eye, and many summer afternoons we have just sat by the pool with a drink and unwound merely by looking at it." ■



NEED TO KNOW

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POOL/LANDSCAPE DESIGNER Scott Brown

CONSTRUCTION Reinforced concrete

INTERIOR FINISH Ezarri mosaic tiles (dark-mottled blue)

SURROUNDS Riverstone concrete pavers (buff)

FENCING Semi-frameless glass

POOL SIZE 10m x 4.5m

SPA SIZE 2.5m x 1.5m

POOL COVER Daisy 8 Cover series

WATER TANKS

2 x 1200 litre Waterwall rainwater storage systems

1 x 1000 litre clear, square tank (hidden with pool pump equipment behind pool change room)

1 x 4500 litre round rainwater tank behind courtyard wall

PHOTOGRAPHY

Patrick Redmond for Scott Brown Landscape Design