

# THE UNIQUE DETAILS

Think in detail about the way you live. What are your rituals and habits? These are all the things that make your family life unique and wonderful. They are also things that will elevate your house into a home that will give you daily delight. They could be how you currently live or how you hope your new house will allow you to live. Remember, don't just think about the inside spaces of your home – the outside is lived in too.

## The what not the how:

A brief is not a list of numbers – 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 200 square meters, 1 carpark. One of the best pieces of advice I can give you about putting together a brief is to think about WHAT you want from your home, not HOW you want it done. The HOW is only arrived at by a thoughtful and wholistic conceptual overview of the project. Each requirement has to be unpacked and balanced against all the other brief requests, existing house, site conditions, planning restraints, design language and budget...that is why it's important to have a professional design your home.

NEXT DOOR HOUSE 1



For example:

What do you enjoy doing as a family?

- You like cooking together and your kitchen will need to accommodate 6 people at once.
- You all ride bikes and need a space that can comfortably accommodate multiple bikes, helmets and smelly shoes but does not clutter the front entry.

These define your aspirations and functional requirements without locking you into a layout or design that hasn't gone through a rigorous and thorough design process as part of the whole house.

What are your weekends like?

---

What is the first thing you do when you get up in the morning?

---

What is the first thing you do when you get home after work and school?

---

What are the last things you do as you get ready to leave the house?

---

Continues over page...

What makes you feel recharged when you are at home?

---

When or where are the best conversations had between different members of your family?

---

Where do the people in your family go to think or be alone?

---

What do you enjoy doing together as a family?

---

We hope that this has you thinking about all the ways your family and home life are special. There are so many things we all do unconsciously to operate as a family unit, it can be nice to reflect on them once in a while. Keep thinking nice thoughts about your family and we'll see you next week.

Don't forget that we always love hearing about projects, no matter what stage you are at. You can book in for a free phone or video chat with Mairead.

[Click here to get in touch.](#)