

RIGHT The couple reupholstered this Freeform sofa and ottoman by Isamu Noguchi with Bespoke textured velvet by Catherine Martin for Mokum from James Dunlop Textiles. **BELOW** This scene includes an ink drawing by Dominique Marriott on the wall, and on the heirloom half-moon table, a vase Jess made at a workshop run by designer Phil Cuttance sits alongside a Night Owl table lamp by Fritz Hansen from Nordic Nest, a print by Fritz Hansen from Nordic Nest, a print by Carlo Zinelli and a candleholder by Boo Ceramics.



off her godparents in Northland, some sheets of brass were picked up from the demolition of a downtown bar, and furniture found on Trade Me was reinvented with some savvy DIY. Such smart workarounds meant the pair could save where they needed to in order to splurge on the more fundamental fittings and finishes.

Selecting products for their timeless attributes, Jess (who has been documenting their renovation journey on Instagram at @hallweneed) says, “Once I started bringing our materials together, I stayed away from social media. It was a very conscious uncoupling, because it became important to distance myself from what other people were doing and find my own voice. Unlike at the beginning of the project, when I was sending poor Sam a Pinterest board every day, I stopped wanting to look online because I felt like that phase of my inspiration had ended. The next part was just about how I felt when

I looked at products together in real life. I think if you embrace that evolution and let go of the fear of doing something wrong, you’re more likely to enjoy the process and actually create something interesting that you love.”

Now that they’ve settled in, she says, “Having this place as a base is such a privilege. My mum comes up to stay from Christchurch, Warren’s dad is often over from Great Barrier Island and we’ve currently got Warren’s brother living with us. Our neighbours are always dropping by too, and it’s so satisfying to share this space with our community.”

Jess and Warren are keen to see stage two through to completion down the track. After four years on the tools to get to where they are today, though, they’re happy to measure the next steps in decades. For now, they have all they need. 🏡

To find out more about Jess and Warren’s colour and material choices, flip to page 126.

home — style

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