

# CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT

Edited by Tony Magnusson



DESIGNER



## Shareen Joel

From toolkits and laptops, to lamps and lip plumpers, it takes all things to get this designer's creative juices flowing - but it's family that keeps her grounded

Shareen Joel finds beauty in the most unlikely places. Whether it's manhole covers or a scrap of paper, she's constantly squirreling away ideas. As one of Australia's most in-demand designers - with a CV that spans cars, homewares, furniture and housing developments - the 37-year-old mother-of-two demands that the things in her life be beautiful as well as functional. The Art Deco home in Melbourne she shares with her husband, Dean, and two children is filled with gorgeous objects and design classics. Not that Joel is a complete slave to good taste. Her ultimate relaxation? "Vegging out in front of reality TV." **JANE HUTCHINSON**

- 1. DESIGN BOOKS** I've been collecting these since I was at uni. I must have nearly 100 now. I refer to them all the time when I'm working on projects.
- 2. NECKLACE** This is designed by Vivianna Torun Bülow-Hübe for Georg Jensen. I love its simplicity and balance. I met her when I went to Sweden and she said, "I'm so glad I met you; there are no coincidences."
- 3. LAPTOP** I keep all my work on it - emails, family photos, everything. I hadn't realised how dependent I was until my last one died recently.
- 4. MY KIDS** Sasha is eight and Nicholas is six and, naturally, I think they're divine. I devote two days a week to doing 'mum' things with them, such as taking them to ballet or football.
- 5. BOWL** This was designed by renowned English designer John Pawson and it's counterbalanced by fine sand inside. It's just so clever.
- 6. INSPIRATION BOX** I collect postcards, patterns, art invitations, labels, stickers - anything that I love

- goes in the box. I'm up to my fourth or fifth box now, and I constantly refer to them for inspiration.
- 7. RADIO** This sits on my desk at work. It's a Lexon design and I love it because it looks exactly like what it does - it's design stripped back to its purpose and function.
- 8. FRESH FLOWERS AND VASE** I just love fresh flowers, especially spring flowers. This Alvar Aalto vase is a design classic. I've had it for ages - my tastes haven't really changed over the years.
- 9. JAPANESE TOOLKIT** I bought this when I was working at a design shop. I used it for uni, but I loved the design, too. It's been all around the world with me.
- 10. BLOOM LIP PLUMP** Natalie Bloom is a friend and she got me hooked a couple of years ago. I'm not a big make-up person; I just use moisturiser and this.
- 11. DESK LAMP** This Artemide Tolomeo lamp - which I use at work - is beautiful. I have a thing for lamps and chairs. I'd buy a million of them if I could.

