

HEIGHT advantage

Balcony or roof terrace, any outdoor space that reaches for the sky brings with it a raft of exciting design opportunities





A top-floor balcony garden poses many of the same challenges — and offers many of the same benefits — as a roof terrace. In both instances, there are practical issues to tackle but there are also similar pleasures to be enjoyed.

Balconies and roof terraces give you the chance to view your surroundings from a different vantage point than your average ground dweller and unless your apartment faces another building, you will be able to revel in the sense of freedom that comes with being closer to the sky.

Aspect is typically more of a concern with a balcony, as is size. However, something a balcony can offer that many roof gardens can't is an immediate and seamless connection to the interior living spaces and the sense

of intimacy that comes with having part of the space bordered by walls, behind and sometimes to the side.

In this balcony garden, soaring above the Sydney suburb of Darlinghurst, Adam Robinson of Adam Robinson Design has taken all of these elements into consideration and designed a space that feels cosy and private.

From the interior living space, you step out into a small lounge area featuring contemporary timber furniture that reflects the sophisticated style of the apartment's decor. This is where you can sit and enjoy a coffee with friends or lie back on the day bed and just watch the clouds roll by. A series of mirrors was placed upon one of the walls that embrace this space, reflecting the wider view and making the space feel bigger.



Balconies and roof terraces give you the chance to view your surroundings from a different and very special vantage point



Around the corner from the lounge zone, making the most of a rather narrow space, is an intimate dining area with a timber breakfast bar and matching stools. A timber screen keeps the dining area private from the adjoining balcony and along the base of the screen, there are three large square planters, each home to a spectacular cactus.

Potted plants appear throughout the space. All water-wise and all chosen for their striking foliage, the plants are in pots of various sizes. Pots and plants alike add life to the neutral tonal palette used for the overall space and give the garden its final decorative flourish.

Garden design
Adam Robinson Design
adamrobinsondesign.com



OPENER Constructed by the Quercus Gardens' team, this modern balcony provides places for dining and relaxing.

ABOVE The hardwood used to build the screen references the timber used in the construction of the breakfast bar.

ABOVE LEFT The configuration of the exterior walls of the apartment enabled the creation of a cosy seating area.

ABOVE RIGHT The rounded shapes of the cactus plants stand out against the straight lines of the timber screening.

RIGHT Plants, whether in big statement pots or small containers, soften the look of the space and add textural interest.