

# FAMILY FIRST

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PHOTOGRAPHY BRONWYN GREEFF





**RIGHT:** The Vertex Single Sided Stylus Fireplace by Syam will keep your home warm and cosy this winter. This state-of-the-art fireplace is environmentally friendly, boasting a biofuel or gas option. It is super-stylish – fireglass and pebbles create an elegant ambience. What’s more inviting than a warm, toasty fireplace, where you can kick back and unwind?

**BELOW:** In the main bedroom, large windows fill the room with natural light. The owners’ previous residence was icy during winter, and this time around they wanted to ensure that their home was well insulated. As a solution, they commissioned Teva to install energy-efficient uPVC windows and doors throughout the house. Now, the house is warm and snugly in winter. In addition, the home owners opted for double-glazed windows to shield them from the glaring Highveld sun throughout the year.

TEVA WINDOWS 0861 838 272

SYAM 0861 792 672



“Our home was built for family living, and this informed every choice we made in terms of design and architecture,” says the owner of this country-style home in a Midrand estate.

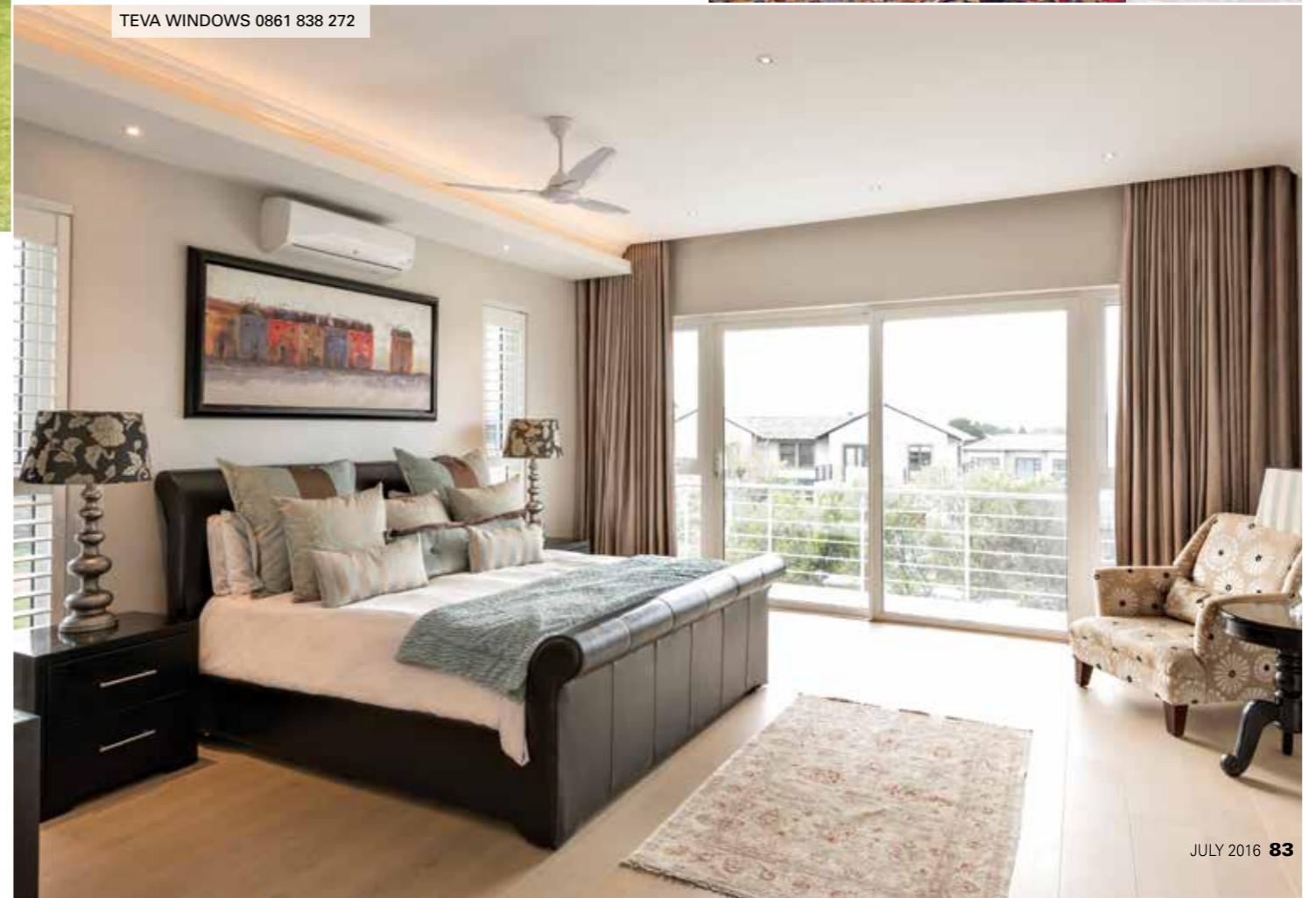
The close-knit family of five are real homebodies who like nothing more than spending quality time together. Four-legged family members include two cats and two newly acquired puppies.

Although the home is a masterclass in family-focused design, there is nothing lacking in the style department. The architecture reflects the owners’ love of modern-country design. Stone, exposed brick, wood and glass create an eclectic farm-style look that is both strikingly contemporary and homely.

“Our brief to the architect was a well-designed, spacious and functional family home. We also wanted the house to be low-maintenance – hence the brick and stone cladding,” says the owner.

A spiral staircase with stylish twists and turns is the home’s most striking design statement. “This is something that I’ve always dreamt of,” says the owner, adding that it gives the double-volume area a unique character.

Another showstopper is the super-sleek kitchen. “The architectural layout lent itself to the kitchen design. We love a central island, as it reaffirms the idea that the kitchen is the heart of our home.





SYAM 0861 792 672



LIFESTYLE CERAMICS 016 455 1909

**ABOVE:** Syam's Elite 10 is indeed elite, providing 10 burners, a rotisserie kit and a smoker box for the serious braai man. Clearly this BBQ states: go big or go home! Offering a range of cooking solutions, fully fitted with all modern conveniences in one console, allows for many pleasurable braai and cooking experiences.

**RIGHT:** The main bathroom is like a home spa, where the owners can relax and reboot. The couple commissioned Lifestyle Ceramics to create a serene, private refuge that was minimalist, yet stylish. Perched on a higher level, a beautiful Victoria and Albert bath stands out in the uncluttered space, while white polished porcelain tiles add to the sense of calm. As the owners didn't want the space to look bland, Lifestyle Ceramics was asked to add mosaic tiles for a touch of colour and interest.

What's better than huddling around the island while dinner is being prepared?"

The owners wanted the architectural elements of the home to enjoy centre stage, so they opted for minimalist, understated interiors. "We prefer an open, uncluttered look and feel, which informed our choice of a calm, muted colour palette." The couple is still in the process of decorating, so, to date, their approach has been to mix old and new. "This is an ongoing journey which we hope to complete in the near future," says the owner.

Aesthetics aside, comfort was top of mind. "While planning our home, the main focus was to create a comfortable open-plan space that our rather big family could enjoy," says the owner.

The lounge is where the family gathers to chill out and relax. The house is perfectly suited to indoor-outdoor living, which the kids especially enjoy. The stacking doors open up to the patio and pool, serving as a clever link between indoors and outdoors.



**RIGHT:** For continuity, Lifestyle Ceramics used similar finishes and sanitaryware in both bathrooms. The second bathroom has the same look and feel as the main bathroom, albeit in a more child-friendly configuration. Although the space is streamlined and uncluttered, a mosaic-clad feature wall introduces an element of fun to an otherwise muted palette. Prior to installation, Lifestyle Ceramics, which specialises in sanitaryware, tiles and mosaics, created a three-dimensional design of the proposed schemes, so that the clients could visualise the final result.

**BELOW:** The spiral staircase is one of the most striking architectural features of the home. An interesting mix of materials, textures and hues reflects the owners' eclectic style. To complement the curvy design and tactile undertone of the staircase, the owners selected Corobrik's Roan Satin bricks for a textural focal wall.



LIFESTYLE CERAMICS 016 455 1909



COROBRIK 031 560 3111

This ensures that the kids roam free, pups in tow.

"Life is hectic, but there's never a dull moment, which keeps life interesting," says the owner. 🏠

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