

# HOUSE RULES 7

**Coming soon**

# HOUSE RULES 2017

Australia's biggest renovation show returns in 2017. Now in its fifth year, HOUSE RULES continues to break new territory with even bigger challenges and designs.

This year's ride of a lifetime will see six new teams gambling with the most important possession in their lives: their home.

To win the ultimate prize, they will have to completely renovate six houses in only six weeks.

Together, the teams will travel the country, hand over the keys to their homes and leave their opposition to transform every room in their house.

Guided by just five HOUSE RULES, the teams will each be given a designated zone in the house.

They must draw on all their creative talents, determination and strategy to produce breathtaking reveals that impress not only the home owners but the judges too.

Host Johanna Griggs returns with judge Wendy Moore, who will critique this year's homes alongside two new judges, including international design style star Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen and acclaimed Australian architect and builder Drew Heath.

With only one week to completely transform each home, the teams will need all the help they can get.

Back to guide them, and help them decipher the HOUSE RULES, is interior designer Carolyn Burns-McCrave.

All six teams will walk away with a completely renovated interior of their home.

The final two teams left standing have their home completely renovated from top to bottom, inside and out, and will face-off in an epic Grand Final for a \$200,000 cash prize.

## **The six teams vying for the 2017 crown are:**

**QUEENSLAND / Aaron & Daniella**

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA / Kate & Harry**

**TASMANIA / Sean & Ella**

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA / Andrew & Jono**

**VICTORIA / Fiona & Nicole**

**NEW SOUTH WALES / Troy & Bec**

HOUSE RULES was a ratings smash in 2016, averaging more than 1.57 million combined viewers across Australia. More than two million people tuned in to see Queensland twins Luke and Cody win and realise their dream of living mortgage free.

## **HOUSE RULES HALL OF FAME**

2016 - Luke & Cody, QLD

2015 - Steve & Tiana, NSW

2014 - Adam & Lisa, VIC

2013 - Carly & Leighton, SA

 @HouseRuleson7  @houseruleson7

For more information, go to the show's official website:

[yahoo7.com.au/houserules](http://yahoo7.com.au/houserules)

**HOUSE  
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# Aaron & Daniella

## Queensland



**Gold Coast glamour couple Aaron and Daniella might be picture perfect but their home is far from it.**

Their property has zero street appeal with a cracked yellow fence dominating the front yard. The interior is just as grim with its dark and dingy layout, green-hued kitchen and salmon coloured bathroom.

"There's no warm, welcoming feeling at all," Daniella, 38, says. "That's not really our personality. We're bright, bubbly and positive people."

Renovating for them wasn't an option due to costs.

Thankfully, their dream renovation will be fast-tracked now thanks to HOUSE RULES. But it means leaving behind their two children Jaxon, three, and Brooklyn, who turns one in June.

"Leaving both kids is difficult," Aaron says.

Daniella adds: "You want the best for them so that's what keeps driving us every day!"

Aaron, 31, is a carpenter and has extensive experience with commercial, residential and high rise construction.

He'll be leaning on Daniella to be their creative weapon.

As a dancer, she designs costumes which will help when it comes to pairing colours, patterns and fabrics. "I love styling and fashion," she says. "My brain never stops. It's always ticking over."

### STRENGTHS

**AARON:** "We have complementary skill sets. I'll be very good at running the site team but I'm very weak when it comes to design."

**DANIELLA:** "I love Aaron's positive energy and that feeds off me a lot."

### WEAKNESSES

**AARON:** "I might be a little over confident at times."

**DANIELLA:** "Aaron can be impatient with me sometimes. If it's something I don't quite understand and to him it's an easy question, he can snap."

### RENOVATION EXPERIENCE

**AARON:** "As a carpenter, I've got a fair bit of experience. Not only house frames and fit outs, but I've been a supervisor and project manager. All that sort of stuff adds up."

**DANIELLA:** "As for me I have none. I like fashion and design. So I guess we'll complement each other."

#AaronDaniella

**HOUSE  
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# Kate & Harry

## South Australia



**Kate and Harry live in the perfect Adelaide location; close to the beach, park, cafes and schools.**

But their home, bought in 2015, has come at a hefty price. Buying in a prime location has meant having to live in a half a house!

Previous owners had subdivided the property and built their dream house on one side of the block but the other half is ready for the wrecking ball.

“As soon as we moved in, we thought, ‘Holy, moly! We don’t have enough money to renovate,’” Kate, 28, says.

Harry, who turns 32 in May, may be a carpenter but he knew their dream renovation was beyond them. “Financially, we wouldn’t have been able to do it,” he says. “So it’s amazing being on the show; we feel like we’ve won the lottery!”

Getting married isn’t a priority for the pair, who met ten years ago and have a one-year-old son, Xavier.

Turning their ramshackle house into a functional family home is their number one focus.

“We definitely want another child, but we just don’t have the room,” Kate says.

Harry adds: “We want a big family so the house has to be grand and spacious. I’ve got lofty ambitions for the location. We want to be there forever.”

### STRENGTHS

**KATE:** “We think our strengths will be our positive, hard working attitude and we’ll get along well with everyone. We’re young and fit and that will hold us in good stead.”

**HARRY:** “We love having a good time. Even in a bad situation, we’ll make the most of it.”

### WEAKNESSES

**KATE:** “I think being away from our son. That will be hard.”

**HARRY:** “I get a little bit fiery occasionally.”

### RENOVATION EXPERIENCE

**KATE:** “I’m hoping I bring the style part but I’m happy to get in and get my hands dirty. I just need to be told what to do.”

**HARRY:** “Being a carpenter is definitely a massive advantage. I’ve got an eye for the building side of things. And a little bit of an eye for design.”

#KateHarry

**HOUSE  
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# Sean & Ella

## Tasmania



**Paramedics Sean and Ella might be the first ones you call in an emergency but it's a different story on a building site.**

The 24-year-olds, who have been together since they were 15, have limited renovating experience. But what they lack in skills, they make up for in enthusiasm.

"We're pretty excited to represent Tassie this year," Sean says. "We're both really motivated to give it a good crack."

2016 was a big year for the pair who bought their first home in April before getting engaged in Venice in July. "I wasn't expecting it because we're so young and we'd just bought a house," Ella says.

Despite breathtaking views of Hobart, their home hasn't been touched since its construction in the 1960s. "It needs a lot of work," Ella says. "I hate everything about it. The décor is ugly. We have a brown and orange kitchen and moss green bathroom."

Sean adds: "We bought the house as a renovator. So now to have the opportunity to have it done for us, it's amazing!"

### STRENGTHS

**SEAN:** "With our job, we get thrown into new and different situations every day that you're not prepared for. We can't prepare for most things and that will be an advantage in the competition as the whole renovation is going to be new to us."

**ELLA:** "Also being together for a long time and being young will be a plus. We've been together for a huge chunk of our lives. I think that is really important. We understand how each other works and what the other person needs."

### WEAKNESSES

**SEAN:** "Our lack of experience with renovation."

**ELLA:** "We haven't renovated 10 houses. We haven't moved house 10 times. We don't know all the ins and outs of life so I think being young will be a weakness."

### RENOVATION EXPERIENCE

**SEAN:** "Minimal to none."

**ELLA:** "We don't have much experience at all. We've done a few cosmetic touches to our house but that's it."

#SeanElla

**HOUSE  
RULES**

# Andrew & Jono

Western  
Australia



Twinning was a winning formula last year on **HOUSE RULES** with Queensland brothers Luke and Cody taking out the title.

Identical twins Andrew and Jono, 27, are hoping to emulate their success. "We're proud West Australians and determined to win," says Jono, who is 13 minutes younger than Andrew.

They bought their home in Mandurah, south of Perth, in 2011 after their mum hinted it was time to leave the nest.

It's incredibly dated and in desperate need of a makeover. But turning drab into fab hasn't been easy. "We've done a few minor renovations but we didn't have the money to do it all," Andrew says.

The brothers have an unbreakable bond, sharing the same friends and interests. "We are close," Andrew says. "Growing up, we did everything together."

Seeing double could spell trouble for their competitors. "At school, we'd swap places," Andrew, a community AFL coordinator, says.

Primary school teacher Jono adds: "Some of the teachers didn't even realise!"

## STRENGTHS

**ANDREW:** "We're not easily stressed and we're quite good mathematically so budgeting should be a breeze. Being brothers, we're able to say mean things and get over it. If we ever fight, it only lasts five minutes then it's over. If you're in a couple, you'd need to tread more carefully."

**JONO:** "We know each other so well and we always back the other's decisions."

## WEAKNESSES

**ANDREW:** "We do things quickly which means it's not always perfect. We lack attention to detail. We're more about speed."

**JONO:** "We're not going to be able to do much of the building. So we might have to rely on tradies more than the other teams."

## RENOVATION EXPERIENCE

**ANDREW:** "I did architecture for a year-and-a-half at uni. I might have to hang my hat on that. We haven't done a lot of structural stuff, just basic things like painting and sanding floors."

**JONO:** "Our mum and stepdad put a top storey on their house so we helped them with a bit of labouring."

#AndrewJono

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# Fiona & Nicole

## Victoria



**Lifelong besties Fiona and Nicole, both 44, are HOUSE RULES' first ever all-female team.**

Their friendship spanning over 30 years has endured weddings, six children between them and most recently divorce.

But can it weather the pressure of the competition? "Absolutely our friendship can withstand the test," says Fiona. "We can drive each other nuts but two minutes later, it's all good."

The admin worker bought her "tin shed" home in 2015. Located in Lake Fyans, northwest of Melbourne, the house is falling apart around her.

"I do believe it's got amazing potential," she says. "I have grand plans for it and hopefully with HOUSE RULES it will become a reality."

Fiona called upon seasoned renovator Nicole, who works as a safety consultant, to be her team mate and she jumped at the chance.

But Nicole has one stipulation. "I've got squatters rights on the property," she laughs.

### STRENGTHS

**FIONA:** "Girl power! We listen to each other's opinions, take them on board and then make a united decision."

**NICOLE:** "We're not worried about not having a man on our team. If there's anything physically we can't do, there are going to be enough blokes that we can con into doing it for us."

### WEAKNESSES

**FIONA:** "We talk too much!"

**NICOLE:** "Being nice to the other teams if they start to get on our nerves."

### RENOVATION EXPERIENCE

**FIONA:** "My dad was a builder so I grew up on building sites. That's how I learnt to count. Dad would empty the nail box onto the ground and then he'd put the nails into piles and make us add and subtract them. I've done minor renovations to the property at Lake Fyans and learned as I've gone along."

**NICOLE:** "I bought an old Victorian house in Footscray in 2005. My brothers and I gutted it. Renovation is understating it because the only original things left in the house are the frame work in the front four rooms, the fireplaces and the outside fret work. Everything else was gutted, replaced and rebuilt and we did it all ourselves."

#FionaNicole

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# Troy & Bec

## New South Wales



Hailing from Sydney's western suburbs, Aussie battlers Troy and girlfriend Bec are flying the flag for the underdogs.

The budget-conscious pair can stretch a dollar and they'll be banking on their penny pinching ways to see them through the competition.

"I've always had a knack for spotting a bargain and bartering too," Troy, 46, says.

Painter Troy bought his rundown 1960s weatherboard home in 2000.

The divorced father-of-one is hoping the other teams can transform his bachelor pad into a family home so Bec, 39, and her two children can join him.

Currently it's in no state for visitors let alone new occupants.

The oven and cooktop don't work while the toilet doesn't even flush. "We use a camp barbecue which isn't ideal and not to mention dangerous," Troy says.

Had it not been for HOUSE RULES, their dream renovation would have been nothing but a "pipe dream."

Account manager Bec says, "We would have been buying lottery tickets every day!"

### STRENGTHS

**TROY:** "We're good communicators. Also, I'm the oldest person here on HOUSE RULES so I have more life experience. Age is just a number. They might be fitter than me but I'm like an old donkey, I'll just keep going and going."

**BEC:** "We're both head strong. And we work well together as a team. We feed off each other."

### WEAKNESSES

**TROY:** "I don't take criticism well."

**BEC:** "Troy's OCD! He's an absolute perfectionist. He gets annoyed if anything isn't perfect."

### RENOVATION EXPERIENCE

**TROY:** "I'm basically good at a lot of things and can pick up things pretty quick. I'm a handy man of sorts - a jack of all trades, master of none. Hanging doors, painting doors, decorating, gardening and gyprocking - that's about the extent of my experience."

**BEC:** "I've got no skills whatsoever. All I've ever done is paint and that's it. This certainly is going to be an eye-opener."

#TroyBec

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# Johanna Griggs

## Host

Johanna Griggs has been host of HOUSE RULES since its inception and is proud to be at the helm for the fifth series.

She believes the fact that everyone walks away a winner is the secret to its success.

“They all get magnificent homes to keep forever. That and the combination of the teams, the fascination that comes with what they might, or might not do to the homes, the interpretation of the house rules, which always provides plenty of entertainment; how much the teams improve over the course of the competition, and the fact the whole renovation is done in one week!

“It still blows me away just how much work they do and how creative they get. It’s always super impressive.”

Johanna says there’s “plenty of surprises” in store this series. “We have twists and turns that have really kept the teams on their toes and as a result more involvement from me which has been really enjoyable.”

The addition of two new judges will also add some spice. “When you’re watching the show you will either find yourself a little bit shocked by what they’ve said or rolling around the floor laughing. They don’t hold anything back and Lawrence definitely adds lots of colour in more ways than one! They work beautifully alongside Wendy.”

In addition to hosting HOUSE RULES, Johanna anchors the multi-award winning Better Homes and Gardens, which she has

fronted for more than a decade.

Before her successful television career, Johanna represented Australia in swimming, winning bronze at the Auckland Commonwealth Games in 1990, and silver at the 1991 World Championships.

She joined Channel Seven after announcing her retirement from swimming in 1993. She is one of the network’s most popular personalities having presented Seven’s *Summer of Tennis*, *Melbourne Spring Racing Carnival*, *Seven Weekend News*, *Sydney Weekender*, *Auction Squad* and the *Summer and Winter Olympics*.

Johanna presented all the colour, fun and characters from the *Rio 2016 Olympic Games* – her sixth time as host – and the awe-inspiring *Paralympic Games*.

Johanna is an avid charity worker, donating her time to the McGrath Foundation, the Humpty Dumpty Foundation and Sydney’s St Vincent’s Hospital. She is also a Beyond Blue board member, an organisation devoted to improving the mental health of all Australians.

Johanna is a proud mother of two sons: Jesse, 21, and Joe, 20. In her spare time, she runs a construction company with builder husband, Todd Huggins. Together they’ve built and renovated several homes.



@JohGriggs7



@johgriggs7

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# Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen

## Judge

International design style star Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen's ability to unleash endless possibilities in any home is second to none.

Born in London, Laurence showed an early flair for all things creative, graduating with honours from the Camberwell School of Arts and Crafts in 1986.

"Everybody is born obsessed with their nest," he says. "Children particularly are always looking to define their space. I remember having a fight with my mother because I really wanted a purple ceiling. She was absolutely appalled so we compromised on a blue one."

Seven years after setting up his own interior design consulting firm, he used his captivating personality to jump to the small screen, showcasing his talents on the hit interior-makeover program *Changing Rooms*.

Its immense success made Laurence a household name and an arbiter of taste across Europe.

His other TV credits include *The Apartment*, *DIY SOS* for BBC One, *Laurence's Extraordinary Ordinary Houses* for BBC Wales and *Llanelly House Restored* on BBC2.

Now it's Australia's turn to see him at work. And the flamboyant judge won't be pulling any punches. "I have this huge reputation

for being quite tough...that's putting it mildly."

For Laurence, owning and designing your own home is an unbelievable privilege. "The thing that does really get a rise out of me is when I think people are just creating show rooms for the hell of it; that they're not actually fulfilling their potential.

"Your home should be a perfect expression of your personality. You should besmirk your personality all over your walls. Spread yourself. You should scent mark where you live like a civet cat."

As well as running his own interior design practice, Laurence has a number of very successful product ranges including a best-selling wallpaper and paint range, bed linen, a range of mugs, glassware and cutlery.

In September 2014, Laurence launched his international homewares collection, The House of Laurence, encompassing furniture, dining, bed linen, decorative accessories and home fragrance.

Laurence is hoping his wife of 27 years, Jackie, will join him in Australia, if she can tear herself away from their first grandchild Albion, born in October 2016. The couple have two daughters, Cecile and Hermoine.



 @LlewelynBowen

**HOUSE  
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# Wendy Moore

## Judge

Wendy Moore leads an all-new judging panel this year on HOUSE RULES.

Joining her will be celebrity designer Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen and acclaimed Australian architect Drew Heath.

"Laurence is going to be very opinionated but he's also so much fun," she says. "Drew is very direct which I think is going to be great."

Wendy has been with the show since its inception five years ago. "I think the secret to its success is actually the foundation of the show," she says. "This is people with their own homes and their own dreams, hoping to realise them."

"The emotions and dreams that are tied up in those homes are so real and tangible that it emotionally charges everything."

Her advice to this year's contestants is simple. "Find the inspiration behind those HOUSE RULES. Understand what the home owners actually want and see that vision through."

Wendy is regarded as one of Australia's foremost experts on style and design.

During her ten-year tenure as *Home Beautiful* editor, sales experienced

sustained growth from around 65,000 to more than 82,000, adding to a soaring social and digital footprint to cement itself as the country's leading interiors style brand.

"*Home Beautiful* is about being inspired to create a home you love and HOUSE RULES is about teams coming together to create a home for someone else to love," Wendy says.

Last year, she was promoted to General Manager, Homes and Food, at Pacific Magazines overseeing business strategy for leading home brands, including Better Homes and Gardens and Home Beautiful as well as new digital food brands – *Foodiful* and *AllRecipes*.

Wendy also curates the successful app Home Love, powered by Home Beautiful, which was launched in December 2013.

Wendy has extensive experience in publishing having previously worked at *Australian Women's Weekly*, *Woman's Day* and *Burke's Backyard* magazine.

She lives in Sydney's inner west with husband Peter and her six-year-old twin girls, Darcy and Ruth. In her spare time, she enjoys running and gardening.



 @wendymooreedit  @wendymooreedit

**HOUSE  
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# Drew Heath

## Judge

Drew Heath is one of Australia's leading architects and builders.

As principal of Drew Heath Architects, he's been involved in making houses for nearly three decades.

His fascination with construction began at an early age. "I was a Lego child," he says. "I liked to build suburban houses like the one I lived in."

He studied architecture at the University of Tasmania before moving to Sydney at the start of his burgeoning career. "I couldn't help but be seduced by the climate and the beauty of the city and harbor."

Specialising in handmade and handcrafted building with low environmental impact, Drew has won numerous awards for his work. "My designs concentrate on craftsmanship, the use of real materials, architectural sophistication and some connection or enabling of landscape within a complex," he says.

He's been directly involved in three Wilkinson Award winning houses, the highest institute award in NSW.

His most prized award is the 2013 Wilkinson Award for Tír na nÓg, a Sydney home inspired by the ruins and overgrown jungle surrounding Cambodia's Angkor Wat.

"I've travelled extensively across the world looking at architecture," he says. "It's an absolute passion."

A perfectionist with his own work, Drew expects nothing but the best from this year's HOUSE RULES teams. "I find it difficult not to be critical," he admits. "I'm well known for that."

For Drew, the key to succeeding in the competition is nailing a core idea. "You need an idea first. There needs to be a core."

Drew considers the home to be an integral part of our existence. "I personally see the house as the most important place for our well-being."

This is his first foray into television, with the exception of a few appearances connected with his work. "It's an exciting opportunity to do something completely different."

Drew lives on Sydney's northern beaches, where he indulges in his favourite pastimes, sailing and fishing.

He also lectures one day a week at the University of Newcastle, inspiring the next generation of architects.



@drewheatharch



@drewheatharchitect

**HOUSE  
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# Carolyn Burns-McCrave

## Designer

Guiding this year's newest recruits will be HOUSE RULES' resident design expert and mentor, Carolyn Burns-McCrave.

Carolyn says the show is a fun combination of information and entertainment. "It's why I keep coming back year after year!" she says. "I like to think that people watch HOUSE RULES for the designs; creating a great space to live in that reflects who we are as people is something we can all relate to. But when you add in the enormous pressure of a one week design and build, you've got a whole different ball game."

This year's reveals are unlike anything we've seen before. "I'm constantly surprised by the transformations the teams achieve in such a short time frame. This year, however, they pull off something bigger and better than ever before!"

The leading designer is excited about utilising her skills again to encourage a new group of budding designers.

"We have such a great mix of personalities. It's fascinating for me to watch the different ways people respond, not only to the pressure of the competition, but to the challenge of designing in different styles for different people. "

Carolyn's work is featured routinely in some of the country's most popular and prestigious home magazines.

After completing a Diploma of Arts in Interior Decoration and Design, Carolyn spent the next eight years working at Melbourne firm SJB Interiors before setting up her own business, Burns-McCrave Design, with husband Leonard over a decade ago.

As both building and interior designers, they have gained a reputation for their intuitive and client focused design solutions.

Not only do they collaborate at work, the pair have just finished renovating, for the second time, their 50's weatherboard home to get it ready for sale, whilst moving into their newly designed and built family home. Carolyn has indulged all her design loves in this new home but points out that the process has taken almost 18 months, a far cry from the one week HOUSE RULES contestants get!

The mother of two boys - Fintan, 14, and Lorcan, 12 - enjoys travelling and taking photos as inspiration for her work.



@CarolynBurnsMcC



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**HOUSE  
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