

DESIGNING YOUR DREAM STAIR

A planning guide to help you choose the best staircase for your home



There are so many options when it comes to choosing your feature stairs that you can start to feel a bit overwhelmed. Use the following points as a guide to narrow down your options and help you to choose the best stair for your home.

1. STYLE

You can probably sum up the style of your home using a few key words: maybe it's modern, industrial, classic or traditional. Use this style to guide your stair choice. Some stairs suit modern homes, such as floating stairs, while others look best in homes with a more traditional style – like a timber stair with turned balustrades. Search online and save pictures of stairs you like to build up a picture of designs that appeal to you. Think about what other materials and colour palettes you have in your home and how the stairs will tie in with these or create a contrast.

2. SPACE

Where is the stair located in the house and how much room do you have available? Consider what size of stair you can fit and if you need to keep the area light if it is enclosed or dark. Curved stairs are the largest and require a lot of space to achieve their grand effect; but straight stairs or stairs with winders can fit into a smaller space.

3. BUDGET

You can spend anywhere from \$5,000 - \$100,000 or more to achieve your dream feature stair, so it helps if you have an approximate figure that you are looking to invest in your stairs. We can work with you to achieve a feature stair that not only looks great but also keeps your project within budget.

4. USE

Think about who will be using the staircase and how often. Some materials are harder wearing than others, so if it's going to have high use you may want to consider using a hardwood with a long-wearing finish such as timber oil for ultimate longevity.

5. SAFETY

The NZ Building code sets out certain requirements that your stairwell must meet for safety reasons. Many overseas countries have much looser rules around stair construction than we have in New Zealand. If you've spotted a stair you like online, check with a stair expert if it complies with the NZ Building code. If the stair does not comply, there are usually small tweaks that can be made to the design so that it does.

Stylecraft Stairways is New Zealand's premier stair manufacturer, helping architects, builders and homeowners New Zealand wide to achieve their dream stair easily.

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