

CUSTOM BUILT



The open-plan living and kitchen area with subtle splashes of red is upstairs.

Power cut by green thermal features

■ Raquel de Brito

Environmental sustainability played an integral role in the design of this custom-built Bayswater home, right down to the use of low-toxicity paint.

The home is so well insulated that at the peak of Perth's scorching summer, the owner has rarely needed to turn on the air-conditioning.

While the need to look after the planet was an important factor in building a sustainable home, the owner also wanted a home she could afford to live in.

The most recent electricity bill for the two-storey home was just \$66, thanks to the use of a solar photovoltaic system.

The property also includes double-glazed windows and a rainwater tank.

Builder Gary Wright, of Wright Homes, said the introduction of a rainwater system and the photovoltaic system on the roof had considerably reduced



energy and water consumption in the home.

"Instead of walking into the home and turning on the air-conditioning to cool it down, she walks into an already cool house," he said.

"On top of that, we used waterwise tapware throughout the house."

In keeping with her energy-efficient home, the owner has also established a vegetable garden, which supplies her with most of her fruit and vegetables.

To ensure the vegetables are as organic as possible, the owner uses reverse osmosis water and no pesticides.

While the home is sustainable, it doesn't compromise on style.

The open-plan upstairs living and kitchen area, with its neutral tones and subtle splashes of red, provides the perfect place for the owner to relax.

The area opens up to a spacious balcony with panoramic Swan River and park views.

The three-bedroom, two-bathroom home includes a piano lounge and a security system with cameras.

The owner said despite the home being on a narrow 364sqm block, it felt open and spacious.

■ The home was an entry in the 2013 HIA Perth Housing Awards in the custom built homes \$350,001 to \$475,000 category. For inquiries phone Right Homes on 9355 0374.

