THE Home Audit

This is your tiny workshop that will equip you to understand your space and your lifestyle.

Phase 1: Friction Audit

Map the Friction Points and Storage Gaps

Phase 2: Behaviour Audit

See spatial needs using four lenses.

Phase 3: Consolidate

Organise your friction, fixes and future goals

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Before You Begin

Time required:	30–45 minutes
What you need:	Floor plan sketch, a pen and two highlighters
Outcome:	A prioritised design brief
Best completed:	By all decision-makers in the household

PHASE 1 Friction Audit

The Two-Colour Floor Plan Exercise

We're going to trace your family's actual footsteps during your two most chaotic times of day and discover your friction points:

Trace in Orange: The Morning Rush

Draw the exact paths everyone takes to get dressed, brush teeth, make coffee, grab lunchboxes, and head out the door.

The Goal: Look for where the orange lines tangle, cross, or cluster to expose primary bottlenecks—whether it's at the bathroom, the kitchen prep aisle, or an entryway.

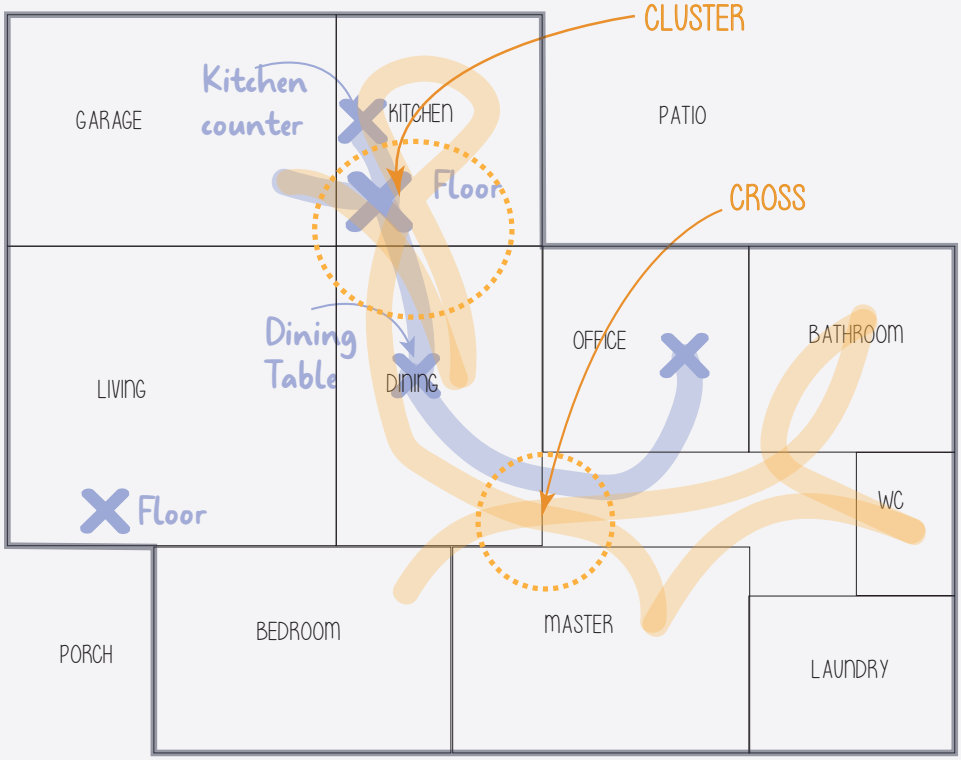
Trace in Blue: The Evening Drop

Trace the path from the front door (or garage) into the house when everyone arrives home with arms full. Mark an ✕ on the exact surfaces where items naturally land when hands are freed.

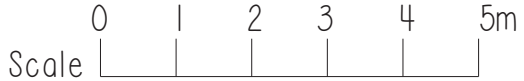
The Goal: Find where clutter lands naturally and build smart Landing Zones and storage where the family naturally walks.

Grab a printout of your current floor plan (or a quick hand-drawn sketch) and two coloured highlighters and have a go yourselves. Graph paper is provided on next page for your perusal.

Here is an example of a floor plan, its not perfect, it gives you the perfect platform to identify the friction in your home.



Your House Plan - Friction Audit
Level:



PHASE 2

Behaviour Audit

✎ Evaluate each room or zone with these four lenses.

1. Storage & Flow (The 5-Second Rule)

Look at the cluttered surfaces in the room.

The Active Check: Does this item have a home and does it take less than 5 seconds to put away? YES NO
(NO - storage gap identified)
(YES - make it easier to store)

The Archive Check: Have we used this item in the last 6-12 months? YES NO
(NO-donate or relocate to garage, roof space or high cupboards).

The Bulky Check: Are items (vacuum, suitcases, and ironing board) stealing valuable daily living space?
(YES - what are they, where can they live?) YES NO

2. The Daily Grind (The Stress Test)

Think about the most chaotic hour of your week.

The Traffic Check: Is the main walkway through this room constantly blocked? (open doors, bags on floor, cooking, etc)

YES NO

The Acoustic Check: When multiple people use this space, does noise carry and clash? (TV, kitchen prep, chatter, etc).

YES NO

The Social Check: Do we entertain at the island bench or

YES NO

GLOSSARY

5- Second Rule:	If an item doesn't have a designated home, that requires 5 seconds or less to put away, it will permanently live on a surface
Active Storage:	Indoor storage reserved for this season of life and day-to day life
Archive Storage:	Garage joinery, attic, or high cupboards for Seasonal or Future needs

PHASE 2

Behaviour Audit

3. The 5 to15 Year Horizon (Future-Proofing)

Look at the room's current function.

The Growth Check: When kids turn into young adults, or parents age, how will this room need to change?

The Flex Check: Could this space adapt to accommodate an aging parent, an extended guest, or full-time remote work?

YES NO N/A

The Gear Check: Do our actual, current hobbies (bikes, yoga mats, art supplies) have a dedicated zone, and are they taking over the living/dining room? YES NO

4. Real-World Trade-Offs (The Reality Check)

Look at the physical footprint of the room.

The Priority Check: Prioritise each friction point (1-10). 1-non-negotiable and 10-nice to have

The Boundary Check: Are we willing to sacrifice outdoor lawn space for a bigger living area, or should we build upward to preserve the yard? How would that affect northern light pouring into the house?

The Phasing Check: If budget requires us to build in stages, what must happen in Stage 1, and what can wait for Stage 2?

GLOSSARY

Future Proofing:	Consider a masterplan for your home, where future needs are met (either in stages or all at once). Read our article on Future proofing your home on our website
Flex:	Spaces or rooms in our homes made flexible and multipurpose as we grow into different stages of our home and our life.
Friction Point:	The aspects of the home that causes stress, either by our lifestyle, behaviour, layout or storage issues.

Phase 3: Prioritise Needs

Bring together the most important issues uncovered in Phases 1 and 2.

Spatial Category	Current Pain Point/Friction	Priority Rank 1- HIGHEST PRIORITY 10-LOWEST PRIORITY
The Hub Kitchen + Dining Living	e.g., Kitchen is tight; no connection to outdoor deck.	Kitchen Dining Living
The Utilities Laundry + Garage Shed + Services		Laundry Garage Shed Services
The Drop Zone Entry + Mudroom + Hallways Back Flow + Backburners		Entry Hallway
The Quiet Zone Work + Reading Rest + Sleep		Work/ School Rest
The Flex Zone Guest + Hobbies Future Master + grandparents		Guest Hobbies Future Flex

Phase 3: Future Proof

	5- year plan	15- year plan
The Hub	Open visibility to kids playing outdoors	Social zone for young adults
Utilities		
Drop Zone		
Quiet Zones		
Flex Zone		

Where to from here?

What needs to work now?

What may change in 5 years?

What could wait for a later stage?

Questions we need professional advice about

Next Steps

Read and understand cost factors, budgeting & timelines.

Explore Approvals Navigating CDC, DA, & Site constraints

Book a Design Consultation
Turn your audit into a real plan

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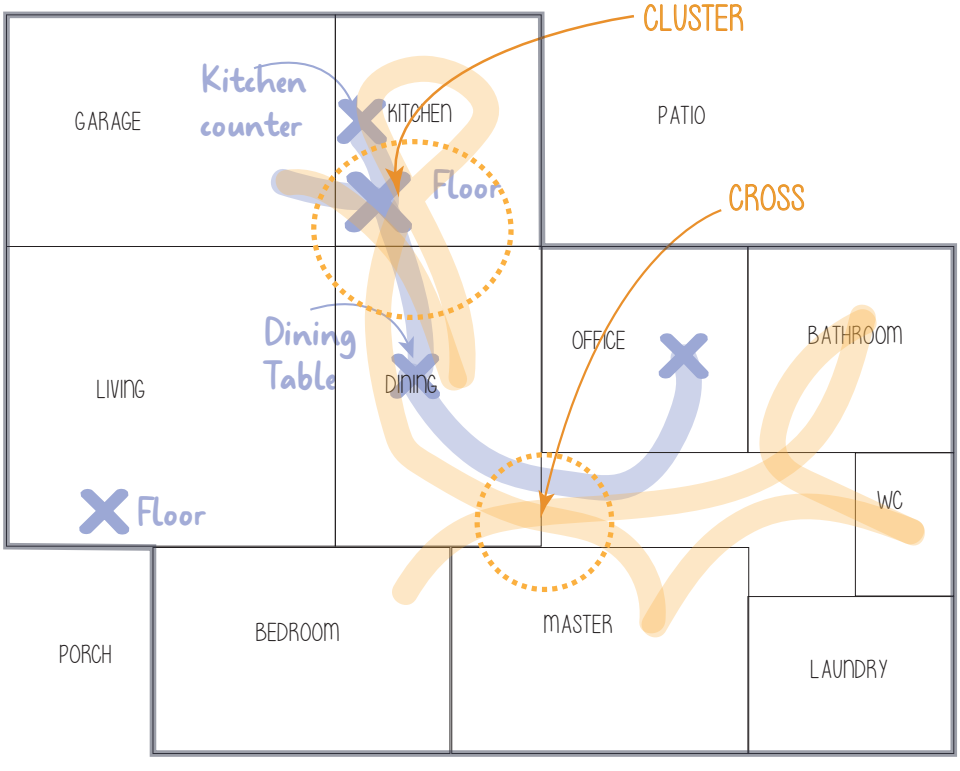
CLUSTER
Kitchen counter
GARAGE
KITCHEN
PATIO
Floor
CROSS
Dining Table
OFFICE
BATHROOM
LIVING
DINING
Floor
WC
PORCH
BEDROOM
MASTER
LAUNDRY

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