

+ Cheryl and Phil built a whole new cottage at the back of their property, with the help of a builder and an architect. The cottage comes in handy when guests are staying. Choosing the colour scheme for the exterior of the cottage was easy, they copied the original house colours - the weatherboards are Resene 'Silver Chalice' and the windows, doors, posts and

## grey's anatom

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Cheryl and Phil Johnston's century-old villa scoops this year's top prize

Text by Johanna Thornton. Photography by Angela Keoghan.

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

## Cheryl Johnston and her husband Phil

are the winners of this year's award for their beautiful grey colour scheme. A transformation to their century-old villa in Cambridge in 2010 prompted a subtle colour change. They added a new ensuite, walk-in wardrobe and study off a bedroom at the back of the house, plus a separate garage, carport and a cottage.

Cheryl took her time getting the right shades of grey and white, and discovered that perfecting a lighter palette can be even trickier than working with bright and bold shades. "There were hundreds of shades to choose from," says Cheryl.

fretwork are Resene 'Alabaster'. diminiminimini) This photo The colours of the exterior of the Cambridge villa helped Cheryl chose the colours for the rest of the house. **Inset** The cottage is a miniature version of the original house and is painted in the same Resene colours. Your Home & Garden 39

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## take your time

Renovations on the house took 11 months and Cheryl took six months alone just to choose the right colours. "I had visions of what I wanted, but there were lots of testpots purchased to narrow down the options," she says. It was also crucial for Cheryl to select shades that married with the original style of the home. "It was important to us that the additions were done in keeping with the old style of our house, while at the same time adding a bit of 'us' to the home. There is a real sense of harmony between all the rooms."



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