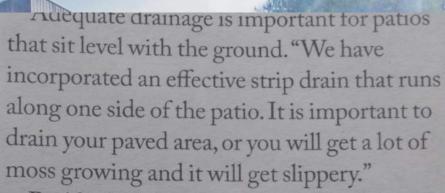
One with nature

For the rustic look, the humble pergola has a charm of its own.



Builder Josh Fotopoulos, of bayside-based JGF Cre8tive Construction & Renovation, says height, rooflines and building materials are important considerations for pergolas.

"When it comes to rooflines, marry it into what is already there, as you want something that matches your house.

"Think about the features you have and the kind of architecture and work from there. People come unstuck when they see something in a magazine and think it is cool, yet it is totally unsuitable for their home."

He also advises using the best-quality materials you can afford. Timber selection and finish is important. "People can go for price over quality and then they are disappointed."



Is needed to be a space that linked the weside to the indoor, where they could

a patio at ground level, rather than a raised timber deck. Crazy paving in Castlemaine slate has been used on the patio, which adjoins a flourishing lawn

Although the pergola over the patio doesn't

engages the patio area and two engage the the two areas," says Baenziger.

Made from oversized recycled ironbark, a famble class-1 timber, the pergola is bolts in favour of dovetail and mortise and

"The pergola posts and beams are deliberately oversize so that they form part of he architecture. It is not something that has been stuck on for the sake of providing sun shade; it has an architectural purpose to it as well. It hasn't been finished in any oils, so the pergola will grey or weather naturally over



The northern facade is a wall of glass, while crazy paving in Castlem

The pergola also has an automated awning, eaves provide plenty of protection for those which can be extended out to offer some protection from the summer sun or light rain.

"It is hidden in the pergola structure so you | to give it a greener look in summer," he says. don't notice it at first. But it enables us to have

is really hot, we have some protection." He says people building pergolas or the planning stage.

"A pergola can provide you with shade, but if it is a permanent structure and you to try and do it afterwards. Thought also needs to go into the type of paving, to avoid directly into the house.

to include one on their patio - although

While the couple considered planting to

seeking to escape the summer sun.

Adequate drainage is important for puriou a table out there in inclement weather, or if it that sit level with the ground. "We have incorporated an effective strip drain that runs along one side of the pario. It is important to designing patios need to think about shade at drain your paved area, or you will get a lot of

> Builder Josh Fotopoulos, of bayside-based JGF Cre8tive Construction & Renovation,

what is already there, as you want something



drawn across. Roof height is important. as it will influence how big and open the

quiet place to sit, read and relax?

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