



Hang 'em up
A rack of pots and pans can save money of costly cupboards. It's also convenient for cooking.

organic KITCHENS

NATURAL, EARTHY-STYLE kitchens are increasingly becoming the norm as regular homeowners the world over begin to consider the environment in all aspects of their lives – kitchen renos included. And it pays – for you and the planet. Along with water- and energy-saving devices, opt for natural materials, consider the size of the eco footprint in the creation, installation or use of an item, and look to the past for ways to live a cleaner

life – a veggie patch will free up fridge and cupboard space (and save energy). Also, look for companies that support green initiatives – Kitcheners Kitchens (kitcheners.com.au) was the first Australian company recognised by Energy Australia as a climate-friendly business. **Old & new (above)** You might despise your old wood veneer cabinets, but think of ways you can reuse or renew before you go ripping it out and replacing with fabricated

materials. A few modern-day touches like fresh steel appliances and a hardy stainless steel benchtop can bring it into the noughties without too much fuss and give it a new style. **Great grains (right)** You can't beat the exposed grain of wood for natural look. This kitchen's doors are made from farmed timber and give off a ski-chalet feel at the same time. The window-as-splashback is an unusual feature and lets in plenty of natural light. **❶**

