



#### Charm & character

Debra, pictured with her gremlin Ted, added a modern chair, from Stylecraft (Stylecraft.com.au), covered with Maharam Stripes by Paul Smith fabric to her beautiful, character-filled office. The chandelier adds to the grand feel of the space. "I find it makes for a much more interesting interior when you stray away from the expected," she says.

#### fantastic filing:

Interior designer Debra has turned her filing system into a feature

**Office chic** Debra created a long storage bench, which sits behind her desk, from a pair of old French shutters. She had them covered with thick glass, which was cut to size, and propped it up with painted besa blocks. Pieces of wood were used as the base.

**Label love** Debra files her documents either in folders, boxes or drawers, and for larger items such as carpet and wooden floor samples, she uses large plastic tubs. "Everything is labelled otherwise I would never find anything."

**Hide & file** As well as an antique French wardrobe, vintage shoe racks and an old display case from a museum, Debra also uses a 4.5-metre-long unit for storing her folders and files.

**Seats of style (below)**

Debra's moodboard shows illustrations of chairs for one of her interior design projects. Each chair will be covered with a different fabric.



INTERIOR DESIGNER  
debra cronin

**STARTING POINT**

A once derelict home was revived to showcase its former glory. Previously, this room (pictured left) had been interior designer Debra Cronin's bedroom but as her business expanded she needed more space. "It's one of the grandest rooms in the house and as I spend so much time in my office it made sense to use this room."

**NEEDS** Good storage, extra space and surface area, and a place to display moodboards. "I'll pull out a thousand samples when putting together a scheme for a client," Debra says. **CHANGES** Debra left her large antique wardrobe in the room and used it to store reference materials and samples, as well as the printer and office supplies. The old wooden desk had been her former dining table, while

**Balancing act**

Debra bought the old scales at an auction. Her favourite auction houses are Ralfan Kelaher & Thomas, Lawson's and Bonham & Goodman.

**Old-style solutions**

Vintage canisters make attractive storage spots for everyday accessories.

shelves from an old shoe factory were used to store folders. A lovely display case, originally from a museum, houses her magazine and book collection. **PRACTICALITIES** Because the room has so much character, Debra keeps technology items hidden in antique cupboards. Even in her living room she hides the TV and stereo. →

**Colour coordinated (above)**

Matching grey folders from Kikki.K contain paint-colour samples and information on suppliers. The uniformity of colour creates an organised and streamlined system.