



Nick Barker

HIP V. HYPE DESIGN
PROJECT ARCHITECT
MOBILE +61 (0) 406 684 599
NICK@HIPVHYPE.COM

Architect and Project Lead at HIP V. HYPE Design, Nick ensures innovation and integrity are present at every stage of a project as it evolves from inception through to completion. This commitment is driven by a belief in the impact of architecture on its inhabitants through its spatial and experiential qualities.

Nick's approach to design is informed by the relationship between a building, its users and its context. Nick places an emphasis on the considered use of natural light and materials to create quality spaces for people. Nick believes that a genuine understanding of a client's needs and aspirations enables a considered design outcome that engages with existing patterns of living and allows for the discovery of new ones. Nick also believes that collaboration with the entire project team is key; from planners and engineers to builders, tradies and craftsmen, in order to realise the design intent down to the resolution of each carefully considered detail.

Nick grew up in South Canterbury, New Zealand, on a market garden. Growing up in an environment where houses and equipment were crafted by hand, and food was grown just metres from the table where it was served, ingrained in Nick an appreciation and respect for the surrounding natural environment. In his practice this has evolved into a commitment to sustainable design. Time spent skiing on the Southern Alps and sailing along the coastline of New Zealand has also influenced Nick's attitude toward shelter and self-sufficiency. Both require complete connection to and respect of nature. Nick's career began as a carpenter, which has provided a solid foundation to his design practice, based on an acute understanding of how a building is put together.

A diploma in Architectural Technology provided an initial basis of technical understanding and detail. This was followed by a move to Australia where Nick completed a Bachelor of Architectural studies followed by a Masters of Architecture with distinction. Nick gained experience in residential and institutional architecture working for renowned design practices such as Modern Architecture Partners (NZ) and Robert Simeoni Architects. During his time at OLA studio he led both residential and zoological projects, obtaining insight into the complexities of larger scale institutional work. A registered architect, Nick spent time building his own boutique practice before seeing an opportunity amplify his impact with HIP V. HYPE Design. Nick has maintained a strong interest in mentoring and education and continues to work as a sessional academic in the School of Architecture at Monash University.

Nick brings the sum of this experience to HIP V. HYPE Design. His holistic approach to architecture and desire to integrate sustainability, innovation and integrity into the design process allows him to realise exceptional outcomes in every project.

Outside of architectural practice, Nick enjoys a good run through Melbourne's inner parklands and river systems and working on the constantly evolving master project which is home for his growing family.

Formal Qualifications

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- MASTERS OF ARCHITECTURE WITH DISTINCTION, RMIT UNIVERSITY
 - BACHELOR OF ARCHITECTURE, RMIT UNIVERSITY
 - DIPLOMA IN ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY, CHRISTCHURCH POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
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HIP V. HYPE DESIGN
WEDESERVEBETTER@HIPVHYPE.COM
WWW.HIPVHYPE.COM

330 PARK ST
CARLTON NORTH VIC 3054
(03) 8060 1252

12/7 GREVILLEA STREET
BYRON BAY NSW 2481
@HIPVHYPE