

# blueprint asia

architecture + design  
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# AN ENTERPRISING EFFORT



EXERCISING A BIT OF INVENTIVENESS, KUCHING-BASED DESIGN NETWORK ARCHITECTS (DNA) ARCHITECTS MANAGED TO BYPASS TIGHT MONETARY CONSTRAINTS AND REALIZE THEIR CLIENT'S DREAM HOME WITHOUT HAVING TO COMPROMISE ON STYLE.



- + **COMPLETION DATE**  
2006
- + **ARCHITECT**  
Design Network Architects  
Sdn Bhd
- + **STRUCTURAL ENGINEER**  
PU Engineering
- + **CLIENT**  
Wee Hii Khooon & Pamela Lau  
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- + **CONTRACTOR**  
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- + **PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Lau Ming Ngii
- + **TEXT**  
Ar. Wee Hii Min



1 / Tall, sliding windows make for an efficient means of cooling down the temperature of the upper level

2 / A side view of the house

3 / Clean lines accentuate the classic, simplicity of the entranceway

4 / Sliding glass doors on the bottom level allow for sufficient ventilation

5 / Spacious and airy, the living spaces have been devised based on an open plan layout



**WITH A SMALL BUDGET** to contend with, DNA Architects' greatest task in terms of building the Khoon family house was in devising viable ways of making the most out of limited resources. A simple gable roof was therefore chosen to enable better lighting and ventilation. The ceiling of the upper floor was vaulted not only to facilitate circulation but to also add height to the rooms, making the spaces more vertically elongated. Upstairs, tall, sliding windows were installed as an efficient mode of cooling down the space on the occasions when children played or slept on the floor with the 'thin-ness' of the overall plan proving to be largely beneficial in this respect.

The low level of emphasis on creating a defined frontage is warranted by the fact that the house is located on a land-locked site. While it means that this ultimately entails a lack of street views, the situation also ensures that little of the living areas can be seen from the main façade, making for ample privacy. The rectilinear form of the main house which aptly carves out space for living, dining and other communal areas by implementing an open plan layout, implies a preference for simple geometry while the projecting and cantilevered wall and floor planes serve to add interest to the overall form. A cosy, single storey 'pavilion' containing both the family room and dining area completes the house, fitting snugly into the setbacks. ▽

