**BEING HAPPY**

How a group of Singaporeans are trying to turn us into happier people.

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HOME COMFORTS

This family home is so welcoming that guests stay longer than usual

TAY SUAN CHIANG & PARIAN ONG

Instead of solid walls, a concrete wall block screen was created at the front of the wet kitchen to promote natural ventilation into the house while reducing the heat and glare of the western sun. ‘Neighbours can only get a peek, and there is still light and a breeze coming into the kitchen,’ says Ms Goy.

The dry kitchen and dining area are where Ms Goy’s siblings and their families hang out when they come over every weekend. ‘It is a good move to put this space up front. There is more interaction this way, than to have everyone sitting in front of the TV,’ says Ms Geng.

And yet, when she hosts smaller gatherings, the spaces are sufficient. For example, when her father’s friends are in the living room, Ms Goy can still do her baking without being disturbed.

Unable to eat on the floor, Ms Goy designed moving the kitchen to the front of the house, which Ms Geng was initially unsure of. ‘I said no way, but it worked out so well.’

The front of the house is spacious, with a dining table on the side, and a dry kitchen with an island counter that Ms Geng uses for baking. The wet kitchen is located in an open area with another smaller dining table on the side.

I WANTED THE HOME TO BE VERY COMFORTABLE, A PLACE WHERE ANYONE WHO COMES WOULD FEEL RELAXED IN.

SANDRA HENG

Weekend

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