

Mirrors are reaching new depths

Reflective surfaces are being used less for vanity and more to create tension, intrigue and a sense of double-take fun



You wouldn't blink twice catching your reflection in a mirror hanging on a wall. But what about a mirrored doorway, a kitchen splashback, a shower wall or even a rooftop?

Across [residential](#) design, mirrors are once again being treated not just as decorative objects, or as devices to make rooms appear larger, but as [architectural](#) materials in their own right, deployed for a range of atmospheric effects.



An entire rooftop of aluminium panels tops this Brooklyn townhouse renovation by LOT Office for Architecture, reflecting the sky during the day and capturing the city's lights at night © Dean Kaufman

A similar effect shines atop a 19th-century Brooklyn townhouse renovation by LOT Office for Architecture, which clad an entire rooftop in reflective aluminium panels. Leonidas Trampoukis, the studio's co-founder and principal, says "rather than introducing a heavy new volume, the reflective surface lets the addition participate in its surroundings, making it feel lighter". During the day, the panels mirror their surroundings and the sky, performing a disappearing act; at night, they capture the city's lights.