

## Ada reveals:

# I can't wait to be a mum!

TV STAR Ada Nicodemou is hoping she will be as good a mother as her own.

*There's a precious airtight container of tiny clothes stored carefully on top of a cupboard at Ada Nicodemou's spacious light-filled Sydney house.*

Italian Ferrari pyjamas, miniature New York Yankees baseball suits, even Caesar and Cleopatra outfits from Las Vegas - all of them are presents for the baby she longs to have with husband Chrys Xipolitas.

'How sad of us to do that', laughs the Home and Away star, who started her shopping spree while she was on her honeymoon two years ago. 'Every place we visit', we buy a little outfit or a toy.

'Boy or girl, we even know the names. Traditional Greek family names, with a bit of a twist'.

## SPECIAL DREAMS

I've never shied away from the fact that I really want to have kids', adds Ada, who has played Summer Bay's Leah Patterson - Baker for almost a decade.

'Luckily, Chrys feels the same way. But we're not ready yet, so it definitely won't be this year'.

Until they are needed, those treasured baby clothes will stay on top of the cupboard. We won't look at them again until the time is right', Ada says. 'We're both enjoying married life too much, and we're really, really busy. Everything is great, but it has been an interesting couple of years in some ways. It's been a real growing time for us'.

## HOPES UP IN SMOKE

The couple's family plans had to take a back seat when Chrys' Sydney restaurant, Zippo's was forced to close for 18 months after a fire in September 2007.

The restaurant was more than a business for Ada, 31, and Chrys, 35. It was also where they met following a Mother's Day lunch four years ago.

'He told me: 'I'm going to marry your daughter one day', smiles Ada's mum Jenny. 'I said to him "In your dreams!"'. But you see his dream came true.

Jenny's still waiting for her dearest wish - a first grandchild to cuddle and spoil. She says: 'If they're happy, I'm happy. I don't push them. Every time Ada says "Mum, I've got a surprise, I think she is going to tell me that she is pregnant. She is not ready yet, but she knows when the time comes I will be close by to help!

## BEST PRESENT EVER

Jenny has shared a special bond with



Ada ever since she arrived the day after Mother's day in 1977.

'She always says I'm the best Mother's day present ever, which annoys my younger brother Costa no end', joked the pint sized star, who was also the winner of Dancing with the Stars in 2005.

Their connection grew even stronger in Ada's early teens, when her parents divorced and her father moved overseas. Jenny was left to bring up two boisterous kids on her own often working two jobs to support the family.

'Mum is my idol,' Ada beams. 'She's strong and independent. She is a real go-getter - and a strict disciplinarian. When Mum said 'no' you'd better take notice!

'When I grew up, I didn't always appreciate her as much as I should. But mum taught me all I know, working hard, saving money and how to treat



people right.

'The only thing she couldn't do was teach me how to cook', says the self-confessed kitchen nightmare. 'I'm lucky that mum and I have always been so close'.

Even now, Jenny lives just up the road from Ada and Chrys' bayside home in Sydney's southern suburbs.

In fact, she spotted what was a run-down renovator's dream and persuaded Ada - who had her heart set on an apartment in upscale Centennial Park closer to the centre of town - to buy it.

'It's like living in a Greek village', Ada says. 'Mum is up the road and my mother-in-law is five minutes away. Very traditional!

It's funny how when you are a teenager you shy away from your heritage but as you grow older you embrace it. I feel like I've turned into my mum in some ways'.

## HARD ACT TO FOLLOW

Ada and Jenny share a warm hug and head off to enjoy a mother / daughter day out with high tea, shopping and beauty treatments.

'I just hope I'll be as good mother as she has been, when the time comes,' Ada says.

'I know Mum's desperate for a grandchild - my brother's not even married yet - but she's being quite good about it actually. Very little nagging so far.

'I do love kids, but Chrys and I have four godchildren between us and that's good for the moment', she concludes.

'We get to play with them and buy them toys, but someone else has to take them home and try to get them to sleep. So far, I've never even changed a nappy.

By Jenny Brown  
Pictures: Cliffe Kent  
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## Designers' secrets

*Read the stories behind the contestants as they prepare to do battle for the \$100,000 first prize in nine's new home makeover show.*



### Stacey Kouros 26

'My husband Shane and I grew up together - our parents met in 1975. There was never anything there but one day, about five years ago, we started training at the gym and hit it off - we've always had a solid friendship so it really worked. We got married a year ago and our parents were really happy!'



### Chantelle Samios 23

'I only finished studying 12 months ago, now I have my own business. It seemed appropriate to just jump in and get amongst it. That's my attitude to life in general - I love trying new things, exploring new avenues, and pushing the boundaries. Plus, I'm a bit of a prima donna!'