



INTRODUCING *Ferris & Rocco.*

Ferris' Birthdate: 14th February 2009 **Weight:** 7 pound 3 3.3kg

Rocco's Birthdate: 6th September 2010 **Weight:** 7 pound 2 3.28kg

Mum: Lisa, 28 **Dad:** Dan, 39

Design aesthetic: Jungle Classic **Photography:** Karen Ashcroft

We first fell in love with Ferris' stylish and lovely space, so it was a wonderful surprise to be able to check in on new baby, Rocco, and see that his room was just as stylish in décor!

With two busy boys just 19 months apart, and a business to run, Lisa and Dan have certainly had their lives turned upside down in the last couple of years. But somehow, I don't think they would have it any other way.

With Lisa exclusively breastfeeding baby Ferris, the last thing she expected was to fall pregnant when he was just nine months old. Luckily, despite morning sickness for half of both pregnancies, Lisa loves the experience. "It really is the most fantastic time of my life. I felt the healthiest I have ever felt. I just love the bond that you have

with your newborn baby during pregnancy and there are really no words to describe that amazing relationship between mother and child."

Lisa and Dan found out they were having little boys at both 20 week scans. "We told everyone – we were too excited not to! I would like to say that we wouldn't find out if there were a next time, but the impatient side of me says we absolutely would!"

Whilst pregnant with first baby, Ferris, Lisa and Dan had selected a lot of girl's names, but were finding boys names tricky. "We wanted something original and unique that had significance to our families. My maiden name was Ferris, and it was also my nickname, and it means 'iron' and 'strength' so we thought it was perfect. With Rocco, I chose his name early on

and then just had to convince Dan! It was Dan's grandfather's name, it also means 'strength'."

Lisa had two very different experiences with both labours, however there is no question that they were equally as dramatic! "I went into labour early in the morning with Ferris and by midnight, when contractions were about three minutes apart, I went to the hospital. By 5am, I was only around 5cm dilated, all that hard work had lead to no progress at all. Ferris' heartrate was fluctuating and as much as I wanted a drug free birth, it was recommended I have an epidural in order to attach a fetal heartrate monitor to Ferris' scalp. I was terrified at the thought, but my doctor also hoped that the epidural would relax me enough to start dilating. →

SOLID PIECES THAT WILL LAST ARE PERFECT CHOICES FOR GROWING BOYS.





“Try to remember that you can't really plan your birth. Your body and your baby will dictate what happens!”

About two hours later, to everyone's shock, I had progressed and Ferris was nearly ready to arrive. Three pushes and my doctor arrived just in time to deliver him! It was the most amazing experience of my life.”

Six days later though, Lisa was back in hospital. Shaking uncontrollably, and weak with pain, Lisa had severe infections due to a catheter being left in too long during her delivery. “I honestly thought I was going to die. The nursing staff didn't want to admit my baby because he wasn't the patient and trying to feed a screaming six day old whilst vomiting in the emergency department was awful. It wasn't until I had Rocco that I realised what an impact the

experience had on me - I didn't ever want to let my baby out of my sight!”

Sixteen months later, a severe vomiting bug put baby Ferris in hospital, and Lisa, at just 28 weeks, went into early labour. due to the same bug “It turned my world around for the next 12 weeks!”

In and out of hospital every few days to keep the labour under control, at 30 weeks they discovered a regular administration of nefedipine would control things a little bit. The next nine weeks meant lots of scans and ultimately, Lisa went into true labour just two days before her due date.

Again, in an attempt to have a drug free birth, Lisa denied her doctor's suggestion for an epidural despite the pain. →



A THEME CAN BE DONE IN A CLASSY WAY BY KEEPING



COLOURS MUTED AND INCLUDING LIGHT AND SPACE.





“Suddenly Rocco’s heart rate was alarmingly low and the room was completely silent except for me! My midwife told me that I needed to deliver immediately, and within a few pushes I was crowning. Rocco was completely silent and not moving when he was delivered and I cried out, ‘cry, baby, cry’, and at that moment he did. The relief was overwhelming, after that tough last trimester and he was here safe and sound.” Lisa credits the support of her husband and sister for being there and getting her through both labour journeys.

With so much going on during the final part of her pregnancy with Rocco, unlike Ferris, who had a room to come home to, Rocco moved into his special new space when he was about four months old. As well as creating a space to call their own, Lisa was keen to give both boys a room that was all about them.

“I wanted Ferris’ room to be a classic baby’s nursery. A soft, calm environment that I would enjoy nursing him in, that he would be relaxed and happy in and a space that he would grow in. My mum is an interior designer Anna Livia Soft Furnishings so I had lots of help making my ideas a reality. I loved the idea of elephants as they have such a strong maternal bond with their young, and the blue and white created a beautiful, soft atmosphere.”

“With Rocco, I knew right away that his personality was different to his brother’s. I had all the big items when he arrived, but Rocco is very vocal and sings and laughs a lot. I knew early on that he was cheeky and his room needed to reflect that and be fun! Monkeys was the obvious choice.”

The greatest challenge that Lisa has had with her two beautiful boys is sleep...or lack of it! She credits her husband, Dan, with being able to survive so many sleep deprived nights. “When Rocco was born, Ferris still wasn’t sleeping through. Both boys have fragile sleeping patterns and the slightest change in their routine can throw them. Rocco doesn’t self settle and only sleeps for around three hours at the most, and Ferris wakes once or twice most nights. There have been nights that Dan and I have passed each other in the hall swapping babies for feeding and rocking!”

Anyone who has run their own business can appreciate that usual ‘maternity leave’ rules don’t apply and Lisa was no exception. “I had no maternity leave with Rocco – lucky he was born a Saturday! I was back working when Rocco was six weeks old and wanted to maintain breastfeeding, so it has been a juggling act. When Rocco was 11 months old, both boys went to daycare. The experience has been fantastic and the boys love it. So, we are busy, and lacking in sleep, but we wouldn’t have it any other way!” ♦



PASTEL COLOURS ARE CALMING AND SOFT AGAINST DARK TIMBER.

Things Lisa loves about Ferris & Rocco's rooms:

1. Boori cot and change table. The cots are a real centerpiece and the change table is great as it is nice and high and makes changing and dressing easier.
2. Toy box. They both have one and they are nice and big and help to keep the room nice and tidy, and the toys safely away.
3. The chairs in both rooms. The

memories I will also have in Ferris' blue chair – reading, feeding, explaining the importance of sleep to him! I love the rocking chair in Rocco's room as it fully reclines and has allowed me to get some sleep if he is up all night!

4. The blinds in Rocco's room. They are beautiful, functional and safe, and the matching doona is adorable.
5. Book in Ferris' room. Ferris has Dan's copy of the Tawny Scrawny Lion from when he was a little boy, so it is really sentimental.



Things Lisa couldn't live without:

1. Sling. I used a sling with Ferris until he was about six months old, and then a Baby Bjorn with Rocco. Rocco refused to be put down, so this was great to be able to have both hands free still.
2. Swaddle/Wraps. We loved the Merino Kids swaddle when Ferris was a baby, he was such a little wriggler! Having Rocco in summer meant we used nice light organic bamboo wraps and they were a lifesaver.
3. Pram. I had a Mountain Buggy Urban with Ferris and I loved it to death! When Rocco arrived, we got a Baby Jogger City Select Double and it's great. It is really flexible and versatile with a huge storage basket!
4. Pigeon products. Ferris loved the peristaltic wide neck bottles and it helped make the transition to bottles much easier. We used the first teeth toothbrushes with Rocco – who cut his first tooth at 10 weeks!
5. Dummy. We call it the Choo Choo and I was adamant my babies would never have one...oh, I was so naïve!

Advice from Lisa for new mums:

Do what feels right for you and your baby.

Don't compare your baby to family or others – they are all unique.

A lot of mums give the illusion that their kids eat and sleep like angels and it's all rosy – it's hard work having babies, especially when they are close together in age. If you work on top of that, you deserve a medal just to get through it each week! Everyone does what is right for their family and should be supported in doing so.

THE DARK, MASCULINE TIMBERS ARE PERFECT FOR TWO LITTLE GENTLEMEN.

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FERRIS & ROCCO'S *style.*

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or monkeys, this is how a themed room can
really be done simply and with style.

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