



07 Mid-Century Modern

Design Handbook 2024

The Mid-Century Modern home juxtaposes clean, geometric lines with organic shapes and bright accent colours, evoking a sense of light-heartedness and optimism.

As part of our Design Handbook series for 2024, we've collaborated with Lachlan Grant, Managing Director of Happy Haus Property Group to show you how to create the Mid-Century Modern look, inside and out.



In our Mid-Century Modern Handbook, expert designer Lachlan Grant, shares his expertise and experience in bringing the Mid-Century Modern style to life. Mid-Century Modern architecture has been reimagined for 21st century living to incorporate contemporary minimalism and ultra-modern amenities.

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Functional, nostalgic & effortlessly cool

Reimagined for 21st century living, the classic style balances contemporary minimalism with the finesse, intelligence and spirit of Mid-Century Modern architecture.



1

Mid-Century Modern first garnered popularity in the 1950s for its optimistic and experimental qualities, shifting away from traditional, closed floor plan houses. This design is characterised by flat or raked roof lines, floor-to-ceiling windows, raised structures and great indoor-outdoor connections that integrate the home with the surrounding landscape.

Mid-Century Modern is known for its “form follows function” approach to design, the style prioritises practicality and purpose over unnecessary, ornate decoration. However, Mid-Century Modern isn’t wholly utilitarian. Instead, these homes juxtapose clean, geometric lines with organic shapes and bright accent colours, evoking a sense of spirited play and light-heartedness. This iconic Mid-Century Modern style is now seeing a huge resurgence with the updating of this design to incorporate minimalist sensibilities and ultra-modern amenities.

The Mid-Century style is best summarised as being lightweight with low-lying designs that embrace colour and nature. It reflects an optimistic and experimental approach to living that rebels against ornate traditions and aesthetics. It is the ‘architecture of ideas’, created by those who believe that a forward-looking style could be a vehicle for change to create a better society.

2



3



- 1 A combination of Axon™ Cladding with either Hardie™ Brushed Concrete Cladding or Hardie™ Fine Texture Cladding are ideal for creating modern minimalist facades with tactility.
- 2 The Mid-Century Modern home is designed to allow homeowners to reconnect to their surroundings and ground themselves in nature.
- 3 Axon™ Cladding is ideal in either 133mm or 400mm groove spacing options, these vertical groove panels pay tribute to the wood panelling trend of the 1970s and is resistant to shrinking, swelling and cracking and will hold paint longer than wood.

Design features

1 Flat or gently sloped roof

Roofs are hidden behind parapet walls or are gently sloping in skillion, butterfly and gable styles. They often feature large overhangs.

2 Exposed structure

The building structure is revealed with exposed uprights or beams. The fixtures that attach structures together are often exquisitely detailed.

3 Dominant roof line

The roofline defines the shape of structure. It is over wide with deep overhangs paying homage to architectural greats including Mies van der Rohe and Le Corbusier.

4 Large windows

Floor to ceiling windows fill rooms with light and connect indoors with outdoors.

5 Interiors

Heavily influenced by the best of mid-20th century chic, interiors feature textured glass, breeze blocks and natural stone crazy paving. A clean, monochromatic palette ensures a feeling of contemporary comfort, with hints of bold colour in paint, furniture and greenery injecting a sense of playfulness, nostalgia and freedom.



The Hardie™ Brushed Concrete Cladding embedded swept texture is reminiscent of softly brushed concrete and puts focus on the building's form and distinguishes the geometric lines.



Mid-Century Modern homes feature large overhangs with environmental and architectural benefits. Windows are designed for functionality and clean lines.



Ultra-modern amenities complement the geometric shapes, intelligence and spirit of Mid-Century Modern architecture.

Cladding solutions

Hardie™ exterior cladding is ideal for creating the striking form and angular shapes of the Mid-Century Modern house as well as the textural contrasts that further add to street appeal.

Axon™ Cladding

Ideal in either 133mm or 400mm groove spacing options, these vertical groove panels pay tribute to the wood panelling trend of the 1970s.



Hardie™ Brushed Concrete Cladding

With the embedded swept texture reminiscent of softly brushed concrete, these panels are ideal for creating modern minimalist facades with tactility.

Hardie™ Fine Texture Cladding

The texture reminiscent of fine render puts focus on the building's form and distinguishes the unique roof and exposed structure.

Hardie™
Brushed
Concrete
Cladding

Hardie™
Axent™ Trim

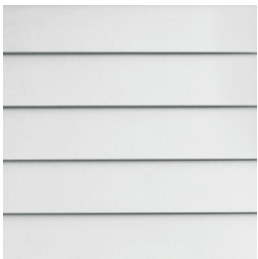
Axon™
Cladding



Options in select areas



Matrix™ Cladding

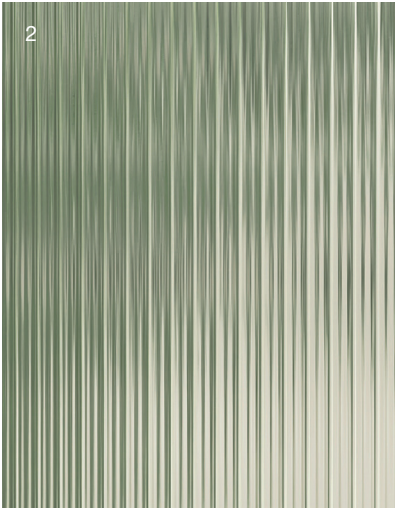


Linea™
Weatherboard

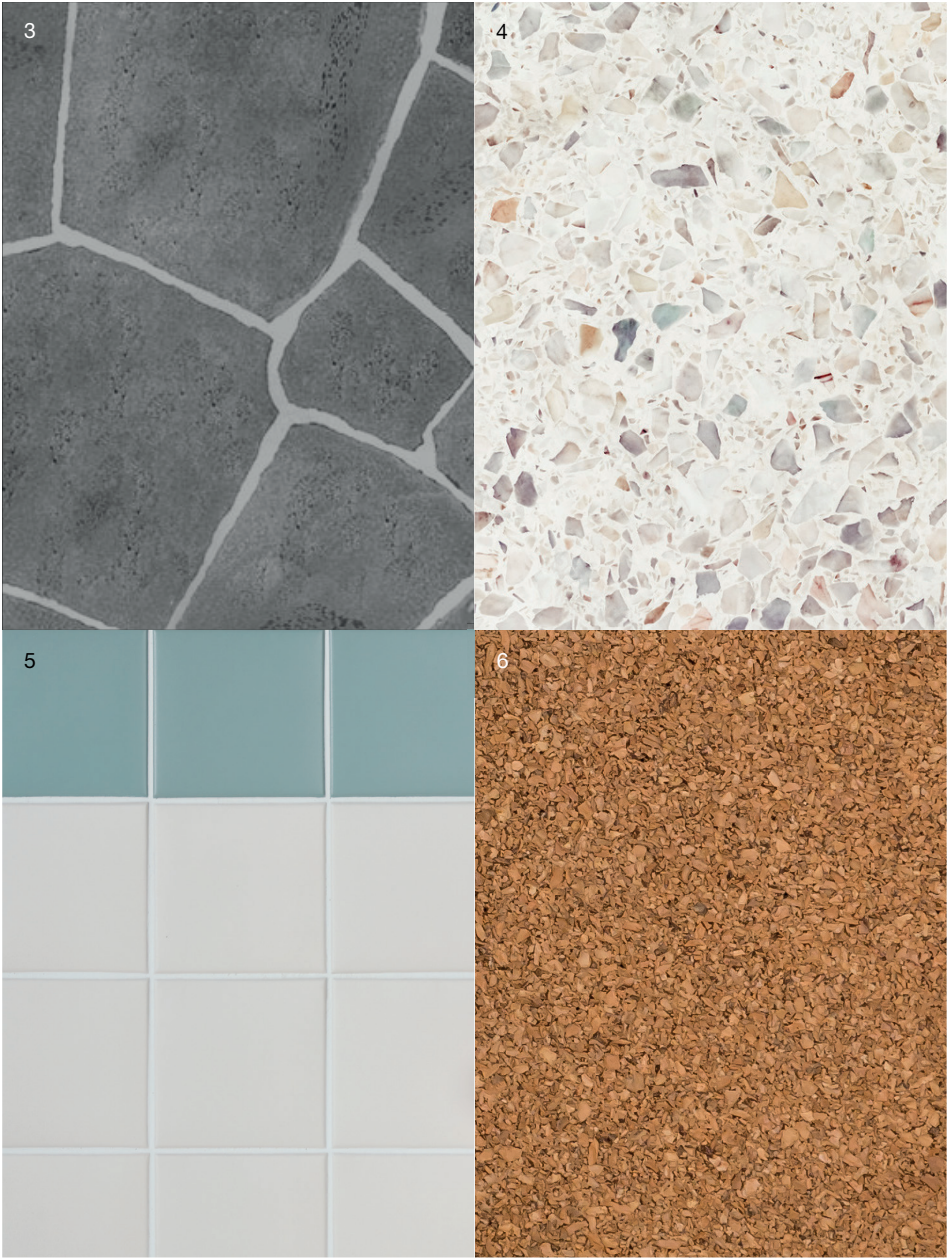
Materials & textures

‘I love the optimism of Mid-century Modern interiors. They reflect a design philosophy of simplicity, functionality and integration with nature.’

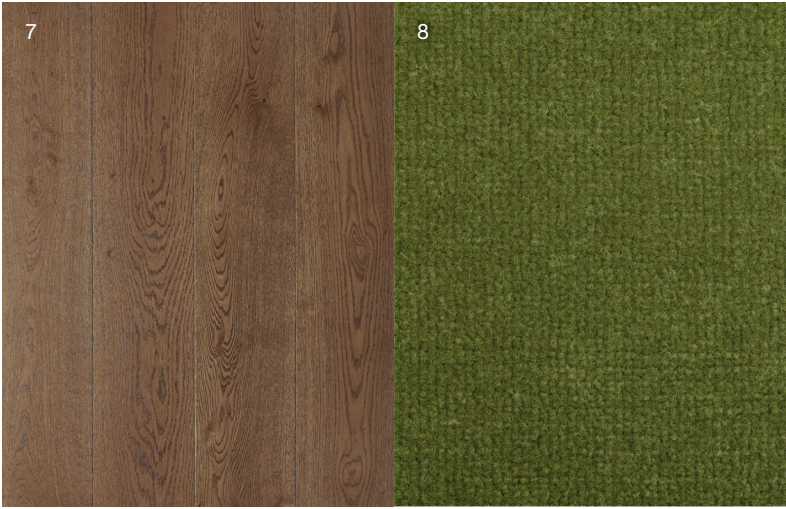
– Lachlan Grant, Managing Director of Happy Haus Homes



- 1 The Mid-Century Modern look features a clean, monochromatic palette with hints of warm wood.
- 2 The vertical grooves of fluted glass create texture and visual interest in cabinets, doors and panels.



- 3 Natural crazy paving delivers mid-20th century chic.
- 4 The unique aesthetic and speckled appeal of terrazzo make it an ideal choice for a Mid-Century Modern home.
- 5 In tiled areas, the contrast of a two-toned wall can create a distinct focal point.
- 6 Cork adds natural warmth and texture, providing a sustainable option for flooring and wall coverings.
- 7 The rich textures and grains of natural hardwood floors add warmth and character to any space.
- 8 Use textiles to add a pop of colour and an element of playful design to living spaces.



Colour palette

A clean, monochromatic palette ensures a feeling of contemporary comfort.

Hints of bold colour in paint, furniture and greenery inject a sense of playfulness, nostalgia and freedom.

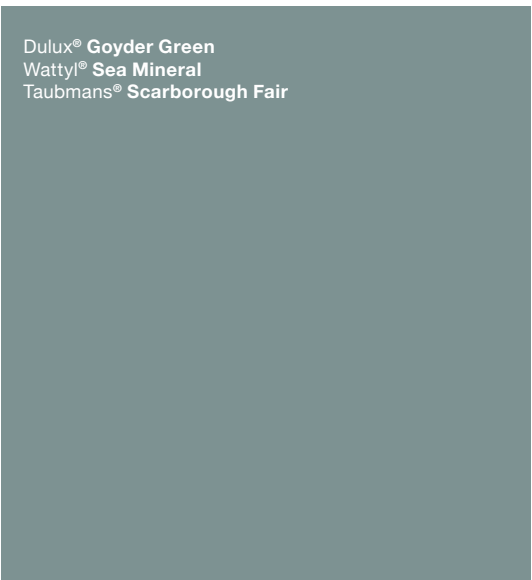
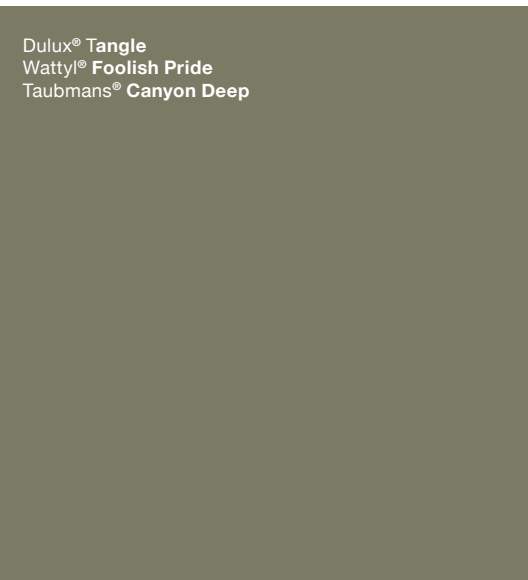


Contemporary, sophisticated charcoal grey contrasts with neutral and earthy tones.

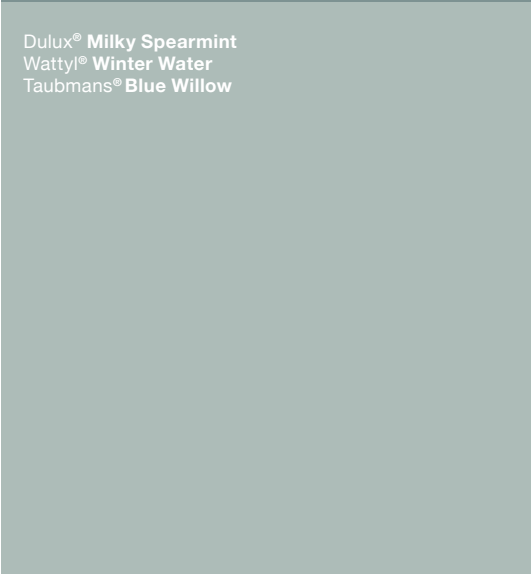
Scheme One

Scheme Two

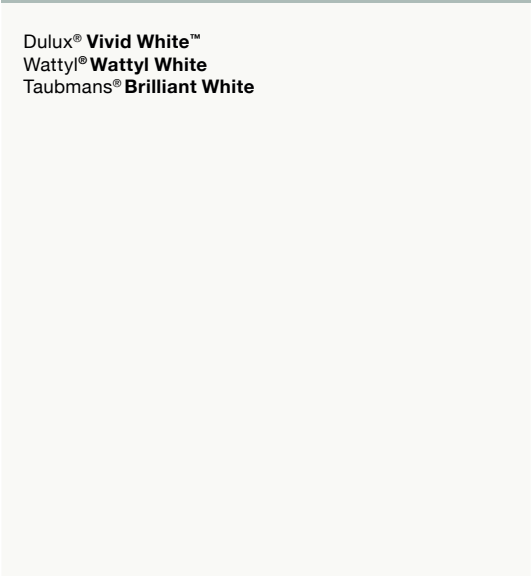
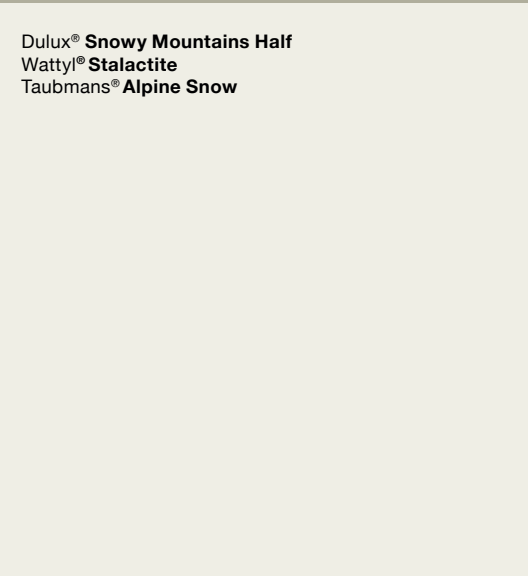
Use on the fascia



Use on the main walls



Use on the trims / details / features



Complete the look

Exterior

Interior

Mid-Century Modern aesthetics prioritise practicality and purpose over unnecessary, ornate decoration, however there is room for spiritedness and a sense of play in the style details.



Blu Dot, Dog Days Outdoor 2 Seat Sofa — features a durable frame and weather-resistant materials, making it perfect for any outdoor space. The clean lines and minimalist design allow it to blend perfectly with your Mid-Century Modern home.



Beacon Lighting, Viba LED — a sleek and modern lighting solution designed for outdoor use.



Milkcan, Tucson 90 Rust Fire Pit — designed to create an elegant centerpiece that is as functional as it is beautiful.



Corinthian Doors, Elements ELEM A2 (planked, symmetrical) — crafted to add a touch of elegance to any facade.



Jack, Oxyshield Podium Landscape Ring— an architecturally inspired element for your garden.

ZETR, Series 12 Surface — minimal, refined power outlets suited to all types of projects.



Gubi, Semi Pendant — it's distinctive arch-shaped, enamelled metal shade creates a diffused, cone-shaped light.



Jardan, Lemmy Sofa — a sculptural modular sofa with endless combinations, Lemmy's playful form is a nod to nostalgia.



ABI Interiors, Ivy Basin Sink — a modern, stylish oval basin, its gently curved design complements both classic and contemporary bathrooms.



National Tiles, London — the versatile London mosaic collection is comprised of concave finger mosaics in timeless porcelain strips.



Remington Matters, MF Table — this dining table showcases tastefully exposed innerworkings, allowing the intricate construction to speak for itself.

Variations of Mid-Century Modern

1 Mixed Cladding Mid-Century Modern

Paying homage to the mixed materiality of original Mid-Century Modern homes but introducing unexpected elements such as perforated steel and weatherboard cladding.



2 Mid-Century Modern Coastal

Inspired by the mid-century homes of Palm Springs, these homes have a decidedly coastal palette, underscored with striking greenery.

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