



06 Modern Coastal

Design Handbook 2024

Inspired by relaxed Australian beach heritage, Modern Coastal style offers a contemporary take on traditional coastal design with laid-back spaces, modern minimalism and crisp white weatherboards.

As part of our Design Handbook series for 2024, we've collaborated with Kyal and Kara, professional builders and renovators, and founders of Diverse Design & Construct, to show you how to create the Modern Coastal look, inside and out.



In our Modern Coastal Handbook, expert renovators, Kyal and Kara, share their expertise and experience in bringing the Modern Coastal style to life. Modern Coastal homes are defined by spaces that lend themselves to a laid-back, luxurious lifestyle where the lines between indoor and outdoor are blurred. Crisp white weatherboards, wide stacking doors and clerestory windows are typical in Modern Coastal design.

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Open, airy & light-filled

A contemporary take on traditional coastal design, Modern Coastal is inspired by Australia’s beach shack history with an injection of sleek minimalism and style.



The Modern Coastal look is a contemporary take on traditional coastal design. The style is inspired by the Australian way of life and beach shack history, modernised with an injection of sleek minimalism. Being harmonious with climate whilst connecting to the architectural history of the region is the benchmark for this style.

Modern Coastal homes are defined by spaces that lend themselves to a laid-back, luxurious lifestyle where the lines between indoor and outdoor are blurred. These homes are foundationally open-plan beach houses where occupants feel free to move around. The layout is enveloped by large-span windows and wide entrances to capture the sunlight and beachside.

On the facade, the flexible roof styles range from a bold gable, flat roof or skillion roof to provide a designer look. Well chosen, generous windows can be enhanced with hoods or vertical screens to provide shading and showcase the landscaping from all angles of the home. Crisp white weatherboards combine with textured cladding to marry minimalist and coastal design, amplifying a nostalgic ambience for carefree summer days. Interiors are light-filled and breezy, featuring lightweight furniture, natural textures and soft shades of green and blue.



Photography by The Palm Co
Styling by Kate Lawrence
Project by Rowland Building Co



Photography by The Palm Co
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Project by Rowland Building Co

- 1 The facade typically features crisp white cladding, such as Linea™ Weatherboard, adding coastal charm without the hassles of traditional timber.
- 2 The strong shadow lines of the Linea™ Weatherboard nods to a traditional beach house or Queenslander style.
- 3 Whites, light greys, beach beiges and muted pastel tones evoke a fresh and airy coastal palette and create a sense of spaciousness.

Design features

1 Flexible roof

An angular skillion roof, bold gable or flat roof style adds clean lines to the facade and evokes a contemporary coastal architectural style.

2 Weatherboard exterior

The facade typically features crisp white cladding, such as weatherboards, adding coastal charm without the maintenance of traditional timber.

3 Light colour palette

Whites, light greys, beiges and muted pastel tones evoke a fresh and airy coastal palette and create a sense of spaciousness.

4 Indoor-outdoor connection

Interior and exterior spaces are seamlessly connected through sliding glass doors, louvres and screens, creating an abundance of indoor-outdoor living areas.

5 Interiors

Pale timbers and white plaster create a sense of light and spaciousness inside with complementary natural textures and neutral coastal tones of soft greens and blues adding to the fresh, contemporary feel.



An effortless connection between indoors and outdoors is created through the use of streamlined sliding glass doors, louvres and screens.



Photography by The Palm Co
Styling by Kate Lawrence
Project by Rowland Building Co

Modern Coastal spaces are designed to capture the sunlight and ensure a lifestyle in harmony with the climate.



Photography by The Palm Co
Styling by Kate Lawrence
Project by Rowland Building Co

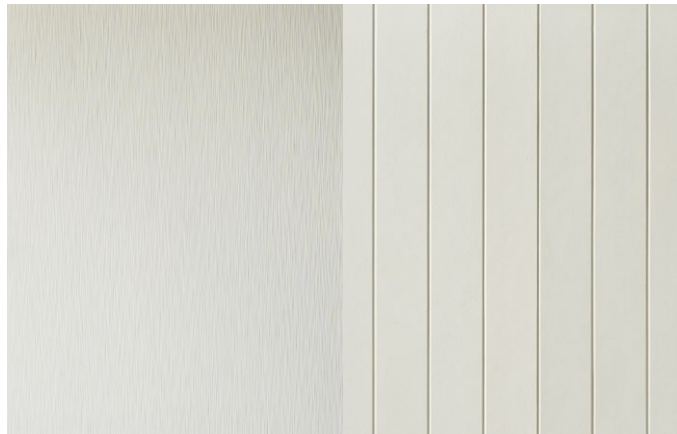
The pared back and effortless Modern Coastal interior epitomises laid-back luxury, ideal for private gatherings and relaxation.

Cladding solutions

Hardie™ exterior cladding delivers the fresh facade typical of the Modern Coastal home. Crisp, white, lightweight cladding such as weatherboards, add coastal charm without the hassles of traditional timber.

Linea™ Weatherboard

The strong shadow lines of this weatherboard nods to a traditional beach house or Queenslander style with a modern twist. Using Linea™ Aluminium Corner Soakers differentiates from a more traditional Hamptons look which has trim covering the corners.



Hardie™ Brushed Concrete Cladding

These flowing lines are ideal for creating Modern Coastal facades with a finish that's visually sophisticated and dynamic.

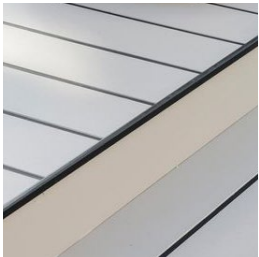
Axon™ Cladding

The shallow and narrow grooves with slanted edges offer the fine detail of a vertical joint panels without the hassles of timber.

Linea™ Weatherboard



Complementary Products



Hardie™ Deck



Hardie™ Groove
Lining



Materials & textures

‘Interiors are light-filled and breezy, featuring lightweight furniture, natural textures and the soft coastal palette of whites, light greys and beach beiges.’

– Kyal and Kara, professional builders and renovators, founders of Diverse Design & Construct



- 1 The Modern Coastal aesthetic centres on natural textures, soft shades and organic materials.
- 2 The versatility of microcement adds depth to interior and exterior walls.



- 3 The natural colours and patterns of sandstone are easy to maintain.
- 4 The smooth, semi-matte finish of satin tiles can mimic colours of sand, skies and sea.
- 5 The light and airy feel of smooth, whitewashed wood.
- 6 Vertical slats add texture to garage and other exterior doors.
- 7 Textured linens in neutral tones add a soothing quality to the coastal interior.
- 8 The natural hues of jute rugs work inside and equally outside in covered areas of the Modern Coastal home.



Colour palette

Colours in the Modern Coastal home are designed for tranquility and connection.

Whites, light greys, beach beiges and muted pastel tones evoke a fresh and airy coastal palette and create a sense of spaciousness and light. The interior and exterior palettes should emphasise the strong relationship between the home and its surrounds.

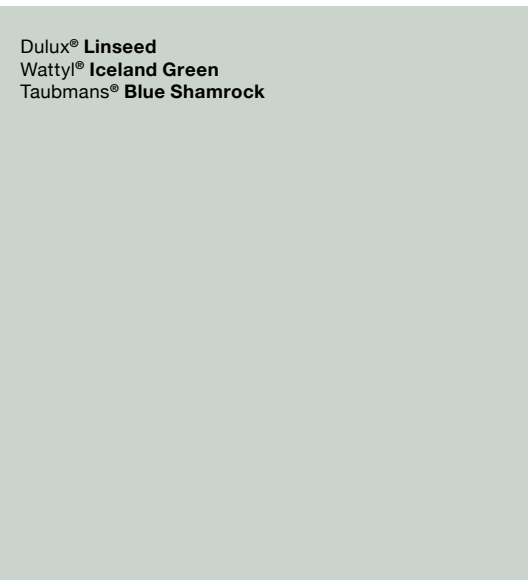


The facade typically features crisp white lightweight cladding and complementary materials.

Scheme One

Scheme Two

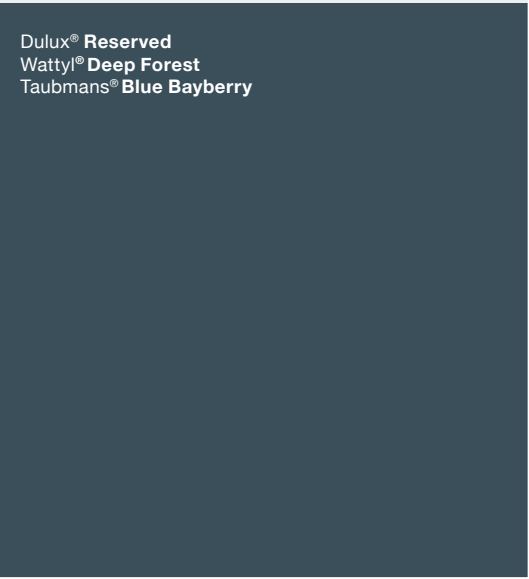
Use on the fascia



Use on the main walls



Use on the trims / details / features



Complete the look

Exterior

Interior

Modern Coastal homes often feature soft, natural fabrics, light wood accents, and simple, comfortable furniture. Spaces are designed to blend indoor and outdoor living seamlessly.



Delphi, 3 Seater Sofa — classic comfort meets contemporary style, this sofa has a wicker weave for a casual and laidback feel.



The Plants Project, Hana Pot — delicate, white, sand-like speckles on a grey rough finish polystone pot.



Heliconia — A great landscaping plant that maintains its bright green foliage all year round



Stonestyle, Random Basque — This stone is a combination of beige and creamy whites with occasional subdued oranges.



Basil Bangs, Jardin Patio Umbrella — featuring a classical domed shape, luscious fringing and a generous sun coverage.

Dharma Door, Tonga Woven Pendant Light — crafted from natural Ilala palm, this large pendant will add beautiful texture and character to your home.



Iver Life, Brunswick Lever — an impactful addition to your interior, the diamond cut cross knurling across the bar handle serves as a textural point of difference.



Rugs For Good, Laguna Wool and Jute Striped Rug — a classic striped pattern in neutral tones, creating a versatile piece that complements the Modern Coastal look.



Globewest, Vittoria Slip Cover 4 Seater Sofa — this soft and cosy sofa is a versatile piece to transform your Modern Coastal interior into well-lived spaces.



Robert Gordon, Periwinkle Table Lamp — cast in stoneware clay, this lamp captures soft light directly beneath its draped cap.



Loughlin Furniture, Keys Vanity — this solid timber vanity that feature a uniquely designed timber louvre door profile that belongs in any contemporary Modern Coastal home.



Variations of Modern Coastal

1 Box Modern Coastal

This style seamlessly blends the clean lines and simplicity of Box Modern design with the natural-look materials and laid-back vibe of Modern Coastal style.



2 Modern Queenslander

The modern Queenslander style retains many of the key features of the classic Queenslander, including the provision for airflow through the home.



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