

# Modern Coastal

*Style Guide*





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Styled by Blink Living*

# The Basics.

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Elegant, inviting and relaxing, coastal interiors on the Sunshine Coast are timeless, but now, Australian homes are evolving to a modern style of coastal luxe.

Traditionally, coastal style homes feature a range of iconic design elements such as white timber panelling, polished hardwood floors, high coffered ceilings and soft, neutral colour palettes in shades of soft whites, muted greys and inky blues.

Modern coastal styled homes cleverly blend a mix of coastal, tropical, white, timber and patterned elements with modern materials to give our homes a relaxed yet luxurious look and feel whilst maintaining a family-friendly atmosphere.

Synonymous with relaxed living and beach culture, coastal homes tie in exceedingly well with the Australian way of life and are generally quite accommodating of an indoor-outdoor lifestyle. Coastal style properties continue to be in high demand across the country.

The home decorating style that is modern coastal has become increasingly favoured on the Sunshine Coast, and the trend doesn't appear to be fading in popularity any time soon.

Creating a coastal inspired home doesn't have to be complicated. In fact, with some simple styling tips & tricks and some easy and affordable upgrades, you too could transform your home into an idyllic escape — reminiscent of a luxury seaside home.

Here in Noosa, the modern coastal look has become a mainstay of interior design and property styling, with many properties undertaking head-to-toe refurbishments in favour of achieving the look.

As one of the most desirable seaside locations in the world and a suburb made famous for being one of Australia's most picturesque holiday destinations, it's little wonder that Noosa residents are so taken with the trend or why homeowners are so intent on creating a modern coastal retreat of their own.

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Modern coastal is the perfect balance of quality luxurious materials and timeless design choices.



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# Living & Dining.

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A space to connect with family and friends, your living and dining area should be warm, welcoming and inviting. That doesn't mean that the room can't also encompass a modern coastal inspired look.

Those lucky enough to reside in a sea-breeze location should aim to maximize the benefits of their surroundings, ensuring that their living and dining spaces fully embrace the aspects and flow of the property. This should be accomplished while creating a cozy and livable atmosphere, perfect for unwinding and entertaining.

With a number of fundamental design elements derived from some of the finest seaside properties in the world, the coastal style can help to highlight and accentuate any existing beach views, in turn, driving up the value of your home. Here are some things to consider when planning your modern coastal style living and dining room.

## Open space

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Ideally, the floor plan of your living and dining area should be set out in a way that offers a clear line of sight and an obvious pathway to move around the room. Given that it is intended to be a multi-purpose space, the layout should be designed in a way that flows freely from one area to another.

## Relaxed furniture

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Essential to any true modern coastal styled living area is a variety of stylish homewares, comfortable sofas and occasional chairs. Most commonly, colours are muted greys, greens and blues with an added texture of tan leather. Extra furnishings like coffee tables, sideboards and dining tables tend to be made of organic oak timbers to add a touch of earthiness.



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## Window treatments

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Modern coastal seamlessly merges the indoors and outdoors throughout the home. The use of large scale, stacking glazed doors is a great way to achieve this cohesion. Sheer curtains are a fantastic window treatment to breakup large sections of glazing, delicately filtering the sun's rays throughout the day. When drawn of an evening they provide the perfect balance of privacy, infusing the interior space with a cosy warmth.

## Styling & decor

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As one of the featured areas of a home, the living and dining areas offer ample opportunity for styling and homeowners can really have fun decorating the space. Think beautiful ceramic vases with potted tropical indoor plants, a tasteful mix of light fittings and lamps and an assortment of textured timber pieces. Unique wall art, handmade ceramics and styled bar carts help tie the space together.



## Contrasting textures

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As for cushions, throws and rugs, modern coastal inspired styling is achieved through the use of a range of contrasting materials and textures. Consider investing in some high-quality rugs and of course, no coastal home is complete without a wide selection of cushions and throws.

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**The modern take on the coastal living space should be a mixture of fabrics, layering of textures and one stunning, bold statement.**



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# The Kitchen.

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Often thought of as the most important room in the home, the kitchen tends to be the place where families and guests congregate most. Being the central hub of the home, it is important that the style flows through the property accordingly.

Modern coastal inspired kitchens have a distinctly recognisable look and in most cases are just as functional as they are stylish. As coastal style homes are frequently used for entertaining, it is essential for the host to be able to prepare delicious meals while simultaneously tending to the needs of their guests.

Read on for the best tips on how to turn your kitchen into an elegant yet practical space to host unforgettable parties or to simply prepare a beautiful meal for loved ones.



## Beautiful benchtops

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When it comes to benchtops, there is a wide variety of materials that work well for modern coastal style homes; however, none are more popular or better suited than the classic marble countertop or natural tones. Size and proportions are key to making a usable yet show-stopper kitchen.

## No more chrome

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Along with bathrooms, the modern coastal look is all about incorporating tapware as a feature element. Consider white, brushed brass or even rose gold. Elevate your design with matching light fixtures and accessories like cabinetry handles. A timeless tile selection is also key to achieving the ultimate modern coastal kitchen.



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## Custom design

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The key elements of a modern coastal kitchen design include: the use of stone bench tops, feature tiled splash backs, functional storage, and a butler's pantry. This look is all about designing the kitchen correctly to allow all of the 'day to day' items to be tucked away in the butler's pantry so your kitchen space always looks clean and clutter free. Design is the most important element to achieving this look.

## Pendant lighting

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Given the high ceilings of traditional coastal homes, pendant lighting has become a staple for modern coastal inspired kitchens with decorative low-hanging lights often placed above the island bench top.

## Open plan living

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One of the fundamental features of modern coastal style kitchens is the open plan design of the space. Commonly, modern coastal inspired kitchens feature spacious floor plans with the addition of an island bench top which can be used as a breakfast bar. If you are renovating an existing home, you may be slightly limited as to what you can achieve, however it can be helpful to bear this in mind.

## Timber flooring

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In your modern coastal inspired kitchen, the addition of beautiful timber flooring brings a touch of contrast and warmth. These floors can seamlessly extend into other living areas, creating a blended look throughout your space.



# The Bathroom.

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No longer seen as simply a functional space, the bathroom is one of the most important rooms in the home. It has the capacity to set the tone for the rest of the property while simultaneously adding value.

Modern coastal inspired bathrooms tend to encompass the same sophisticated decor and soft, airy colour palette as the rest of the home. They are often viewed as a peaceful oasis in which one can retreat and relax after a long day.

Calming, tranquil and utterly serene, modern coastal style bathrooms feature a spa-like feel which can be deceptively easy to replicate. Consider the following elements to create a beautiful modern coastal inspired bathroom of your own.





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## Luxe finishes

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As with all home styling, the devil is in the detail – and this couldn't be more true for coastal style homes. While other rooms of the home may enjoy a more weathered, relaxed look, the bathroom calls for textured surfaces. When selecting tiles, splashbacks and vanity tops, try to keep to your colour palette minimal. Try to use whites, greys and muted tones or branch out by selecting a special feature tile.

## Cabinetry

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When designing your modern coastal bathroom, it's crucial to think about function and design. A classic white shaker style cabinetry can be easily elevated with some hardware. Whether it's a family bathroom or main ensuite, every coastal home has to complement the rest of the house using the same warm inviting tones and finishes.



## Tranquil bath time

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If the size of your space permits, a beautiful and tranquil bath will bring this space to life. As a true feature of a bathroom, a stunning bath area will be the first thing that will be noticed. Add feature tiles, hanging plants, featured mirrors and beautiful skin care products to help reinforce that modern coastal atmosphere.

## Feature tapware

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As we previously advised, your tapware is a feature of your modern coastal bathroom design. Consider colours and move away from chrome. Attention to detail must be considered not only for the master bathroom and ensuite, but even the powder room and laundry. Elevate your bathroom with matching tile trim, light fixtures, and accessories such as robe hooks and towel rails.



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# The Bedroom.

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With soft, soothing tones and a variety of contrasting textures, the modern coastal look lends itself particularly well to bedroom styling. The style provides a vast range of key styling techniques which will allow you to create a dreamy space in which to begin and end each day.

Comprising of a feature bedhead and lush textiles — modern coastal styled bedrooms are designed with the intention of creating a comforting atmosphere and establishing a peaceful environment in which one can instantly unwind.

Continuing with the gentle, neutral hues, the best modern coastal bedrooms feature a range of decor and styling pieces which make the space easy to customise. To personalise your bedroom whilst keeping to the traditional coastal look, follow our suggestions.





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## Featured fabrics

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As the largest piece of furniture in the room, your bed will undeniably be the main focal point and will set the style for the rest of your space. As such, it's essential that you choose a bedhead, euro size and feature fabric cushions that will be the centrepiece of your bedroom. Colours like grey and cream tend to work best, but for something more bold, an elegant navy blue can also be an excellent choice.

## Luxe linen

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Nothing says modern coastal quite like a luxurious set of sheets and decadently layered linens. Let the high thread count do all the talking, whilst keeping patterns to a minimum. For the main sheets, stick to classic crisp whites — then layer up with beautiful blankets, cushions and throws in a variety of colours to compliment the rest of the bedroom styling.

## Mood lighting

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If you're looking to set a relaxing mood, make sure you pay attention to all of your light fittings and fixtures. Again, layering is key here, as too-harsh overhead lighting can really affect the ambience of the space. Instead, try to include a range of lighting options from bedside table lamps, pendant lighting, standing lamps, even some featured wall lighting.

## Remember your guests

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As with all home styling, it's vital that you keep your guests top of mind. Spend some time thinking about who will be staying in the room and consider their individual wants and needs. For the master bedroom, perhaps you'll require additional storage space, a reading light or even a full-length mirror. However, for a child's bedroom, you may wish to incorporate more of a fun-loving vibe and include some free space for play.

## Artwork and decor

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In terms of modern coastal artwork and decor, the options are endless, but it's important to remember that less is more. Choose pieces that follow the coastal style theme and include pops of colour in line with your chosen palette. Try not to over think it, the most beautifully styled bedrooms always include a perfectly balanced amount of empty space.



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# The Outdoors.

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From family get-togethers to parties with friends, outdoor living is an important part of Australian culture – particularly for those among us who are fortunate enough to live on the Sunshine Coast. However, without a suitable space to entertain, inviting guests over can be somewhat challenging.

Fortunately, modern coastal style homes are made for entertaining; whether you have a large open backyard or a smaller patio space, creating an idyllic outdoor area can completely change the way you think about hosting.

Wouldn't you love to enjoy those warm summer nights in a beautiful space of your own? Continue reading to learn how to turn your backyard into a dreamy modern coastal outdoor retreat.



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## Outdoor furniture

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The first thing your guests will notice as they enter your coastal inspired outdoor living area is your furniture. It's important that it makes a strong statement. For an inviting and luxurious look you can't go past durable and timeless teak lounge furniture along with a scatter of weather resistant cushions. If you have the space, you may even want to add an outdoor dining set for those extra special occasions.

## Feature lighting

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When it comes to creating the perfect outdoor living space, lighting can play a key role in the overall ambience. If you intend on using your outdoor living space in the evenings as well as the daytime, be sure to add some feature lighting like lanterns and pendant lights.

## Greenery

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To create a true modern coastal style outdoor area, greenery is a must. However, how much will of course depend on the amount of space you have available. If you only have a small area to work with, consider investing in some elegant potted plants to add a splash of colour. If you have a larger backyard, create a coastal inspired garden by planting plenty of lush greenery and tropical plants.

## Poolside living

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If your backyard features a swimming pool, you're in serious luck, as nothing says 'coastal retreat' like lounging around by your own pool. Finish off the look by investing in some timber poolside furniture in a crisp, classic white. Add in some potted plants and for something truly sophisticated, consider surrounding the pool area in durable glass fencing.



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