



Modern Homes

LOOK BOOK & DESIGN GUIDE

Full of design and style advice for clean, contemporary home designs that suit the Australian climate.



Joe Snell

ARCHITECT

INTRODUCTION

Joe Snell is James Hardie's ambassador for modern looks. Joe's experience as a Registered Architect has crossed the fields of architecture, interior design, large scale urban event installation and lighting design. His passion is the cross-pollination of ideas through different typologies and the pursuit of each project as a work of creativity. This approach is reflected in the recognition Joe

has received in national design awards in retail, commercial, event and retail projects.

Joe holds a B.Arch and a B.Sc(Arch) and was educated at the University of Sydney and the Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen.

Joe is passionate about improving Australian homes and the happiness and wellness of their occupants by making good design accessible.



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Modern Homes

AUSTRALIAN MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY HOMES

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The majority of Australians want a modern or contemporary looking home. They just don't know how to ask for one. This book intends to help home owners bring their vision to life and create a clear brief for their architect, building designer or builder so they get the modern home they dreamed of.

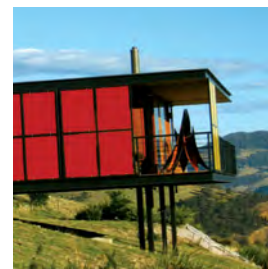
This book takes a look at the modern homes being built in Australia, organises them into a series of

Looks and then deconstructs them to explain the elements which make them work.

Good modern design is about simplicity and paring back unnecessary details to focus on form and function. As a result, a modern home requires fewer design decisions. But they have to be really good to pull off a striking yet calming, sleek modern home.



BOX MODERN



MID-CENTURY MODERN



MINIMALIST



DESIGNER MIXED MATERIALS



MODERN COASTAL



SCANDI BARN



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MODERN ESSENTIALS

Modern design is the opposite to ornate classic design. It's all about simplicity. Here are the four essential ingredients to get a modern or contemporary looking home.

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1 SYMMETRICAL REGULAR FORMS. SCANDI BARN AND BOX MODERN LOOKS



2 THE CLEAN LINES OF AXON™ VERTICAL GROOVE CLADDING



3 THE CANTILEVERED BEDROOM, ON THE LEFT, GIVES THE FACADE ARTICULATION

1. BOLD FORMS

Form refers to the shape or configuration of a building. The form is largely determined by the roofline and has the biggest influence over the look.

2. CLEAN, SLEEK LINES

Modern homes have clean lines achieved by an absence of eaves and hidden downpipes and guttering. Window style and placement is more important to the exterior look.

3. FAÇADE ARTICULATION

While a boxy look is common, you can't just build one big box. Instead, consider 3 boxes and offset them. Make some project outwards and some recede. Cantilever out second storey boxes.

4. MONOCHROMATIC COLOUR PALETTE.

Form and shadow lines from cladding require careful consideration with a limited colour palette. Stick with black, white and grey. Add small pops of colour with plants and timber features.





LOOK



The box was foundational in the development of architecture for the modern age. It's driven by the ethos "form follows function" where ornamentation is absent and design is stripped back to its bare bones keeping a pure form, such as homes designed as stacked boxes.

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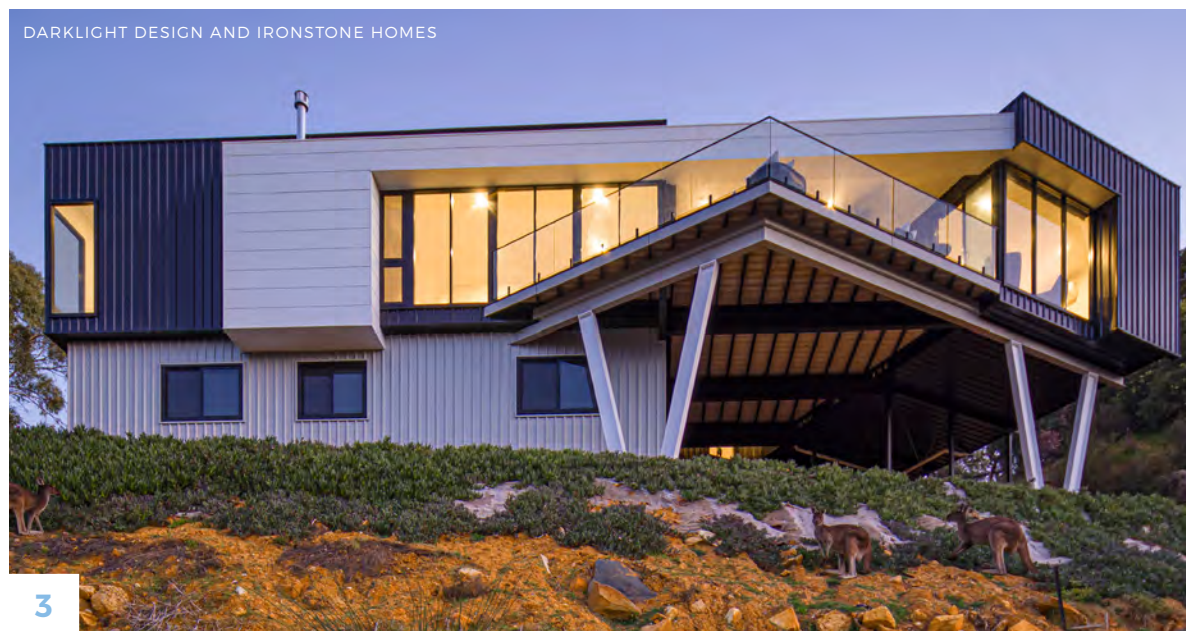


1 CANTILEVERED BOXES IN MATRIX™ AND AXON™ CLADDING



2

LINEA™ WEATHERBOARDS GIVE BOX MODERN HOMES A COASTAL FEEL



3

THE BIG V HOUSE BY DARKLIGHT DESIGN WITH STRIA™ CLADDING

1. FLAT ROOF LINES

Roofs need a fall to direct rain to gutters. Gently sloping roofs and guttering are hidden behind parapet walls with contrasting capping to highlight the shape against the sky.

2. STACKED BOXES

Boxes, or cubic volumes, become interesting when arranged so that they're of different size or offset from each other. Allow some to project and some to sit back.

3. ELEVATED FORMS

Allow boxes to float on stilts on sloping sites or put a big second storey box over a smaller ground box.





Mid-Century Modern

LOOK 2

MID-CENTURY MODERN

The modernism style came from Europe and influenced suburban architecture in the 1950's and 70's. It delivered flexible, affordable modern homes which are admired today.



1 A BOX-LIKE FORM SET IN NATURE WITH POPS OF COLOUR



2 A SINGLE STOREY HOME WITH AXON™ CLADDING 400MM

1. CONNECTION WITH NATURE

Typically in bush, coastal or rural settings Mid-Century Modern (MCM) homes are outward looking. They remove barriers between the inside and outside with wide opening stacking doors and floor to ceiling windows (glass walls).

2. WIDE SINGLE LEVEL HOMES

MCM homes enjoy large lot sizes and tend to be single storey. They are wide and low-set with flat or shallow pitched skillion roofs, often with large overhanging soffits.

3. OPEN PLAN LIVING.

MCM homes helped Australians move away from homes with small rooms connected by hallways and into the light-filled open plan living areas we enjoy today.



3 LARGE PROTECTIVE OVERHANGS PROMPT OUTDOOR LIVING AREAS



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LOOK 3

Modern design is pared back. Minimalist design is pared back to the extreme. Distraction is removed and attention is paid to proportion and balance to achieve tranquility. It's inward looking. An antidote to our crazy, busy modern lives. Influences come from Japanese architecture and Zen (meditation) inspired interior design.

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SNELL ARCHITECTS - SURRY HILLS, NSW

CLEAN HORIZONTAL LINES WITH STRIA™ CLADDING



DE ATELIER ARCHITECTS AND TRUFORM CONSTRUCTION

BOLD YET SIMPLE WITH A SKILLION ROOF AND MATRIX™ CLADDING

1. PARED BACK AESTHETIC

The roofing, gutters and downpipes are hidden. Attachments like balconies, wall lighting and handles are absent.

2. ATTENTION TO PROPORTION

Box shapes are precisely sized and positioned. Doors and walls can be colour-matched to appear as one.

3. SIMPLICITY FOR TRANQUILITY

Many people are choosing to live life more simply. It's a rejection of all the 'stuff' we accumulate. A minimalist home gives you the time to focus on your health. Keep a few nice pieces of furniture which 'bring joy'. Less is more. Less 'stuff' makes small spaces feel big.



Materials

LOOK 4

DESIGNER MIXED MATERIALS

Shrinking lot sizes and smaller frontages can lead to rows of similar houses which, at worst, have a social housing feel. Mixing cladding materials and textures gives homes a architectural style, personalisation and a richer streetscape.



1 A MIX OF BRICK, STONE, TIMBER AND MATRIX™ CLADDING



2 BLUEWATER BUILDING - DUNSBOROUGH, WA

MIX VERTICALLY ORIENTED STRIA™ CLADDING WITH HORIZONTAL

1. MIXED CLADDING

Single face brick homes are discouraged in most new housing estates. Many design covenants suggest facades with 3 different materials. Consider how texture and colour can highlight or hide elements to accentuate the form.

2. CONTRASTING COLOUR AND TEXTURE

Use restraint and don't make things too busy. Create layers and focal points with cladding styles. Vertical groove cladding can appear to raise roof lines. Horizontal cladding boards can create calmness. Panels in a large format brick pattern can help a building look grounded. Weatherboards can add a casual charm and soften facades.

3. RAW MATERIALS

Mix raw materials with the painted finish in the form of tiles, recycled bricks, timber or raw fibre cement (from James Hardie's commercial range).



3

BLACK AXON™ CLADDING DRAMATICALLY CONTRASTS THE RED BRICKWORK



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LOOK 5

MODERN COASTAL

Reflecting the shape and colour of the coastline combined with a weatherboard beach shack history. Blend indoor and outdoor living areas and create a laid-back lifestyle.



CURVED ROOF LINES REFLECT COASTAL SHAPES



SKILLION OR SHED ROOFS IN COMBINATION



DEEP SHADOW LINEA™ WEATHERBOARDS FOR A RELAXED VIBE

1. COASTAL CURVES AND COLOURS

Curved shapes are reminiscent of waves and sand dunes. Curves can be executed with Colorbond® roofing. External feature walls can be painted in deep ocean blues.

2. SKILLION ROOFS

While typical hip and gable roofs have two sloping sides which rise up to meet at a peak, a skillion, or 'shed roof' has a single slope. They're a simple form which can become a design feature.

3. WEATHERBOARDS

Weatherboards give a relaxed coastal or country look that many of us associate with holiday houses. Contemporary weatherboards have flat profiles and smooth textures to give clean lines. Ideally they're long and can be butt-joined for a seamless look.



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Scandi

LOOK 6

The simple barn style form with a steeply pitched roof, a pared back aesthetic painted in a dark colour and set in dramatic countryside is breathtaking. The design allows homes to deal with the weight of rooftop snow. We don't need to worry about that in Australia, we just love the look.

SCANDI BARN



1 AN INNERCITY BRISBANE HOME USING LINEA™ WEATHERBOARDS



2 A RURAL HOME FEATURING AXON™ CLADDING BY DARKLIGHT DESIGN IN WA



3 A DUPLEX COMBINING THE TIMBER LOOKS OF LINEA™ AND AXON™

1. STEEPLY PITCHED ROOF

The steep open gable roof, an absence of eaves, hidden guttering and projecting fascia creates a bold look which brings the farmhouse to the suburbs.

2. SIMPLE FORM

Simple forms highlighted by contrasting colours. A simple yet striking design appearing as a global trend. With the Scandi love of timber the style works well with vertical joint timber cladding or weatherboards made from smooth and uniform fibre cement for clean lines.

3. SCANDINAVIAN INTERIOR DESIGN

Australians love the Scandi interior design style. It's minimalist with clean lines and soft neutral tones with blonde timber. Pare back to focus on quality pieces of furniture and clusters of framed artwork.



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1 A FLAT ROOF IS A MUST ON THIS MATRIX™ CLADDED PROJECTING BOX



3 BLUEWATER BUILDING - DUNSBOROUGH, WA

A MATCHING COLOUR HELPS BLEND THE DOWNPIPE INTO THE STRIA™ WALL

FLAT ROOFS



2 A FACADE WITH A LINEA™ WEATHERBOARD PARAPET WALL

1. FLAT ROOF

Flat roof architecture is timeless and the greatest hallmark of modern and minimalist design. It is a space saving style that provides headroom below and the opportunity for a rooftop garden above.

2. PARAPET WALL

A parapet wall extends above the roof. In ancient design it was a defensive feature for soldiers to hide behind if their castle was under attack. In modern times it can be an aesthetic feature to hide a sloping roof and give the impression of a flat roof. Or it can be used as a fire wall to help protect neighboring properties from flame spread.

3. CONCEALED GUTTERING

To maintain the clean lines of contemporary homes it makes sense to conceal gutters and down pipes. It's important to include this in the early stages of design rather than leave it as an afterthought which could turn ugly.



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SLOPING ROOFS



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A LARGE NORTH FACING SKILLION ROOF



AN ASYMMETRICAL SALT BOX ROOF



AN OPEN GABLE, SKILLION AND FLAT ROOF ON ONE HOUSE

1. SKILLION/SHED ROOFS

Skillion roofs provide a bold design choice. Orient the high side North and include an overhang and they're great for catching Winter sun and shielding Summer sun.

2. SALT BOX ROOF

A salt box roof provides a different form with its asymmetrical sloping roof. The first salt box houses were probably brought about by ground floor additions to double storey homes where the roof was extended down one side.

3. STEEP PITCHED OPEN GABLE

Symmetrical gable roofs are common and economical to build. Steeply pitched roofs work well in areas with high winds and heavy rain to stop the ingress of water. A shallow gable is less than 30 degrees. Pointy, steep gables seem to be in fashion and are a must for barn style designs.



WINDOW STYLES



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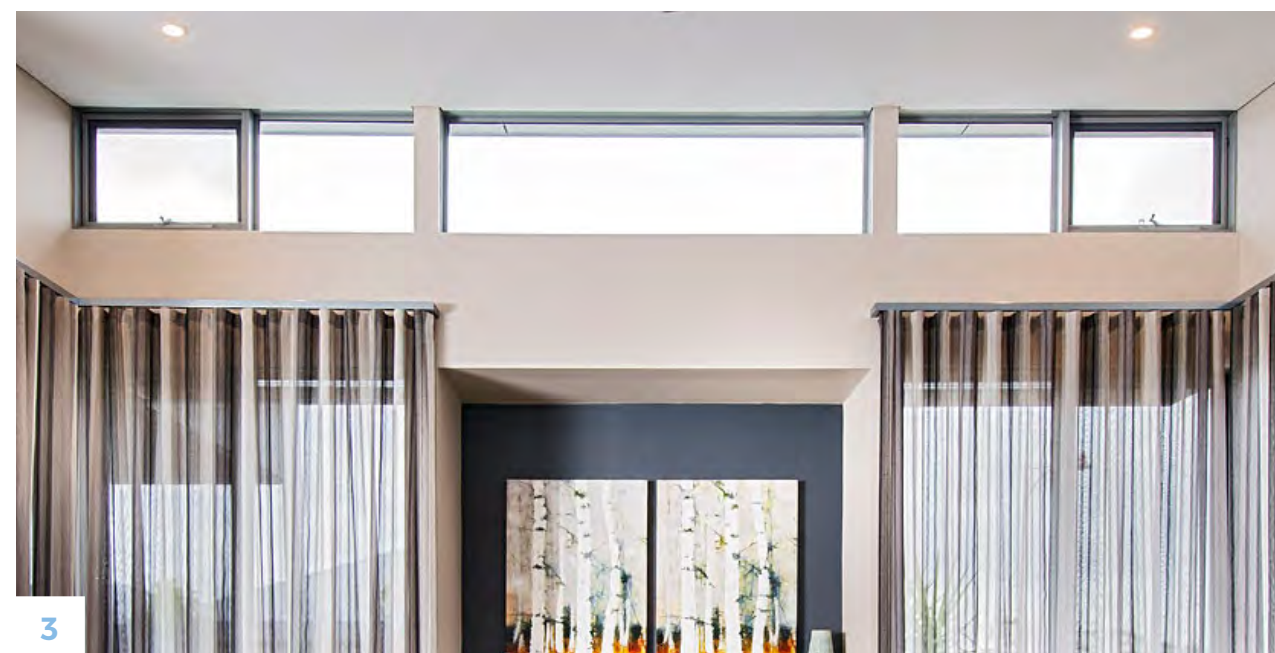
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1
ORIEL WINDOW IN S GROUP ARCHITECTURE'S WILD BULLDOG HOUSE
S. GROUP ARCHITECTURE - LAUNCESTON, TAS



2
PROJECTING WINDOW FRAMES MAKE A GREAT FEATURE
EVOLVING CONSTRUCTION - UMINA BEACH, NSW



3
NORTH FACING CLERESTORY WINDOWS LET WINTER SUN DEEP INTO HOMES

1. ORIEL WINDOWS

Modern facades need carefully considered windows like oriel windows. They're a form of bay window which protrudes from the main window of the building.

2. PROJECTING WINDOW FRAMES

Another way to make windows a feature is to create frames or surrounds that projected out from the cladding to give the facade depth and interesting shadow lines that add to the facade.

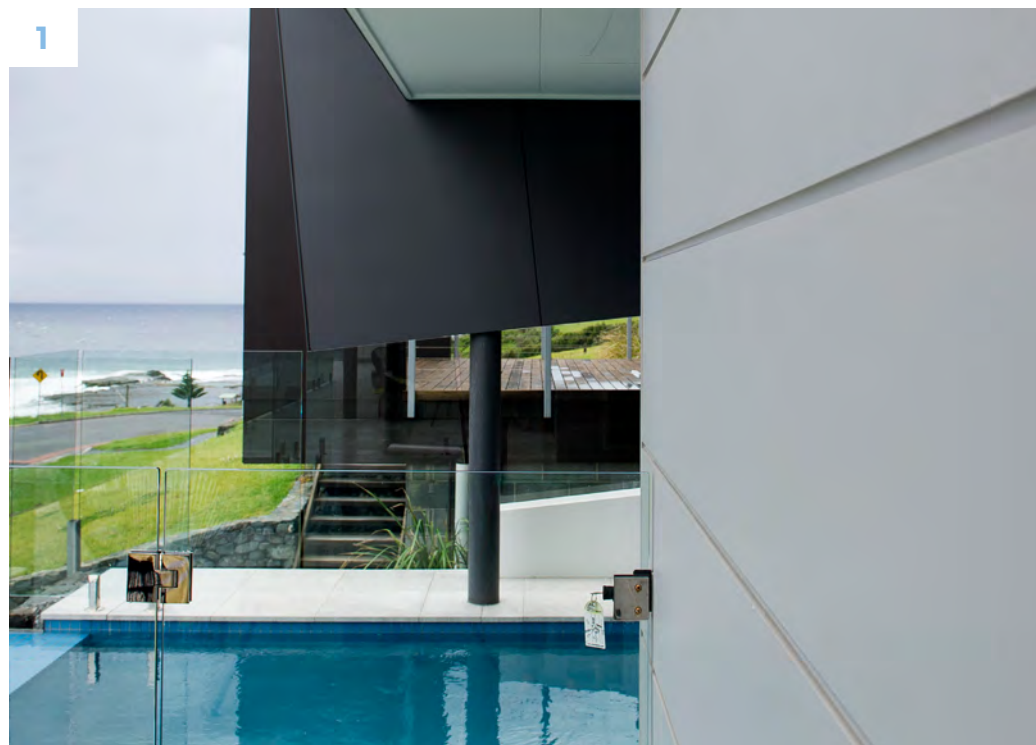
3. CLERESTORY WINDOWS

Clerestory windows are set above eye level on high sections of wall to let light deep into the home. They work well with north facing skillion roofs.



MONOCHROME COLOUR PALETTE

Choose any colour you like. As long as it's not a colour. At present, contemporary homes are limited to black, white and grey tones.



MALAY GREY HALF IS USED WITH STRIA™ CLADDING 405MM



DRAMATIC WHITE AXON™ CLADDING WITH BLACK TRIMS BY MAEK BUILDERS, WA



DARK MOODY GREY IS USED ON THIS CARBON NEUTRAL WA HOME

1. LIGHT GREY

Light greys (*'greige' is the new beige*) are a popular easy fit on contemporary Australian Homes. They're soft, relaxed and contrast elegantly with cool whites.

2. BLACK AND WHITE

For a sophisticated modern look choose a warm white and contrast it with near-black trims.

3. DARK GREY

Recently Australians have fallen in love with dramatic, dark moody greys which create a dramatic contrast with white elements, the sky and foreground greenery.



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MODERN ADDITIONS

Discover that old and new can work together and bring your vision to life. In suburbs close to cities and town centres home owners, and often councils, want to retain the suburb character and street appeal of heritage homes. On the flipside home owners want to live a modern, open plan indoor outdoor lifestyle. As a result contemporary additions to heritage homes are common.



DRUMMOYNE NSW. A 1902 HOME WITH BOX MODERN ADDITION



NORTH PERTH WA. CONTRASTING ADDITION



TOOWOOMBA QLD. A TINY COTTAGE AND CONTEMPORARY TWO STORY HOME



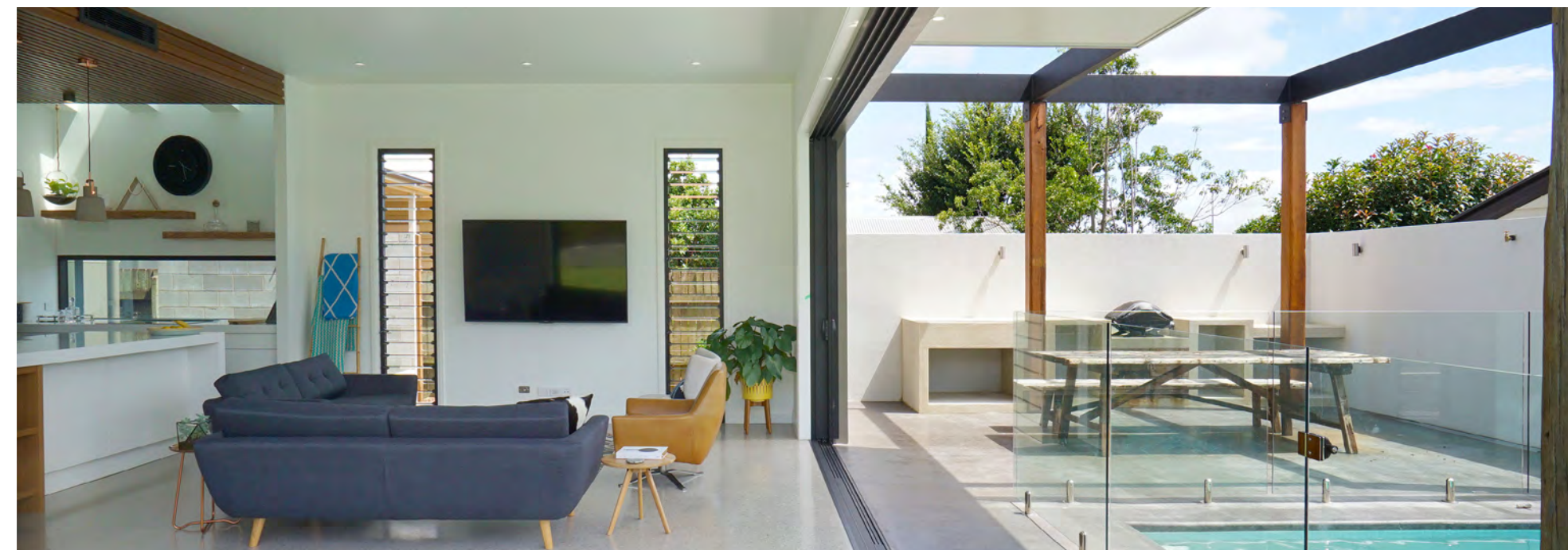
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CONNECTING INDOORS WITH OUTDOORS

Australia has the perfect climate for indoor outdoor living. Its desirable to create a close connection between your house and a garden, private courtyard or well styled deck. Modern urban life is associated with chronic stress. Greenery and glimpses of sky can provide psychological relaxation, stress alleviation and stimulate social cohesion. The more the merrier. Promote connection to the outdoors with large windows and openings.



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OUTDOOR ROOMS

Outdoor living is something most Australians aspire to. With shrinking house lot sizes gardens are being replaced by private courtyards, decks and balconies to restore outdoor leisure space. These are ideal spaces to invite friends over for a BBQ. They're also a place of sanctuary. Grab a drink or a good book and head out to a swing-chair for wicker lounge some me time.



AN ELEVATED HARDIEDECK™ OUTDOOR ROOM OFF THE KITCHEN. DARKLIGHT DESIGN - BIG V HOUSE, WA



HARDIEDECK™ IS A GOOD OUTDOOR ROOM SOLUTION FOR HOMES IN BUSH FIRE ZONES



HARDIEDECK™ AND AN AXON™ CLADDING CABANA. THREE BIRDS RENOVATIONS - HOUSE 10.



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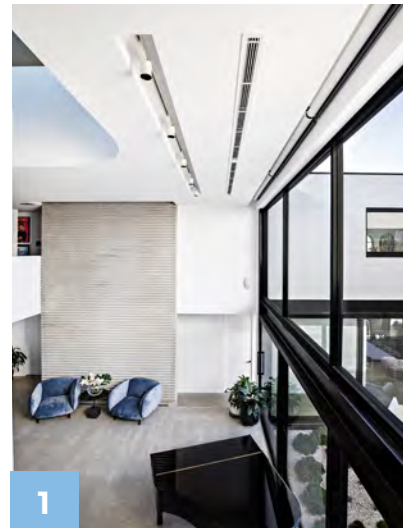
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JOE'S 5 DESIGN STEPS

The basics of home design rely on five key concepts; light, sound, space, view and air. Building a new home or adding an extension offers the opportunity to harness these concepts to improve the experience of living in the home.



SPACE

Ceiling height can help people be more creative and improve their mood.

By breaking down the walls, contemporary design facilitates better family connections.

Think about how each space is used and direct people subconsciously to an obvious destination, such as the lounge in the family room.



LIGHT

Orientation is the key to maximising natural light. Put living areas in the northern end of the floorplan for all-day light and bedrooms toward the south that need less natural light. You can retrofit orientation to your home with sky lights or second storey extensions.



AIR

Feeling a cool breeze on a hot day is relaxing. Yet a draught in winter is annoying. Air flow and temperature are vitally important to enjoying your abode.

Create a breezeway so air flows through the house by placing doors and windows on opposing sides of the structure. Place windows adjacent to concrete floors to catch the winter sun and soak up warmth.



SOUND

Rooms placed at the rear, away from the street are generally quieter. Insulation shields external noise as well as temperature. Battened-out internal walls can provide audio insulation. Textured surfaces like carpet and ceiling finishes stop sound bouncing around.



VIEW

It's important to understand what view lines are into your home from surrounding buildings and the neighbourhood. For privacy, block lines of sight with greenery or architectural features. If you don't have an appealing view, create one with a well placed large format mirror with a considered reflection.



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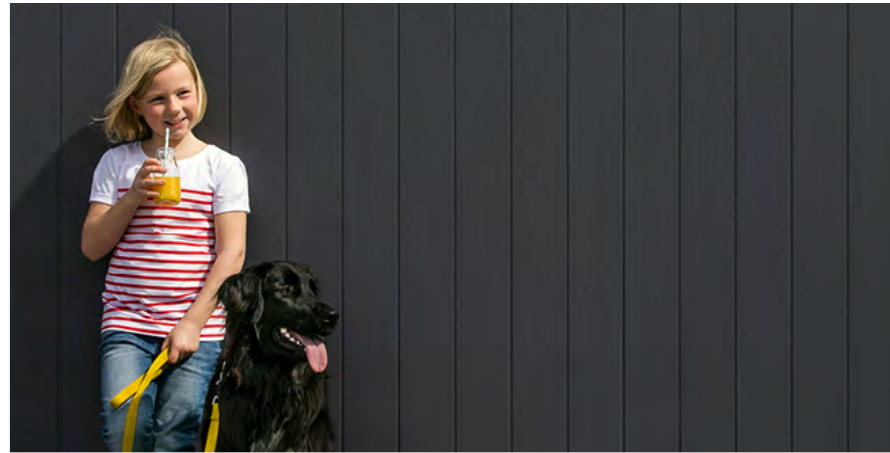
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CLADDING



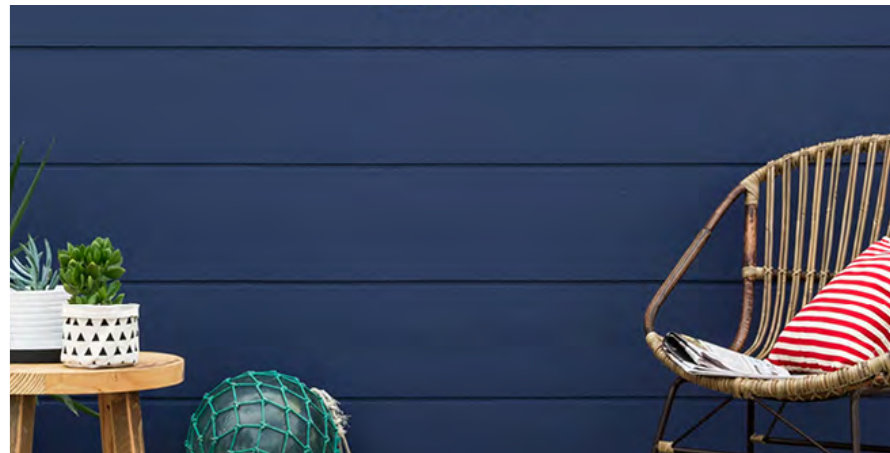
AXON™ 133MM SMOOTH



AXON™ 400MM SMOOTH



AXON™ 133MM GRAINED



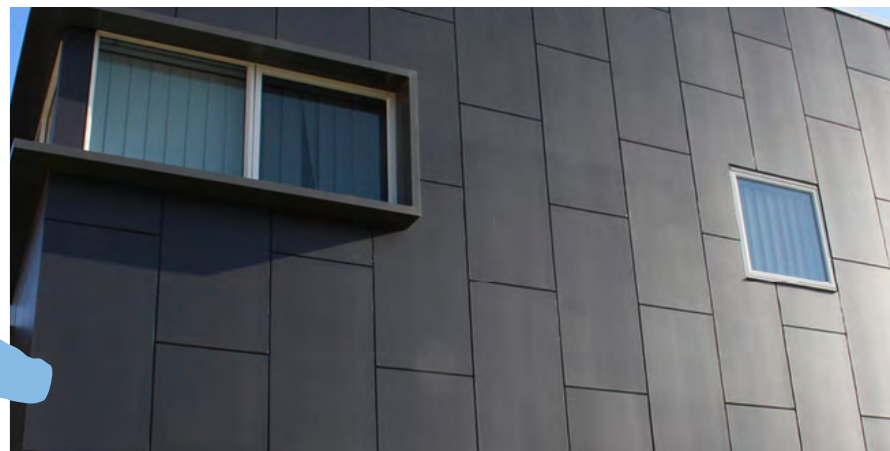
STRIA™ 325MM STANDARD



STRIA™ 405MM WIDE



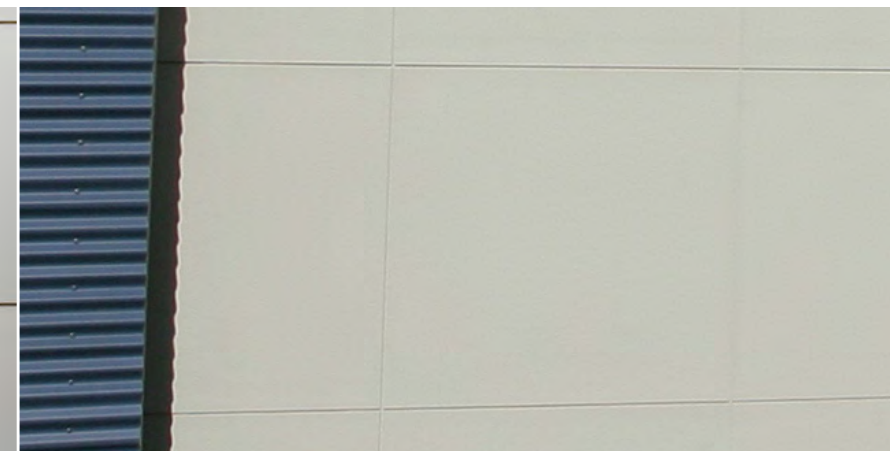
STRIA™ 255MM SPLAYED



MATRIX™ 590MM VERTICAL



MATRIX™ 890MM HORIZONTAL



MATRIX™ 1190MM SQUARE

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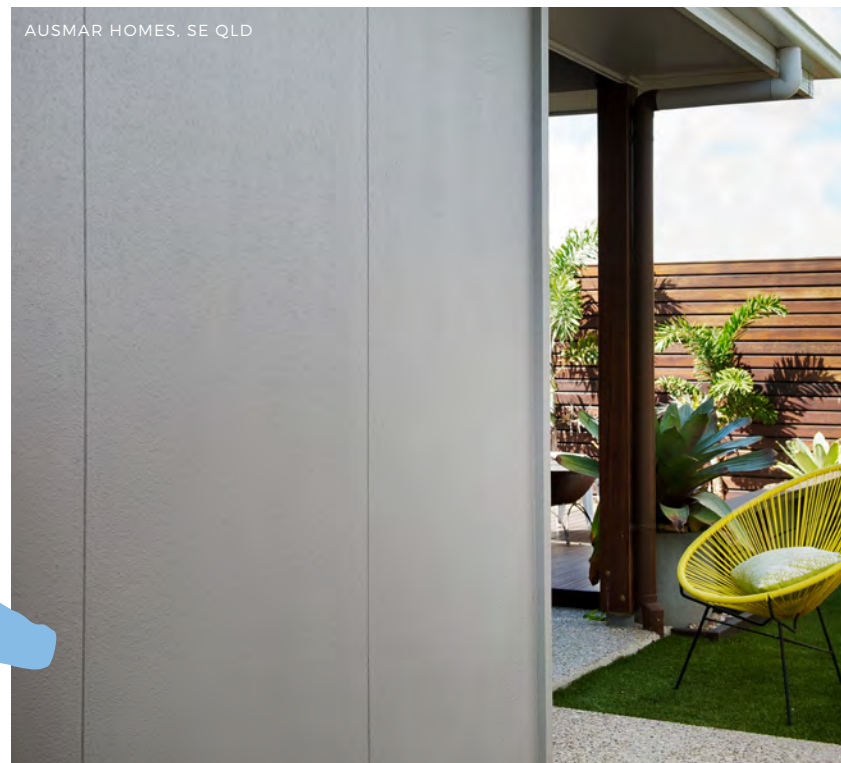
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HARDIEFLEX™ CLADDING IN THE GABLE



EASYLAP™ PANEL IN TEXTURED PAINT



HARDIEFLEX™ RENDERED LOOK



AXENT™ TRIM BATTENS OVER FIBRE CEMENT SHEETS

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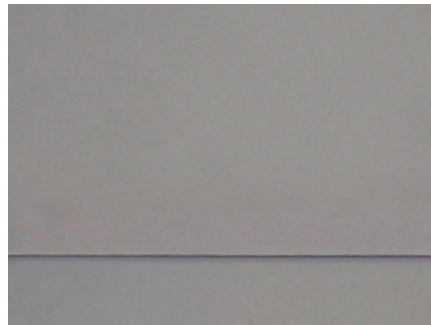
WEATHERBOARD



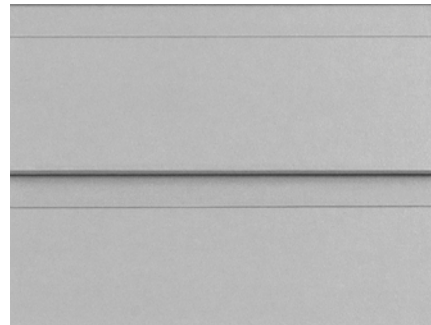
HARDIEPLANK™ WOODGRAIN



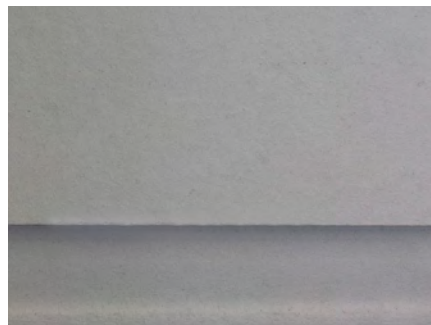
PRIMELINE™ SUMMIT



HARDIEPLANK™ SMOOTH



PRIMELINE™ NEWPORT



HARDIEPLANK™ OLD STYLE



PRIMELINE™ HERITAGE



HARDIEPLANK™ RUSTICATED



PRIMELINE™ CHAMFER



LINEA™ 150MM



LINEA™ 180MM



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FLOORING & INTERNAL



HARDIEDECK™



VERSILUX™ LINING IN WIDE EAVES AND SOFFITS



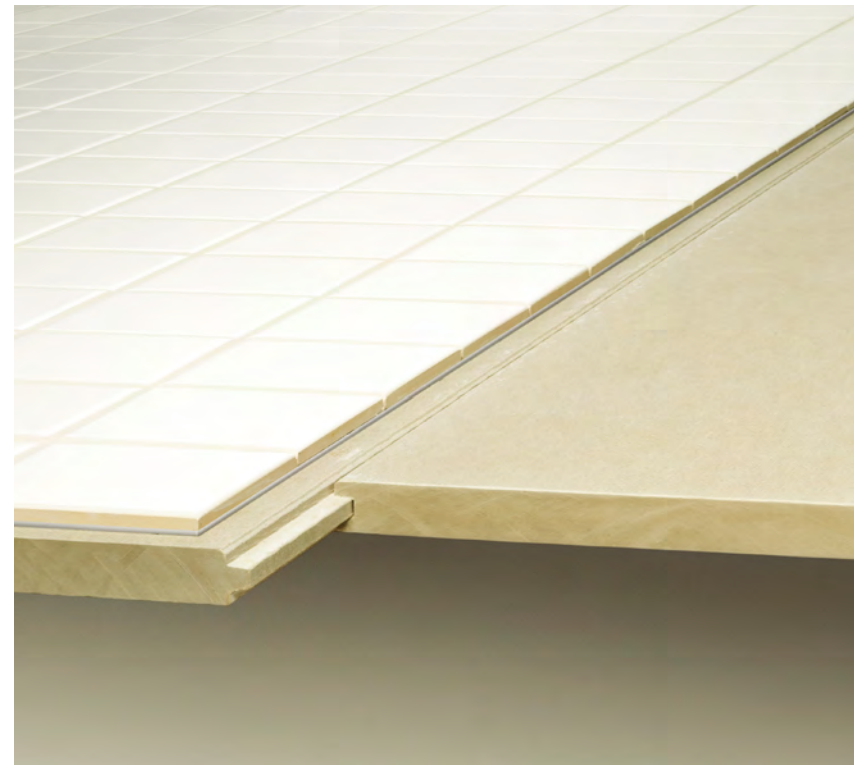
HARDIEFLEX™ EAVES AND SOFFITS



HARDIEGROOVE™ LINING



VILLABOARD™ LINING



SECURA™ INTERIOR FLOORING FOR BATHROOMS



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scyonwalls

FOR INSPIRATION AND TIPS ON BEAUTIFUL AUSTRALIAN HOMES VISIT



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INSTALLATION GUIDES

For further information and to download installation guides for James Hardie products visit jameshardie.com.au.



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