

# THE BARE ESSENTIALS

The beach shack has transformed into a modern home without forgetting its seaside roots. Here are three weekenders inspired by tradition.

**WHAT'S HOT**  
IN BEACH LIVING



## OLD DOG, NEW TRICKS

Taking inspiration from the quintessential 1960s beach shack next door, this two-storey modern version is based on the same visual and durable design principles that have stood the test of time.

Designer Rohan Jackson says the use of sheet and weatherboard cladding helped to create an interesting visual look, which was even further enhanced by applying a different block colour to each material.

Going lightweight also made practical sense, as the house could be elevated for a great outlook and to capture the sea breeze. The HardiFlex® sheet and Villaboard® lining were also the best option for delivery and storage, as well as enabling quick, easy and cost-effective construction.

For such a compact plan, the spaces within the home feel generous, due to the relatively high window and door heights, including the oversize sliding glass doors, which create an entirely open connection from internal living zones to external areas."



1 Modest proportions, understated materials and architecture that doesn't scream 'look at me'.

2 Weatherboard and sheet cladding materials with simple batten detailing

from Scyon™ and fibre cement to stand up to coastal conditions.

3 Low-maintenance fibre cement products, which Dickson says can "help reduce the potential for mould and microbial

activity" because of their resistance to moisture. They are also resistant to damage from termites, rot and fire.\*

4 Open living spaces that blur outside and in,

using decking, large windows and awnings.

5 Lightweight construction to go easy on dune environments.

\*When installed and maintained correctly.

## THE MODERN WEEKENDER

Homeowner Andrew Perry says he's always wanted to have a fibro beach house, "To me a beach house on the coast just has to be something fibro, and not a brick, steel and glass structure," he says.

The house he now has is a contemporary weekender that's built not from fibro, but the modern equivalent - a combination of HardiFlex® sheet outside and HardiPanel® compressed sheet, Versilux® lining and Villaboard® lining inside - materials chosen not just for their looks but because of their moisture resistance. And Perry's delighted with it.

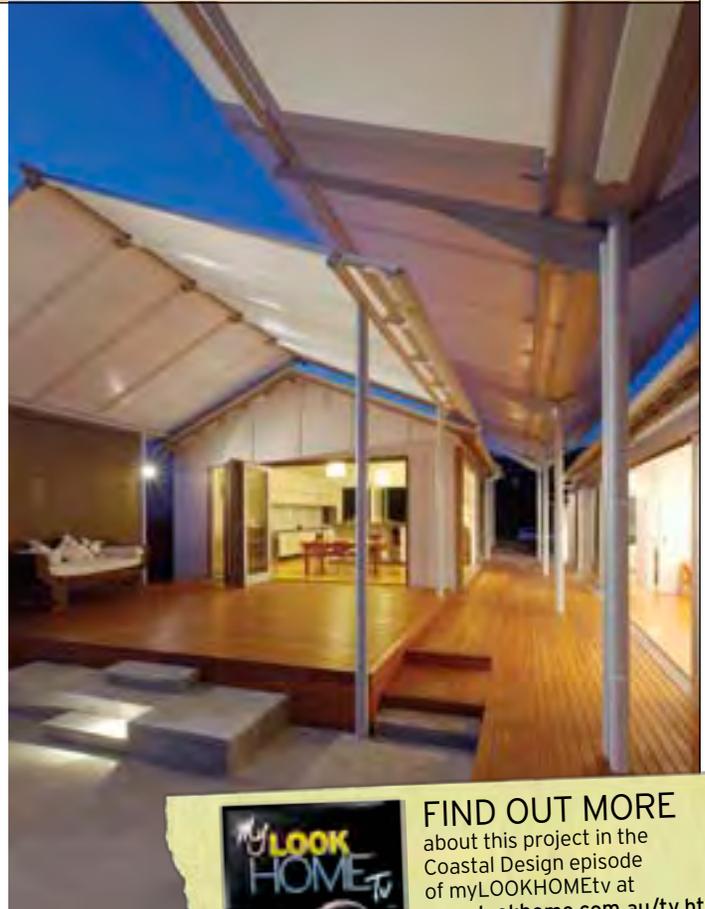
Originally the house was in two separate quarters: an elongated garage and a fibro house built in the 1950s. The updated version has two pavilions - one for living and one for sleeping - tied

together by large batten-style awnings designed (and patented) by Perry's company, Outrigger Awnings.

Architect Matt Dickson says that Currarong is a humble but modern beach house in part because of the client.

Their brief "helped it keep the character of a weekender - relatively small spaces, very little servicing, a lot of openings out to large deck areas, and really quite humble materials".

The home is also unusual in that it doesn't have a front door. "I think that's related to this notion of informality," he says. Integrating Andrew's awnings, what we've really developed here is like an external hallway - a central space between the old cottage and the bunkhouse that's quite a Celebration of this informal entryway."



**FIND OUT MORE**  
about this project in the Coastal Design episode of myLOOKHOMETV at [www.lookhome.com.au/tv.html](http://www.lookhome.com.au/tv.html)

BUILDER: ANDREW PERRY / DESIGNER: MATT DICKSON

## Coastal dreaming

Barwon Heads beach shacks in Victoria became famous in the hit ABC TV series *Seachange*. Synonymous with the seachange theme and the look of the shacks of old, this new home features crisp white Scyon™ Linea™ weatherboards, strapped fibre cement cladding, natural timber framework. "Being on the

coast, materials need to be able to weather extreme conditions," says designer Madeline Bent.

"The Scyon™ Linea weatherboard and HardiFlex® sheet allowed for a high quality and aesthetically pleasing cladding that will require minimum maintenance."

The 577 square metre

site is south facing, so the traditional backyard was moved to the middle/side yard. "James Hardie products, combined with passive solar design, the use of the concrete slab, generous insulation and double-glazed windows meant the home easily achieved a 5 star energy rating," she says. ☀️



BUILDER: MARK BENT / DESIGNER: MADELINE BENT / PHOTOGRAPHY: BELINDA BROWN