

COMFORTABLE JUST ADD WATER

Coastal chic is a relaxed decorating style that favours easy living with plenty of natural fabrics, neutrals and texture in the mix.

Story by Melissa Grintell

As the year races towards the long, lazy days of summer, it's time to pack away the blankets, pare back the rich dark colours and rediscover all that's light and bright in our homes.

Similar to a French-provincial theme in hues, coastal chic has a palette of white, taupe and other neutrals with pops of colour to liven things up. Furniture made from natural fibres or whitewashed timber recalls driftwood while ceramic seashells and other seaside treasures suggest the ocean and days spent on the beach. So if you're looking for a few subtle hints of beachy style, or are ready to embrace this sophisticated yet laidback look, we're sure you'll find loads to love here. ■



Silver in the comfort stakes

Aside from a hammock, a deckchair is the next comfiest spot in the great outdoors. This one is \$139.95, from SunnyLIFE.

Small touches

Whether you're looking for a style overhaul – or just one or two decorative accents, Alfresco Emporium's basket suits the bathroom or bedside equally well.



BUDGET BUY



Tropical style

Perfect on a weathered table or at either end of a mantelpiece, Metro Style's banyan lamps add a laidback feel to any coastal home. They're \$29.95 each.