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Coastal inspired interiors are a perennial trend, but you don't have to live by the beach to create this easy-to-live-with look.

Here are our top tips ...



LIFE well furnished

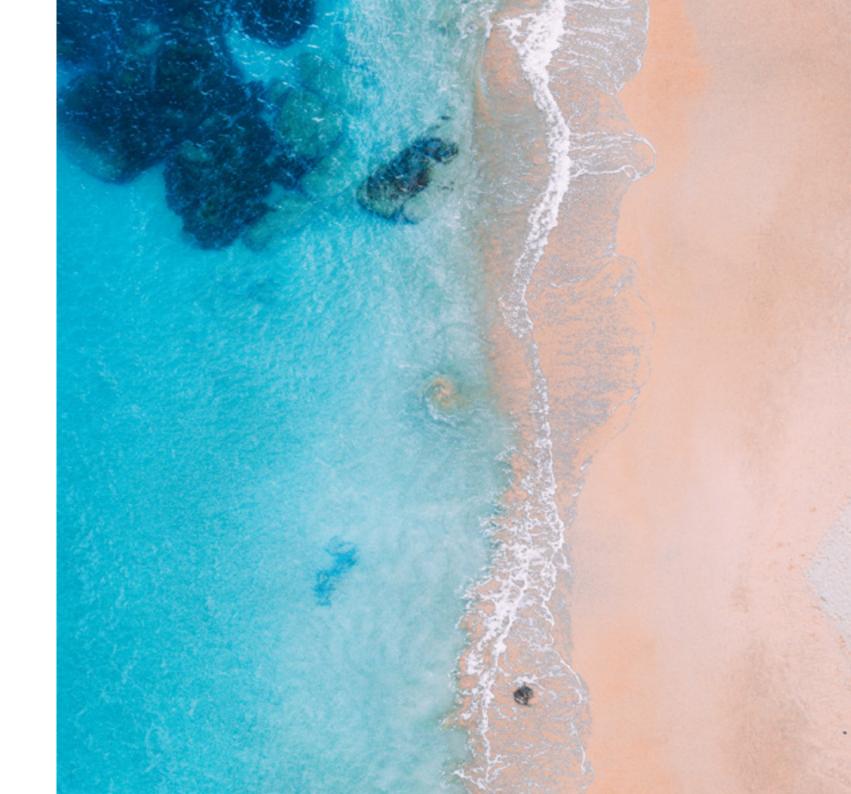




Create a coastal inspired look

Coastal inspired interiors are a perennial trend, but you don't have to live by the beach to create this easy-to-live-with look.

This style is perfect if you want a home that feels like being on holiday, whatever the weather's doing. So if you're hankering after a home that is more Salcombe than Solihull, here are our top tips:





Sea & Coastline

1. Think of the sea and coastline and you'll think of course of the blue of sea and sky, but you'll also notice plenty of white, grey and sand as well as the orange and peach of a dramatic sunset.

This is a palette that evokes feelings of relaxation and tranquility - blues and greens are often used in coastal designs because they help create an atmosphere of calmness and reflect the tones of the sea and sky.

Go for washed out, muted tones, and combine with sandy beiges and stacks of white for a fresh beach-y feel

Lighten up your space...

2. Keep you space light and airy, this is really key to coastal design. So lighten up your space by using sheer curtains and light fabrics- these will make rooms seem more open and airy. White plantation shutters also evoke this easy breezy coastal feel.

3. For curtains and blinds, simple plain linens or stripes in aqua and blue will create a timeless seaside look.





Creating the overall mood...

4. Coastal living doesn't have to play it safe though, think about the overall mood you want to create, whether completely restful, soothing, connected to nature, or if you'd like more energy and humour in your space.

Why not go for playful prints in bright colours with nautical or marine motifs? Lobsters, anchors, sail motifs. If used in small doses, they will liven up your coastal space and reflect your personality.

Choosing display furniture

5. For display furniture, coffee and side tables, etc, cross braced tables or chairs in white washed wood, or stainless steel/nickel are a sure way to suggest a ship-shape look.

For wood furniture opt for streamlined, contemporary finishes, perhaps with curves to reference luxury yachts, or limed oak, or painted finishes for a softer, washed out look.



Ercol Bosco Sideboard







Lighting

6. We have so many decorative lighting options these days. Bring in coastal style lampshades, with shoals of fish, free standing or pendant lanterns, or why not look at an industrial feel with nautical style wall lights, or pendants hung low over your dining table or island?

Texture

8. Texture is everything - rattan is making a huge comeback, especially with lighting and accessories. Update your coastal home with oversized rattan lampshades as pendants, or floor lamps, and add textured sisal rugs, or faux sheepskin cushions or throws.

9. Accessorise your bedroom and sofa with a cosy blue velvet or chenille throw and cushions, and combine stripes with oversizes knits, or loose stubby linens.





Palm Beach Vibes...

10. If you're lucky enough to have a holiday home in warmer climes, you can go much bolder with your colour palette.

The saturated vivid colours you think of when you think Cuba, Bahamas, or other tropical countries will work well in very sunny climates because the light is so much stronger and warmer than the UK.

Muted blues and greens could look tired and a bit staid here. Punchy pinks, oranges, and teals can combine with white washed floors and lots of rugs to suggest a lively Palm Beach vibe.