THE SAND + LINEN HOME DESIGN COLLECTION

# THE KITCHEN PLANNING GUIDE

Create a kitchen you will love for years to come





A NOTE FROM FIONA

# Welcome — let’s make the journey feel clearer

Building or renovating brings possibility, investment and hundreds of connected decisions. This guide has been created to help you slow the process down, organise what matters and move forward with greater confidence.

Use it as both inspiration and a practical working tool. The time you spend planning now will shape how beautifully your home supports everyday life.

WARMLY

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YOUR GUIDE

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BEGIN WITH LIFE

# Start with how you use the kitchen



Consider busy mornings, entertaining, multiple cooks, children, grocery habits and the appliances you use every day. Function should lead the layout.

FIONA'S TIP

List current frustrations before listing dream finishes.



CHOOSE THE RIGHT SHAPE

# Plan the layout

Test galley, L-shaped, U-shaped and island options against the room, openings and circulation. The best layout is the one that removes unnecessary steps.

FIONA'S TIP

Popularity is not a planning principle.



WORK SMARTER

# Create efficient zones

Plan preparation, cooking, cleaning, pantry and beverage zones. Store tools and ingredients beside the task they support.

FIONA'S TIP

Keep bins close to preparation and the dishwasher close to crockery storage.

THE GATHERING PLACE

# Design the island carefully



Balance preparation space, seating, storage, power and visual proportion. Aim for comfortable clearances and test every appliance door.

FIONA'S TIP

An oversized island can make a kitchen work harder, not better.



EVERYTHING ACCESSIBLE

# Plan useful storage

Prioritise drawers, tray dividers, bins, appliance storage, pantry organisation, spices and lunchbox zones. Specify internal fittings early.

FIONA'S TIP

Drawers usually provide better access than deep cupboards.



FIT THE APPLIANCES

# Coordinate appliance placement

Confirm exact models, ventilation, services and door clearances before joinery documentation. Allow landing space beside ovens and refrigeration.

FIONA'S TIP

Specifications should be final before cabinetry is ordered.



THREE LAYERS

# Design the lighting

Combine ambient lighting, focused task light and feature light. Illuminate benches from the front and include integrated pantry or cabinet lighting where useful.

FIONA'S TIP

A beautiful pendant cannot compensate for a shadowed worktop.



A LASTING PALETTE

# Choose materials and finishes

Select durable surfaces with compatible undertones. Consider maintenance, edge details, grout, fingerprints and how natural light changes colour.

FIONA'S TIP

Invest in cabinetry and benchtops; let styling evolve.

YOUR ACTION PLAN

# Planning checklist

- [ ] The layout supports our daily routine.
- [ ] Walkways and island clearances are comfortable.
- [ ] Preparation, cooking and cleaning zones connect logically.
- [ ] Every appliance model and door swing is confirmed.
- [ ] Bins sit near preparation and cleaning.
- [ ] Frequently used items have accessible storage.
- [ ] Power and charging locations are documented.
- [ ] Task lighting covers every work surface.
- [ ] Materials are durable and cohesive.
- [ ] Joinery internals are fully specified.

MAKE IT YOURS

# Notes & decisions

OUR THREE PRIORITIES

QUESTIONS AND DECISIONS

NEXT ACTIONS

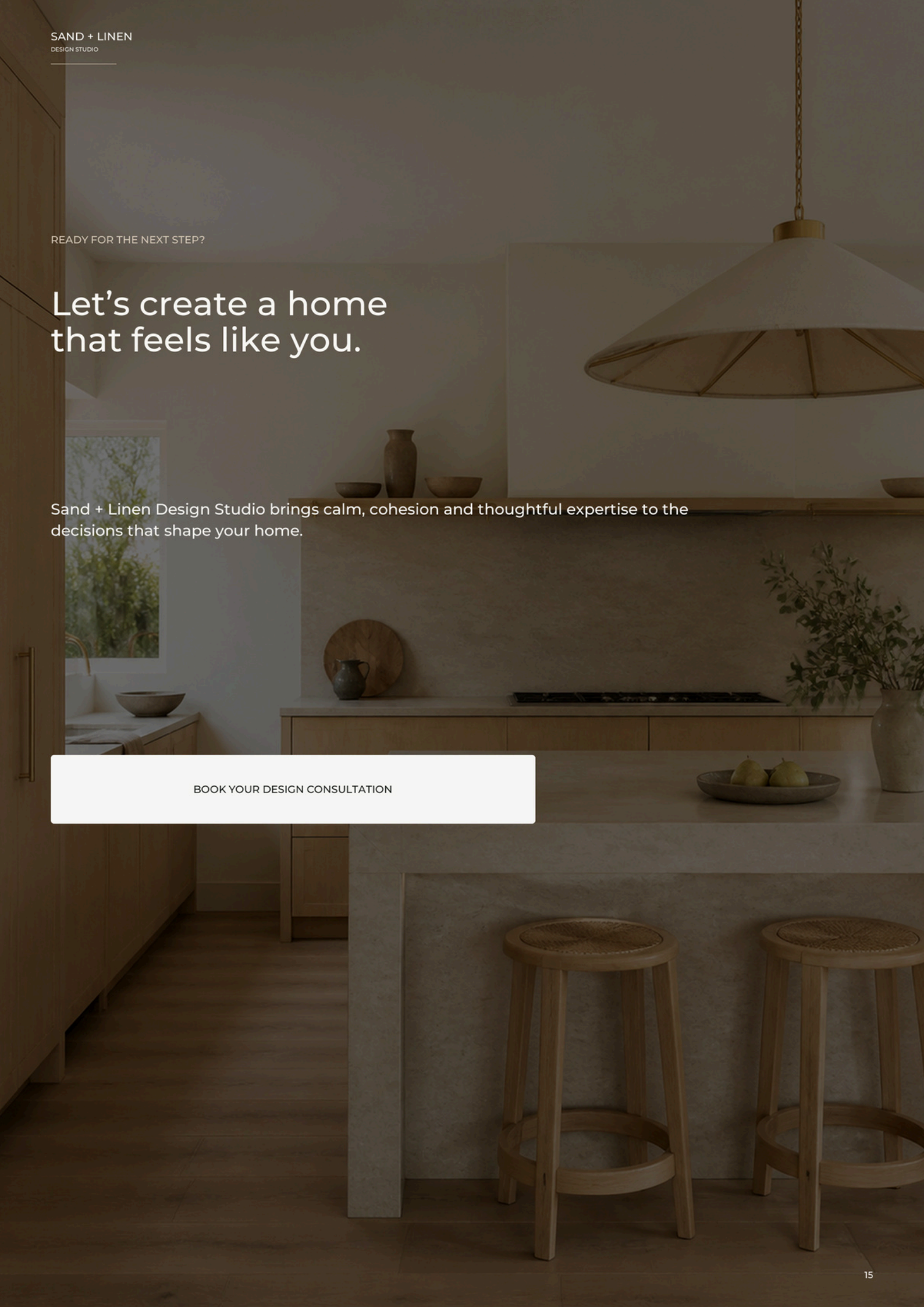
FINAL THOUGHTS

# Thoughtful planning changes everything



The most successful homes are not created through one perfect choice. They emerge from a sequence of informed decisions that support the same clear vision.

Pause when you need to, test assumptions and keep the whole home in view. Clarity now creates confidence throughout the build — and a home you will love living in for years.



READY FOR THE NEXT STEP?

# Let’s create a home that feels like you.

Sand + Linen Design Studio brings calm, cohesion and thoughtful expertise to the decisions that shape your home.

BOOK YOUR DESIGN CONSULTATION