THE SAND + LINEN HOME DESIGN COLLECTION

CREATING A COHESIVE HOME

How to choose colours and materials with confidence





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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THE BIG PICTURE

What makes a home feel cohesive?

A cohesive home uses subtle connections in colour, tone, material and detail. Each room can have character while still belonging to the same story.

FIONA'S TIP

Think collection, not matching set.



YOUR DIRECTION

Start with how you want home to feel

Choose three feeling words — calm, warm, light-filled, grounded or refined — and use them as a filter for every permanent selection.

FIONA'S TIP

Choose colours that make you feel at home, not colours that are merely popular.



FOUNDATION FIRST

Select the hardest finishes first

Begin with flooring, cabinetry, benchtops and tile. Paint, hardware, lighting and styling can then respond to those fixed investments.

FIONA'S TIP

Paint is flexible. Stone and flooring are not.



READ THE COLOUR

Understand warm and cool undertones

Place samples side by side on a neutral background. Look for yellow, pink, green, grey or blue undertones and observe them throughout the day.

FIONA'S TIP

Never approve colour from a small screen image.



DEPTH WITHOUT NOISE

Layer materials and texture

Combine timber, stone, linen, wool, ceramics and restrained metals. Variation in texture creates richness without needing many colours.

FIONA'S TIP

Repeat each key material at least twice.



ROOM TO ROOM

Create flow throughout the home

Continue key flooring, paint and timber tones through connected spaces. Repeat hardware families and allow only a few intentional transitions.

FIONA'S TIP

Stand in each doorway and consider what is visible next.



COMMON PITFALLS

Five selection mistakes

Avoid choosing products separately, matching everything exactly, adding too many features, ignoring natural light and following short-lived trends.

FIONA'S TIP

Your finishes should support daily life, not compete with it.



YOUR WORKING PALETTE

Build a simple materials schedule

Record every finish, supplier, product code, location and approval date. Keep physical samples together and compare replacements against the whole palette.

FIONA'S TIP

One source of truth prevents expensive substitutions.

YOUR ACTION PLAN

Planning checklist

- [ ] Our three feeling words are defined.
- [ ] Flooring has been selected first.
- [ ] Cabinetry and benchtops share compatible undertones.
- [ ] Tiles have been viewed with adjacent finishes.
- [ ] Paint has been tested in the actual room.
- [ ] Timber tones are coordinated.
- [ ] Metal finishes are intentionally repeated.
- [ ] Samples have been reviewed in daylight and evening light.
- [ ] Product codes are recorded.
- [ ] The full palette feels balanced together.

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