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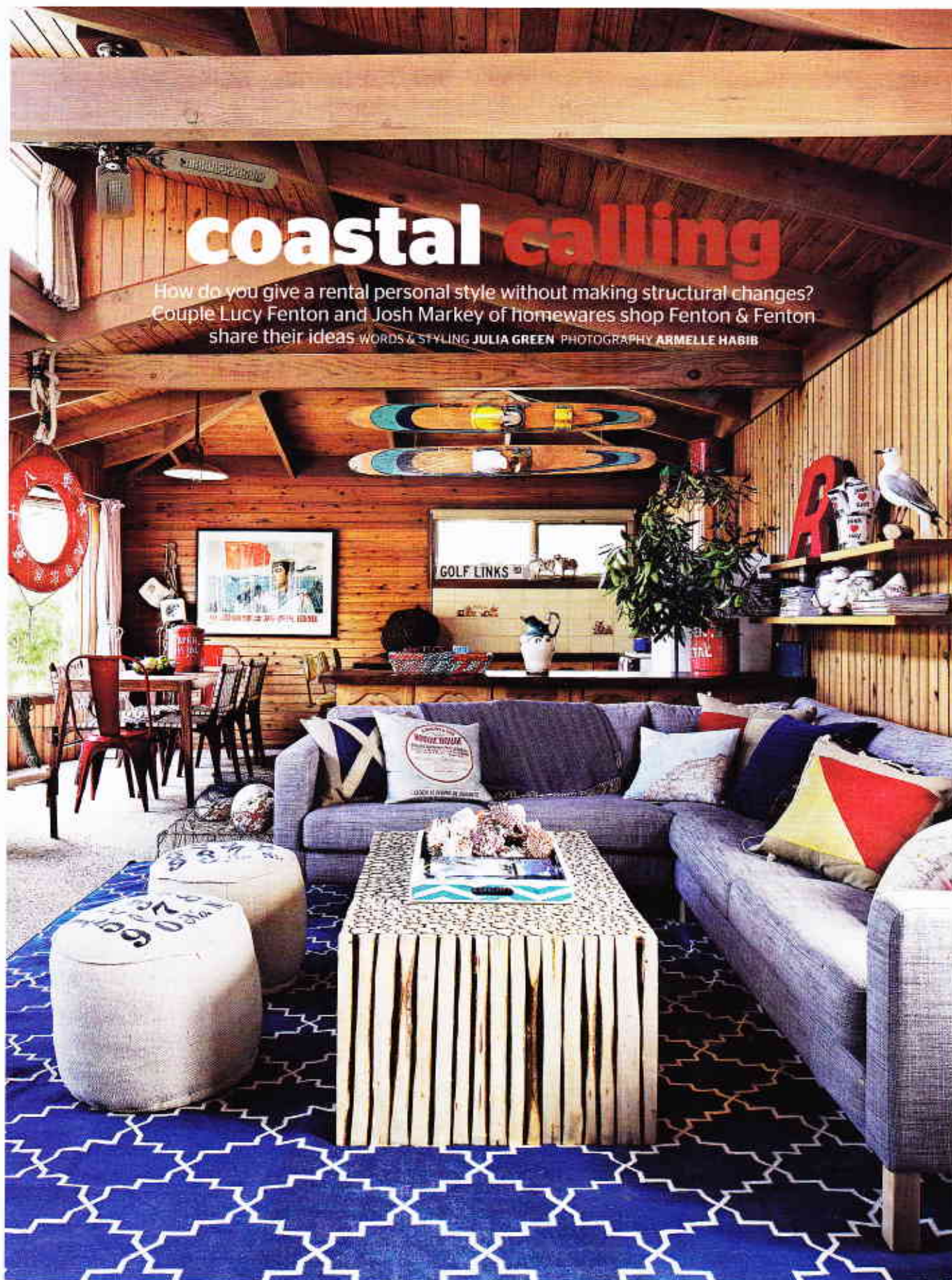


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make it work FAMILY ZONES THAT ARE FUNCTIONAL AND STYLISH

coastal calling

How do you give a rental personal style without making structural changes? Couple Lucy Fenton and Josh Markey of homewares shop Fenton & Fenton share their ideas WORDS & STYLING JULIA GREEN PHOTOGRAPHY ARMELLE HABIB



7 nautical life "I'm so glad to finally have somewhere to house them," says Lucy of the sea-faring pieces she and her husband Josh have collected, on show in their beach shack in Victoria's Anglesea. "It's so easy to unwind here - the air is clean and the coastline is stunning." **Tip: Scour flea markets for your own seaside paraphernalia, or hunt for vintage textiles to create marine-inspired cushions. →**

home truths

Who lives here: Lucy Fenton and Josh Markey, owners of homewares store Fenton & Fenton, their daughter, Pepa, 10 months, and dog Cooper. Style of home: A 1970s weekender rental on Victoria's Great Ocean Road.



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2 creature comforts Cooper, the family pooch, keeps watch on the 'Karlstad' sofa from Ikea. "Living in a rental means we were restricted as to what we could do, so we kept the shell of the home neutral with its cedar-lined walls and punched colour into the interior," says Lucy. **Tip:** Layer patinas and textures to give a scheme interest - the table from Fenton & Fenton echoes the wall panelling.

3 vintage vibe To pay homage to the beach house's era and add a splash of colour, Josh and Lucy used vintage laminate stools and storage vessels from their store, Fenton & Fenton. "We love to cook with local produce, and entertain on the deck. We've kept it pretty simple - there is nothing pretentious and precious in our shack!" says Lucy. **Tip:** Carry the look through to your accessories - here, a trio of old French pasta canisters are artful yet practical.

4 sail away A poster of a sailor, found in a market in Beijing, sits on the wall with other maritime objects hung from the beams. "We don't think too hard about our home's style but rather surround ourselves with things we love - you can't go too wrong if that's where you decorate from," says Lucy. **Tip:** Don't rely on framed art alone to decorate your home - hang objects to add a sculptural aesthetic to your space.



5 musical chairs Lucy and Josh opted for an eclectic yet relaxed dining setting, combining second-hand Tolix chairs with a contemporary timber setting from Feriton & Fenton. Tip: For a casual and charming dining area, try an assortment of seating options to create a relaxed, less formal arrangement. →



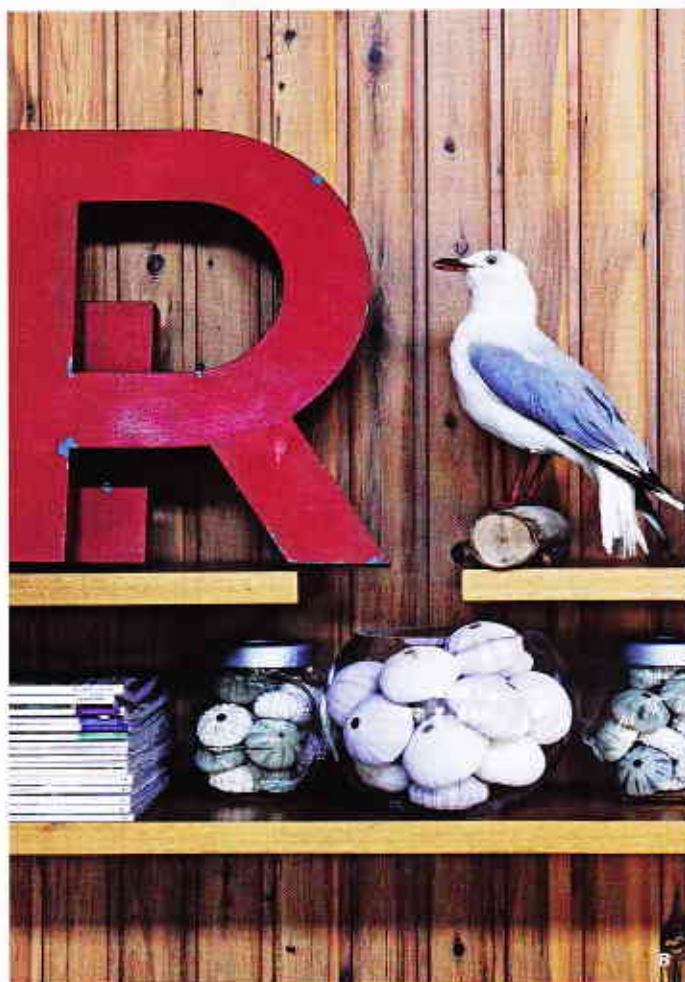
door-to-door After six years of trawling Indian bazaars for her store, Lucy spotted these old shopfront doors and immediately thought they would make a brilliant backdrop for a bed. "This is just another form of art," she says. "I like to push the boundaries and don't tend to do the safe thing with my choices - I think random pieces make the space more interesting."

Tip: For immediate impact, place large artworks in cosy spaces.



7 high tide A pre-loved surfboard gives a sense of scale and adds a surf-side touch to the beach house's decor. "We love to keep the doors thrown open and hear the roar of the ocean during the evening. There is something so soothing about being in among the elements," says Lucy.

Tip: For a simple and nautical-chic window dressing, hang inexpensive linen curtains that can be gathered together with rope knots. →



8 shelf help Lucy confidently creates focal points throughout the shack. "I choose items that suit the beachy feel and have good proportions with the shelves," she says. "The red letters are a great contrast against the timber panelling."
Tip: Use open shelves as a platform for multi-layered and characterful displays - play around with height and scale.

9 green thumb In a rental, you may not be able to alter the garden; Lucy and Josh were restricted on space not ideas, so they grew new herb varieties from seed in old coffee cups and housed them in second-hand chai holders from India, "which were used to transport cups of chai to shop owners".
Tip: Place potted herbs and plants in colourful vessels or crates for a touch of greenery that's easy to move around.

10 dreamweaver The couple transformed their bedroom, turning it into a peaceful retreat decked with reminders of the beach. Personal shell collections amassed from hours of beachcombing are on display, as is an artful cluster of Jai Vasicek crosses from Fenton & Fenton.
Tip: Artfully showcase your personal pieces on box shelves or under a glass cloche to highlight their beauty. Or make your own shell garland, using a drill and some fishing wire.





Hang time

Lucy has created a cocooning corner to curl up in with a good book for some calming solitude, taking advantage of the natural light and tranquil view.

Tip: Don't be restricted to traditional uses of hammocks - suspend one inside in a spot to enjoy for all seasons. ✦

For more info on Lucy and Josh's store, visit fentonandfenton.com.au.