

live

Homes & ideas from IKEA® FAMILY

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WHAT'S NEW?
Summer trends
Decorating ideas
Smart buys

THAT'S ENTERTAINING
How to dress your
table for festive fun

ENJOY GOOD TIMES!

Inside real homes
packed with ideas that
show you how

LILY, 7, GETS A NEW ROOM
'I want to spend more time
playing and drawing and less
time tidying, please!'



After buying their plot 10 years ago and saving the money to build, it took architects Rachael Bourne and Shane Blue 11 months to construct their eco-friendly "square doughnut". 'The house wraps around itself and all the rooms open on to a central courtyard which offers amazing flexibility – it's Spanish colonial style transported to Australia on a budget!'





EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT US EVERY THING WE KNOW

Rachael and Shane's self-built eco home in Seal Rocks, NSW, draws on their 20 years' experience of designing other people's houses. But just as influential was their time spent travelling and their love of the great outdoors... →



PATIENCE IS OUR BUILDING BLOCK

Rachael: We bought this plot of land 10 years ago without seeing it! But we knew the area – we'd worked on houses up here – and we knew we wanted a simple but flexible space. We just had to wait until we had the money to build...

Shane: You don't have to spend excessively to realise your vision. If you are clever and creative you can have great projects with a modest budget.

Rachael: Before our kids – Memphis, 13, Huon, 11, and Cibella, 8 – were born, we spent a year travelling. The idea of a central outdoor living space was inspired by houses we saw in Spain and Morocco – we really loved that way of living.



There are fabric-covered mattresses in the living room. 'Flexibility is a big thing,' says Shane. 'We rent the house out for 150 nights of the year, so we've chosen sofa covers that can easily be washed and changed. Storage under the seating in the lounge means we can stash things like board games and blankets. When we leave we just want to sweep the house out and lock it up, we don't want to spend our time here cleaning.'

● **IKEA STOCKHOLM BLAD fabric \$9.99** 100% cotton. W150cm. Blue. **ÄPPLARÖ position chair \$59** Acacia. W63×D80, H101cm. **ÄPPLARÖ drop-leaf table \$249** Acacia. L140-260×W78, H72cm. **NORDMYRA chair \$69/ea** Solid birch, plywood and acrylic paint. W47×D48, H78cm. Seat H45cm. White/birch. **NORDEN dining table \$499** Solid birch. L220-266×W100, H75cm.



FAST AND FUN OUTDOOR COOKING

Rachael: The kitchen is like the bedrooms – it has a roller door instead of a back wall. The room opens on to the courtyard so when you're cooking, you're still part of the social activities...

Shane: ...Or rather, cooking becomes a social activity! Most of the time we just cook with the barbecue, even for big celebratory meals. But we'll use the kitchen to prep the food, make a salad or cook pasta. We all help out.

Rachael: When you live outside as much as we do, you have to make the outdoors comfortable and flexible – it's like any other room in the house! Our chairs fold away when not in use and the table extends when we have guests. →

