

**Budget
BREAKDOWN***
Total: \$32,000
Furniture and
furnishings: \$17,000
Materials and
labour: \$15,000

INSIDE *out*

AN 'INDOOR' APPROACH TO A DECK
MADE THIS A FAMILY GATHERING PLACE

Words LAURA BARRY Styling TAHN SCOON
Photography JOHN DOWNS

This deck was already a beautiful, spacious area with a leafy outlook when interior designer Tahn Scoon first saw it in 2021, but it was poorly furnished and underused. The clients hired Tahn to transform the space into an outdoor room suitable for entertaining, but comfortable enough to relax in. "As the living room opens out onto the deck, we carried a similar colour palette through with lovely warm tones of olive, mustard and honey-hued stone," says Tahn. "We decided to place the sofa next to the fireplace, and the dining table further down the deck, as this arrangement allows the family to sink into the most comfortable seating when enjoying the fire." It was the client's idea to integrate a fireplace into the deck, and Tahn drew up a plan for it, selected the finishes, then their builder, Keith Hunter, navigated the finer details and constructed it. "The fireplace is the focal point and is flanked by cabinetry that conceals messy things such as the barbecue equipment and dog food," says Tahn. "The plantation shutters help keep out the strong western sun." For Tahn, the best part of this project is her clients' reaction. "They tell me they not only entertain more, but they also don't go away as much as they prefer to holiday at home!" she says.

ALFRESCO LIVING To create a space the family would enjoy relaxing in, Tahn selected finishes that amped up the comfort levels. The luxe rug, 'Mauritius' barrel coffee table and 'Aruba Platform' sofa in Sooty are all from Globe West. Cushions bring colour and pattern to the space - 'Palm Trees Natural' covers from Escape To Paradise while the striped cushions are custom-made in Zepel Geologic fabric in Eclipse, Tahn Interiors. The Custom-made ironbark side table, painted charcoal, is also from Tahn Interiors. The existing tallowwood decking was retained and the new bricks are Country Ledge Stone White Oak from PGH Bricks & Pavers. The bench is Palm Shade by Caesarstone, the fireplace by Jetmaster, and the existing fan was kept. The barbecue is from the Weber Q range.



Design tip

"Approach outdoor spaces as if they were indoors. Layer furniture with cushions and throws, add rugs, plants and candles - ensuring all products are suitable for outdoor use, of course," says Tahn. "You'll be surprised how far outdoor materials have come."

ESTIMATED COST

Source book

Interior design: Tahn Scoon,
Tahn Interiors, 0433 162 807,
www.tahninteriors.com.au.
Builder and cabinetmaker:
Keith Hunter.