

COASTAL LIVING

Classic Seaside Style

Gorgeous spaces
and decor ideas

**SPECIAL
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ISSUE**

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coastal homes

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to the Hamptons

**CASUAL
SUMMER
SUPPERS**

SEPTEMBER 2012

\$5.99US \$6.50CAN



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ASK A DESIGNER

Windsor Smith

You have questions, and we have the experts on speed dial. Here, designer **Windsor Smith** of Windsor Smith Home Design in Brentwood, California, dishes about color, countertops, and casual coastal design.

What's an easy way to get a casual seaside vibe?

WS: Hang baskets and straw hats on a long row of hooks by the door.

What are the biggest coastal trends you're seeing?

WS: Custom Ping-Pong tables, and nostalgic photographs blown up—always a sure thing.

Beach house front door: natural stain or a bold paint color?

WS: Bold! A tangy citrine or strong pink or aqua instantly announces it's time for fun.

You love pink! How do you keep it from feeling totally feminine?

WS: Keep the shapes more masculine and restrained, and invite your sons' college buddies to hang out in the room in deck shoes and surf shorts! Works like a dream.

Do you have a favorite kitchen countertop material?

WS: Caesarstone in Pure White or Blizzard.

At the beach: TV above the mantel, or something fabulous?

WS: A mirror to reflect the ocean. I love a painting or collection of paintings, too. No TV at the beach; it's counterproductive to the cause.

Best houseplants for coastal homes?

WS: Nothing too thought-through: Wildflowers, lavender in boxes, berry bushes outside a kitchen window, lemon or lime trees in big baskets.

I absolutely adore ...

WS: ... awnings over windows.
—Stephanie Gibson

MY FAVORITE COASTAL PAINT COLORS

Benjamin Moore Orleans Violet (1374)

"This color lends itself to a bedroom or lanai—it's like the palest center of an orchid"

Benjamin Moore Kokopelli Teal (648)

"Instantly transports me to the Ocean Club in the Bahamas! Perfect for a painted porch, wicker chairs, or kitchen floors"

Benjamin Moore Summer Nights (777)

"My new color paramour! A saturated blue that has more depth of color than any blue I have ever known"



"There is an undertone of the beach in all I do. I love the water, air, sand—even the iridescence of the interior of a shell"

Have a question for a designer? Write to us at letters@coastalliving.com