

# Back to Black



## THE CASE STUDY

### PROJECT DETAILS

Location  
Kerikeri

Project Type  
New home build

Architectural Designer  
DLM Architects

Builder  
DTM Construction

### FEATURED PRODUCTS

- Stria™ Cladding
- EasyLap™ Panel

Inspired by Scandinavian architecture, this modernist two-level home has a dramatic black exterior offset by a white feature chimney.

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

Ben Gavin-Young and Amanda Cooper say their Scandinavian-inspired house in Kerikeri is “the house that Pinterest and YouTube built”.

When the couple decided to build their first home, they had a logistical problem. They were working on super yachts in the Mediterranean, but their architect was based in New Zealand. There was no way they could meet up to express their ideas in person, so they resorted to sending links to online images and videos that reflected what they wanted in a home. A picture found on Pinterest became their primary source of inspiration.

Ben and Amanda’s vision was a home that reflected the minimalist, modern aesthetic that’s often seen in contemporary Scandinavian architecture. Key to achieving this look was the choice of Stria™ Cladding by James Hardie.

“Stria™ Cladding was selected for its cost-effectiveness and modern, monolithic appearance,” says Amanda.

The choice of Stria™ Cladding also supported the couple’s desire for a black-painted home. Because it’s a cement-based product, Stria™ Cladding is more stable when painted black compared to other materials. Ben chose Resene Sonyx 101 CoolColour Waterborne Semi-Gloss in All Black, which reflects heat to minimise excessive heat gain in summer.

The feature white chimney can be achieved with EasyLap™ Panel by James Hardie. EasyLap™ has a shiplap vertical joint, which is compatible with the vertical joints in the Stria™ Cladding.

Inside, the open-plan home has a double-vaulted macrocarpa ceiling, a mezzanine loft space and two-storey high windows.



## STRIA™ CLADDING

Made to withstand NZ's 'four seasons in one day', this ultra-sleek cladding is made from super-durable fibre cement, so it's low maintenance and can be painted any colour.



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“We wanted to create a gallery feel with as much wall space as possible to display art on,” says Ben.

Ben and Amanda also wanted a strong connection with nature, which was achieved with tall bi-fold doors and generous glazing. The large windows that flood the interior with natural light connect the inside to the green Northland hills outside.

For energy-efficiency and a look that suited their Scandi-style home, Ben and Amanda selected natural polished concrete for the floor. This matches the solid kitchen island (made by Ben) that has become a social point for family and visitors to gather. Another gathering point on social occasions is the open fireplace.

Over the next few years, Ben and Amanda plan to build a pergola for the back deck and a swimming pool.

## EASYLAP™ PANEL

EasyLap™ Panel is a versatile exterior product that can be finished with normal paint application or site-applied acrylic texture-coated finishes.

