



# A GREENER WAY OF LIVING

While our lifestyles are becoming more fast-paced, at home we're taking a step back by reconnecting with nature and inviting outdoor elements inside

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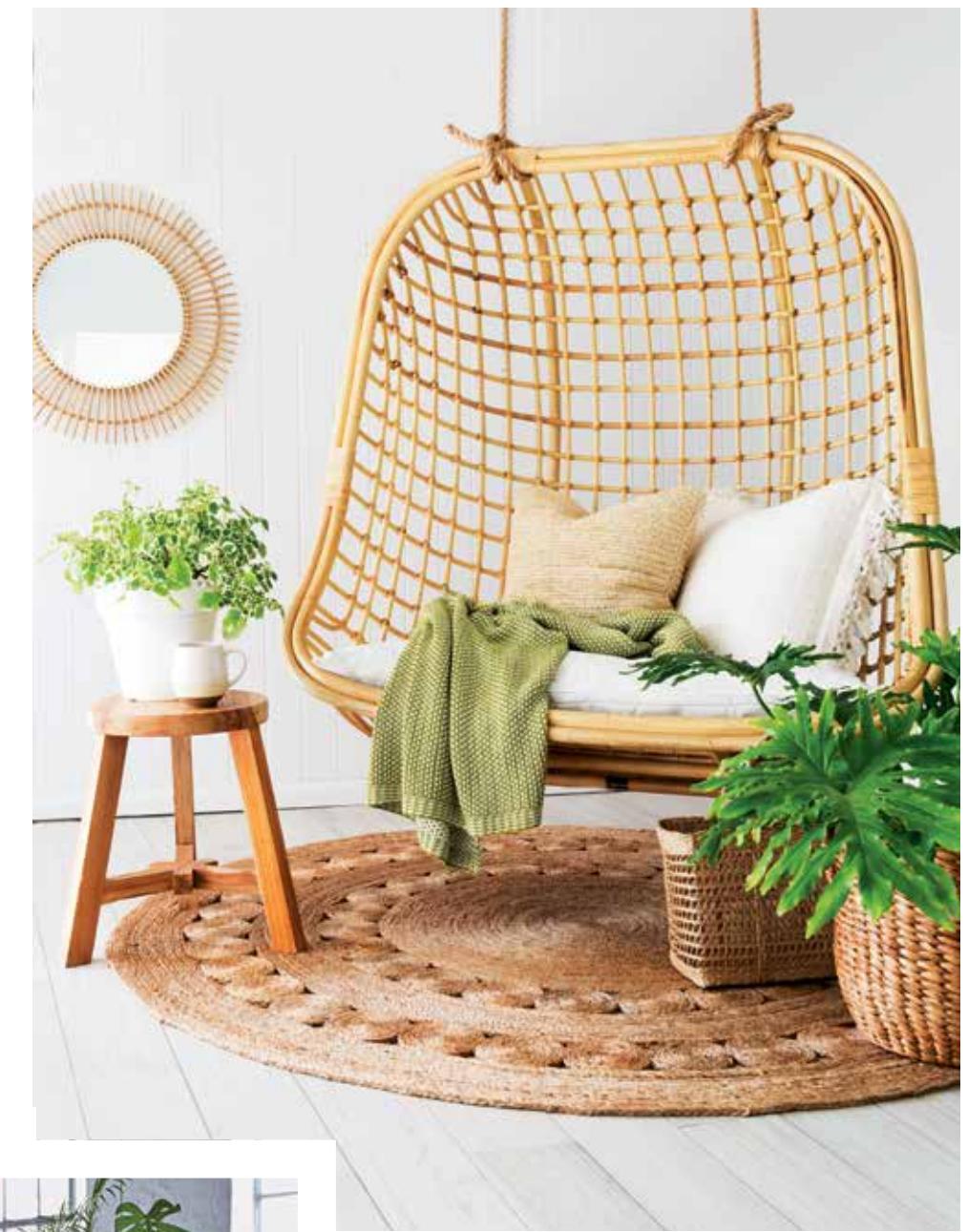
**E**verywhere we look, we're now offered the chance to connect with nature. While it's been proven plants enhance productivity in the workplace, they also possess properties that help us relax, as they release oxygen and water and help to purify air, aiding our sense of wellbeing. Green, natural elements are now used cleverly in the design of commercial, public and residential spaces, to help absorb our "life pollutants" – stresses and anxieties – that can come from keeping up with the instant pace that life seems to be set at. With time the fundamental luxury of modern living, society now looks for elements of nature as a soothing tonic for a moment of respite and wellbeing. Contemporary cafes surround customers with hanging plants, flocks of faux sheep pop up in public spaces, and paper party invitations have been replaced with a succulent bearing a note. The concept has hit home, too, with indoor gardening the hobby of the moment, and soft, natural, sustainably-sourced materials creating a welcoming sense of comfort. Here, we highlight some simple yet decorative ways to bring the outside into your home. ▶

**Contemporary hanging planters are a small yet on-trend accent**



Image: Greg Cox, Bureaux

**Right** Feature garden or balcony furniture inside your home to create a fresh seating area, such as this bamboo hanging chair, Dh2,390, from Byron Bay at Tribe. **Below** Moss-made pots provide a natural home for indoor plants. **Opposite** Give your plants a luxurious home with gold-framed glass containers, such as these from Maisons Du Monde, from Dh80.



## A MATERIAL WORLD

**Multi-functional** As well as being decorative, natural fibres such as hemp, rattan, and jute are being used in a functional way to make furniture and accessories, such as baskets and rugs.

**Comeback cane** Wicker and bamboo, traditionally associated with outdoor furniture, has made a welcome return to home lines. For A/W you can find side chairs, stools and coffee tables plus tabletop items like place mats and bowls made from these hardwearing materials.

**Natural planters** Be ultra-sustainable and use plant pots made from living materials, such as moss. This dense plant can be moulded to form a water-resistant container perfect for holding greenery. Or place a regular plant pot in a bag-like cover-up made from natural materials like jute.



## BRING THE OUTSIDE IN

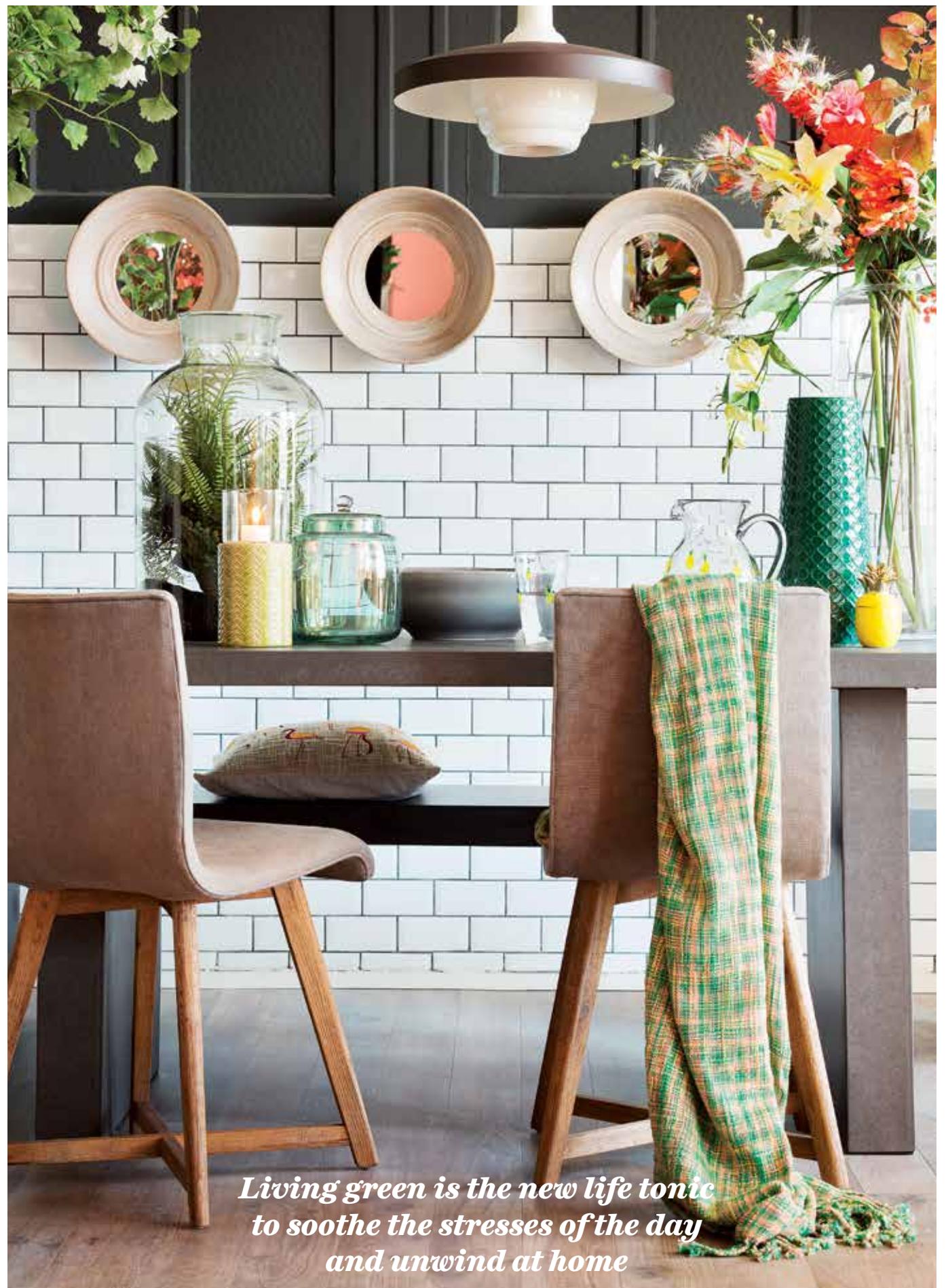
**Indoor gardens** Terrariums are the new “big thing” in the world of gardening and they’re becoming more and more creative, with mini gardens, beaches, and even yoga being depicted in the small glass globes.

**The magic number** When it comes to decorative items, groupings of three will make the optimum display; try a trio of smaller plants as a dining table centrepiece, or cluster oversized floor vases in a corner of a room or by the sofa to create an interesting vignette.

**Divided nations** Screens and shelving units have become fashionable space-saving solutions to divide open-plan living spaces. Make the divider both appealing and functional by slotting plants into shelving recesses. Place a vine or climber on the uppermost level for a living cascade.



**Left** A recent new arrival to Dubai Design District, Schiavello MENA offers creative design solutions, such as customisable vertical gardens, starting from Dh3,500, perfect for home offices. **Below** You’ll always have space for flower beds with these cute terrariums from Moss & Myrtle, You Feel Like Home, Dh575 (left) and Home Is Where You Are, Dh475 (right). **Opposite** Place flowers and foliage in clear vases to enhance the greenery, like these artificial flowers from SIA at IDdesign, starting from Dh49.



***Living green is the new life tonic to soothe the stresses of the day and unwind at home***

# A NATURAL SELECTION

Bring outdoor elements inside with these curated collections of subtle accessories

## RAW BEAUTY



**Wooden tray**  
Zara Home, Dh79



**Piet Hein Eek wooden stool**  
Comptoir 102, Dh1,630



**Straw lantern**  
H&M Home, Dh139



**Water jug**  
H&M Home, Dh99

## INDOOR GARDEN



**Hanging artificial plant**  
Maisons Du Monde, Dh120



**Glass cloche**  
Crate & Barrel, Dh257 (small) and Dh474 (large)



**Artificial plant bag pot**  
Al-Futtaim ACE, Dh29



**Take It or Leaf It terrarium**  
Moss & Myrtle, Dh335

## ORGANIC LUXE



**Fruit plates**  
La Maison Verte, Dh495



**Leather magazine holder**  
Dôme Deco, Dh942



**Salad servers**  
Flamant, Dh230



**Wood table lamp**  
Al Huzaifa, Dh485