

NEED BACK-UP?

When space is at a premium, you can still have a deck — you just have to be clever about it, especially if you want to use it in a variety of ways. Incorporating a “pop-up” backrest is a clever way to get your deck to do double-duty. The backrest, built by Bayon Gardens, basically works like a timber gate, just one placed on its side. It was constructed using a timber frame and gate hinges, and two different lengths of timber were placed underneath which pivot and allow whoever is soaking up the sun to vary the angle of the backrest. Bayon Gardens chose merbau for the deck, drawn to the natural grey weathered look it develops when left untreated. This is contrasted by the concrete step that leads up to the deck and complemented by the rust patina of the nearby Corten steel planter. Plants, including bamboo and cycads, contribute flourishes of fresh green. bayongardens.com.au

LIVING SPACES

Modern decks are designed as living spaces. To this end, many have inbuilt features including seating, storage and barbecue cabinets. Inbuilt planters also feature, along with wide terraced steps that offer more seating when friends drop by. Beautiful inbuilt screens can often be found, segmenting spaces and affording privacy.