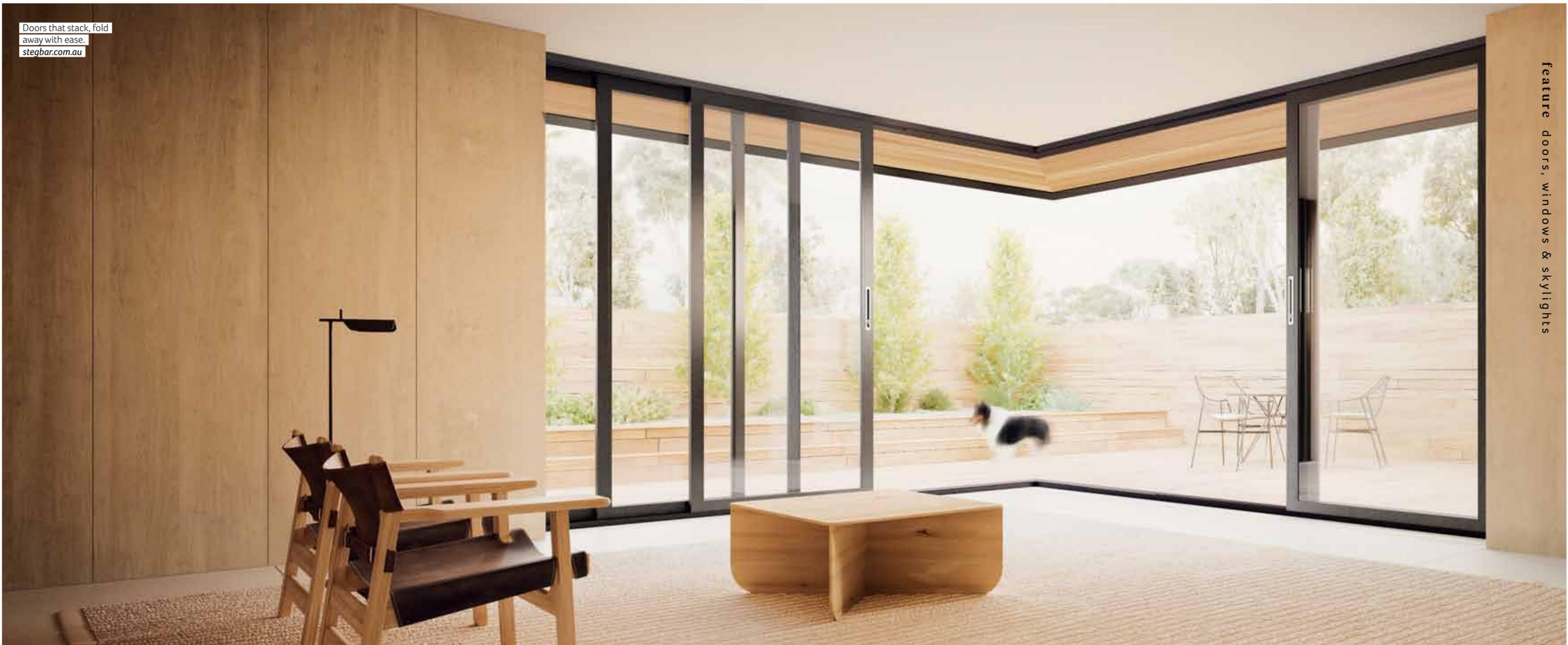


Doors that stack, fold  
away with ease.  
[stegbar.com.au](http://stegbar.com.au)



feature doors, windows & skylights

Bi-fold doors are designed to invite the outdoors in — as much or as little as you choose. When friends gather for a party you can open up the doors completely, but when the winter chill permeates the air, you can close them and guests can still admire the view outdoors.

Christine says bi-fold doors, made up of a series of individual folding door panels, also help to create the illusion of a larger interior. “Like sliding and stacking doors, bi-folds open up entirely to create the ultimate indoor-outdoor entertaining area. However, when closed they inhibit the view more than sliding and stacking doors. Bi-folds can be pushed to one or both sides of the opening and they can open inwards or outwards,” she says.

Christine adds that in some cases, you may need to sacrifice some indoor space to enjoy the outdoors. “You can still maximise the view with a

glass-hinged door. They will require more space to open, equal to the width of the door because they swing in or out. The advantage of hinged doors is that they allow for easier access without opening an entire sliding or stacking door system,” she says.

French doors are another stylish option. “These are perfect for smaller openings and a more traditional look; they work best off a bedroom or small courtyard, or as a utility door,” says Christine. French doors bring a refined look to the home’s exterior and effortlessly connect outdoors and in. The classically designed timber inserts add a touch of continental elegance to a modern home.

Another way of connecting indoor and outdoor spaces, and welcome in more light, is to replace some windows with doors.



Brio screen. [woodworkers.com.au](http://woodworkers.com.au)

#### THE SKY'S THE LIMIT

Skylights increase the depth and height of a room as they draw the eye upwards and are functional in that they allow natural daylight into a space. When they are positioned in the right place, you can even see the starlit sky at night. Modern skylights can also be a design feature, a beautiful architectural focal point that adds value.

Skylights can boost privacy, too — no need to worry about putting on a show for the neighbours while you shower! “A skylight can also increase natural lighting without compromising privacy,” says Moses Auvale from Atlite. “Atlite’s roof window is more of a window to the sky. If privacy is an issue but more light is needed, a skylight/roof window could be the answer.”

Moses says the natural light from a skylight helps to boost your mood. “Skylights can brighten

up the darkest of corners,” he says. “Natural light has a calming effect and overall it’s good for your wellbeing. If it’s situated in the optimum position, a skylight allows in more natural light and warmth, meaning less energy consumption.” So skylights not only help the planet — they’re good for your hip pocket too.

Skylights can be used in virtually any room in the house and Moses points out that the softer, natural lighting makes a small room appear larger. “Skylights are excellent in bathrooms, hallways and other rooms that are lacking the space for larger windows,” he adds. Still not convinced? Moses says openable skylights are a great way to increase ventilation in a room. “Leave the roof window open and come home to a fresh airy house without compromising home security.”



Alfresco corner stacker.  
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