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home owner

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The new wave

Hot young furniture designers

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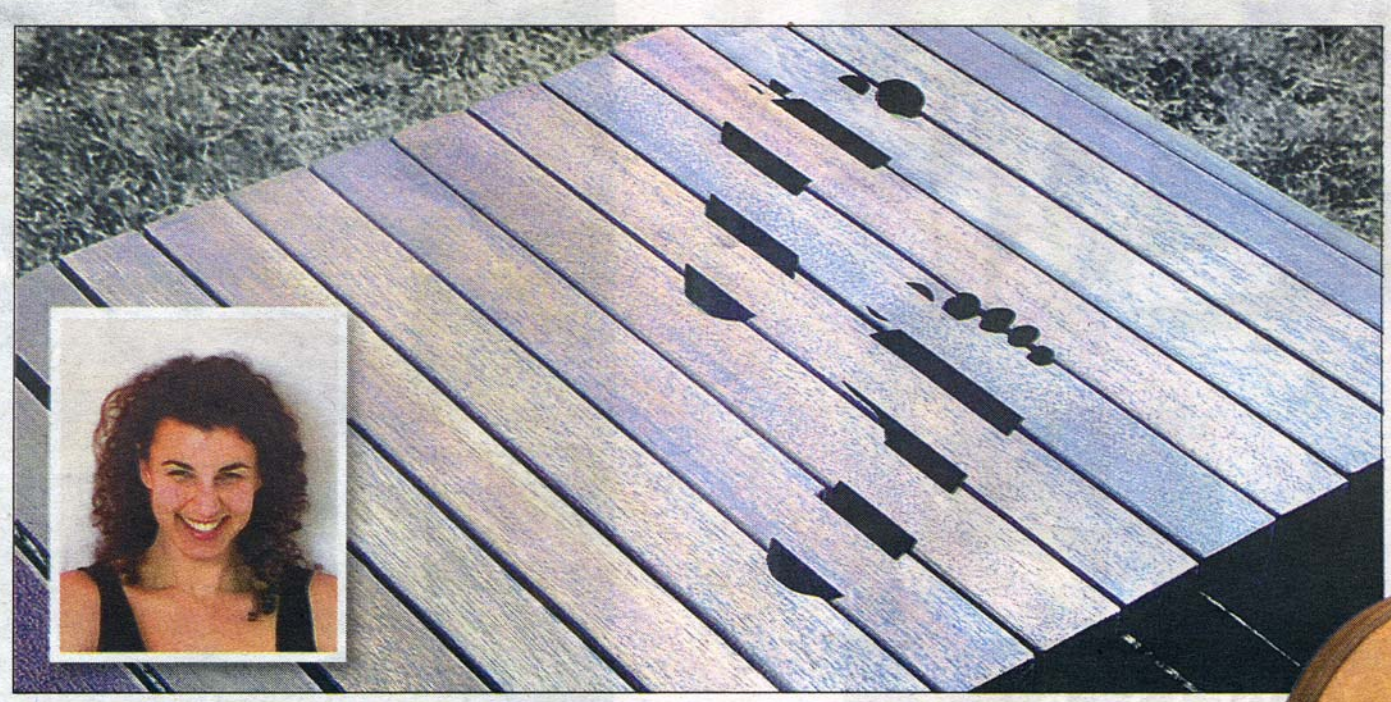
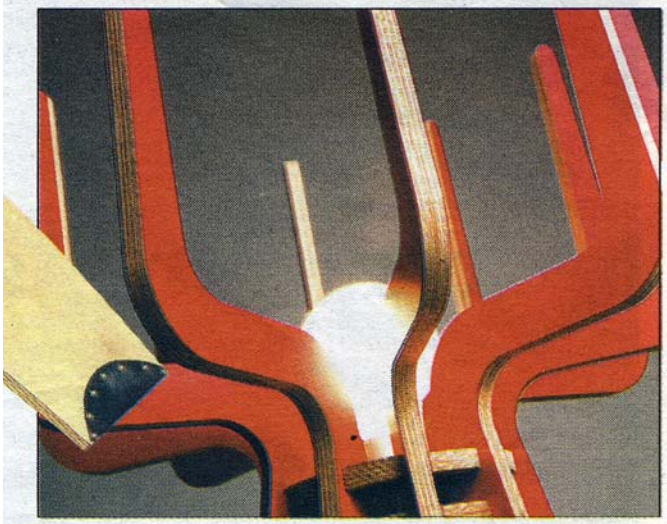
SEACHANGE
Far north hideaway





JO PHILIPPSOHN

AUSTRALIA'S mild climate means we just don't need coat stands in our hallways 365 days' a year. So what do we do with them in the meantime? Designer Jo Philippsohn decided to turn them into lights.

"We only need a coat rack for a few months of the year, so Stripped Bare (left) is also a floor lamp," she said. "It doesn't just take up a space in your home because it functions – it's not just another object." And no, it won't set your favourite anorak on fire. "I've had people ask me 'won't it burn my clothes' and I have to tell them how the bulb is quite a distance from the clothes. It's a single incandescent oversized bulb in the middle."

Stripped Bare comes in two forms – an $850 version that leans against the wall or the 360-degree model that costs $1350.

Among Philippsohn's biggest hits are her Footprints Slat Table (above) and Flip Flop – a square of foam that can convert into a sofa, bench seat or mattress – which sells nationally for about $2300.

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