

CURATED

Materials

"Beach houses require a lot of maintenance, and we did a lot of research to pick the best materials that will stand up to the elements," says designer Rodney Lawrence, who clad the exterior of a Hamptons pool house in cypress, which holds its color longer than cedar. Designers often look to natural materials like bluestone, honed travertine, or ipe for both their durability and style, particularly on the floor, where it can run from the indoors to the outside without interruption.

While the pool house exterior is generally cohesive with the main house, the interior areas are open to more fanciful expression. "Pool baths are so small and jewel-like that you can get more creative," says Lau, who has utilized wallpaper murals, mirrored tiles, and more to amp up a changing room's wow factor. "You don't have to spend a lot of money to make it look like an art installation."

All-weather fabrics, too, have come a long way, with companies like Perennials, Sunbrella, and Quadrille creating upholstery that can handle wet swimwear while still offering upscale colors, patterns, and textures. "That was the problem in the past—everything felt like outdoor fabric and looked like it," says Elizabeth Lawrence, a partner at Bunny Williams Interior Design. "We want it to look and feel like what people have inside their homes."





Metro Montage wallpaper by PHILLIP JEFFRIES; phillipjeffries.com





Cebu wood-handled basket by JANUS ET CIE; ianusetcie.com



Island Garden wallpaper by ANNA SPIRO for DE GOURNAY; degournay.com



Avanna tray set in faux wicker by MADE GOODS: madegoods.com



Folia portable lamp by NOÉ DUCHAUFOUR-LAWRANCE for SAINT-LOUIS: saint-louis.com