

LESS SPACE, MORE STYLE - TINY HOUSE LIVING MAGAZINE!

# TINY LIVING



Tiny House  
Hub

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# TINY HOUSE DESIGN TRENDS FOR 2024: A FUSION OF WARMTH, COLOUR, AND INNOVATION

*By Sharla May - Tiny House Hub*

The world of tiny house living is undergoing a vibrant transformation in 2024, embracing a fusion of warmth, innovative design, and bold colour trends. This shift promises not only a cosy, functional living space but also a reflection of personal style and environmental consciousness. Here's a look at what's shaping the tiny house movement in 2024.

## **Embracing Warmth with Texture and Colour**

In 2024, tiny homes are moving away from the minimalistic and often sterile designs of the past. The focus is now on creating a sense of warmth and luxury, even within limited spaces. Vertical wall paneling is a key trend, adding texture and depth while drawing the eyes upward to vaulted ceilings, creating an illusion of space. This design choice breaks away from the traditional, smooth surfaces, giving the tiny homes a more inviting and homely feel.

Colour trends are also shifting, with dark green emerging as a popular choice, especially in

kitchen cabinetry. Contrary to the belief that dark colours make a small space feel smaller, when used selectively, these hues add a rich, lively character to the home. Balancing these darker tones, white oak is being used for floors and ceilings, maintaining a bright and airy ambience.

## **Redefining Spaces:**

### **Room Separation and Storage Solutions**

Gone are the days of the one-size-fits-all open concept. In 2024, tiny homes are introducing more defined living spaces, such as using built-in furniture pieces for room separation. This approach offers owners their own private spaces to recharge, a necessity in a compact living environment.

These architectural elements double as smart storage solutions. With innovative designs like built-in shelving, built-in bedside tables, and multifunctional steps, storage is seamlessly integrated into the living space, addressing one of the primary concerns of tiny home living.





becoming an expression of individual style and character.

**Smart Homes and Sustainability**

Technology integration and sustainability are at the forefront of tiny house design in 2024. Smart home systems are becoming standard, offering residents convenience and efficiency. From smart lighting to voice-controlled devices, these features enhance living comfort while being eco-friendly. Additionally, sustainable practices like using recycled materials, energy-efficient appliances, and solar panels are becoming the norm, reflecting a growing consciousness towards environmental impact.

**Biophilic Design: Bringing Nature Indoors**

Biophilic design, which emphasises the connection between nature and living spaces, is a major trend in 2024. Incorporating elements like natural wood finishes, natural stones, and maximising natural light through skylights and large windows, these tiny homes are not just spaces to live in but sanctuaries that connect inhabitants with the natural world. This trend not only creates a visually pleasing environment but also promotes well-being and creativity.

**Bold Colours and Maximalism**

The tiny house movement in 2024 is also embracing vibrant colours and maximalist designs. This trend is a departure from the previously dominant beige and neutral colour schemes, infusing homes with personality and energy. By incorporating bold colours through art, feature walls, and wallpapers, tiny homes are



Custom-designed cabins

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### Upcycling and Wellness

Upcycling is gaining popularity, where vintage items are repurposed to add unique character to the home. This approach not only saves resources but also adds a personal touch to the living space.

Wellness is another key trend, with designs focusing on creating spaces that promote physical, mental, and emotional well-being. This includes utilising calming colour palettes, creating relaxation areas, and ensuring ample natural light, turning tiny homes into holistic wellness retreats.



### A New Era of Tiny House Living

In 2024, the tiny house movement is not just about downsizing physical space; it's about upsizing quality, functionality, and personal expression.

These trends showcase a shift towards homes that are not only efficient and sustainable but also vibrant and tailored to individual lifestyles. As we embrace these changes, tiny houses are becoming more than just a place to live; they are a canvas for personal expression, a nod to environmental responsibility, and a space for wellbeing. Whether you're an advocate of the tiny house movement or just exploring, these trends offer a glimpse into the future of sustainable, personalised, and innovative living.



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# THIEVES LOVE TINY HOUSES TOO

## KEEP YOURS SECURE WITH THESE TIPS!

By *Sharla May*  
Tiny House Hub

Investing in a tiny house is not just about embracing a minimalist lifestyle; it's also a substantial financial commitment. Despite their size, these quaint homes are not immune to theft, a scenario that can be quite heartbreaking for owners. In New Zealand, where tiny houses are becoming increasingly popular, securing them is paramount.

[William Dewa's experience](#) highlights the need for proactive security. His tiny house was stolen but, fortunately, recovered after the thieves botched their getaway. They were involved in a crash during the theft and ended up abandoning the damaged tiny house on a busy main road in Auckland. Although such incidents are uncommon, they emphasize the crucial role of effective security measures.

### Here's a rundown of practical tips to keep your tiny home safe:

#### Hitch Locks: A Must-Have

A hitch lock is a straightforward yet effective security device. It locks the trailer hitch, making it

difficult for anyone to tow away your house. It's vital to get the right size for your trailer – a snug fit means better security.

#### Wheel Locks: Immobilise Your Home

Similar to the clamps used on wrongly parked vehicles, wheel locks prevent your tiny house from being moved. They're key-operated, adding an extra layer of security. But remember, a strong door lock is equally important to keep intruders out.

#### Security Cameras: Deterrent and Detective

Installing a security camera, real or decoy, can act as a significant deterrent. Many modern cameras link to your smartphone, allowing remote monitoring. Do note, they usually require an internet connection.

#### Motion Sensors and Lights: Your Electronic Watchdogs

Enhance your camera setup with motion detectors and lights. They can alert you to any suspicious activity, adding an extra level of security.

**GPS Tracking: Locate Your Home on the Go**

In the unfortunate event of theft, a GPS tracker can be invaluable. Modern tracking devices let you monitor your tiny home's location via your phone, a useful feature for speedy recovery.

**Alarm Systems: The Classic Guardian**

An alarm system remains a robust security option. Today's systems range from basic to high-tech, some even connecting to apps that notify you of unauthorized entries. Paired with security lights, they make for a formidable defence.

But it's not just about installing gadgets. Here are a few more tips to ensure your tiny home stays where it should:

**Get to Know Your Neighbours:** In many cases, the best security comes from a close-knit community. Neighbours can keep an eye on your home when you're away.

**Insurance is Key:** Make sure your tiny home is insured against theft. It's as crucial as insuring a standard-sized home.

**Visibility Matters:** Keep your tiny home visible. Thieves are less likely to target a house that's easily seen by others.

In conclusion, as tiny houses gain popularity in New Zealand, their security should not be taken lightly. By implementing a combination of these measures, you can significantly reduce the risk of theft and enjoy your tiny home with peace of mind.



In essence, while the risk of your tiny house being stolen in New Zealand is low, it's not negligible. By implementing these security measures, you can significantly mitigate this risk and enjoy your tiny living with a tad more peace of mind. Remember, it's not just about protecting an asset; it's about safeguarding your sanctuary.

Step inside the world of tiny living... [Click here for video tours of our clients' awesome tiny houses featured on Living Big in a Tiny House!](#)







# 10 WAYS TINY HOUSE LIVING COULD 'RUIN' YOUR LIFE

By Sharla May - Tiny House Hub

Imagine switching to a tiny house lifestyle, often considered a quaint alternative to conventional living. But, have you ever considered how it might completely 'ruin' your life? Here's a look at the potential impact:

**Unbearable Freedom:** Tiny house living brings an overwhelming sense of freedom. Liberated from hefty mortgage or rent payments and the upkeep of a large home, you could live anywhere, often making it hard to settle on just one place.

**Excruciating Simplicity:** Embracing the tiny life means saying farewell to clutter. In a tiny house, every item must be essential or bring joy, drastically reducing impulsive shopping habits.

**Outrageous Savings:** The financial stability from living in a tiny house is transformative. Reduced living costs can lead to significant savings, offering a life less burdened by financial worries.

**Painful Mobility:** The mobility of a tiny house can be a game-changer. It could allow you to explore places far and wide, like traversing the lengths of New Zealand.

**Intense Community Connections:** The tiny house community is known for its supportive nature. Becoming a part of this community might bring you closer to like-minded individuals, enriching your life with meaningful connections.

**Distressing Eco-Friendliness:** Opting for a tiny home can drastically reduce your carbon footprint. This lifestyle aligns with sustainable practices and promotes less consumption.

**Overwhelming Creativity:** Living in a confined space demands creativity and efficiency. You'll learn to transform every inch into a functional area, maximising your living space.

**Excessive Personal Growth:** Adopting a simpler lifestyle can lead to a reevaluation of what's truly important. This shift might give you the time to pursue personal passions, or starting a business from scratch!

**Unwanted Health Improvements:** The compact nature of tiny houses encourages a more active, outdoor lifestyle. Along with a more conscious diet, this could lead to unexpected health benefits.

**Devastating Happiness:** Perhaps the most significant 'downside' is an increase in happiness. The simplicity, freedom, and community connections inherent in tiny living can lead to a deep sense of contentment and well-being.

So, be warned. Tiny house living might just 'ruin' your life in the most delightfully unexpected ways. Are you ready for this life-altering journey?





# JANE'S RADICAL LIFE SHIFT FROM SOUTH AFRICA TO LIVING HER NZ TINY HOUSE DREAM

*By Sharla May  
Tiny House Hub*

In the Tararua region of New Zealand, there's a story that stands out – it's the tale of Jane, a South African expatriate who dared to redefine her way of living. Inspired by the minimalist philosophy of Mr. Money Moustache, Jane embarked on an audacious journey from the traditional confines of a house to the liberating embrace of a tiny home. Her tale is not just about downsizing physical space; it's about upsizing life's essence.

## **A Bold Beginning**

Jane's adventure began with a cross-continental move from South Africa to New Zealand – a leap that marked the beginning of her exploration into tiny living. With only essentials packed, she tested the waters by moving into a compact office space, complete with a bathroom and kitchenette. This three-month experiment quickly proved to be a turning point. The realisation that this minimalist lifestyle was not just feasible, but also deeply satisfying, prompted her to sell most of her belongings. She embraced the tiny life, packing only what she truly needed.

## **Financial Foibles and Triumphs**

The financial aspect of transitioning to a tiny house was a steep learning curve. Banks, ready to lend for a conventional home, turned their backs







when it came to financing a tiny house. This pushed Jane to use all her savings, and at times, rely on the generosity of her family. She faced the daunting task of buying land, setting up water tanks, and installing a solar system – all requiring significant capital. Yet, Jane's resolve didn't falter. After six months of scrimping and saving, she finally made her tiny house a reality.

### **Living the Tiny Dream**

Life in a tiny house brought its own set of challenges and changes. Sharing a small space meant investing in high-quality headphones and

learning to coexist closely with loved ones. The constant threat of eviction, due to the lack of building consent, loomed over her. But these challenges were small in comparison to the freedom she experienced. The tiny space, rather than feeling confining, brought a sense of liberation from unnecessary material possessions.

### **Designing a Personal Haven**

Jane's journey in designing and building her tiny home was filled with careful considerations and unique challenges. Standing just under 6ft tall, she needed a space that didn't feel too constricted. She visited several builders before finding the perfect fit – a 3m wide house. Ensuring the shower was high enough and fitting a super king bed for her and her three dogs were non-negotiable aspects. Her home was a testament to personalised design.

### **Reflections on Tiny Living**

Looking back, Jane's satisfaction with her decision is palpable. Free from the shackles of rent and utility bills, her life has simplified. The current economic climate, with its uncertainties,







has only strengthened her belief in her decision. The ability to pay off her mortgage in three years and live semi-retired, thanks to the low living costs, is a testament to the tiny house's financial benefits.

### **Community and Personal Growth**

Living in a tiny house has profoundly impacted Jane's perspective on life and materialism. She's found a community that shares her values of reducing, reusing, and recycling. The lifestyle has also allowed her to live more in tune with nature, growing her own vegetables and spending more time outdoors.

### **Environmental Footprint**

Jane is conscious of her environmental impact. Her tiny home, with its minimal footprint, off-grid capabilities, and respect for the land, stands in stark contrast to traditional housing.

### **The Future in a Tiny Home**

Jane envisions a long-term future in her tiny abode. She has adapted her home to suit her needs, including building a sleepout for work and enclosing her deck for protection against the elements. As she contemplates aging, she remains innovative and open to future adjustments.

### **Social Life in a Compact Space**

Entertaining in her tiny house revolves around outdoor gatherings. Jane hosts BBQs and social events around her fire pit, now sheltered by an enclosed deck. These gatherings have become an integral part of her weekends.

### **A New Daily Rhythm**

Jane's daily routine has been reshaped by her tiny living. She's become more conscious of her purchases and has embraced the quiet, simple life away from the hustle and bustle.

### **A Lifelong Commitment**

Asked how long she plans to live in her tiny home, Jane's answer is simple: forever. Despite initial doubts and skepticism from others, she has found financial stability and joy in this simpler way of life. Her story is not just a narrative about a house; it's a chronicle of transformation, resilience, and the pursuit of happiness in its purest form.

Are you living in a tiny house? We'd love to feature your story in an upcoming issue!

[Tell your story.](#)



## Wondering how to find land for your tiny house or motorhome?

Landshare: New Zealand's online directory connecting tiny house owners and land owners.



**NEW**

## LAND FOR LEASE



Land Lease Opportunity for Tiny House in Whatawhata, Waikato



### WHATAWHATA, WAIKATO

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 \$200 per week

- **Available:** 01/03/2024
- **Site foundation:** Flat Lawn
- **Water connection:** Yes
- **Power connection:** Yes
- **Off-street parking:** Yes
- **Pets:** No
- **Child Friendly:** No
- **Smokers:** Yes
- **WiFi connection:** No
- **Private location:** No

Discover the perfect spot for your Tiny Home on Wheels! Nestled alongside the scenic Waipa River, this property offers a tranquil setting that's only a 10-minute drive from the bustling city of Hamilton.

The leasing area boasts a flat foundation, surrounded by trees that provide a natural, private feel. If you prefer a clearer view, you're welcome to modify the tree coverage to suit your taste. The property owners have poured their heart and soul into developing one side of their property, and are excited to see the magic one can create on this side.



NEW

## LOOKING FOR LAND

Nature Loving Family Of Four Looking For A Place To Hang Their Hats.



🔍 KAPITI COAST AREA, HUTT VALLEY, WELLINGTON

🌐 [Click here to view the full listing](#)

### Looking for:

- **Power connection:** Yes
- **Water connection:** Yes
- **Off-street Parking:** Yes
- **Pet Friendly:** Yes
- **Child Friendly:** Yes
- **Smokers:** No
- **WiFi Connection:** No
- **Private Location:** No



This nature-loving family is seeking a serene space where they can hang their hats and build memories. They are enthusiastic about becoming part of a community that values the great outdoors as much as they do. If you have land that could accommodate this delightful family and their home on wheels, they would be thrilled to hear from you. The family comes with two small, well-behaved dogs, adding a touch of playful energy to their family dynamic. Their children, aged 9 and 11, are eager to embrace local schooling and immerse themselves in the Kiwi way of life.

## Leasing land for a tiny?

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