

# LOUVERS...

## In Front Of A Million-Dollar View?

To a lot of people living on the coast with beautiful—and expensive—ocean views, the thought of installing exterior louvers on their windows and doors seems outrageous. To Geoff Sumich, a native New Zealander who operates a highly-acclaimed and successful California house design practice, it's par for the course.

"I can't tell you how sad it is to see a beautiful glass-framed house overlooking the ocean, and then see thick heavy curtains pulled across the glass to block out the sun and view," he laments.





To keep his customers in sight of the majestic natural beauty outside their homes, Sumich routinely installs state-of-the-art, remote-operated mechanized louvers in strategic rooms of the house where comfort and view are equally important. He finds bedrooms and bathrooms to be great places for such an option, but has also installed them in living rooms, using sliding units that roll away when not needed. In the open position, homeowners can enjoy the view without glare and reduce the solar heat gain at the same time.

“Stopping the sun coming into your house on the outside of the glass is the most efficient way of reducing solar heat gain, and will save you substantially on your air conditioning bill,” Sumich says.



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Not satisfied with merely preserving his customer's views, Sumich has committed himself to preserving the environment as well. The Irvine Cove house shown in these photos, incorporates many sustainable features. Exterior louvers are included, as well as solar panels and recycled steel framing with "fiber strand" in-fill between the steel frame. Fiber strand is a wood product that utilizes all parts of the tree with no waste. There's even a creative use of louvers over the exterior BBQ area: they form a trellis over the outdoor dining table.

Geoff Sumich has been designing his distinctive brand of homes for over 30 years. His signature style and exceptional balance of simplicity and minimalism suffused with warmth and character works to express all the sides of his customers' personalities.





He is personally involved with every aspect of his projects. His feeling is that once he has finished the plans, his job has just begun. During the course of construction he stays involved with every facet of construction, allowing him to address the thousands of big and small questions that arise. It's a hands-on philosophy that allows accurate execution of the design and precise realization of your dream home.

Experience Geoff's seamless fusion of sleek simplicity, charm and sustainable design for yourself at [www.geoffsumichdesign.com](http://www.geoffsumichdesign.com) He can also be found on [houzz.com](http://houzz.com), where he was honored with *"Best of Houzz Service 2016"*.