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Good Homes

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every room

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sunny shades*

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Easter updates

- 🐣 Easy bank-holiday projects
- 🐣 Stylish buys from just £5
- 🐣 Spring's chic new neutrals



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Acting style editor Jessica Taverner
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Sub editor Simon Berkovitch
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SALES & PROMOTIONS

Publishing director Justin Levett
Editor-in-chief Lisa Allen
Commercial manager Tim Price
Advertising manager Shelby Foord
Display sales executive Anneliese Sid
Publishing assistant Jennifer Trigg
Production director Tim Garwood
Studio director Lee Moore
Studio manager Elliott Prentice
Production manager Nicola Merry
Production assistants Shelley Burgess & Laura Cope
Production designers Jess Jilka & Kerry Thomas

PR & MARKETING

Senior marketing manager Sarah Potter
Circulation & marketing manager Mark Kenton
Marketing executive Rebecca Roe
Senior marketing executive Sophia Blackwell
Marketing designer Chris Moore
Website editor Charlotte Byrne
Image researcher Kerry Garwood
HR director Jane Musgrove

Chief executive officer Lee Newton

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CONTACT US

Media 10, Crown House, 151 High Rd, Loughton IG10 4LF
 T 020 3225 5200

W goodhomesmagazine.com
 E info@goodhomesmagazine.com
 E sales@goodhomesmagazine.com



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 IPA Shortlisted for consumer magazine of the year 2016

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 Ask your newsagent to reserve each issue for you. Some newsagents may be able to arrange home delivery.



Enjoy the Easter break

This issue is all about bringing sunshine into your home. Use the bank holiday weekend to brighten up your interiors with on-trend accessories in gorgeous shades of coral and buttercup, find inspiration for your living spaces with our easy decorating projects, and create the perfect, no-fuss Easter celebration. With all this in mind, we've refreshed the pages of your favourite magazine for spring by updating the features we know you love – homes, makeovers, shopping and decorating. Look out for our 100+ best buys stamp throughout – it's our promise to bring you the latest and most stylish new products from the high street and online.

Karen

EDITOR
 KAREN WALKER

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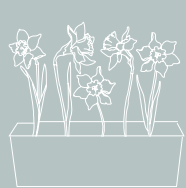
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April



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STYLING KATE MCPHEE

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- 37** Save 20% at Very
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for just £21.99

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Great British kitchens
direct from the manufacturer



Milano & Shaker kitchen **£4,876**

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61 showrooms nationwide, visit wrenkitchens.com

wren
KITCHENS

▲ Priced kitchen is for units only and does not include the price of worktops, appliances, sink, tap, props, accessories or small worktop appliances. Price taken 1.2.2017

165 STOCKISTS & SUPPLIERS

*Where to buy all
the products featured
in this issue*



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breathe easy this spring

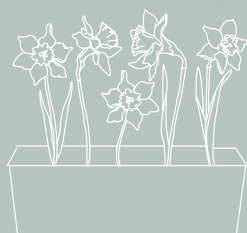


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symptoms**

Louvolute window blind fabrics now feature Pollergen
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*See www.louvolute.com for more details



Have your best-ever EASTER



Spring is here

As the weather takes a warmer turn, enjoy family outdoor activities, such as taking a stroll to collect blooms to brighten your home. With the bank holiday adding to your free time, it's the ideal opportunity to carry out our easy decorating projects and quick updates.



POPS OF PASTEL

Socket mini greenhouse, £12; Bekväm step stool, £13, both Ikea. For a similar console, try Home & Haus Holly table, £233.99, Wayfair. For similar wallpaper, try Cotton Candy stripe, £15 per 10m roll, Graham & Brown

THIS MONTH



↑ WE'RE BAKING

Stainless-steel stamped cake slice, £39, Gettingpersonal.co.uk



↑ WE'RE BUYING

Le Flore champagne flutes, £30 for four, Oliver Bonas



↑ WE'RE LOVING

Pink ruffle throw, £149, Marks & Spencer

- three Easter updates -

Make it special

Give a classic-country look a Scandi twist with grown-up greys and Eames-style chairs. Add accents of yellow and bunny accessories for a playful nod towards the season.

SPRING CELEBRATION

Wool rabbit, £10; Pussy Willow milk churn, £15; Eggcellent Easter card, £2; Happy Easter cushion, £8; faux flower milk churn, £15, all Sainsbury's Home

1
RELAXED
DINING

THE EDIT EASTER EGGS



↑ **SPICED DELIGHT**
Milk chocolate hot-cross bun egg, £17.50, Prestat



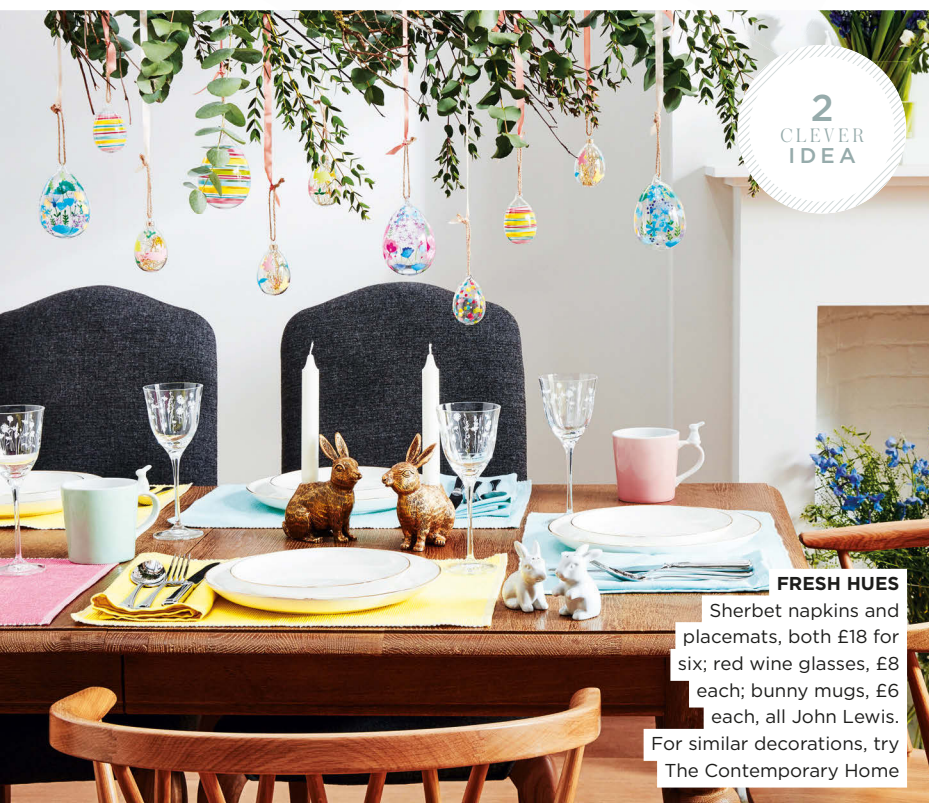
↑ **SUGAR FLOWERS**
Milk chocolate hand-decorated egg, £39.95, Fortnum & Mason



↑ **CHEF'S CHOICE**
Heston eggstraordinary dippy egg, £20, Waitrose



↑ **SWEET TOOTH**
Lindor strawberries and cream, £8.99, Tesco



2
CLEVER
IDEA

FRESH HUES

Sherbet napkins and placemats, both £18 for six; red wine glasses, £8 each; bunny mugs, £6 each, all John Lewis.

For similar decorations, try The Contemporary Home

↓ Scandi tree

Decorate twigs from the garden with papier-mâché eggs and feathers found on walks for a low-maintenance, affordable focal point. For a vibrant twist on this pared-back look, swap wooden ornaments for colourful pom-poms and decoupage eggs.



3
CHIC
STYLE



BIRD'S NEST CUPCAKES

- 1 Beat 110g sugar and 110g butter together, then mix in 2 eggs. Stir in 3 tbsp milk and ½ tsp of vanilla extract.
- 2 Fold in 125g self-raising flour, 2 tbsp cocoa and a pinch of salt.
- 3 Divide between 10 cupcake cases and bake for 22-25 mins at 180°C/160°C fan/gas 4. Cool.
- 4 Beat 100g butter, 225g icing sugar and 2 tbsp cocoa together and add 1 tbsp warm water. Pipe on cakes and top with flaked chocolate and mini eggs.

For more fun Easter recipes, visit tasteandsmile.com

ENJOY GREAT DAYS OUT



↑ FOR ALL THE FAMILY

The National Trust has teamed up with Cadbury to organise outdoor egg hunts in more than 250 locations around the UK, including woodlands and nature trails. Some events are free, others start from £1. Visit cadbury.co.uk/easter



↑ JUST THE TWO OF YOU

Head to Warwickshire and unwind in pretty Shipston-on-Stour. The George Townhouse offers an extensive range of ales, local produce and quirky yet stylish bedrooms, from £100 per night. Visit thegeorgeshipston.co.uk



↑ FOR THE LITTLE ONES

Hotel Chocolat is giving children the chance to get creative during egg decorating workshops. The events cost £20 per child and take place in London from 13 to 16 April and in Leeds on 15 and 16 April. Visit hotelchocolat.com

↑ **STRIPED RIBBONS**
Chevron Divine paper
bunting, £7.99, Ginger Ray



↑ **PEACE & LOVE**
Dove plate,
£24, Sisters Guild



↓ **DRY IN STYLE**
Squirrel tea towel,
£5.99, Oak
Room Shop



RICH PLUMAGE
Perched Birds
wallpaper, £155 per
10m roll, Louise Body



SITTING PRETTY
Retro bird cushion,
£10, Next Home

↗ **SKETCHY MOTIF**
Rabbit museum
clock, £25,
Newgate Clocks

→ **FARM FRIENDS**
Lampshade, £37;
mug, £11; jug,
£26; bag, £17;
notebook, £9.50;
paperweight,
£16; coaster, £13
for four; candle,
£8.50, all Runner
Duck range at
Sophie Allport

style spotter nature trail



↓ **UNDER GLASS**
Faux butterfly cloche,
£45, Laura Ashley



get the look...

Embrace this
wildlife motif trend in a
subtle way by adding hints
of elegant insect prints to your
dinnerware, or go bold by
covering your walls in patterned
wallpaper featuring hand-painted
designs. Rabbits and chickens are
abundant at this time of year,
so there's a great selection to
choose from in the shops
and online.

↓ **CAST SHADOWS**
Tealight holder,
£4.50, Pastel Lane



↘ **HANG UP**
Metal butterfly
hooks, £6,
Sainsbury's



↑ **TAKE A SEAT**
Ely dining chair in
Emily Bond fabric,
£329, Multiyork



↑ **TRIO OF HARES**
Game & Garden jugs, from
£14.50 each, Cream Cornwall





STYLIST'S NOTE

'Subtle animal motifs can be used to dress windows, revamp tired furniture and add a quirky sense of style to your home. Team these fun prints with slim-legged furniture and wooden accessories to keep things bright and airy.'

Jessica Taverner, Acting Style Editor

FINISHING TOUCH

Add fresh eucalyptus cuttings to geometric vases to help soften the look of a vibrant room – the use of soothing natural colours will calm busy prints and citrus shades



MIXED PATTERNS

Ristikko wallpaper, £39 per 10m roll; blind in Lintu cotton, £30 per m; cushions in Plains One linen-mix fabric, £31 per m and Noki, cotton-mix fabric £39 per m, all Scion at Jane Clayton & Company. Brink & Campman Stubble wool rug, £689, Benuta

easy craft



Be creative with Annie Sloan's
DIY printing technique



1 Wrap a length of thin rope round a sturdy block of wood, using a glue gun to stick in place. The lines of rope do not need to be spaced evenly.



2 Cover one side of your homemade printing block with a fabric paint of your choice – do this quite thickly using a wide-bristled brush.



3 Stamp your material in your preferred design – natural cottons work best. If you want to use another colour, simply create another block.

From Annie Sloan Paints Everything
by Annie Sloan, £14.99, Cico Books.
Photography Christopher Drake

- budget weekend projects -

Stylish shelving

The bank holiday weekend is the ideal time to begin ticking off your to-do list. With a little planning and some clever storage ideas you can easily brighten up your abode. A soothing palette of mineral shades creates a calm, serene finish.



TOTAL
COST
UNDER
£60

SIMPLE UPDATE

Paint a display ledge in a lighter shade than the top half of the wall – the darker colour above will provide the perfect backdrop to your vases and other ornaments



MAKE A RECESS

You can build a deep ledge-style display shelf easily with MDF panels. Use them to box off an area – ideal for hiding pipework.

Bluebell two-and-a-half-seater sofa in taupe, £1,440; footstool in blush, £340, both Sofa.com



TOTAL
COST
£36

↑ **VALUE BUYS**

Creating a new look can be as simple as reshuffling existing shelving. Ikea has released a selection of inserts that will maximise your space, ensuring a functional and attractive display. **Kallax series, from £8, Ikea**

→ **ACCENT EDGES**

You'll be surprised how much you can achieve with sample pots of paint. Try colouring the edges of shelves only to introduce bright hues to your room.

Paints from a selection at Dulux



TOTAL
COST
UNDER
£6

WE LOVE

Organic pendants



↑ **WOVEN EDGE**

Birdy wire pendant with rattan border, £69.95, Cuckooland



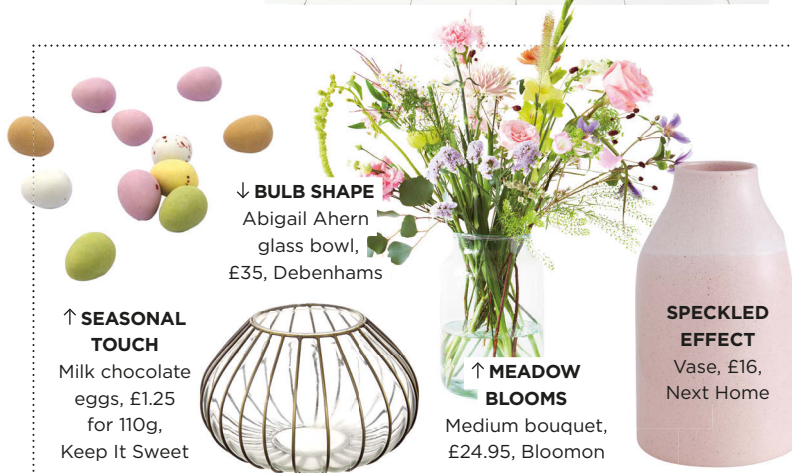
↑ **PINECONE SILHOUETTE**

Tom Raffield Scots wall light in oak, £310, Rume



↑ **ECO FIBRES**

Xs Geometric in Portland, £80, Janie Knitted Textiles



↑ **SEASONAL TOUCH**

Milk chocolate eggs, £1.25 for 110g, Keep It Sweet

↓ **BULB SHAPE**
Abigail Ahern glass bowl, £35, Debenhams



↑ **MEADOW BLOOMS**

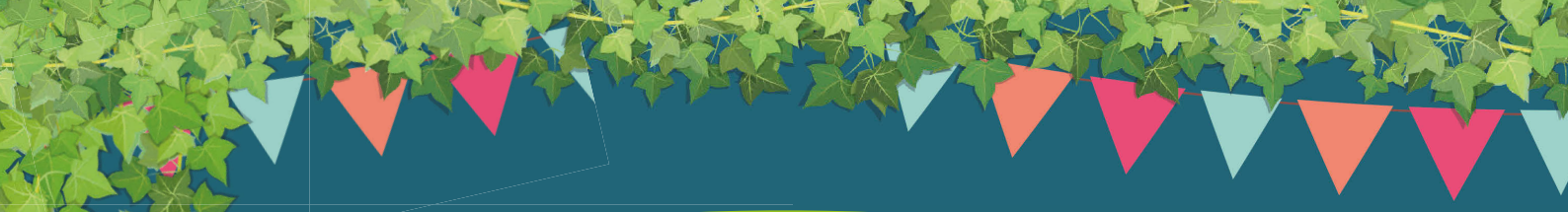
Medium bouquet, £24.95, Bloomon



SPECKLED EFFECT
Vase, £16, Next Home

← *Spring refresh*

Turn a beautiful bouquet into an Easter decoration in a few quick steps. Put a vase full of flowers inside a glass bowl, fill with moss and line the top with mini chocolate eggs. Place a few individual blooms in separate vases to incorporate them throughout the room.



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BEST
BUYS

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TREND OF THE MONTH

Embrace the delicate
watercolour theme



28

ON THE INTERNET

Head online to find new
designs for every room

30

COLOUR OF THE MONTH

Bring shades of coral
into your spring schemes

33

10 UNDER £75

Update with our
great-value interior finds

100+
BEST
BUYS

APRIL ON THE

HOLLY'S HOUSE

→ ABOUT TIME

Green marble clock, £98.50



↙ **VINTAGE VIBE**
Brass and amber glass eight-arm pendant light, £398.50

DECO
STYLE

← DOUBLE BUBBLE

Glass vase, £49



↓ FRENCH FANCY

Maison la Bougie Osier scented candle, £39.50



SCANDI FEEL

Usta cotton cushion, £45



↓ ELEGANT PORCELAIN

Powder coffee pot, £39.95



RIGHT LINES

Small Isa cardboard plate, £15



↓ JUNGLE PATTERN

Set of four botanical glasses, £29.95



ROWEN & WREN

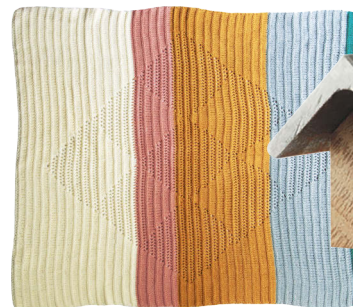


↑ VERSATILE STORAGE

Witham oak plate-rack, £178



ELEGANT CHARM
Indar hanging mirror and hook, £196



↑ SNUG STRIPES

Beryl diamond blanket, £76



↑ HIVE OF ACTIVITY

Bee home, £22 for three



← LIGHT TOUCH

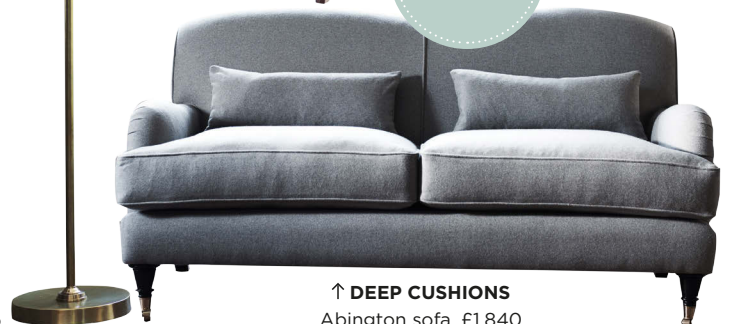
Brenna floor lamp, £392



↑ COLLAPSIBLE MODEL

Gable folding trellis table, £396

CLASSIC
CHOICE



↑ DEEP CUSHIONS

Abington sofa, £1,840

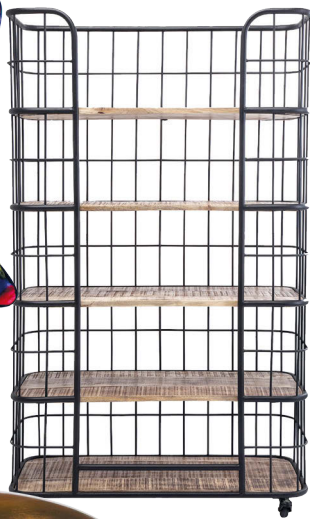
INTERNET

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LUXE FABRIC
Silk botanical
cushion, £115



↑ **ON TREND**
Industrial basket
shelving unit, £949

↓ **BOLD BRASS**
Iggy ceiling
pendant, £79

**GREAT
SHAPE**

← **GREEN
FINGERS**

Pruga hanging
pot, £19



↑ **RETRO SHAPE**
Curvy lounge
chair in blue,
£1,495

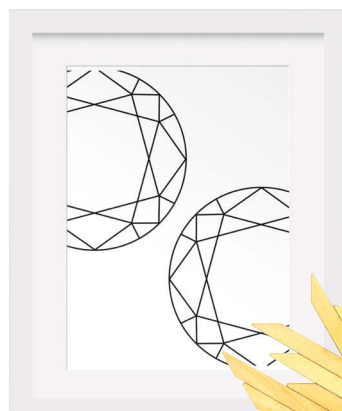
↓ **NATURAL GLOW**
Pair of bamboo
lanterns, £68



↑ **WOOD
& STONE**
Torri marble
board, £36



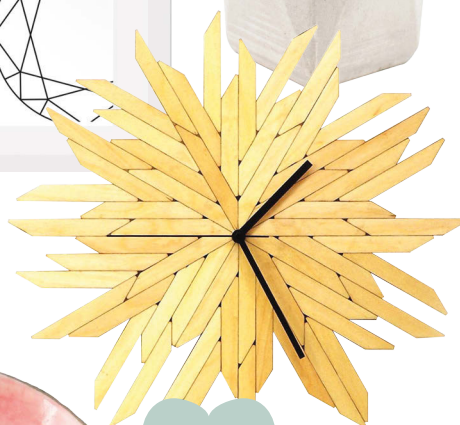
HANDMADE AT AMAZON



↑ **GEOMETRIC
CIRCLES**
Unframed print
by Seagull Studio
Prints, £8.95



URBAN EDGE
Concrete pot by
Oitenta, £29.90



**WE
LOVE**

↑ **ORGANIC
TIMBER**

Haystack wooden
wall clock by
Ardeola, £109



BLUSH PINK
Trinket dish by
Lottie of London
Jewellery, £9.99

→ **CUT OUT
DETAIL**
House
number by
Sol Pixie
Dust, £7



↓ **CHUNKY WEAVE**
Crocheted basket in cherry
by Fairy's Home, £59

STOCKISTS
Turn to
p165



PASTEL HUES

Geometric pillow by
Lovely Décor, £20.99



FEATURE KERRY GARWOOD

- colour of the month -

Chic coral

Use this vibrant shade to spread warmth and sunshine throughout your home

100+
BEST
BUYS



↑ **BRIGHT SPOT**
Gooseneck
lamp, £59.99,
Dowsing & Reynolds



WE
LOVE

↑ **CHIC SHAPE**
Fonteyn dressing table,
£399, Made.com



↑ **EMBROIDERED PALMS**
Elizabeth Scarlett Palmier
cushion, £49.50, Amara



MODERN APPEAL
Alessi Mediterraneo
fruit bowl, £45,
Black by Design



↑ **TWO TONE**
Pair or rope
baskets, £75,
Rice DK at
Sisters Guild



↑ **RUBBER COATED**
Silk ceramic canister,
£24, The Design Gift Shop



GEOMETRIC MIX

Radial wallpaper, £58 per 10m roll; Momentum Distinct wallpaper, £66 per 10m roll; curtains and cushions in Cupola viscose-mix fabric, £49 per m; dining chairs in Meika silk/linen-mix fabric in stone, £59 per m, and Aves cotton-mix fabric in paprika, £47 per m, all Harlequin

Swatch WATCH

Give your rooms a seasonal update



TOUCH OF SPICE

Neisha Crosland Atlas tiles
in pine flower paprika,
£24.95 each, Fired Earth

→ AQUATIC MOTIFS

Curio Seafern
wallpaper, £80
per 10m roll,
Cole & Son



DEEP TONE

Matt emulsion paint
in old coral, £19.50
per 1ltr, Sanderson

LAVISH FINISH

Crocodile wallpaper,
£20 per 10m roll,
Graham & Brown

FEATURE KERRY GARWOOD



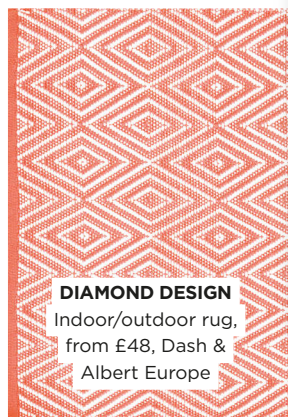
IRIDESCENT GLAZE

Fifi small vase,
£15, Habitat



↑ SUBTLE STRIPES

Throw, £45,
White Stuff



DIAMOND DESIGN

Indoor/outdoor rug,
from £48, Dash &
Albert Europe

STYLING TIP

Use different wallpaper
throughout an open-plan
scheme to help zone each space.
Echo the patterns via soft
furnishings in the
same colourways



CLASSIC COMFORT

1958 three-seater sofa,
£1,095, Oliver Bonas



NEXT MONTH LAVENDER

the look in one buy...



VINTAGE STYLE

Kennedy teapot, £25, PIB

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3
SIXTIES SHAPES
Coffee pot, £32; enamel milk pan, £19; cooking pot, £25, all Isak



STOCKISTS
Turn to p165

4
SIMPLE DESIGN
Basics dining chair in white and green, Wayfair



£58.94

£45



5
HOT STUFF
Two-slot Lite toaster in pink rose, Dualit

£70

100+ BEST BUYS

10
under £75

Stylish, budget-friendly updates to add charm to every room



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8
COPPER TONE
Alana side table, Made.com

7
LUXE TOUCH
Marble chutney pots with spoons and wood stand, House of Fraser



£60



£67

9
LEAF PRINT
Aneto double duvet cover, £55; pillowcases, £12 each, all Urbanara



6
PRETTY PINK
Olli Ella framed A4 print, Cuckooland

under £10...

10
BEDROOM BARGAIN
Three-drawer jewellery box, Primark



£7

FEATURE JO MESSENGER

100+
BEST
BUYS

- trend of the month -

Watercolour

Combine fabrics in a variety of dreamy painterly effects with eye-catching accessories to create a soft, feminine scheme



↑ DINING ROOM



← **COLOURFUL CLUSTER**
Ilaria pendant lights, £169, Made.com

DESIGN CLASSIC



OMBRE EFFECT

Ercol Original loveseat, £840, Heal's

→ BLUE TONES

Behaga side plate, £2.25; bowl, £2.50, both Ikea



STYLIST'S NOTE

Watercolour prints are a gentle way to add pattern to a room. The use of soft grey details in this kind of scheme helps to break up a background of pure white. If you want to include darker shades, swap bold blacks for a wash of navy blues or deep purples for a less dramatic impact.

Jessica Taverner, Acting Style Editor

SPRING HUES

Lola duvet cover, from £65; Lola pillowcases, £18 each; blush velvet tassel cushion, £58; teal paintbox rug, from £900, all Bluebellgray

← BEDROOM

← FADED FLORALS

Boca Malmo rug, from £99, Modern Rugs

→ MIXED PALETTE

January six-drawer chest, £525, Oliver Bonas

← COMING UP ROSES

Floral Belle picture frame, £8, Tesco

WE LOVE

→ LIVING ROOM



← PAINTER'S STRIPES

Brush stroke wall clock, £19.55, Zazzle

→ SOFT SHADOWS

Croft Collection Anya cushion, £40, John Lewis



STOCKISTS
Turn to
p165



↑ ARTISTIC STROKES
Watercolour-print chair, £379, Homesense

STYLING TIP

Seek out impressionistic florals, ombre effects and inky tones that will blend together harmoniously. Incorporate copper or brass elements to warm the look up

NEXT MONTH
SIMPLICITY

RICH TONES

Butterfly House velvet cushion, £12; bright painted cushion, £14; floral-print cushion, £10; glass candle, £12, all Sainsbury's Home



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EVERY
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3 of the best KEY PIECES BY VERY



← HIDDEN STORAGE

Very Boutique from
Airsprung, Audrey
Divan 1000, from £799

**CLEVER
IDEA**

→ **SCANDI
CHIC**
Papillion
chair, £229



← COUNTRY STYLE

Oscar large
sideboard,
£189

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Spring is blossoming, so it's the ideal time to take stock of your interiors and hit the refresh button. The new-season range from Very is full of inspiring ideas for your home.

Its new collections include a range of must-have accessories and practical and sleek pieces of key furniture such as sofas, beds, sideboards and modular coffee tables. Colour palettes include dark pistachio, bold yellow, mint green and gorgeous grey.

With its trend-led homewares and the latest big-brand electrical items, Very is the perfect place to shop your interior obsession.

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51

INTERIOR DESIGN COURSE

New ways to use neutrals
throughout your home

40

MELLOW YELLOW

Use buttercup hues to create
an inviting dining scheme

44

SUNNY SHADES

Combine calming natural
tones for a relaxed bedroom

48

SAVE & SUBSCRIBE

The latest interiors news
for less with *Good Homes*

Mellow YELLOW

Decorate your dining room with shades of bright buttercup, retro prints and mid-century-inspired wooden furniture for an inviting, Scandi-style spring scheme

Love this room

- ✿ Using lots of plants, both real and artificial, is a great way to prevent a large amount of colour from becoming too overpowering.
- ✿ Accessories with gloss finishes, such as pendant lights and vases, help bounce light around the room, making it feel more spacious.
- ✿ Continue light-timber flooring planks up to dado-rail height, blurring the space of the floor.
- ✿ Break up vibrant hues by introducing dark-wood furniture via a statement sideboard.
- ✿ Show off glassware and store dining essentials in an open-front bookcase. Add wallpaper to the backs of shelves to create a display piece.

Turn the page to get the look





Love this pattern



RETRO PRINT

Sixties-inspired wallpaper is a striking backdrop for stark ceramics

STYLING TIP

Adding a vibrant rug that complements the shape of the table zones the eating area and reduces the amount of flooring on show, bringing the focus to the middle of the room



RUSTIC STYLE

Layer tableware in contrasting textures – combine smooth ceramics with tactile placemats

WHERE TO BUY

PREVIOUS PAGES Wall in Farrow & Ball yellow ground No.218, £74.50 per 5ltr, Designerpaint. **Mirror wall** in matt emulsion in candy, £24.49 per 2.5ltr; **bookcase** in eggshell in timeless white, £11.48 per 750ml, both Dulux. **Bookcase wallpapers**, from a selection at Albany at Wallpaperdirect, Holden Decor, Laura Ashley and Layla Faye. Bianco anti-slip plank **tiles**, £69.75 per sqm, Walls and Floors. Stockholm **rug**, £160, Ikea. Ercol Originals **dining table**, £1,835; Ercol Originals butterfly **chair**, £535; **stacking chair**, £268, all Furniture Village. For a similar

sideboard, try Furniture Village. Christie **pendant lights**, £333 each, Original BTC. For similar a **mirror**, try Wayfair. **Faux plants**, from a selection, Bloom **ON SHELVES** For a similar **frame**, try George Home. For a similar **plant pot**, try Design Vintage. For a similar bulb **vase**, try House of Fraser. **Geometric vase**, £40, Cox & Cox. For similar **boxes**, try Laura Ashley. **Textural vase**, £12, Habitat. Mimosa **posies**, £15 each, Bloom. **Chopping boards**, from a selection at Sainsbury's Home. **Carafe** and yellow **vases**, from a selection at Habitat. **Glass carafe**, from a selection at Dunelm. For similar **amber glasses**, try eBay. **Geometric bottle**,



↑ SLEEK SCANDI

Add interest to a corner with blocks of warming colours, faux plants and retro furniture in rattan

from a selection at Design Vintage. **Yellow bouquet**, £19, Bloom. For a similar rattan-wrapped **vase**, try Notonthehighstreet.com **ON TABLE** For similar **olive branches**, try Maxifleur. For a similar **cake dome**, try Argos **ON CONSOLE** For a similar **vase** and **bowls**, try Design Vintage **THIS PAGE, ON TABLE** **Plates**, from a selection, Art Rookie. For similar **napkins**, try Sheridan. **Placemats**, £25 for four, Garden Trading. Sunbury 16-piece **cutlery set**, £30, Habitat. **Board**, £25, Garden Trading. **Buttercups**, £35, Bloom. For similar bird **vases**, try Wayfair. For similar **glasses**, try John Lewis. For similar striped **straws**, try Talking Tables

WHERE TO BUY

Rattan **armchair**, £210, Cox & Cox. Papillon **cushion** in meadow green, from £22, Louvolite. Tripod **table**, £199, AIF. Large **cymbidium**, £99, Bloom. **Candle**, £25, Rewined. **Wall planters**, £29.99 each, both Factory Twenty One. For a similar wooden **bird**, try Notonthehighstreet.com



GET THE LOOK

Brighten your space with these easy updates



← **FINE FLUTING**
Christie pendant light, £299, Original BTC



↗ **ICONIC SHAPE**
Finn chair in mustard, £49, Danetti

↓ **BASKET WEAVE**
Pressed glass vases, from £12 each, Marks & Spencer



SKETCHY DOTS
Pendle 12-piece dinner set, £28, Next Home



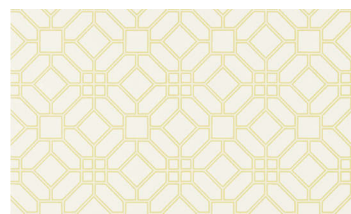
5 of the best WALLPAPERS

Pick bold patterns for a refreshing scheme



↑ ROSY POSIES

Sanderson Adele, £65 per 10m roll, Fashion Wallpaper



↑ MOROCCAN INFLUENCE

Zoffany Verandah trellis, £63 per 10m roll, John Lewis



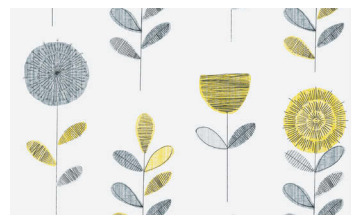
↑ PETAL POWER

Chrysanthemum, £140 per 10m roll, Lorna Syson



↑ CLASSIC DESIGN

Summertrail ST01, £69 per 10m roll, The Dormy House



↑ GRAPHIC BLOOMS

Graham & Brown Superfresco floral, £10 per 10m roll, B&Q

Decorating with



SPRINGTIME COLOURS



SOFT SAGE

Chalky green will add an uplifting feel. Matt emulsion in wonderful world, £35 per 2.5ltr, Paint The Town Green



PALEST PINK

This delicate shade has a soothing effect. 230 emulsion in calamine, £33 per 2.5ltr, Designerpaint



ZESTY HUE

Be brave and opt for an acid yellow. Dulux matt emulsion in lemon punch, £12.49 per 1ltr, Homebase



Sunny SHADES

Combine fun nature motifs with calming organic yellows for a light and airy retreat

Love this room

-  Choose simple, boxy furniture shapes that can be integrated easily into a patterned scheme.
-  Potted succulents and cacti in vases, hanging planters and glass hurricanes are simple updates.
-  Use soft, tactile fabrics such as high-pile carpets or rugs to add a comfy, fuss-free finish on the floor. Vary the textures by introducing knit throws and a linen upholstered headboard.

Turn the page to get the look

CURVES & LINES

Draw inspiration from mid-century style by teaming graphic shapes with pops of natural yellow



STYLING TIP

Paint a long rectangle in a dark shade on a wall to create a frame for your accessories to sit against – this is a simple way of pulling a minimalist look together

LIVING COLOUR

Inject character into a neutral scheme with leaf and flower prints

Love this pattern



LARGE LEAVES

Linear details work particularly well against a vivid backdrop



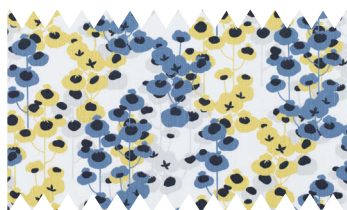
5 of the best FABRICS

Create a focal point with
nature-inspired prints



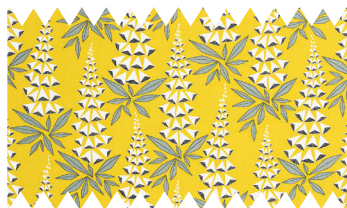
↑ TULIP STAMPS

Addington saffron cotton,
£14.99 per m, Prestigious Textiles



↑ ABSTRACT FLORALS

Elodie shaker cotton,
£30 per m, Villa Nova



↑ HAND-DRAWN DESIGN

Foxglove quince linen-mix
fabric, £73 per m, Missprint



↑ TWEET REPEAT

Iliv Scandi Birds cotton in mustard,
£9.95 per m, The Millshop Online



↑ STYLISTED STEMS

Elin furnishing fabric in citrine,
£22 per m, John Lewis

GET THE LOOK

Key buys for an instant refresh



DAFFODIL HUE
Cushion, £13,
Sainsbury's Home



AZTEC TRIANGLES
Canvas basket,
£4.99, TK Maxx

WE
LOVE



↑ **LASER-CUT DETAIL**
Hume compact cabinet
in oak, £399, Made.com

↘ SWEET DREAMS

Smoke double bed
in shingle classic
linen, £1,015, Loaf



Try this twist

Embrace Art Deco-inspired design in your bedroom. Swap florals for geometrics and switch from soft greys to dramatic black for an edgy twist. Make a bold statement by using a similar pattern to the wallpaper on the curtains – this helps the eye travel around the room easily.



WHERE TO BUY

PREVIOUS PAGES Wallpaper, £10 per 10m roll; Jodi cut-out **shade**, £32; Duke **headboard** in raffia dove, £144; Oxford **pillowcases** in slate, £4.99 each; plain dye housewife pair of **pillowcases**, £3.99; Hello Sunshine **cushion**, £12; Elements floral double **duvet** set, £18; ochre pom-pom **throw**, £45; Jasper **bedside table**, £139; **photo frame**, from £5; Filey **footstool**, £49; Cactus **jewellery holder**, £6; House **cuckoo clock**, £40, all Dunelm **ON SHELF** Leaf **vase**, £10; hanging **planter**, £8; apple **ornament**, £3; stripe **vase**, £14; faux **flowers**, from £2; Elements mantle **clock**, £10, all Dunelm. For a similar **wallpaper**, try Wallpaperdirect. For a similar plant **stand**, try Houseology. For a similar **plant pot**, try Sainsbury's Home. For a similar **owl**, try Next Home. For a similar **cup and saucer**, try Debenhams **THIS PAGE** For a similar stripe **pillowcase**, try Ikea. Large Mr Fox Sunshine **cushion**, £45; Mini Fox Sunshine **cushion**, £35; Tucan **cushion**, £45; Tocca **wallpaper**, £30 per 10m roll, all Scion. For a similar bench, try Furniture Village **TRY THIS TWIST Walls** in Cole & Son Pompeian, £78 per 10m roll, Fashion Wallpaper. **Curtain** in Casadeco Losange fabric, £65.52 per m, House Decor Interiors. For a similar **bed**, try Sofa.com. Campaign oak **bedside table**, £225, Loaf. Number 14 by Jackson Pollack **framed print**, £45, King & McGaw

STOCKISTS
Turn to
p165

STYLIST'S NOTE



'Yellow paint is great for injecting warmth into your home. Experiment with tester pots first, as your scheme can change depending on the light in the room – acidic tones pack a punch, while earthy ochre suits an organic look.'

Jessica Taverner, Acting Style Editor



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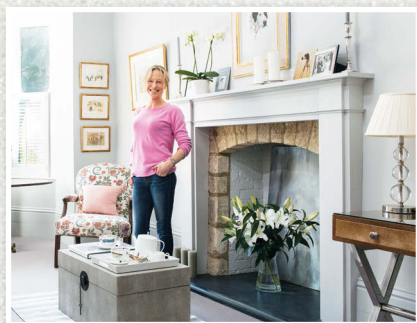
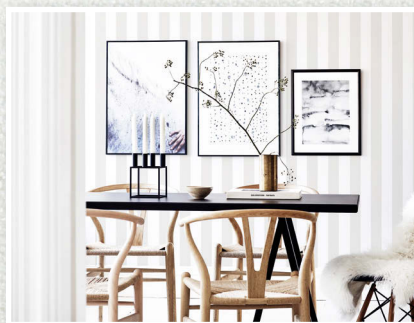


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Karen

KAREN WALKER
EDITOR



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PART 27

DECORATING WITH NEUTRALS

- + Learn about shades of white
- + Add interest with accessories
- + Introduce texture and natural elements to pull a look together
- + Discover how to use black
- + Check out the latest wallpaper and fabric designs
- + Ways to give neutral schemes a fresh, contemporary edge
- + Essential tips for bringing a simple colour palette to life

Think outside the beige box when it comes to neutrals. From simple, crisp white to comforting naturals and dense, theatrical black, it's easy to create a chic, timeless scheme. A neutral palette can be dark or light, warm or cool and restful or dramatic. Vary tones for a layered, textured look, or stick to one or two shades for a sleek, modern style. Their versatility also means you can easily refresh a scheme with simple accessories or a few choice splashes of colour.

KEEP IT SIMPLE WITH

white

It may seem unassuming, but it can actually have a powerful impact on such a scheme, reflecting light and making small or dark rooms feel brighter and more spacious. Often used on woodwork, white frames paint colours and wallpaper designs, giving a clean, crisp finish. When applied to walls it creates a blank canvas for other elements, as well as highlighting any architectural features.

STYLING TIP

Choose heavily patterned wallpaper in differing shades of light grey for rooms with high ceilings. The design will still have impact without overpowering the space

TRY POPS OF CITRUS

Introduce a little colour and natural texture to create interest on a white sofa.

A dash of zesty lemon brings an up-to-date feel to a scheme with classic full-length window shutters.

Shutters in white custom colour paint, from £156 per sqm, California Shutters

EXPERT TIP

If you're after a tonal look, but don't want to lay a light-coloured carpet, consider painting your floorboards or choose a white or grey-washed wood-effect design



ACCESSORISE SUBTLY

Place mismatched tableware in tonal shades on open kitchen shelving for relaxed, laidback styling. Understated Roman blinds add to the minimalist mood.

Tetbury Roman blinds in white, from £151, Hillarys



PILE ON TEXTURE

For a cosy bedroom, mix white linen with wood panelling and layers of tactile materials.

Duvet cover, £80; throw, £120; Aran rug, £355, all Debenhams

ADD GREY ACCENTS



← CLEAR WINNER

Shore glass jar with lid, £6, Sainsbury's Home

→ INSTANT UPDATE

Muuto grain pendant light, £109, Rume



WE LOVE



↑ SOFT OPTION

Lazy cotton bedding, from £20 for a pair of pillowcases; double duvet cover, £75, Loaf

HOW TO

CREATE PRACTICAL FEATURE SHELVING



+ Begin by painting the wall white. Try a cool tone for a sunny spot or a warmer shade for a darker room.

+ Fill the space with white wooden box-style shelving. Try a uniform grid configuration for a formal look, or go for a mix of shapes and sizes to create a random, eclectic finish.

+ Arrange books, lamps and accessories on the shelving – include a few bold colours to bring it to life.

Stacked shelving in white and ash, from £80 each, Places and Spaces

GO BOLD WITH

black

Used imaginatively – and, crucially, with good lighting – this powerful shade adds drama and excitement. Team it with white and it creates a classic and striking monochrome scheme. Bring it in as a background hue and it makes lighter and brighter colours stand out.

QUICK IDEA

Paint a column or feature wall in a kitchen or dining room with chalkboard paint. You can then write gastro pub-style menus on it or use it as a noteboard.

EXPERT TIP

Continue an extended marble worksurface down the side of a large island unit to create an informal dining spot with plenty of space to tuck bar stools under

DESIGN AN ELEGANT KITCHEN

Team dark cabinetry with lighter surfaces for a sophisticated look. Gloss units will reflect the light, while matt finishes are easier to keep clean and less likely to show up streaks and fingermarks.

Copper pendant lights, from £105 each, Pooky



USE STRONG SHAPES

Select a few key elements, such as a bold, geometric rug, retro chair and statement lighting to sharpen the look of a muted scheme.

Belle BEL01 wool flat woven rug, from £164, Modern Rugs

ADD METAL ACCENTS

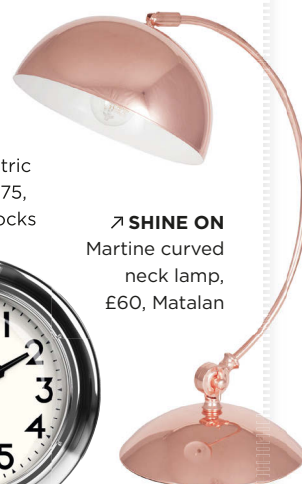
↓ TIME OUT

The Giant chrome electric wall clock, £75, Newgate Clocks



↗ SHINE ON

Martine curved neck lamp, £60, Matalan



↑ GOLDEN GLOW

Stainless steel cutlery, £20 for a 16-piece set, George Home



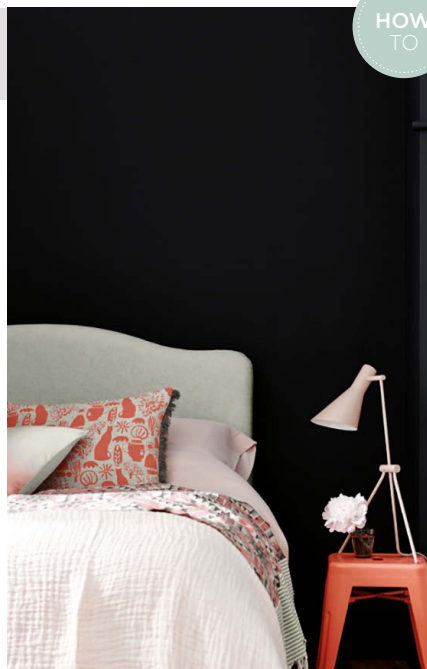
BE BRAVE WITH TILES

Position a black freestanding bath against white, brick-style tiles in a herringbone pattern lined with dark grout.

Metro wall tiles, £18.50 per sqm, Topps Tiles

HOW TO

PAINT A FEATURE WALL IN AN INTENSE COLOUR



- + If you are unsure of the impact the shade will have, start with a small wall or chimneybreast to see if you like it.
 - + To disguise uneven walls or ceilings, finish painting a few centimetres down from the top. Mask it off first to create a neat, straight line then colour the space above in the same shade as the ceiling.
 - + Keep it matt: silk or gloss paint will show up any imperfections.
 - + Try other deep tones, such as dark blue, grey, brown and aubergine. You will achieve a similar-yet-softer look.
 - + Create contrast by placing pale, pink-toned items in front of the wall.
- Wall in Absolute matt emulsion in basalt, £38 per 2.5ltr, Little Greene**

INJECT WARMTH WITH

naturals

To lend texture and interest to a predominantly black and white scheme, take inspiration from the world around you.

Subtle colour combinations that are found in nature are easy on the eye and blend effortlessly with bold contrasting patterns and colours. Keep them soft and soothing with rich ivory, powder greys and warming oatmeal, or increase a feeling of depth with deeper brown tones.

STYLING TIP

Soften the impact of a dark dining table with light-wood dining chairs in a curved, mid-century style. Bring in natural textures and fabrics to add richness

ADD GREEN ACCENTS



➤ BOTANICAL STYLE

Tropical fern-print cushion, £13, Pasx



↑ DEEP TONE

Nordal Diamond wine glass, £5, Amara



↻ FRESH LOOK

Colourful Senn chair, £36, Danetti

CHOOSE CALMING PATTERNS

Graphic prints don't have to feel bold and overpowering. Here, stripes in muted tones create a restful Scandi look in a dining space. A row of black-framed organic prints add definition.

William striped wallpaper in light grey, £76 per 10m roll, Sandberg Wallpaper



NEED TO KNOW

Contrast is essential. Spicy accent colours will lift a scheme, especially if a room is lacking in natural light. Make sure any creams you use are from the same colour family.

BREAK THE MOULD

Not just for kitchens and bathrooms, eye-catching tiles can also add pattern to a living-room wall.

Peronda Laccio ceramic wall tiles, £47.92 per sqm, Tiles & bathrooms

HEAT UP GREYS

Natural materials such as wicker or wooden logs add character to a cool, grey bedroom scheme. Their warm tones will prevent a space from feeling chilly.

Stamford single bed, £295; bed linen, from £10; sheepskin rug, £395; storage basket, £150, all The White Company

HOW TO

INSTALL A CORK FOCAL POINT

- + Measure the area you're covering, deducting any alcoves or windows.
- + Use tiles (try Walls and Floors) or a roll (try Jelinek Cork Group) of cork. Check whether it has a self-adhesive coating – if not you will need to purchase a special adhesive (try Wickes) to secure it in place.
- + If buying tiles, ensure the batch numbers are the same to avoid the colours of this material varying.
- + Make sure the surface is clean and smooth and any painted walls are lightly sanded before applying the adhesive. Allow 24 hours to dry.
- + Pin bright postcards to the wall to help personalise your space.

Floor in Classic Style 583 Bolivia vinyl, £21.99 per sqm, Carpetright



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with a VIEW”



{ *Shaker in white* }



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VICTORIAN SEMI
Dani Ellis' charming
Hertfordshire property

62

FAMILY NEW-BUILD
Laura Sabogal went for
Suffolk country chic

74

COASTAL HOUSE
Emily Parkinson designed
her dream home in Wales

84

PERIOD PROPERTY
Cotswold-based artist
Dede Gold's creative hub



I wanted an old cottage feel'

When Laura Sabogal demolished and rebuilt a run-down property in a pretty Suffolk village, her love of vintage design shone through

FEATURE KAREN JENSEN-JONES PHOTOGRAPHER NICK SMITH



STEP INSIDE

A neutral palette of taupe, off-white and grey-blue flows through the house, with herringbone parquet floors, exposed brick and panelling adding to the country-charm scheme



HOUSE DETAILS

Homeowners Laura Sabogal, an interior designer with Wilding & Wolfe and owner of Homestead Store, and her husband Chris, a director of photography
Family Seven-month-old twins Poppy and Suki, and Kitsy, a working cocker spaniel
Property Four-bedroom new-build
Location Darsham, Suffolk

HOUSE VALUATION

Purchase price £160,000
Valued now at £550,000

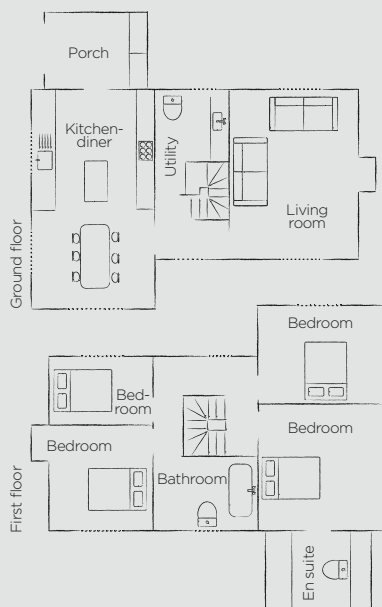
BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Building work £210,786
Kitchen-diner £19,000 **Flooring** £4,000
Panelling £1,500 **Bathrooms** £2,714
Windows £5,000 **Appliances** £7,000

TOTAL SPEND

£250,000

THE FLOORPLAN



DOUBLE DUTY

The open-plan kitchen-diner is practical for family meals, yet elegant for entertaining



“

*Building our
home has been
such a rewarding
experience*



↑ PERIOD DETAILS

Adding an instant country feel, the classic panelling throughout was created from MDF by a carpenter

↗ UNIQUE CHIC

Reclaimed pieces and antique finds pepper the smart, sophisticated living room with personality

When Laura Sabogal and her husband Chris began house hunting in Suffolk, their intention was to find a country bolthole in addition to their

London home, but things didn't go quite to plan.

'My parents live in Suffolk next to the beach and we thought it would be lovely to have a holiday home near them,' explains Laura. 'I spotted a rather run-down cottage online that I thought we could renovate. What we hadn't bargained for was the enchanting view over a field of flowers, which was such a welcome contrast from hectic London. That's when we realised what a refreshing place this could be to live – and not just at the weekends.'

From the start, Laura's extensive experience as an interior designer proved invaluable. She recognised the cottage needed a lot of work and, after considering a total renovation and extension, the couple decided it would be more cost-effective to demolish the property and rebuild a family home from scratch.

'We both love old houses and didn't actually want to live in a new-build, but it was the right thing to do as the cottage required so much work,' Laura remembers. 'We decided we would recreate the old building with as many of the original features as we could, but use modern methods, such as the thickest wall insulation possible and double glazing.'

The couple consulted an architect to draw up plans, hiring local builders AJ Kernahan Developments, who were hands-on throughout the project. 'We ►



SHOP THIS ROOM

For similar sofas, try Alwinton three-seater, from £1,156, and Midhurst two-seater, from £958, both Sofas & Stuff. For similar panelling, try Jacobean, approx £14.50 per sheet, The English Panelling Company

IDEAS TO STEAL

Refresh your home with Laura's twists on country style



↑ THROW A SPOTLIGHT

Use an angled lamp to emphasise vintage objects on a table



↑ TILE IN HERRINGBONE PATTERN

This update on the standard brick formation makes a subtle statement



↑ ADD WOODEN PANELLING

Create a feature wall and ledge around a fireplace with MDF sheets



↑ **AUTHENTIC LOOK**

Exposed beams upstairs add height to the ceiling and reference the old country cottage

→ **MODERN TOUCH**

A geometric rug adds a refreshing shot of bright colour in the twins' nursery



wanted an open-plan kitchen-diner that was light and airy and would take advantage of the gorgeous views,' says Laura. 'A porch was a must-have for keeping muddy boots, baby buggies and the dog at bay, and we were also set on a smart, cosy living room with a wood-burning stove. In homage to the old cottage, we left the plasterwork rough with uneven edges. It works really well with the hand-built kitchen, parquet flooring and old brick walls.'

Having spent some years growing up in Denmark, Laura admits that she is influenced by pared-back Scandinavian style. For example, wooden floors, plenty of natural light and a predominantly neutral palette are evident throughout the house, with the



SHOP THIS ROOM

For a similar double bed, try Olivia in glossy ivory, £299, The Original Bed Company. For a similar bed spread, try Ragged Rose opal hand-stitched bed spread, £134.99, Wayfair

upstairs blending seamlessly with the ground floor. She's also a big fan of Farrow & Ball paint. 'Its pigment-rich colours look beautiful because every room is flooded with sunshine. We chose cool, calm grey shades, such as purbeck stone and ammonite for the walls, and darker mole's breath for the wood.'

By reusing and recycling what they could, the home doesn't feel like a new-build, even though it's equipped with all mod cons, especially in the kitchen. 'We're spoilt with two fridges and freezers which we've concealed behind lovely wooden cabinets, and we chose an old range-style cooker rather than a contemporary hob,' Laura adds. 'The central island is a concession to contemporary living, but the Shaker-

style design helps it sit well. It's a great place to gather around when I'm cooking and we can keep an eye on the twins when they're in their high chairs.'

The living room has more of a traditional vibe: 'We decided to use panelling around the fireplace on one wall,' Laura explains. 'Our carpenter made it using MDF and followed a design we chose. It looks like it's always been there. The wood burner and open brick fireplace all add to the overall ambience.'

With her excellent eye for period detail, Laura has found most of the furniture and accessories herself, which led her to start her own interiors company sourcing vintage homeware: Homestead Store. 'The business came out of my love of finding beautiful ▶

↑ SUNNY ASPECT

Peaceful tones work well with the abundance of light in the master bedroom



ONE SIMPLE CHANGE

Colouring door architraves in an accent hue frames the view into each room and brings a subtle point of difference to a neutral scheme. You can also continue it through to the skirting boards for a stronger effect. To recreate Laura's look, use Farrow & Ball's ammonite on the walls and mole's breath as the accent.

old pieces for myself,' she says. 'Accessories can make all the difference. I can't resist browsing at auction houses such as Clarke & Simpson in Campsea and local carboot sales, and I'm a fan of big antiques fairs, such as the one at Ardingly in Sussex.'

Upstairs, there is a similar mood to the ground floor. The main bathroom is painted in neutral tones with striking floor tiles as a contrast, and wall lights from The French House and Jim Lawrence bring a traditional feel. The bedrooms are airy, with cushions in fabrics from Zoffany and Sanderson introducing personality. 'They were handmade by my mum with lovely borders to add that extra touch of character,' Laura explains. Exposed eaves in the bedrooms and landing contribute to the house's authentic look. 'That's what we're most pleased with,' she adds.

The Sabogals are delighted with their home – so much so, Laura can't wait to do it all over again. 'I'd definitely take on another big project. It's been so rewarding,' she enthuses. 'I could be tempted to go for something more contemporary next time, but I doubt I'd find this spectacular view again.' GH

↓ SERENE SCHEME

Bold Fired Earth floor tiles are tempered by cool greys in the family bathroom

→ GENEROUS SPACE

Chunky freestanding furniture is in perfect proportion with the shower enclosure





IDEAS TO STEAL

Capture Laura's modern rustic look with three easy updates



↑ REPURPOSE A PRINTER'S TRAY

Available on eBay for around £30, they inject instant charm



↑ SAVE OLD GLASSWARE

Jam jars or bottles are ideal for miniature bedside displays



↑ CHEAT THE AGED LOOK

Use sandpaper to lightly distress paintwork for an antique feel

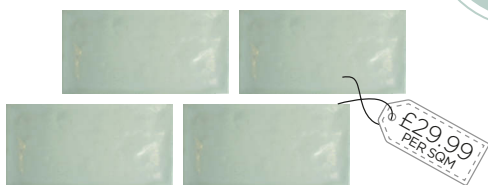
“
*I can't resist
browsing auctions
to find old pieces*”

GOOD CHOICE

100+
BEST
BUYS

LUXURY TOUCH

→ The Eton gloss tiles from Walls and Floors are a classic choice for a country-style kitchen



£29.99
PER SQM

→ Grace & Glory Home's Alma wall light can be angled to give direct spot lighting



£25

£126.97

← For a sleek and smart finish, choose the Mann Prismatic lamp from Original BTC



£119

£225

← Laura Ashley Artisan Eau de Nil designs from House of British Ceramic Tile will make a striking splashback



£90
PER SQM



↑ An elegant crisp white finish gives the Copenhagen chest from Furniture123 and fresh and versatile look



↑ With its clean, simple lines, the Burford painted chest from Cotswold Co suits both traditional and modern schemes



£15

Work graphics into your home with the Spira Jaffa cover from Andshine

STOCKISTS
Turn to
p165



£65

Snuggle up in style with Rume's Prism cushion made from merino lambswool

GET
LAURA'S
LOOK

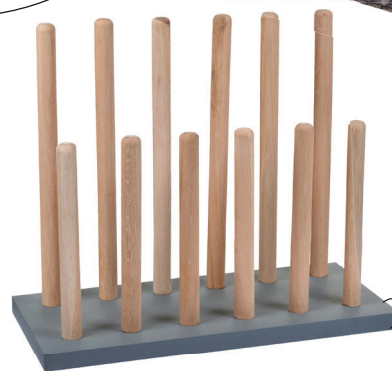
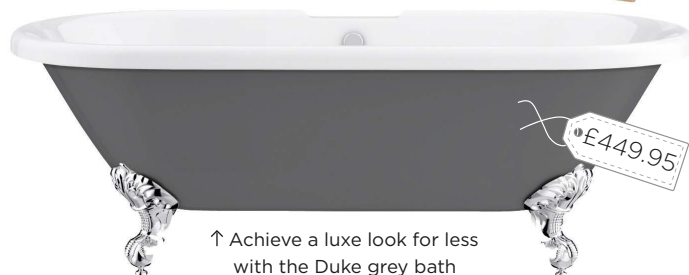
→ Store up to five pairs of boots on the beech welly rack from John Lewis

£32



← Use Garden Trading's wooden welly rack to keep muddy footwear off the floor

£45



↑ Achieve a luxe look for less with the Duke grey bath from Victorian Plumbing

£449.95



↑ Colour the Geminus from The Albion Bath Company to complement your scheme

£1,120

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'It's lovely living in our own design'

*Emily Parkinson has created
the retro-inspired home she always
wanted on a plot in South Wales*

FEATURE STEPHANIE SMITH PHOTOGRAPHER COLIN POOLE



STEP INSIDE

Clashing colours and creative displays are at the forefront of family life in this quirky new-build, where mid-century furniture, crockery and wallpaper set the tone



HOUSE DETAILS

Homeowners Emily Parkinson, a jewellery designer, and her husband Andrew, who works in human resources
Family Jonah, 12, Eli, 9, and Elodie, 4
Location Mumbles, South Wales
Property Five-bed, detached new-build

HOUSE VALUATION

Purchase price £250,000

Value now £650,000

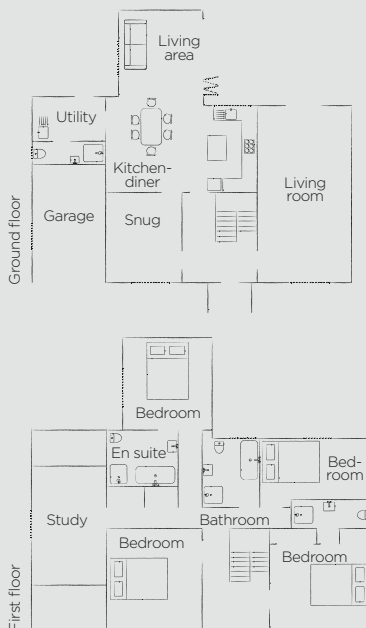
BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Building work £220,000 **Kitchen** £10,000
Bathrooms £5,000 **Exterior** £3,000
Landscaping £3,000 **Renewable energy & heating** £15,000 **Furniture** £8,000

TOTAL SPEND

£264,000

THE FLOORPLAN



“

*The kitchen is
the focal point of
our family home*



↑ **THRIFTY FINDS**

A freestanding Welsh dresser is home to Emily's extensive crockery collection, some of which has been picked up from local car-boot sales

← **VIBRANT SCHEME**

The kitchen's main talking points are a brightly coloured, granite-topped island and bold splashback



SHOP THIS ROOM

For a similar sofa, try the Dylan two-seater, £549, Made.com. For a similar sideboard, try the Paulette, £299.90, Maisons du Monde. For similar retro tins, try mid-century poppy tins, £12.99 for three, Dotcomgiftshop



ONE SIMPLE CHANGE

Mid-century ceramics are readily available on eBay – just use the terms retro and vintage when searching – and will introduce beautiful patterns and colour into any room. Display your pieces on unobtrusive shelving, painted the same colour as your walls. Emily used an ingenious slot-together design from Unto This Last, from £190.

Having renovated several houses, Emily and Andrew Parkinson yearned for a more extensive project in the coastal village of Mumbles, South Wales, where they'd settled with their young family. 'Buying a plot of land and building our own house was the next step for us,' Emily says. When planning the project, she had specific ideas about what she wanted – and decided not to hire an architect for this very reason. 'I drew a picture of the house, then found a builder who understood and could tell us what was possible and what wasn't,' she explains. 'I didn't want it to look like a new build, so we went for a cottage feel with a porch.'

Emily considered the layout of the kitchen – the focal point of the home – carefully: with three

↑ **FLOWER POWER**
Bold Orla Kiely wallpaper sets the tone for the living room's Sixties vibe

→ **ON REFLECTION**
A roomy hallway gives Emily plenty of space to display a selection of vintage mirrors and pictures



↑ **CITRUS BURSTS**
Pops of orange help
to lift the neutral
scheme in the
family bathroom

children and three dogs, the space had to be as hard-wearing as it was beautiful. 'I wanted a big table, a sink overlooking the garden and a separate utility room,' she says. 'The flooring was a practical choice as there's so much traffic through here, but we had fun with the two-tone painted cabinetry.'

The kitchen opens out into a relaxed, Scandi-chic, comfortable seating area centred around a cream wood-burning stove, with bi-fold doors out to the garden. In contrast to this serene space, the separate, vibrantly decorated living room on the other side of the house is an ode to mid-century style, created with the children in mind. 'This space can be accessed by the kitchen and the hall,' Emily says, 'so it doubles up as a playroom and means I can easily keep an eye on the kids while they draw or read. And as the children get older it can be more of a ►



IDEAS TO STEAL

Achieve Emily's bright, mid-century look with these three easy updates



↑ STEP BACK IN TIME

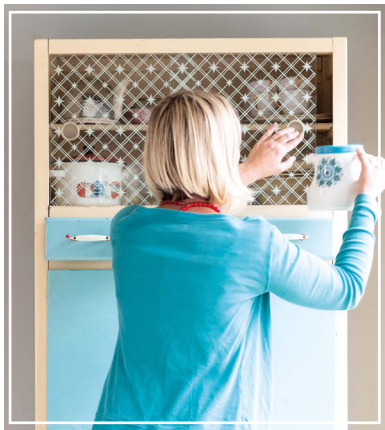
A metal bedstead and quilted floral throw will instant retro charm

STOCKISTS
Turn to
p165



↑ COLLECT VINTAGE GLASSWARE

Easy to find at charity shops, they'll add something special to teatime



↑ USE WINDOW FILM CREATIVELY

Apply to glass-fronted cabinets for a subtle shot of pattern



den for their friends, as well as being a quiet place for Andrew and I to watch TV in the evenings.'

The master bedroom references Mumbles' picture-postcard scenery, with gentle green walls and a painting of the Gower Peninsula by local artist Annabel Dann. 'I found the floral bedspread in a local shop, Oyster on the Corner, and it lifts the whole scheme,' Emily says. Daughter Elodie's room has crisp white walls adorned with cute stickers from Notonthehighstreet.com, allowing soft furnishings and fabrics to add personality.

Emily dedicated a sizeable portion of the upstairs footprint to the family bathroom, conscious that the five people sharing it need a large room for stress-free mornings. 'I wanted a space in which I could bathe the kids with plenty of room around me, without bumping into the sanitaryware,' she explains. The builders also put in a thin shelf for toiletries

↑ PRETTY IN PINK

Delicately patterned curtains add visual appeal to Elodie's cute woodland-themed bedroom

→ CREATIVE SPACE

Emily's second home is her shepherd's hut, where she works on new jewellery designs



SHOP THIS ROOM

For similar curtains, try Homescapes birds and flowers, £34.90 per pair, Mail Shop. For a similar bedspread, try hankie rose quilt, £60, Cath Kidston. For a similar bed frame, try Julian Bowen papplewick, £210, Debenhams

and towels. This neutral space is fitted with modern pieces from Bathstore and, like in Elodie's bedroom, splashes of bright colour come from accessories.

Tucked around the side of the house is Emily's shepherd's hut, where she designs and makes the jewellery she sells in her shop, the aptly named One Little Hut. 'I bought it with money left to me by my beloved gran,' she says. Emily's inspiration to become a jewellery designer, 'she used to let me play with her collection of beads when I was little'.

Building her own place has had its pitfalls, however: 'We spent two days bailing water out from the site when it flooded, for example,' Emily recalls with a shudder. But, with the project now completed and the Parkinsons settled into their gorgeous new home, any hiccoughs along the way were worth it. 'It's lovely to live somewhere that we designed from scratch,' she adds. 'We all adore living here.' GH



GOOD CHOICE

100+
BEST
BUYS

LUXURY TOUCH



← For a café-style look with a colourful twist, try the Sapphire bistro chair from Oli & Grace

£120



Make a feature of Layla Faye's Daisy Chain design from Wallpaperdirect

£38.80
PER 10M ROLL



Introduce an iconic motif with Orla Kiely Striped Petal paper from Amara

£55
PER 10M ROLL



→ Out There Interiors' chair can be paired with other painted pieces for an eclectic vibe

£190



→ Inject warm colour with Christy Supreme Hygro towels in paprika from Very

FROM
£10
EACH



GET EMILY'S LOOK



← Treat your bathroom to House of Fraser's Ralph Lauren Avenue towels in orange

FROM
£39.95
EACH



→ Get creative in a playroom with Becky and Lolo's removable stickers

£25



↑ For an instant update, try the Tulip Bloom mug from Dotcomgiftshop

£3.95



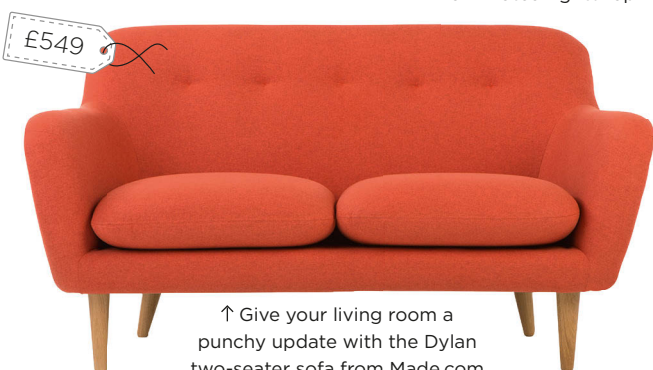
↑ Evoke a retro vibe with Redbubble's sweet Budding Bloom mug

£10.18



← Children will love the cute Jungle Tree wall sticker from Red Candy

£39



↑ Give your living room a punchy update with the Dylan two-seater sofa from Made.com

£549



↑ Habitat's statement Abel sofa is finished in sumptuous orange velvet

£1,200

FEATURE CASSIE PRYCE

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designs





'This is my nest and creative hub'

*Swapping city living for a beautiful
Cotswolds home gave Dede Gold
the inspiring space she craved*

FEATURE ANN BROAD PHOTOGRAPHER COLIN POOLE



STEP INSIDE

Dove-grey walls are enlivened by examples of Dede's artwork in gold distressed frames, while dark-wood and painted furniture sit happily alongside shiny chrome accessories



HOUSE DETAILS

Homeowner Dede Gold, an artist
Location West Oxfordshire **Property**
 Two-bedroom, semi-detached
 Cotswold-stone house

HOUSE VALUATION

Purchase price £580,000
Outlay to date £32,000
Valued now at £725,000

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Garden studio £20,000
Fixed furnishings £4,000
Roof £6,000 **Appliances** £2,000

TOTAL SPEND

£32,000

THE FLOORPLAN



RUSTIC STYLE

Stepped down from the rest of the house, the bright kitchen opens on to the decked garden area



“
*I like the industrial
look of charcoal
grey paired with zinc*

Having already changed her life's course once, Dede Gold – who originally trained as a solicitor and became a full-time artist in her mid-thirties – is no stranger to taking a leap of faith. So it didn't matter to her that she wasn't particularly looking to move out of London when a beautiful stone-built Cotswold property caught her eye. 'I spotted it online and it was just fabulous, with a stunning new kitchen at the back and a large garden, which was big enough to build a painting studio,' Dede remembers. 'That really sealed the deal for me.'

Originally built in the 1850s and used as a public library, the historic building is in the heart of a picturesque market town. 'The community has so much going on and it has a real arts vibe, too,' adds Dede. 'I had no notion of leaving the city until I saw this place and its beautiful setting. I just love all of the honey-and-toast-coloured Cotswold stone.'

The previous owners had renovated every space with real care and attention, cleverly retaining all of the property's quirky charm. 'The house was beautifully restored when I first saw it. Apart from painting some walls and exposing part of the original stone fireplace in the living room, I was able to concentrate on the furnishings and artwork,' she recalls.

Dede drew on the same method for decorating that she uses when composing a painting; she refers to her box of inspiration. 'I've always collected lots of motivating bits and pieces, such as photographs, magazine cuttings, newspaper quotes and textiles,' she explains. 'I then pull all of my ideas together on to moodboards to help with colour, tone and composition. I find Pinterest really useful for developing ideas, whether on canvas or concrete.'

The walls have been refreshed in an array of Dede's favourite soft, muted tones. 'It's a very peaceful palette of greys, which flow through the house with subtle changes in tone, and I've introduced splashes of colour as highlights,' she says. This can most clearly be seen in the loft bedroom, where an industrial-style pendant ▶



← **TRADITIONAL TOUCHES**

A glossy black Aga anchors the neutral-painted cabinetry and large butler sink

→ **SMART SOLUTION**

Ideal for storing Dede's paintbrushes and palettes, this ladder shelf is from French Connection Home

↓ **COSY RETREAT**

The snug, which is heated by a rustic stove, is a favourite spot for Dede to sit and relax



IDEAS TO STEAL

Try Dede's simple updates for a home bursting with personality



↑ **MIX POLISHED METAL & WOOD**

For a modern twist on a vintage scheme, inject a hit of chrome



↑ **SWAP YOUR HAND RAIL**

Chunky hemp rope makes an attractive alternative to a banister

STOCKISTS
Turn to
p165



↑ **PROP UP ARTWORK**

Lean a canvas against the wall for a more relaxed, country feel



SHOP THIS ROOM

For a similar stove, try Stovax Stockton 11 with high canopy and double doors, £995, Quality Stoves. Gold letters, from £12.75 each, Posh Graffiti. For a similar table, try mirrored cube, £139.99, Homes Direct 365



↑ **NEW NEUTRALS**

Dede teamed soft, taupe fabrics with subtle bursts of blush in the master bedroom

→ **SPACE SAVER**

In a savvy move, the bath taps have been mounted on a panel to conceal plumbing

contrasts beautifully against the muted walls and bedding. 'I made the headboard and light fitting myself. I think the combination of an overall pale theme, enlivened with hot pink, works well,' she adds.

Throughout the house, antique and vintage furniture sit happily alongside more contemporary pieces, which Dede has collected over the years. 'Ever since I was a student in Dublin, my favourite items have travelled around with me. I have also treated myself to new fabrics that I've had my eye on for ages,' she says. 'For example, I've mixed Pierre Frey staples with Andrew Martin textiles, and chose linens from Irish company Lucan Fabrics.'

Time spent exploring the United States has influenced Dede's style, too. 'I loved spending time in New York and Long Island and have brought back some great treasures along the way,' she says. 'I like the industrial-chic look of mixing charcoal greys with zinc and other metals, and have used a few token pieces of these around the house.'

Now complete, Dede's home has a sophisticated, light, interior, brought to life by a selection of her characterful paintings. Handsome canine faces look down from elegant gilded wooden frames, ►



ONE SIMPLE CHANGE

Transform an uninspiring scheme with a quick creative flourish in the form of a striped feature wall. Use FrogTape (£7.99 for 42.1m, Homebase) to mask off each section, then peel away immediately after you've finished painting for a perfectly crisp line.



SHOP THIS ROOM

For a similar bath, try Duke grey 1695 double-ended roll-top bath with chrome feet, £449.95, Victorian Plumbing. For similar flooring, try Flagstone Pierre de Burgogne modular tiles, £79.99 per sqm, Topps Tiles



“

*It's a little
house with a lot
of character*





↑ **PAINTING PLACE**

At the end of the garden there is a hexagonal artist's studio, flooded with sunshine, that is perfect for Dede's work

→ **SPRING LIGHT**

Moving to the Cotswold countryside has given Dede a fresh outlook on life and lots of scenery to inspire her

creating an interesting talking point for visiting friends and family, who all love Dede's new home.

'Since moving to the countryside I seem to experience the seasons so much more than when I lived in the city,' she reflects. 'The Aga and wood-burning stove are fabulous in the winter – they make the house feel wonderfully cosy. In the summer, the back wall of glass in my kitchen opens up to the garden, so it really is lovely all year round.'

And, of course, there is her newly completed and much-anticipated garden studio – the crux of the whole relocation. Hexagonal in shape and painted in her favourite soothing colours, it boasts large windows and double-doors out on to the garden. With so much natural light, it's proving to be the perfect space to let her creative talents flourish. 'Curiosity got the better of me with this house, and I am so pleased it did,' Dede smiles. 'This is my nest and creative hub. It's just a lovely place to be.' **GH**



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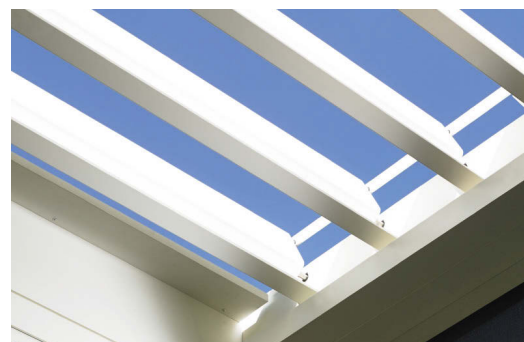
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LUXURY TOUCH



↑ Add a subtle seafaring theme with The Happy Design hand-woven rug from Theko at Wayfair

£14.50
PER 25LTR

Create a calm space with serene white matt emulsion by Crown

↓ For a laidback look, try the Trader's tall bar stool from Myakka



£99

↓ Cox & Cox's oak and metal design has a weathered look



£200



↑ Timeless nautical stripes give Dash & Albert Europe's Catamaran indoor/outdoor rug a fresh, coastal feel

£43.50
PER 25LTR

Farrow & Ball's James white has a warming undertone

GET DEDE'S LOOK



← Complete a sophisticated scheme with this glass-ball table lamp from Argos



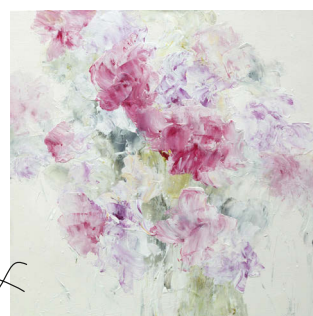
£24.99

← Hang B&Q's floral pink canvas art for an instant burst of cheerful spring colour



£40

→ Invest in a hand-painted design, such as *Caprice* by Davina Nicholas from Fine Art Seen



£374

→ Top Pooky's Aurora table lamp with an elegant Empire shade in ivory dupion silk



£132

↑ The Bennett desk from Atkin and Thyme is made from eco-friendly mango wood



£399

↑ Shropshire Design's Atwood desk features vintage-style handles and sleek chrome legs



£949

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*We're so
lucky this is
our home'*

A twist of fate led Dani Ellis to a Hertfordshire property that she's lovingly renovated into a charming family house

FEATURE NATALIE OSBORN PHOTOGRAPHER COLIN POOLE



STEP INSIDE

Mid-century furniture and tactile fabrics appear alongside rich, confident colours, creating a personal and warm cocooning feel throughout the house



HOUSE DETAILS

Homeowners Dani Ellis, owner of homeware store Plastic Vintage, and her husband Matt, a senior systems engineer
Family Poppy, 12, Jude, 9, and Frodo the Cockerpoo **Location** Hitchin, Hertfordshire **Property** Semi-detached, five-bedroom, Victorian house

HOUSE VALUATION

Purchase price £875,000

Outlay to date £70,000

Valued now at £1.15m

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Kitchen extension £50,000

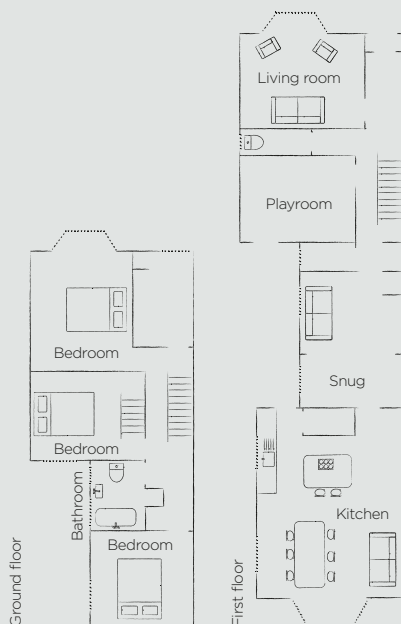
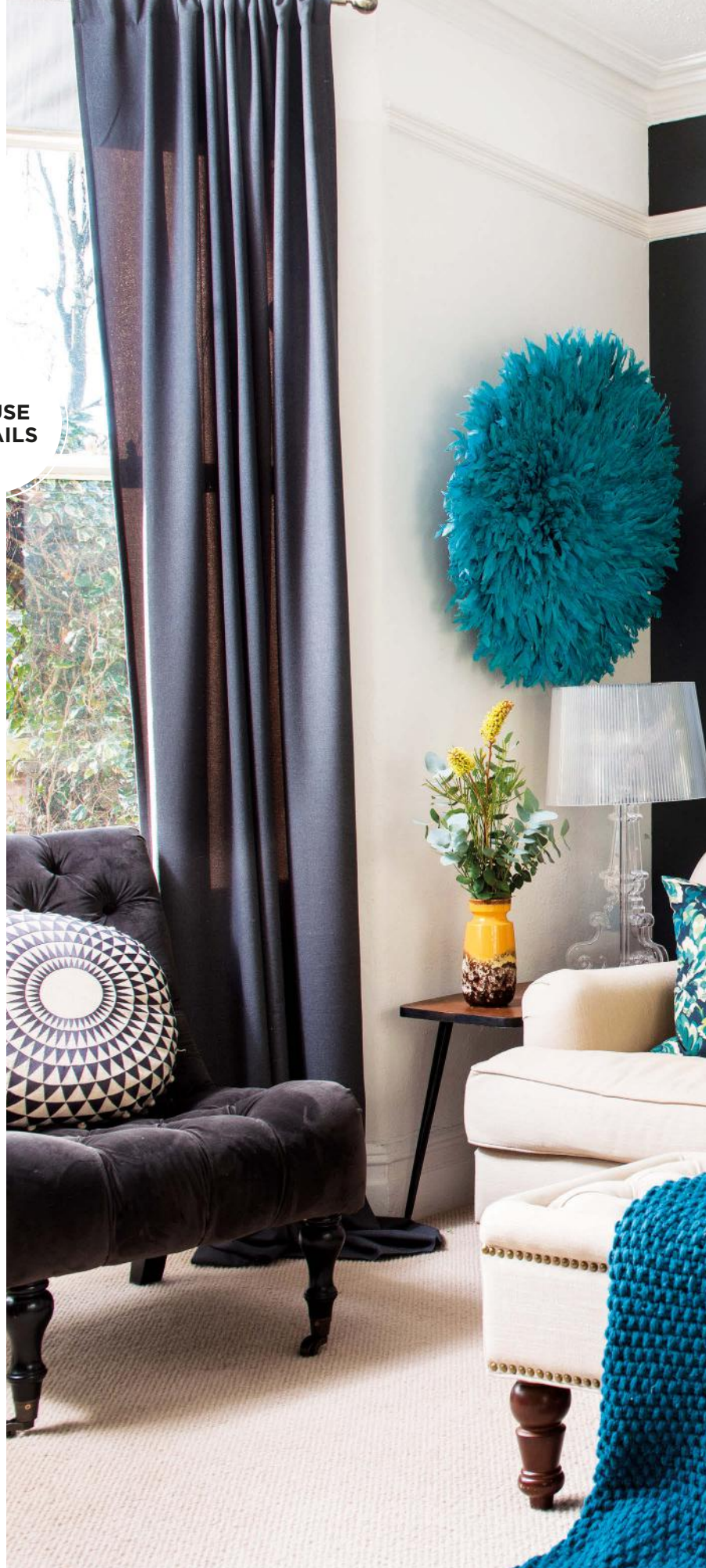
Bathroom £3,000 **Redecoration** £7,000

Flooring £5,000 **Maintenance** £5,000

TOTAL SPEND

£70,000

THE FLOORPLAN



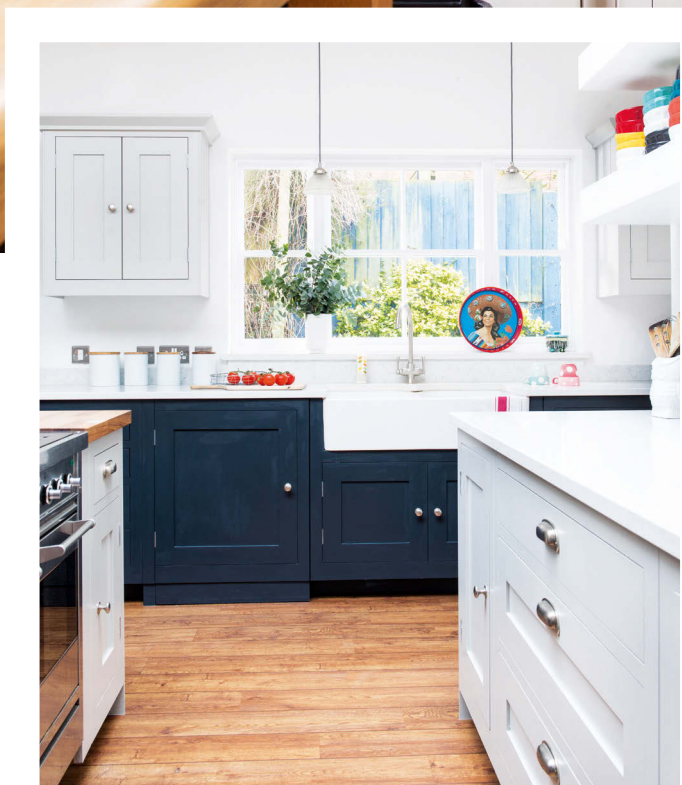


↑ AT A GLANCE

Vintage mirrors create an interesting feature in the entrance hallway and help bounce light around

← SLEEK LOOK

Dani wanted a grown-up feel for the front living room, so chose a palette of smart greys, tempered by luxurious cream upholstery



Y our dream home doesn't come on the market often – never mind within budget – but it happened to Dani and Matt Ellis. 'We were in the fortunate position of acquiring a lump sum from the sale of my father's company,' Dani explains. 'We'd only just moved back to Hertfordshire and were living in rented accommodation, so we knew we wanted to invest in a family home. This house was for sale on a beautiful road nearby, where properties rarely came on to the market and, even when they did, they'd normally be out of our price range. I rushed to book a viewing and fell in love the minute we stepped through the doorway.' The red-brick



IDEAS TO STEAL

Pepper your spaces with bursts of colour, just like Dani



↑ SWITCH TO OPEN SHELVING

Showcase your favourite crockery in pride of place in the kitchen



↑ PICK THE RIGHT BLOOMS

Consider how floral displays will look against dark walls



↑ INTRODUCE BLOCK COLOUR

Fold a contrasting blanket over the edge of a sofa

Victorian house had a beautiful bay-fronted façade, with five bedrooms and ample space to set down roots. 'It was bigger and more expensive than we had ever intended, but it was our dream home in the perfect location. We couldn't believe it could be ours.'

With the sale agreed, Dani began to consider how she could put her stamp on the interior. 'I'd always lived in smaller properties and with fairly restricted budgets, so this was all new to me. I felt as though I needed to do the place justice, so I started slowly and let my style evolve naturally – even though my head was already whirling with ideas,' she laughs.

Starting with the living room, Dani painted the chimneybreast and opposite wall dark grey, keeping the remaining sides white to bounce the natural ►

↑ MODERN LIVING

Simple white floating shelves displaying bright accessories help blend the cooking zone into the family area

← SHAKER STYLE

A combination of grey and dark navy gives the timeless kitchen units a contemporary edge



SHOP THIS ROOM

Astro series coffee table by G Plan, £454, Pamono. Kilim Moroccan Berber rug by Beni Ourain, £525, Trendcarpet. Velvet cushions, from £20 each, Cox & Cox. Geometric cushions, £90 each, Niki Jones



↑ COMFY CORNER

Dani admits to being a cushion addict and the array of designs on these sofas creates a warm, welcoming feel

← LIGHT & SHADE

The snug's dark walls and lower ceilings make the adjoining kitchen area seem even bigger and brighter

light into each corner. Textured accessories in teal and mustard keep the scheme modern and fun, and work beautifully next to the mid-century pieces. 'I wanted a "grown-up" space to use at night and really celebrate the period features,' Dani continues. 'I planned to go all-out dark in here, but I now quite like the monochromatic feel.'

Moving through the house, a Georgian-style glazed door opens into a generous snug, set between the entrance hall and kitchen. 'This space was a challenge as it is essentially a walkway and the ceiling is lower, but I still wanted it to function as room,' Dani explains. 'I went against advice and amplified the cocooned, enveloping feeling with deep-blue walls, as I was worried that trying to make it feel brighter with white paint would have a clinical effect. It seems to have worked, and we spend a lot of time in here as a family, all squished up in front of the log burner watching films.'

The kitchen is in contrast to these moody, rich hues. Boasting neutral walls, the newly renovated

space is bathed in sunlight from a large roof lantern. 'Victorian semis are notoriously dark and I've played to this in our living spaces, but I knew I wanted to brighten the north-facing kitchen,' Dani explains. Choosing Shaker-style cabinets from Harvey Jones for timeless appeal, she finished

them with pewter handles, then chose leather bar stools from Rockett St George and displayed colourful retro crockery to complete the look. 'I always had open shelving in my mind – it makes the space feel less closed-in,' she adds. 'I've gone for pops of more teal and red on a background of Farrow & Ball's railings and pavilion grey on the units, then the oak island and wood-effect flooring bring in warmth.'

The teal velvet sofa in the dining area was an indulgence, but reinforces the laidback theme of the kitchen-diner, which has fast become the home's hub.

Upstairs, the south-facing master bedroom is a softer, more feminine space. Light pours in from the large bay window, highlighting the blue tones ►

“
*I wanted to
celebrate the
period features*”

in the grey feature wall. 'I love the touch of tropical pattern and colour that the bed linen brings,' Dani reflects. 'We made the lights ourselves by painting shelving brackets from B&Q the same colour as the walls, then threading coloured flexes through and adding Edison globe bulbs from local shop Fly 9. They add a soft, industrial look – and prevent the room from feeling too girly.' An ombre wall hanging above the bed introduces gentle texture, and was found at one of her favourite stores, Homeplace.

The bathroom is the couple's most recent project, and Dani had a clear vision in mind when they started it. 'We reused the bath and WC, and I sourced a rosewood mid-century cabinet from eBay to mount the basin. I like that it references the style of furniture downstairs,' she says. 'My ►



ONE SIMPLE CHANGE

Updating a fireplace to match your scheme is an easy weekend project.

The hearth tiles can be painted or replaced with a new design, like Dani has done with mirrored mosaics. To finish, refresh the surround and grate with a heat-resistant stove paint.





SHOP THIS ROOM

Paradise Bird double duvet cover, £125, cushions, £30 each, Graham & Green. For a similar bed, try Charlotte, from £399 for a double frame, John Lewis. Ghost Buster small side table, £243, Heal's

LIGHTBULB MOMENT

Dani made the bedside lamps with shelving brackets, coloured flexes and Edison globes

IDEAS TO STEAL

Simple ways to add some character to your interiors



↑ BRING IN A COCKTAIL CHAIR

These space-saving armless designs are perfect for bedrooms



↑ GO BOLD UNDERFOOT

In a monochrome bathroom, add wow-factor with patterned flooring



↑ REACH FOR THE STARS

This fun motif is a failsafe and timeless choice for children's rooms



“

*The bathroom
feels indulgent*

↑ **RETRO WONDER**

Dani found the rosewood cabinet on eBay and thought it would make a great vanity unit

↗ **GREEN SHOOTS**

Trailing plants and ferns in hanging pots add vibrancy to the bathroom scheme



decorator thought I was mad when I pulled out the off-black paint for the walls, but it makes the room feel indulgent – especially when the candles are lit and you're laying in the tub full of bubbles.'

Dani is the first to admit that her style is hard to pin down; she is drawn to too many colours, eras and shapes for it to fit into any neat definition. 'I would say that it's a reflection of my personality and us as a family. I don't think there should be any rules when you do up your home,' she enthuses.

Throughout her renovation, Dani has found refuge and inspiration on Instagram, where there's a thriving community of interior mavens and home renovators – as well as ample opportunity to shop. 'It's wonderful to find so many like-minded people showcasing their homes, and it's a great way to unearth small businesses that sell fabulous products. I would have never discovered the likes of Cowboy Kate, Violet & Thistle and Red Eyed Dove otherwise.'

Looking around Dani's home, it's clear she has achieved her aim: to honour and respect the building's heritage, while crafting interesting, evocative spaces for her family to live and grow together. 'As someone recently said to me: a home only has to make the people who live in it happy. What anyone else thinks isn't important. I love coming back to this place, and we all feel very lucky indeed to be enjoying it together.' **GH**

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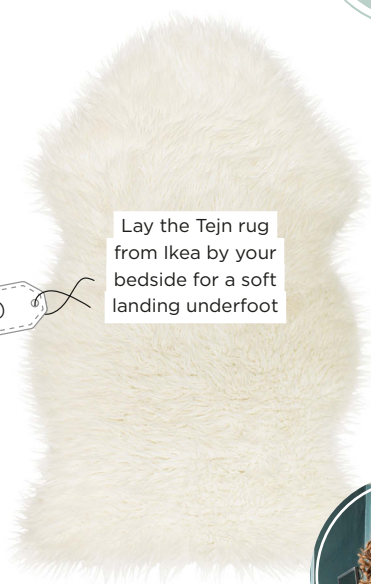
LUXURY TOUCH

↓ Pop a single stem in The Oak Room's quirky yellow giraffe bud vase



£10

Lay the Tejn rug from Ikea by your bedside for a soft landing underfoot



Drape Loaf's Nuzzler rug over the back of a chair for a cosy touch



£65

↓ Embrace kitsch charm with the parrot vase from The Contemporary Home



£20

↘ Lightweight, the Vivaraise Maia throw from Printer+Tailor is ideal for spring



£50

↓ Make a bold statement with House of British Ceramic Tile's Feature Floors illusion grey design



£31 PER SQM

Add glamour with the Supernova cushion in orchid from Furniture Village



£25

↓ The Tonon Time table from Houseology is a modern take on a classic



£751

↓ The Baked Tile Company's London Soho tile will create an on-trend geometric finish



£45 PER SQM

Eclect Design's dusky pink velvet cushion comes in a range of other hues



£35

↓ Wharfside's Juwel coffee table has an extra handy shelf for storage



£1,181

GET DANI'S LOOK



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The Decelerate collection brings the outside in and mixes rustic and natural materials with animal motifs and earthy hues.

Influenced by global travel, the Unearthed collection is an eclectic selection of products finished in dramatic prints and exotic, vibrant colours – guaranteed to make a statement.

Inspired by simplicity, the Symmetry collection offers a understated vibe that helps create a calm feel. Boasting functional yet elegant features, these pieces are perfect for adding those all-important finishing touches.

Characterised by its vibrant look, the Enterprising Britain collection combines beautiful colours, patterns and materials to give your home stunning, effortless style. Finish your scheme with matching products for the bedroom, kitchen and bathroom, plus lighting to brighten up every room.

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Wilko matt emulsion in English sage, £10 per 2.5ltr; fox cushion, £7; watercolour floral cushion, £7; hydrangea in bottle, £8; word block, £6; resin fox ornament, £6; pussy willow twigs, £3



EXOTIC EDGE

Wallpaper and paints from the Unearthed collection at Wilko

HOW TO ENTER

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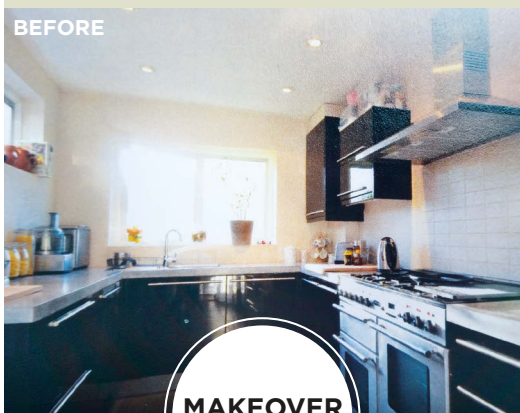
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CLEVER EXTENSIONS

Full-width addition plus an
oak-framed kitchen-diner

BEFORE



MAKEOVER DETAILS

Homeowners Emma Cox, 38, a celebrity journalist, and her husband Stephen Kennedy, 43, an associate editor at a national newspaper **Location** Aldersbrook, east London **Property** Four-bedroom Edwardian semi

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Units £19,416 **Worktops** £3,798
Appliances £4,308 **Sink & tap** £644
Flooring £2,250 **Tiles** £340

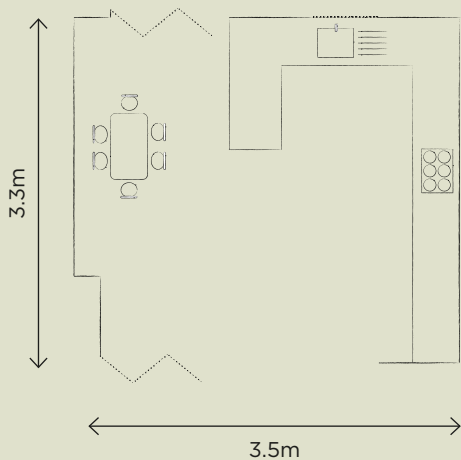
TOTAL SPEND

£30,756

THE BRIEF

To build a side extension to create room for a large, open-plan kitchen and dining space, with additional roof windows to increase the natural light

THE FLOORPLAN



PROJECT NOTES

Where a breakfast bar meets a wall is the perfect place to slot in a slim wine fridge, which can be accessed easily when you are entertaining

TWO TONE

Green base units are offset by lighter wall cupboards and marbled granite worktops



My new kitchen blends with the house'

Emma Cox has created a modern scheme that is sympathetic to the style of her Edwardian home

FEATURE JO MESSENGER PHOTOGRAPHER FRASER MARR



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“
We wanted a
touch of glamour

Looking for a larger house with a bigger garden and more green space nearby to walk their rescue lurchers, Emma Cox and her husband Stephen Kennedy moved to a leafy area of east London back in 2012. ‘The property’s original kitchen was reasonably new and good quality, but with shiny black cabinets and a concrete worktop, it was far too modern for our tastes,’ Emma recalls. ‘It was also small and the patio adjacent to it was east-facing, so it only had the sun for a few hours in the morning. It made sense to extend the kitchen out to the side and then build a patio across the back of the house, which would be bathed in sunlight all day long.’

Emma discovered Mike Taylor Bespoke Kitchens online, and had a lengthy conversation with Mike on the phone before visiting his workshop. ‘Ordinarily, I’d prefer to use a recommendation,’ she says, ‘but I was really impressed by Mike’s website, and even more so when I spoke to him. I just had a feeling we’d work well together.’ They also read the firm’s testimonials – including one from TV personality Mary Berry. Mike had designed her kitchen and, by coincidence, freelance journalist Emma was due to interview *The Great British Bake Off* star at around the same time as commissioning him. ‘Cheekily, I opened my interview by asking Mary whether she’d recommend Mike. She said yes, unhesitatingly.’

After this shining endorsement, planning permission for the extension was quickly submitted and approved. Mike recommended Piotr Zawisza ▶

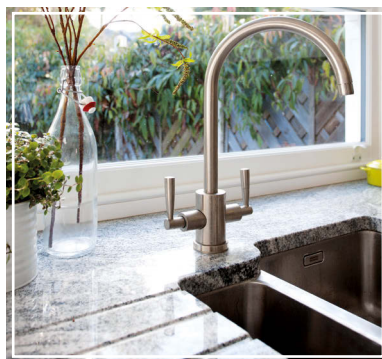
IDEAS TO STEAL

Copy Emma’s modern take on a classic design



↑ MAKE A STATEMENT

Create an eye-catching splashback with a panel of metallic mosaics



↑ KEEP SURFACES SIMPLE

Opt for drainer grooves around an undermounted sink for a neat look



↑ COORDINATE ACCESSORIES

Copper details help bring Emma’s kitchen scheme together

STOCKISTS
Turn to
p165



DEFINED ZONES

The half-width breakfast bar creates a distinction between the cooking and eating areas

SHOPPING BASKET

UNITS Shaker Brompton painted in Little Greene white lead 74, from £545 for a 60cm base cabinet, Mike Taylor Bespoke Kitchens
WORKTOPS Viscount granite worktops, from £375 per m, Mike Taylor Bespoke Kitchens
APPLIANCES Neff extractor, £522; Neff dishwasher, £978; Neff fridge freezer, £978; Rangemaster Professional cooker, £1,691, all Mike Taylor Bespoke Kitchens
SINK & TAP Franke sink and tap set, £644, Mike Taylor Bespoke Kitchens
TILES Original Style GW-GNAMOS mosaics, £169.95 per sqm, MGA Tiles
FLOOR Glam Division almond natural 60x60cm polished porcelain tiles, £45 per sqm, Mike Taylor Bespoke Kitchens

from Zawisza Construction to do the build. Emma then created a moodboard to show Mike the kind of look they were after, with images from interior design magazines as well some taken from fashion titles to highlight the different shades they liked.

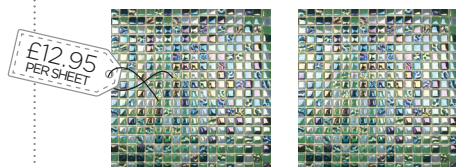
'We wanted a classic scheme to go with our Edwardian house, but with a touch of glamour and some colour,' Emma explains. 'I'm not a fan

of the all-neutral look, but we didn't want anything too wacky, or something that we would get bored of. It was vital for us to strike a happy medium.'

Opting for a modern take on a Shaker-style kitchen, Emma's two-tone olive green/cream scheme adds colour while maintaining a sense of light and space. Copper handles bring an industrial twist, and were chosen to coordinate with the copper pendant light that illuminates the breakfast bar. Meanwhile, iridescent mosaics create an eye-catching splashback behind the new range. 'The tiles are the first thing you notice when you walk in,' says Emma. 'I love the way they look different depending on the time of day.'

Now that the work is complete, it's clear that Emma is thrilled with her kitchen transformation – and Mary Berry even provided the final ingredient to turn it into a real showstopper. 'Mary gave me a great tip: to ask my builders to push the floor tiles as close to each other as they could and use a dark grout where possible, to ensure that dirt doesn't show up in the cracks. For someone with two dogs, it was invaluable advice and turned out to be the perfect finishing touch,' Emma smiles. **GH**

LOOK FOR LESS



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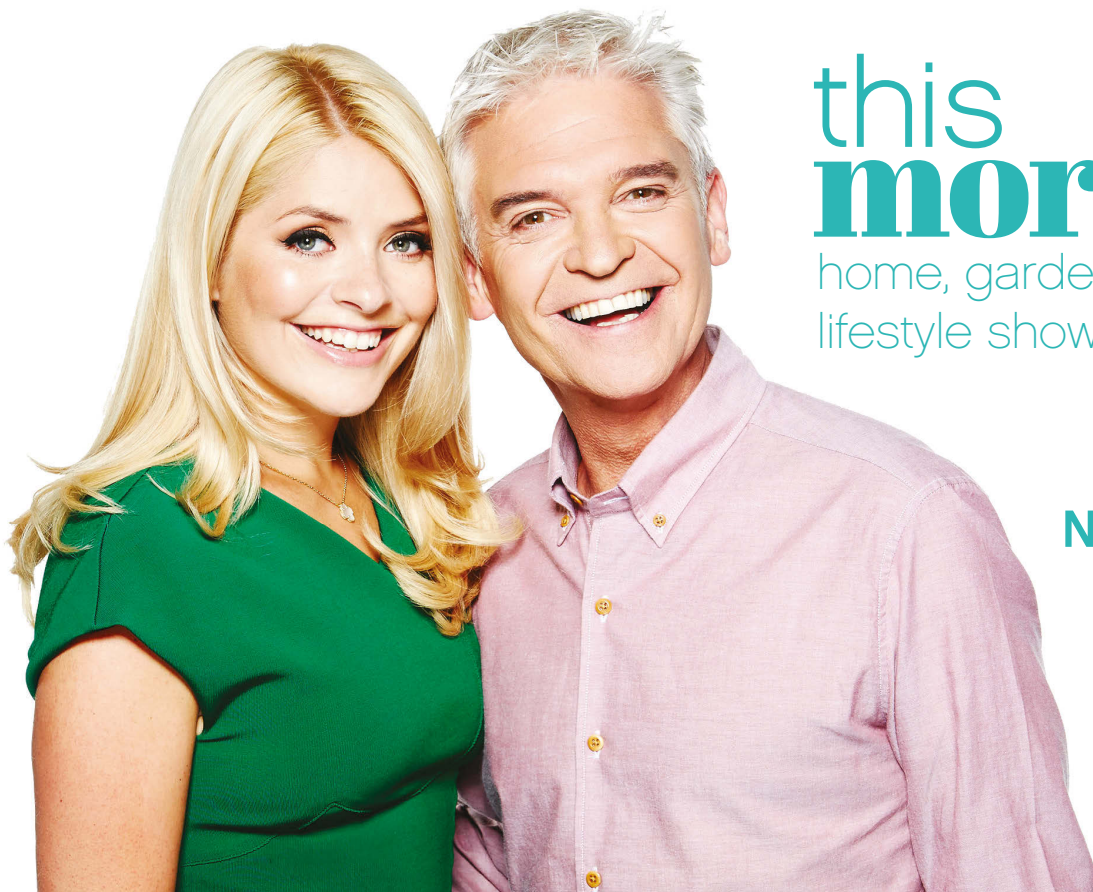


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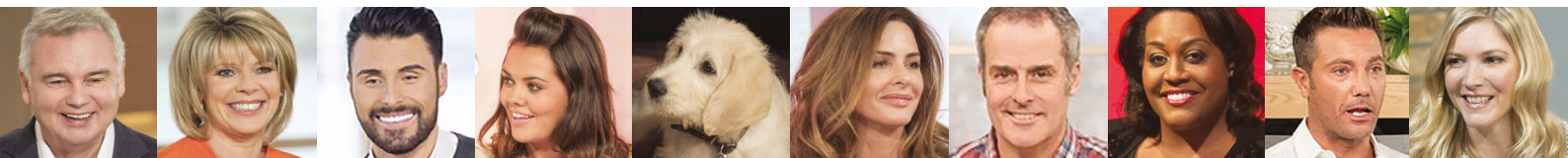
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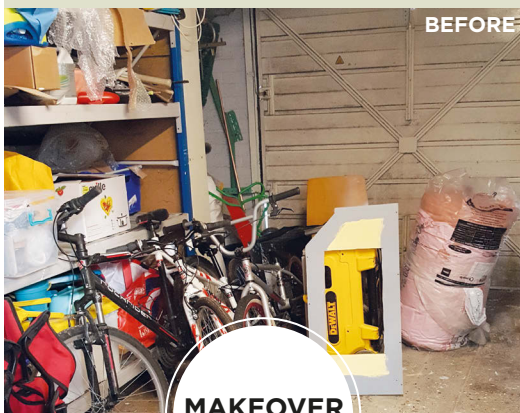
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BEFORE

MAKEOVER DETAILS

Homeowners Anja Inderst, a full-time mum, and her husband Andreas, an equity research analyst **Family** Lilly, 10, and Lara, 7 **Location** South-west London **Property** Six-bedroom, Victorian end-of-terrace house

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Cabinetry £11,300 **Worktops** £4,450
Splashback £360 **Appliances** £6,076
Flooring £1,440 **Sink & tap** £587
Paint £198 **Furniture** £969

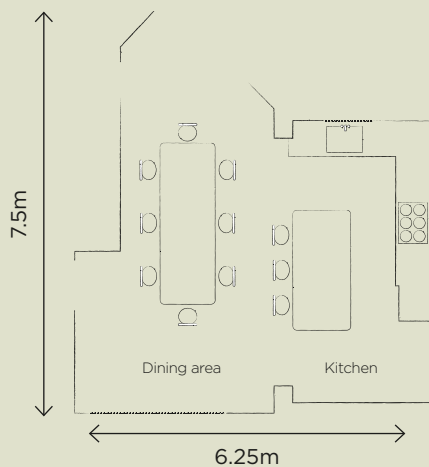
TOTAL SPEND

£25,380

PROJECT BRIEF

To create space for a side kitchen extension by pulling down a derelict garage, knocking through to make one large, bright family room

THE FLOORPLAN



RELAXED & INFORMAL

Uncluttered and without the complication of a hob or sink, the island unit is a versatile space



PROJECT NOTES

Polished worksurfaces are a practical choice for a busy, contemporary kitchen: they show up fewer marks than those with a matt finish

*'The flooring
pulls the whole
look together'*

By using a palette of soft, Scandi shades, Anja Inderst brought her vision of a cool, contemporary scheme to life

FEATURE JO MESSENGER PHOTOGRAPHER FRASER MARR

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Positioned on a corner plot, the Victorian end-of-terrace that Anja and Andreas Inderst fell in love with and bought in 2007 had a unique footprint: the rooms were all quirkily shaped and it had a garage – a rare commodity in London's competitive housing market. 'It just oozed character,' says Anja. 'I loved the double-fronted layout, but like many houses of that style, the rooms were a bit small and the corner position meant those on one side weren't very deep.'

To gain extra space and create a large, open-plan kitchen and dining room, the couple applied for planning permission to demolish the garage and extend out to the side, and then knock through to the existing kitchen and playroom. 'We didn't design the new space to fill the full width,' Anja explains. 'I wanted to save some of the area at the side for a walk-in larder and an outdoor storage cupboard for bikes and garden paraphernalia.'

The charm and simplicity of designs from companies such as Plain English really appealed to Anja, and local company Kitchens Upon Thames was able to interpret her ideas: 'I wanted a light, bright family space that could double up as a place for entertaining in the evenings,' she says, so when ▶



REALISTIC EFFECT
Anja's wood-look flooring is actually made from ceramic

“
I wanted all the appliances integrated and out of sight”

IDEAS TO STEAL

Take a leaf out of Anja's book with these clever touches



↑ OPT FOR CONCRETE

This matt material can add a soft, velvety element to a scheme



↑ KEEP SURFACES SMOOTH

Team a stylish and sleek range cooker with an induction hob



↑ DON'T FORGET PLUG POINTS

Incorporate discreet sockets into an island unit for easy access



GOOD IDEA

For pleasing symmetry, suspend pendants at equal points along the middle of an island

↑ STYLISH DINING

The unusual shape of the room adds a quirky feel, with angled French doors on to the garden

LOOK FOR LESS



↑ RAISE THE BAR

Piloti stool,
Made.com

it came to the island design, Anja knew exactly what she was after. 'It had to be adaptable for many uses,' she explains, 'I didn't want to break up the space with a hob or sink. It's an ever-changing surface – when the girls are home from school they can sit here and draw while I prepare dinner. And when we throw a party it becomes a bar, serving area and social space for adults to gather around.'

Underfloor heating not only keeps the room warm and inviting, but it also has an aesthetic bonus: the couple didn't have to spoil the clean

lines of the walls with radiators. A smart range cooker is one of the scheme's statement pieces, and to add subtle colour and texture to the understated palette, Anja choose wood-effect ceramic tiles in muted tones. 'I wanted the tiles to be as long as possible to replicate real wood planks and shopped around until I found ones that were right,' she says.

Anja is delighted with the end result: 'I'm so pleased with the new look; I didn't want it to be stark or too clinical, but the floor links in all of the other elements, pulling the whole room together.' **GH**

SHOPPING LIST

CABINETRY In-frame units, supplied rigid and primed for painting, £11,300, Kitchens Upon Thames. Units painted in traditional oil eggshell in shirting and dark lead, both £58 per 2.5ltr, Little Greene
WORKTOPS Silestone Lagoon worksurfaces and matching upstands, from £279.60, HC Supplies
SPLASHBACK For a similar white toughened glass splashback, try Premier Range
APPLIANCES Falcon 900 Deluxe induction range cooker in slate, £3,349, O'Gormans. Lec wine cooler, from a selection, Marks Electrical. Rangemaster integrated dishwasher, from a selection, Mychoice.co.uk. Rangemaster cookerhood, from a selection, Currys
SINK & TAP For a similar Belfast sink, try Franke. Parthian single-lever kitchen mixer tap, from a selection, Premium Taps
FLOORING Boardwalk maple porcelain 120x20cm floor tiles, £117.60 per sqm, Stone & Ceramic Warehouse
FURNITURE For a similar wooden dining table, try Raft. For similar dining chairs, try Ikea. For similar bar stools, try Piloti stool, £99 per pair, Made.com. For similar pendant lights, try Heal's

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Choose an efficient DISHWASHER

Keep your kitchen essentials spotless with these feature-packed, time-saving and eco-friendly models

The first thing to ask yourself when shopping around is what design would be best for your kitchen: freestanding or integrated? The first type is easier to install, replace and take with you if you move; a built-in model will be concealed seamlessly behind a matching cabinet door. Another option is semi-integrated, in which only the control panel is visible.

Full-size dishwashers (approximately W60cm) will hold between 12 and 15 place settings and cutlery – ample space for a busy family's requirements. Ideal in smaller kitchens, a slimline model of around W45cm has room for 10 settings.

Also, think about your needs in terms of wash cycles: ideally, you'll require at least three and a rinse-only mode. Top-of-the-range dishwashers will offer special programmes for glasses, intensive settings, half-load options and sensor washing to adjust temperature, time and water according to the load.

UNDER £350



↑ ECO CHOICE

Zanussi's clever ZDT24001FA has an intensive programme for stuck-on food debris, and can automatically select optimum time, temperature, water and energy settings.

• H81.8xW59.6xD55.5cm

← BUDGET OPTION

Competitively priced, the stylish MW401 from Matrix at Debenhams Plus can hold 12 place settings with four programmes: intensive, express, eco and pre-wash.

• H81.5xW59.6xD55cm

ONE TO WATCH



REMOTE CONTROL

Miele's G 6997 SCVi XXL K20 can be operated via a tablet or smartphone app.

• H84.5xW59.8xD57cm

MULTI SETTINGS



→ BUILT FOR SPEED

With its enhanced drying process, the freestanding, A+ energy-rated Indesit DFG 26B1UK Mytime has the fastest eco cycle on the market – 138 minutes.

• H85xW60xD60cm



GOOD IDEA

When filling your washer, check that no pots or pans are restricting its arms, as this can stop the spray reaching all areas

£499

FULLY INTEGRATED

For a sleek scheme, try Britannia's Cascata IDW60. A+++ rated, it offers eight cycles, adjustable racking, six temperature levels, time delay and a digital display.

• H81.5xW59.8xD57cm

NEED TO KNOW

■ **ECO-FRIENDLY** cycles use less water and energy than a main wash programme and also a lower temperature, so the cycle will take longer.

■ **INTENSIVE OPTIONS** are designed for the most stubborn, stuck-on dirt on pots, pans and dishes that would otherwise require pre-soaking.

■ **DELICATE WASHING PROGRAMMES** are ideal for glassware and china. To help to prevent any

chips or breakages, make sure these items don't touch anything else in the dishwasher.

■ **SENSOR WASHING** detects how dirty the water in the dishwasher is and automatically sets temperature and cycle duration, minimising water and energy use.

■ **ENERGY RATINGS** range from A+++ (most efficient) to D (least). The majority of current models are A rated.

£350-£600

£549.99

← SIMPLE CLEANING

Make life easier with a dishwasher that comes with an active self-clean filter and glass-care technology. Grundig's GFN51030 freestanding model features an express function, third cutlery tray and Varioslide basket.

• H85xW59.8xD60cm

SELF
CLEANING

£418.97

→ LARGE CAPACITY

CDA's WF610BL at Appliances Direct holds 15 place settings and offers nine programmes, including auto modes that adapt the wash time and temperature according to the load.

• H84.5xW59.8xD59.6cm



£599.99

← FIFTIES FEEL

Get the retro look with Swan's A+-rated SDW7040 freestanding dishwasher, available in 10 colours. It has 12 place settings and six programmes, including intensive and rapid wash.

• H84.5xW59.8xD60cm

PERFECTLY FORMED

Ideal for smaller kitchens, a neat, slimline dishwasher such as Whirlpool's stylish ADP 502IX is an excellent choice.

• H85xW45xD55cm

£379.99



£600-£1,000



← SMART SOLUTION

Siemens' iQ700 Speedmatic SN278I26TE freestanding dishwasher uses Zeolith technology for a brilliant shine. It uses just seven-and-a-half litres of water per cycle and is lit from within.

• H84.5xW60xD60cm

**WATER
SAVER**

→ FAST RESULTS

The powerful Serie 8 SMI88TS00G from Bosch is semi-integrated and has Variospeed Plus technology that cleans dishes up to 66 per cent quicker without compromising on quality.

• H81.5xW59.8xD57.3cm



STOCKISTS
Turn to
p165



↑ RETRO VIBE

Smeg's iconic DI6FAB design comes in red, cream or black. It's A+ rated for energy and offers 10 programmes with 14 place settings, delay timer and half load in the upper or lower basket.

• H82xW60xD58.4cm

NEXT MONTH COFFEE MACHINES



HOT PROPERTY

Powerful and eco-friendly, the Adora SL WP from V-ZUG uses heat pump technology to reduce power consumption by almost half. Its Steamfinish helps put a shine on glasses

• H86.7-90.7xW59.6xD57.2cm

OVER £1,000



↑ BRIGHT IDEA

KitchenAid's feature-packed Dynamic Clean KDSDM 82130 is equipped with innovative floor lighting that indicates the cycle's status.

• H82xW59.7xD55.5cm

DOUBLE DRAWERS



EASY ACCESS

Fisher & Paykel's DD60DCHB9 has a waist-height top drawer and flexible racking options.

• H82-88xW59.9xD57.3cm

3 OF THE BEST crochery sets

→ CHIC STYLE

Understated and sophisticated, Wilko's utility grey 12-piece set is great value



← HAND PAINTED

Made.com's Sigure 12-piece service will give your table a fresh look



↑ TAKE A LETTER

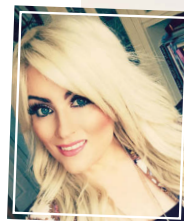
Bring the typography trend to your dining room with Creative Tops' Stir It Up 12-piece dinner set

Innovation, cutting edge design and practicality, along with efficiency and ease of use are all combined to produce new and exciting, award winning products for your kitchen. At Cable we strive to deliver all of these attributes with all of our products.
Image: Dual fuel single cavity range cooker, CR9109. Wall chimney hood ZC921.



ASK THE EXPERT

*Head of creative design at Walls and Floors
Louisa Swannell has an eye for spotting trends*



New ideas for 2017

Q. What are the new interiors trends for this year and beyond?

A. Through my own extensive research and business trips to Europe, this year is set to allow more room for personal experimentation within home styling – this includes playing on not only colour combinations but shape, size and texture. There is still a big focus on key elements found in current design trends, such as bringing the outdoors in right through to extracting the old from the new – Carrara marbles, hexagons and natural textures will be present throughout.

Creative designs

Q. How can I use tiles to add a wow factor feature to my home?

A. Patterns are perfect if you wish to make a statement: encaustic-style flooring in hallways and living areas will certainly provide impact with their bold colours and geometric shapes. The beauty of these designs is that you can create a stunning focal point effortlessly, and choosing a monochrome design also allows you to add seasonal accent colours. My favourite way to incorporate vibrant patterns is to frame them with a co-ordinating plain tile. To showcase a bold floor, keep walls neutral, and use simple furniture.

→ GREY SHADES

Polished Arte tile, £32.95 per sqm;
Pressed Patina
Steel tile, £29.95 per sqm



Timeless looks

Q. I need to update my bathroom and kitchen – what tiles can I use that'll still be on trend for the next few years?

A. The classic metro style has been a favourite for many years and is not set to fall from favour any time soon. This versatile bevelled brick design comes in more than 400 styles and adapts to all the latest fashions. For a traditional, Victorian monochrome scheme, try a classic brick bond layout with white grout; or try industrial luxe using the ultimate style statement: a herringbone pattern with dark grout.



HERRINGBONE EFFECT
Antique crackle wall tiles,
from £29.95 per sqm



NATURAL GRAIN
Rustic Oak wood-effect
tiles, £19.95 per sqm



AQUA TONES
Antique crackle wall
tiles, from £29.95 per sqm;
reclaimed wood plank
tiles, from £19.95 per sqm



MOSAIC MIX

Jannah wood-effect floor tiles; Zeinah Galena floor tiles, both from £29.95 per sqm

Walls and Floors

Leading Tile Specialist



Stylish coverings

Q. What's the next big thing in tiles?

A. An eclectic rebellion will come from striking patterns and geometrics in bold shades taking centre stage – especially hallways and dining areas. Colour combinations will be slightly muted but feature strong accents with high-shine materials creating an element of luxury, with teal working well alongside copper and brass. A continued theme is the inclusion of reclaimed wood and metal mixed with vintage styling; allowing your home to tell a story, connecting every room together.

← SMART STONE

Anais white marble hexagon tiles, £29.95 per sqm

Soft touch

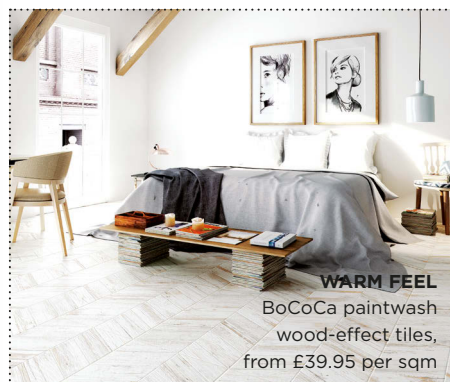
Q. What's the best way to bring texture to a room with tiles?

A. An instant solution is a split-face tiled feature, as these styles produce a modern, undulating form that helps create fascinating designs. From slate to wood effects, they can be used in any room to build character. Alternatively, a great way to add subtle texture is to offset every glossy colour with a matt hue – it allows you scope for personal style, but keep in mind both natural and artificial lighting when making your selection.



DARK HUES

Ledgestone split-face tiles in charcoal, £29.95 per sqm



WARM FEEL

BoCoCa paintwash wood-effect tiles, from £39.95 per sqm

Relaxed retreat

Q. Are tiles too cold for a bedroom?

A. I recently worked with a client using tiles in the bedroom and living room – the results were amazing and luxurious. Such tiles are usually fixed on to plywood, creating a layer of insulation thus allowing them to keep a basic room temperature; no different to laminate, vinyl or natural boards. For a more opulent approach, indulge in a chevron layout in relaxing tones.

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'I dared to be different'

A fearless approach to design has resulted in Julia Eldon's dramatic scheme

FEATURE NATALIE OSBORN PHOTOGRAPHER KATIE LEE



MAKEOVER DETAILS

Homeowners Julia Eldon, owner of homeware brand Suburban Salon, and husband James, chief executive of a multi-academy trust **Family** Amelia, 10, and Freddie, 14 **Location** Bramhall, Greater Manchester **Property** Detached Sixties build

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Sanitaryware £6,000 **Wooden panelling** £412 **Floor tiles** £850 **Decoration** £2,500

TOTAL SPEND

£9,762

THE BRIEF

To extend the original en suite into the loft space, creating a new dressing area. New tiles and sanitaryware, as well as panelling and wallpaper, to be installed



PROJECT NOTES

Inject character and colour quickly and easily by opting for wooden panelling instead of wall tiles. It can then be painted in any hue of your choice



Space for Julia and James Eldon's growing family was the top priority when they bought a detached Sixties property nine years ago. 'It wasn't at all lovable,' she recalls. 'It needed everything doing to it, but the size was there and we could see its potential.'

First, with the help of a builder, Julia extended the kitchen into the garden. While work was under way, she received an interesting call from him: 'He told me he'd found a hidden loft void next to the en-suite bathroom upstairs,' she remembers. 'It meant that we could knock into this discovery to form a bigger, more luxurious space. I was thrilled at the prospect of having more storage for toiletries!'

Spurred on by this unexpected news, the plans for a new en suite took shape quickly. 'It was a generous room already, but the laminate flooring and corner bath needed to go,' she says. When the builder finally knocked through into the secret cavity, Julia was delighted, as it was bigger than anyone imagined. 'This was my favourite moment of the renovation,' she smiles. 'Immediately, I started planning how I'd use the space, and decided that it would be a wonderful dressing room, complete with one of my handmade sheepskin Mongolian stools.'

Structurally, Julia made a few changes to help bring natural light into the formerly dingy area. 'I redesigned the roof pitch to create a vaulted ceiling and included two additional dormer windows,' she explains. 'This also meant that I now had the height to hang a gorgeous chandelier, which really enhanced the lavish feel.' In came a glamorous and eclectic look to complement the ►

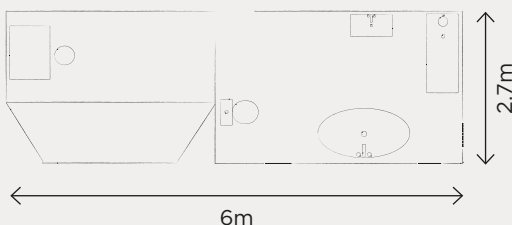
↑ EXTRA ROOM

Extending the en suite into an unused loft area meant there was enough space for a large, walk-in shower enclosure

← LUXURY TOUCHES

Elements such as William Morris-inspired wallpaper and a deep, freestanding tub remind Julia of her favourite boutique hotels

THE FLOORPLAN

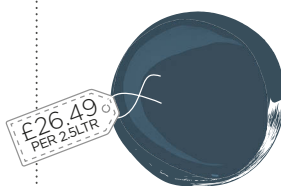




opulent lighting, with the addition of wooden panelling and traditional patterned floor tiles, all set against a moody, dark-blue backdrop. 'I spent a long time looking for the right paper to work alongside the dark walls,' she explains, 'and when I came across the House of Hackney Acanthus print, I knew it was the one straightaway.'

Julia approached the whole makeover with a confident grip on exactly what she wanted to achieve. Delighted with the end result, she shares an important piece of advice: 'Dare to be different,' she says. 'Allow yourself to stamp your own style on a bathroom, just as you would do with any other part of the house. Don't be boring, think outside of the box and be brave with your choices.' GH

LOOK FOR LESS



↑ DARK SIDE

Easycare matt emulsion in sapphire salute, Dulux

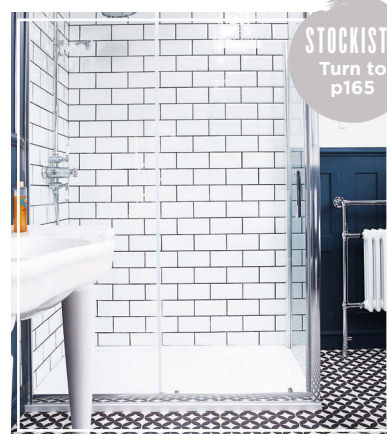
IDEAS TO STEAL

Be inspired by Julia and give your bathroom a sophisticated makeover



↑ BREAK UP THE BLUE

When decorating with a dark hue, punctuate the scheme with white



↑ SAVE MONEY ON TILES

A simple metro design can offset the cost of statement wallpaper



↑ SOFTEN THE LOOK

Give your bathroom a welcoming feel with botanical prints and plants

SHOPPING BASKET

SANITARYWARE Hazlemere bath, £979.89, Sanctuary Bathrooms. Bath mixer tap, and shower mixer, from a selection, The Cast Iron Bath Company. Console basin and mixer tap, from a selection, Just Lefroy. Silverdale Empire WC suite, from £367.99; Sommer shower enclosure, from £563.80, all Bathroom Supplies Online. Shower tray, from a selection, Plumbnation **TILES** Bertie floor tiles, £32.59 per sqm; metro tiles in white, from £11.50 per sqm, all Tons of Tiles **PANELLING** From a selection, The English Panelling Company **WALLPAPER** Acanthus in Aegean blue, £145 per 9m roll, House of Hackney **STOOL** Handmade Mongolian sheepskin stool, £249, Surburban Salon

Pure Freude
an Wasser

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Vintage wallpaper inspired our look

An elegant damask pattern was Jane Cherry's starting point when creating the perfect traditional bathroom

FEATURE KAREN WILSON PHOTOGRAPHER KATIE LEE



MAKEOVER DETAILS

Homeowners Jane Cherry, an equestrian centre manager, and her husband Pete, a retired police officer **Family** Sam, 24, and Peter, 19 **Location** Jarrow, Tyne & Wear **Property** Three-bedroom Victorian semi

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Sanitaryware & shower £3,658
Flooring & tiles £1,074 **Wallpaper & paint** £350.80 **Lighting** £182
Accessories £380 **Shutters** £750

TOTAL SPEND

£6,394

THE BRIEF

To rip out the old suite – including the corner bath, enclosed shower and bidet – and install new flooring, underfloor heating, skirting boards and sanitaryware, along with tanking for a walk-in shower cubicle



PROJECT NOTES

If you love the look of wood but want something more practical and waterproof, timber-effect porcelain floor tiles are a great, cost-effective alternative to the real thing

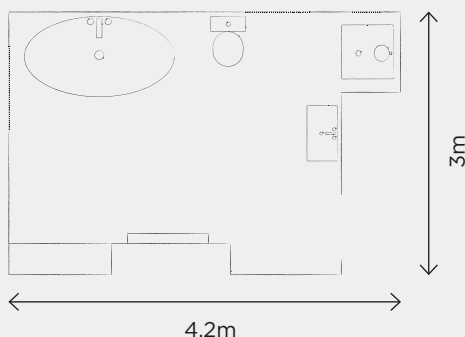
← PERIOD CHARM

Jane opted for a soft palette of cream, grey and lilac, teamed with a roll-top bath and antique touches such as the chair

↑ AGE OF ELEGANCE

The original fireplace with over-mantel mirror was painted in Farrow & Ball's elephant's breath

THE FLOORPLAN



After living in rural County Durham for four years, Jane and Pete Cherry were lured back to Tyneside by the buzz of urban life. They soon found a large Victorian semi in Jarrow, South Tyneside, which was closer to their friends as well as Jane's parents. 'We fell in love with the house's character instantly,' she says. However, the interiors hadn't been updated for more than 15 years.

'I loved the bathroom's size and the fireplace,' Jane explains, 'but I didn't like the corner tub.' Although they could live with these minor inconveniences, a leaky shower finally nudged them into action. 'We realised if we replaced it, we'd have to take up the flooring,' Jane adds, 'so we decided to do everything.'

The starting point was the room's original wallpaper. Inspired by the existing design, the couple found two new versions at Fred Williamson & Sons Ltd in Sunderland, opting for an opulent cream and lilac damask for the top half and Anaglypta below, which they painted in the same warm grey as the fireplace. 'I wasn't worried about steam making the paper peel off, as the room's well-ventilated,' Jane explains.

Next, the couple visited Northumberland Tiles & Bathrooms. 'They had excellent suggestions,' says ▶



CLEVER IDEA

Wood-effect floor tiles continue into the walk-in shower for a seamless feel

Jane. 'They showed me a lovely roll-top bath and traditional-style basin that were perfect, as well as wood-effect porcelain floor tiles that would work well with the underfloor heating I wanted.' Using one company made the renovation easier, too, while Jane and Pete sourced their own lights and mirrors.

The most transformative decision was to replace the old cubicle with a walk-in shower. As the area was tanked with waterproof membrane, they could continue the floor tiles into it instead of having a bulky tray. Jane was also keen to keep the alcove cupboard. 'We painted it the same shade as the fireplace and wallpapered the panels,' she says.

Although it may look traditional, the bathroom's also linked up to the couple's Sonos sound system, controlled by an iPad. 'I use the bath a lot since I work outdoors – it's the best way to get warm,' she says. 'We think the final result is stunning.' GH

LOOK FOR LESS



£12 PER 10M ROLL

↑ TIMELESS APPEAL

Melody Lilac wallpaper, Graham & Brown

IDEAS TO STEAL

Copy Jane's ideas for a traditional bathroom in your own home



↑ PICK ELEGANT FITTINGS

Opt for a Victorian-style towel radiator to complete the look



↑ HUNT FOR ANTIQUES

Reupholster a vintage chair to introduce a burst of colour



STOCKISTS
Turn to p165

↑ KEEP PERIOD FEATURES

A fireplace can be painted to blend into the overall scheme

SHOPPING BASKET

SANITARYWARE & TILES Burlington bath, £669, WC, £453, basin, £195, radiator, £649, and shower, £649; Vado Kensington taps, £113, and filler with shower, £481; Bloomsbury radiator, £449; Kauri Golden plank flooring, £50 per sqm; Masia wall tiles, £30 per sqm, all Northumberland Tiles & Bathrooms **PAINT & WALLPAPER** Dixons Simply Satin VI, £24.83 per 10m roll; Anaglypta Albert, £26.83 per 10m roll, both Fred Williamson & Sons Ltd. Woodwork and walls in elephant's breath estate eggshell, £55 per 2.5ltr, and emulsion, £39.50 per 2.5ltr, both Farrow & Ball **SHUTTERS** Bespoke, from £302 per sqm, Hillarys **ACCESSORIES** Capri wall lights, £45.50 each; Gosford cushion, £33.60, all Laura Ashley. Wall mirror, £95, John Lewis. For a similar floor mirror, try Ayers & Graces. For a similar chair, try Swoon Editions



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IDEAS & INSPIRATION

Refresh with a new SHOWERHEAD

From modern styles to classic designs and budget options, there is something to suit every scheme

Simply unscrewing your old showerhead and replacing it with a new one is an easy, cost-effective way to update your space, while investing in a brand-new system is a great choice if you're redesigning your bathroom.

Fixed designs come with either an angled wall arm or straight ceiling arm. Look for recessed models, such as large rainfall-effect styles, that can be fitted flush. Also, budget for a set of valves, which are usually sold separately, as these control the flow and temperature.

For a practical all-in-one system, opt for a modern kit, which typically comes with a fixed rail and height-adjustable shower. For the best of both worlds, a large overhead shower with a smaller wall-mounted handset is a good idea and perfect for a quick hair wash.

Before investing, check your preferred model is suitable for your system – your plumber or bathroom supplier will be able to advise you on the best option.

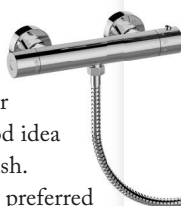
UNDER £100



← GREAT VALUE

With a thermostatic temperature control unit, easily adjustable height setting and a modern chrome finish, this Alves bar mixer kit from Homebase is an inexpensive way to give your space a contemporary look.

• H59xW26.2cm



MODERN STYLE



£89

↗ QUICK CHANGE

Featuring hidden nozzles that deliver a powerful drenching, the unique halo-shaped Aurajet Aio by Methven is also self-cleaning and limescale-resistant.

• H7.4xW13.2xD23.8cm



£59

↖ FOR MUSIC FANS

Bathstore's Link design can be connected to any Bluetooth-enabled device, allowing you to play music through the integrated speaker, which has a 10-hour battery life.

• H9.7xDia21.5cm



£38

↓ STRIKING DETAIL

With its eye-catching star shape, this single spray mode chrome-effect showerhead from B&Q is an interesting finishing touch for a modern scheme.

• Dia22.9cm

GOOD IDEA

For a contemporary look, go for concealed valves where the pipework is neatly hidden behind the wall



ONTREND

£1,622

EUROPEAN CHIC

Make a bold statement with a Closer shower fitting by Diego Grandi for Zucchetti Kos.

• H31.5xW9.5xD80.2cm

FLEXIBLE OPTION

Boasting three different modes (rain, pulse or rainstorm), the Plenum showerhead from Roca comes in a round or square design, and in classic chrome or a contemporary white/chrome finish, as pictured.

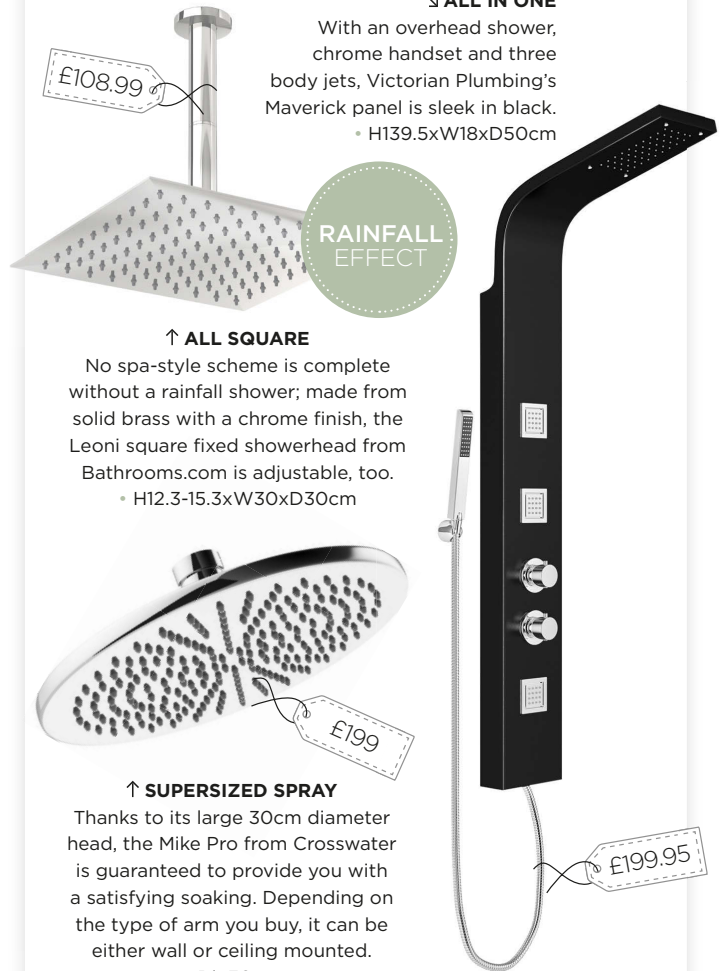
• H27xDia14cm (main showerhead)

£100-£220

ALL IN ONE

With an overhead shower, chrome handset and three body jets, Victorian Plumbing's Maverick panel is sleek in black.

• H139.5xW18xD50cm



ALL SQUARE

No spa-style scheme is complete without a rainfall shower; made from solid brass with a chrome finish, the Leoni square fixed showerhead from Bathrooms.com is adjustable, too.

• H12.3-15.3xW30xD30cm

SUPERSIZED SPRAY

Thanks to its large 30cm diameter head, the Mike Pro from Crosswater is guaranteed to provide you with a satisfying soaking. Depending on the type of arm you buy, it can be either wall or ceiling mounted.

• Dia30cm

AUTHENTIC LOOKS

Vintage style remains a key look for 2017, and Perrin & Rowe's stylish angled 5182 arm with showerhead is the ideal choice if you're creating an elegant Art Deco-inspired scheme.

• H8.5xW5.8xD18cm



NEED TO KNOW

MIXER SHOWERS

blend hot and cold water together within the unit, with you manually adjusting the taps or valves to achieve the right temperature. Ideal for homes with a good hot water supply and high-pressure system.

THERMOSTATIC

designs work in a similar fashion to a mixer, but give you greater control over the temperature. Many models come with

a child-safety device to prevent scalding.

POWER SHOWERS

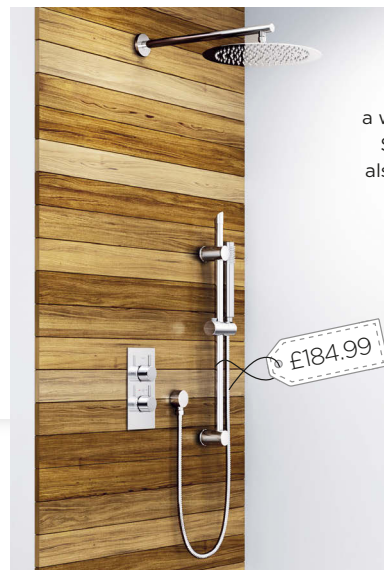
feature an integrated pump to help boost the flow if you have low pressure in your home.

■ **DIGITAL** options are the latest in showering technology. These designs can be switched on and off at the touch of a button and have clever features such as individual presets for preferred temperatures.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Combining a large, fixed showerhead with a wall-mounted attachment, Soak.com's great-value kit also features a thermostatic valve with a reassuring anti-scalding device.

• Dia30xD40cm (main showerhead)



£200-£415

→ ADAPTABLE STYLE

Triton's Kensey concentric mixer shower has a circular cover plate to create a built-in look, or leave the outlet exposed to suit a more traditional bathroom.

• H53xDia11cm



↑ VERSATILE CHOICE

With matching basin taps available, this Crosswater Zest waterfall spout from Tapstore.com means you can co-ordinate your shower with the rest of your fixtures.

• H5.7xW23.6cm



← SPA EXPERIENCE

Frontline's Sabre has a waterblade spout for an energising effect. With a gentler rain jet function too, you can select a flow to suit your mood.

• H6xW22xD60cm



ON-TREND COATING

FASHIONABLE FINISH

Matt-black brassware is in style for 2017, and this Mode Matrix thermostatic head with matching valve set from Victoriaplum.com will create a minimalist look.

• Dia25xD40cm (showerhead)

OVER £415

← SIMPLE CHIC

Britton Bathrooms' V56 exposed thermostatic valve comes with a 20cm head, handset and hose.

• H108.5xW26.9xD35cm

→ COPPER TONE

Featuring a rose-gold finish, the Hemsby from Heritage Bathrooms is a twist on the metallic trend.

• H66xW20xD33.5cm



COPPER TONE

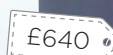
↑ LIGHT UP

Its sphere shape, chrome finish and circular strip of LEDs make Bathstore's Luce a fun way to brighten your daily routine.

• H19.9xW18xD37cm



NEXT MONTH ECO FEATURES



ECO OPTION

Roper Rhodes' SVSET44 Factor shower system can be fitted with a water flow regulator, saving up to eight litres a minute.

• Dia30cm (overhead-shower)

3 OF THE BEST waterproof radios



→ EASY TO HANG

Offering up to 17 hours playback from a single charge, the JVC RA-D11-A DAB/FM radio from Currys is a practical choice



← ON CALL

Answer your phone in the shower with the HXY 4.0 digital radio and speaker from Amazon, compatible with Bluetooth devices



→ CLASSIC CREAM

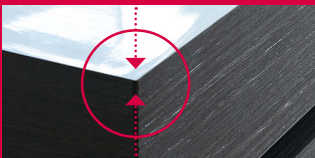
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BEFORE



AFTER

PROJECT DETAILS

Homeowners Jelena Nenadic, a benefits advisor, and her husband Peter Sanfey, an economist **Family** Gregor, 10 **Location** Alexandra Park, north London **Property** Five-bed, Edwardian mid-terrace house

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Fees £13,000 **Build** £90,000
Bi-fold doors £3,300 **Roof light** £7,700 **Cabinets** £7,200 **Worktops** £5,000 **Appliances** £10,000
Flooring £3,200 **Garden** £10,000

TOTAL SPEND

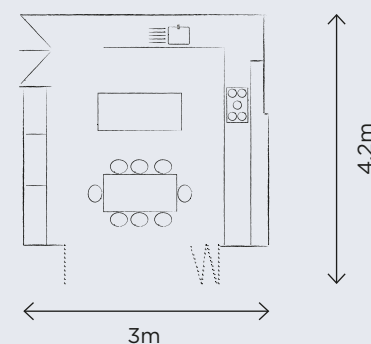
£149,000

THE BRIEF

To knock the existing kitchen and dining room into a single open-plan space and extend the rear of the house, to create a large family room leading to a raised patio via bi-fold doors. The couple also wanted new cabinetry, with an island unit



THE FLOORPLAN





PROJECT NOTES

A large, mirrored splashback behind the range cooker helps to maximise the natural light and offers views of the room behind when cooking at the hob

'We love the extra space'

Creating a large, sociable area was central to Jelena Nenadic and Peter Sanfey's plans

FEATURE BETH MURTON PHOTOGRAPHER ADELINA ILIEV

Proving good things do indeed come to those who wait, Jelena Nenadic and her husband Peter Sanfey's extension was completed more than 10 years after they bought their home. Their new space has finally given them the sociable, open-plan kitchen and dining area they always craved. As the original room was small and narrow, it was a stretch for more than one person to be in there at the same time. This layout made entertaining problematic: friends would usually congregate in the adjoining dining room, completely separate from the kitchen.

Following a recommendation, the couple approached architect Trevor Brown, who had completed several similar projects in the area. His plan was to knock the kitchen and dining room into one and add a three-metre-deep extension across ►



GOOD IDEA

Laying bricks at an angle adds interest and texture to an expanse of exterior wall

the full-width of the property to create a large, multifunctional cooking-living space. He also suggested stealing area from the original dining room to create a downstairs WC and utility in the centre of the ground floor between the kitchen and front reception. 'Trevor's ideas gave us confidence to go ahead,' says Peter. 'We also liked having him project manage everything.' Plans were approved quickly and the build took three-and-a-half months to complete.

Walking down the steps from the hallway, the new scheme seems bright and airy. Bi-fold doors link the room to the redesigned garden and a large roof window running the width of the extension

offers views of the sky. 'Even on dark days, there's still an incredible sense of light in here,' says Jelena.

In search of a classic look for their new kitchen, the couple worked alongside Trevor to choose their ideal fittings and accessories. Off-white Shaker-style units from Howdens are teamed with a combination

of marble and quartz worktops and a stunning bespoke mirrored splashback to create a more contemporary, designer look. As a keen baker, Jelena's must-have Falcon dual-fuel range cooker forms the centrepiece of the stylish layout, with modern built-in appliances completing the scheme.

“
There is an incredible sense of light in here

A key element of Jelena and Peter's brief to Trevor was to find a way to seamlessly incorporate the couple's extensive book collection. His innovative solution was a floor-to-ceiling wall of bespoke shelving with practical cupboards underneath to keep the space clutter-free. With room for two comfy armchairs in front of the storage, it's now one of the couple's favourite spots in the room. 'Trevor has cleverly included everything that's important to us in this one place,' says Jelena, 'and the finished space is a wonderful reflection of both our personalities. We're so pleased that we were finally brave enough to take on this project. It's completely transformed our home.' **GH**

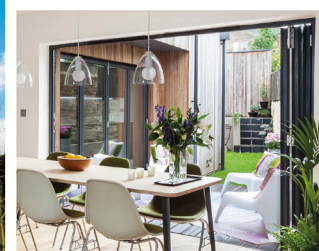
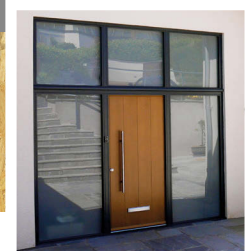
SHOPPING BASKET

GLAZING Bi-folds, £3,300, Edgware Glazing **KITCHEN** Tewkesbury units, £7,200, Howdens. Worktops, £5,000, all Baltic Natural Stone **APPLIANCES** Falcon range, £3,445; Miele microwave, £1,249; Miele oven, £1,829; Miele wine fridge, £1,709, all Glotech **SPLASHBACK** Bespoke vintage mirror, from £400 per sqm, Mirror by Design **FLOORING** Wood-effect porcelain tiles, from £45 per sqm, Swedecor **LIGHTING** Ginestra pendants, from a selection, Astro Lighting. Normann Copenhagen Amp pendants, £79.90 each, Made in Design **FURNITURE** Burford table, £799; Philippe Starck for Kartell Masters chair, £154 each, all John Lewis

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BEFORE



AFTER

PROJECT DETAILS

Homeowners Lynne Harkin, a teacher, and her husband Derek, a chemical engineer **Family** Lucy, 17, and Arianna, 14 **Location** Flintshire, Wales **Property** Detached, four-bed farmhouse dating from around 1800

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Oak frame £40,000 **Build** £95,000
Kitchen & worktops £21,000
Appliances £4,000 **Bi-folds** £6,000
Windows & staircase £5,750 **Roof lights** £2,800 **Floor tiles** £4,000

TOTAL SPEND

£178,550

THE BRIEF

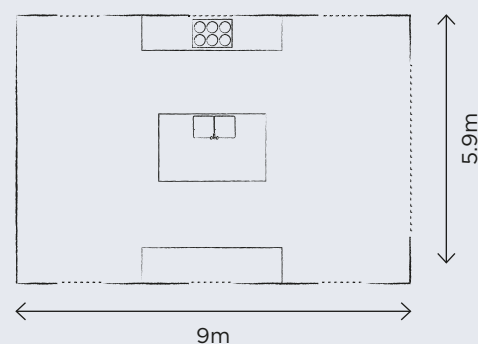
To convert an annex to create a large, open-plan family area, complete with kitchen-diner and mezzanine. The Harkins wanted a wooden-framed structure with exposed beams that reflect the age of the adjoining farmhouse



PROJECT NOTES

The Harkins added character to this new build by creating a faux mantel around the range cooker and using traditional Shaker-style cabinetry

THE FLOORPLAN





'The shell was up in four days'

Lynne Harkin's impressive kitchen-diner with vaulted ceiling was surprisingly quick to build

FEATURE BETH MURTON PHOTOGRAPHS WELSH OAK FRAME

↑ IDEAL LAYOUT

The large island unit with granite worktop forms the centre of the kitchen, with a bank of full-height units on the far side housing two fridges and a freezer

On the lookout for a house with lots of land, Lynne and Derek Harkin were won over by a detached farmhouse in rural north Wales. Accessed by a small country lane and with stunning views over an

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the couple were prepared to overlook some of the property's downsides in order to make the location their own.

The small, dark kitchen was tucked away at one end of the house, while at the opposite end of the property there was a separate single-storey garage that had been converted into accommodation by previous owners. 'We tried to use it as a guest suite, but it had no insulation so every winter the pipes would freeze and flood it,' says Lynne. As this part of the house had the best views of the landscape,

the couple dreamed of replacing the annex with a kitchen extension that would open up the outlook.

'By the time we'd saved up to take on such a big project we'd been living in the house for nine years and knew exactly what we wanted,' says Lynne. 'Our plan was to create a big family area with a kitchen, dining and living zone, an office on a mezzanine above the kitchen, and a bedroom, en suite and sun room in the section nearest the original building.'

Architects Paterson, Macauley & Owens drew up the blueprints for the new annex, before putting the couple in touch with timber-frame specialists Welsh Oak Frame. 'We wanted a wooden extension as we felt the exposed beams would be in keeping with the style of the original farmhouse,' explains Lynne. 'As the frame is constructed off site, it also allows for a much faster build time.' Delivered to ►



GOOD IDEA

Glazing the gable end of a roof creates huge windows that let in maximum light



the property on two lorries, the huge A-shaped structures that support the extension were erected on the foundations by crane in just four days.

'The team from Welsh Oak Frame were fantastic and it was very impressive to see the extension come together with such speed and precision,' says Lynne. To save money, the couple chose to treat the beams themselves, spending most evenings over three months sanding the timber and then applying a clear wax. 'It became quite addictive,' recalls Lynne.

Completed by the pair's builder, Gareth Williams, the exterior is clad in locally sourced stone with a slate roof to match the farmhouse. Oak bi-folds with a large window above combine to create a fully glazed wall at the end of the space, revealing the views.

Elegant Shaker-style cabinetry was an obvious choice, creating the country-style look the couple were after. Thanks to some extensive online research, they sourced the units at a great price through furniture-maker Unfitted.co.uk. 'They measured the space for us, and we were able to choose from a huge range of combinations, colours and handles to give us a completely bespoke design, which our builder fitted,' says Lynne. A palette of soft greens and neutrals helps create a relaxed, informal look.

'We spend most of our family time together in this room now,' Lynn says. 'It's hard not to when it has the best views in the whole house.' **GH**

↑ OUTDOOR SPACE

The paved terrace is an idyllic spot to sit and take in the views

→ GENTLE HUES

Shaker-style units are painted in neutral shades to help create a calm and relaxing vibe



STOCKISTS
Turn to
p165

SHOPPING BASKET

STRUCTURE Oak frame, £40,000, Welsh Oak Frame **GLAZING** Oak bi-folds, £6,000, Valdi. Timber-frame windows, £3,000, Custom Precision Joinery Ltd. Conservation roof lights, £2,800, The Rooflight Company **KITCHEN** Units in Little Greene's Portland stone, Normandy grey and sage green with granite worktops, £21,000, Unfitted.co.uk. For a similar sink, try Rangemaster Belfast 1.0 bowl ceramic sink, £111.95; for a similar tap, try Rangemaster traditional bridge sink mixer with white handles, £107.99, both Taps UK **APPLIANCES** For a similar oven, try Bosch Serie 6 HBA63B150B built-in electric single oven, £449; for a similar hob, try Bosch Serie 8 PIE375C14E induction hob, £439, both Ao.com. For a similar range cooker, try Total Control five-oven electric cooker, from £13,295, Aga **FLOORING** Limestone floor tiles, £4,000, Beswick Stone **LIGHTING** Lynfield glass pendant lights, from £137.60 each, Jim Lawrence **FURNITURE** Firenze bar stools, £119.99 each, World of Barstools. For a similar table and chairs, try I & JL Brown. For a similar sofa, try Ashton Grande, from £1,555, Laura Ashley



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Butter salmon & samphire spaghetti

A real crowd-pleaser and a great way to give simple pasta a twist

PREP 10 MINS COOKING TIME 15 MINS SERVES 2

INGREDIENTS

300g spaghetti
Sea salt and freshly ground pepper
Splash of olive oil
2 organic salmon fillets
Few knobs of butter
½ red chilli, finely chopped
Garlic clove, crushed
1 pack of samphire
Zest and juice of a lemon

METHOD

1 Plunge the spaghetti into a pot of boiling water. Add a good pinch of salt and a slug of olive oil. Cook for 12 mins or until al dente (with a bit of bite).
2 While it cooks, get a frying pan hot. Season the fish. Add a knob of butter to the pan and lower heat to medium. Cook the salmon skin side down, until you can see it starting to cook through a little – about 5 mins. Flip and cook for another 3-5 mins. The flesh will flake away from the skin easily when done.

3 Toss the chilli and the garlic in the pan to cook a little in the residual heat.
4 Add the samphire to the pasta water right before draining, then toss the spaghetti and samphire with a knob of butter. Flake the salmon from the skin

and toss together with the garlic and chilli in the pan, then add to the pasta.
5 Grind in plenty of pepper and then add the lemon zest and juice. Taste and adjust the seasoning as required. Serve warm in shallow bowls.

3 of the best

KITCHEN BUYS



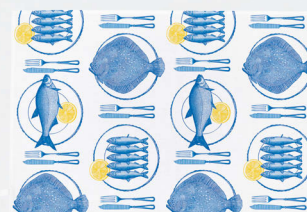
↑ HOT STUFF

Metal trivet, £15,
The Nautical Company



↑ SEA GREEN

Carafe by Paola Navone,
£18.50, Abode Living



↑ FUN MOTIF

Fish Supper tea towel,
£11.95, Annabel James



FOODIE TIP

The salmon can be swapped for a meatier variety, such as monkfish, cod or haddock, and substitute the samphire for spinach or fine spears of asparagus

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RECIPE TIP

Make sure the pan is very hot to prevent the broccoli from sticking. You could also throw a few pinenuts or almonds into the mix for some extra texture and crunch

SERVE
RUSTIC

Griddled broccoli with lemon-chilli croutons

This is a quick, healthy side dish that makes a great partner to any fish meal

PREP 10 MINS COOKING TIME 20 MINS SERVES 2

INGREDIENTS

3 thick slices of sourdough or a similar type of bread
Splash of olive oil
Pinch of dried chilli flakes
Sea salt and freshly ground pepper
Zest and juice of a lemon
350g purple sprouting or Tenderstem broccoli
Parmesan

METHOD

1 Slice the bread into cubes. Mix in a bowl with the oil, chilli, salt and pepper, lemon zest and half of the juice.
2 Get a frying pan hot. Sauté the croutons until golden and crisp. Add extra oil during cooking, if needed.
3 Put a griddle pan on a high heat for your broccoli. Rinse the spears and keep a bit of water clinging to them.

Place in the hot pan, adding a hint of salt and pepper. Place the squeezed lemon halves in the pan, cut side down.
4 Turn broccoli after it's coloured on one side. Once it's charred all over, pour in the rest of the juice. Gloss with a little oil (or toss with a little butter, if you like). Scatter the croutons over and finish with shavings of Parmesan.



Thatched fish pie

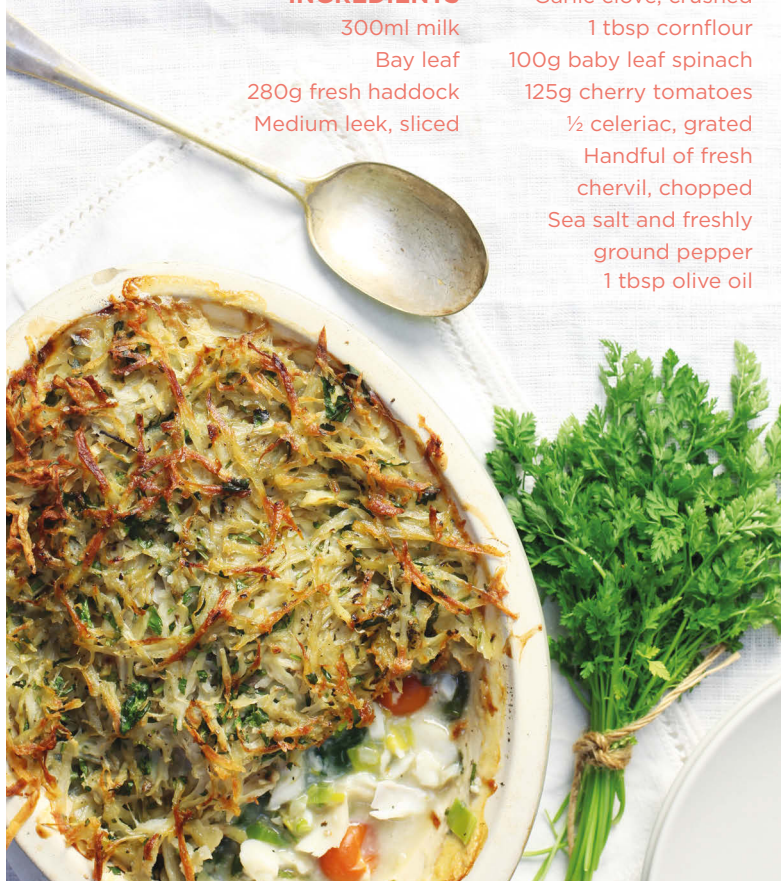
A modern update of a traditional comfort meal

PREP 20 MINS COOKING TIME 40 MINS SERVES 2

INGREDIENTS

300ml milk
Bay leaf
280g fresh haddock
Medium leek, sliced

Garlic clove, crushed
1 tbsp cornflour
100g baby leaf spinach
125g cherry tomatoes
½ celeriac, grated
Handful of fresh chervil, chopped
Sea salt and freshly ground pepper
1 tbsp olive oil



METHOD

- 1 Pour the milk into a deep frying pan. Add the bay leaf and haddock. Put the lid on and bring to a gentle boil. Turn heat down to low and simmer for 2 mins until the fish is opaque.
- 2 Lift the haddock out on to a plate. Flake with a fork and set to one side. Strain the milk into a bowl through a fine sieve. Wipe the pan clean. Heat your oven to 180°C/fan 160°C/gas 4.
- 3 Put the leek into the frying pan with 2 tbsp cold water. Season. Cook over a low heat for 5 mins until soft, adding water if it starts to catch.
- 4 Add garlic and cook for 1 min. Tip in cornflour and stir well for 1 min. Slowly pour in the milk, whisking until the sauce is smooth. Simmer for 2 mins. Add the spinach, tomatoes and fish and then spoon into a large, ovenproof pie dish.
- 5 Mix the celeriac with the chervil, seasoning and oil. Spread over the top of the fish filling. Bake in the oven for 30-35 mins until the pie is lightly golden and bubbling. Serve immediately.

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Cajun-crusted sole

Give this delicate fish a touch of fragrant spice

PREP 10 MINS COOKING TIME 20 MINS SERVES 2

INGREDIENTS

2 lemon sole fillets
2 tsp Cajun blend seasoning

2 tbsp butter
Zest & juice of a lemon
Handful of flat-leaf parsley, chopped

METHOD

- 1 Rinse the fish and pat dry. Dust all over with the spice mix. Add half the butter to a frying pan over a high heat. Once melted, add the fillets skin side down. Cook 2-3 mins or until the skin forms a golden crust. Carefully flip over.
- 2 Add the remaining butter, lemon zest, juice and parsley and cook a further 2-3 mins or till cooked through, when the fish will be opaque.
- 3 Remove the fillets from the pan and put on warmed plates. Spoon over a generous amount of the lemony butter. Serve with wedges of lemon, garnished with more parsley.



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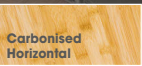


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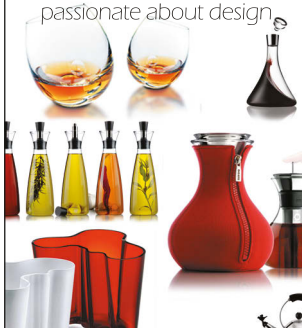



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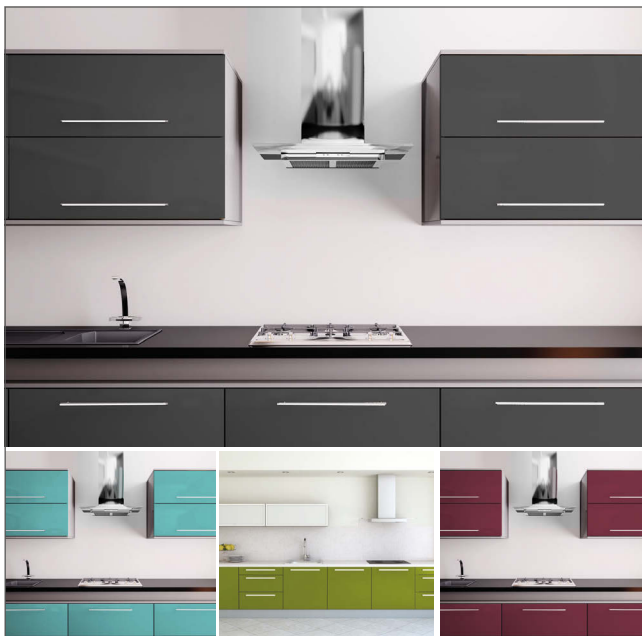
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Create a child-friendly hallway by covering walls in a hard-wearing, wipeable paint and adding colour with removable stickers. Choose a bright indoor/outdoor rug that's easy to clean, and include a storage bench and feature shelving in the shape of beach huts to keep toys and essential items out of sight, but easy to find.

GET THE LOOK

Britta Sweden Gerda runner in turquoise, £159, Benuta. House display boxes, £89 for three, Idyll Home. Gilly giraffe hook, £12, Rowen & Wren. For similar paint, try Endurance+ matt emulsion in brilliant white, £20.99 per 2.5ltr, Dulux. For a similar bench, try Foster storage bench, £137.50, Great Little Trading Company. For similar circular wall stickers, try Spring Spots by Parkins Interiors, £12.80 for 72, Notonthehighstreet.com. For similar cushions, try Bluebellgray pom-pom cushions, £65 each, Amara. For a similar beach bag, try round-bottomed seagrass basket, £18, Kosmopolitan Baskets

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A woman with long brown hair is lying on a bed, wearing a light purple, silky slip dress. She is partially covered by a large, textured purple duvet. Her eyes are closed, and she has a serene expression. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The overall mood is soft and dreamy.

Made for *dreaming*

100% cotton and linen bedding, from £35

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