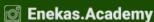
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Enekas.Academy



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Goodhomesmagazine.com

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# Just add magic

With the Christmas holidays nearly upon us, now's the perfect time to fill your home with all the things you love – family and friends, festive food and stylish decorating ideas. This issue is packed with gorgeous seasonal looks for that extra touch of sparkle - from glamorous schemes mixed with vintage-inspired accessories, to handmade crafts for stylish dining and smart solutions to make your home welcoming for guests. There's also last-minute gifts for under £5, a fuss-free celebration menu and clever tips to help ensure you have the merriest time. Happy New Year!



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100k inside 1978 stylish ideas 100k to celebrate 100k the new year

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Our round-up of the latest buys, clever ideas and special finishing touches







# Enjoy a great New Year's Eve



# JUST THE TWO OF YOU

There's no better New Year ritual than Hogmanay, so head to Kinloch Lodge on the Isle of Skye for a three-night break (from £600pp) that includes a sevencourse menu, cocktails, fireworks and a piper at midnight. kinloch-lodge.co.uk



# FOR YOU & YOUR FRIENDS

Wrap up warm and gather outside the illuminated York Minster to hear the bells chime midnight for a traditional start to 2017. It's free, but arrive early to nab a good spot and revel in the atmosphere.

See yorkminster.org for details.



# FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Set against London's iconic skyline, the capital's world-famous firework display is set to wow again this year. There are five viewing areas along the River Thames and the fun begins at 7.30pm. Tickets, £10 per person, seetickets.com







# Set the scene for a celebration

Make this New Year's Eve one to remember by throwing a glittering dinner party for family and friends. Opt for a sophisticated palette of silver and on-trend grey. Add atmosphere with candlelight and texture with faux foliage.





# DECORATE ON A BUDGET

If you're hosting over the festive season, you don't need to spend a fortune to create an event with wow factor. For larger gatherings, join tables together and cover with elegant, inexpensive fabric (try Ikea, from £1 per m) and wooden stools or benches (try Sainsbury's Home).

ODouble up conical party hats for  $\angle$ use as place setting decorations.

Oversized helium balloons spelling out the year will make a stunning centrepiece without taking up any much-needed space on the table.



# Price patrol COCKTAIL CHAIRS

Add vintage glamour to your scheme with dusky velvet

← GOOD CHOICE Duke cocktail chair, Swoon Editions



→ LUXURY TOUCH Le Cocktail velvet

chair, Oliver Bonas





£425











→ SILVER BIRCH

Battery-operated

candle, £12, The Contemporary Home

**↗** GLITTERY GREYS

Snowflake hanging

decorations, from

£3.49 each, Wyevale



# SIMPLE COCKTAIL

# **FESTIVE FIZZ**

*Greet guests with a classic tipple* 

1 For each drink, place sugar cube in I the bottom of a champagne flute. Add 3-4 dashes of Angostura bitters.

O Top with enough cognac to cover the sugar and then fill up to the top with really cold champagne.

Add a disco ball stirrer (£7 for 20, Talking Tables) as a finishing touch.

# 

# **GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING**

A subscription to Not-Another-Bill, from £69, will wish a loved one a happy new year with selected presents through the post each month

# THE EDIT

# 2017 diaries

Getting organised has never been so elegant



**† SPRING INTO ACTION** 

17-month Rosa planner, Papermash



↑ SPOT ON

Kate Spade gold dot agenda, Quill



↑ MODERN LOOK

Abstract pattern diary, Marks & Spencer



**↑ POSITIVE VIBES** Glitter-finish diary.

Next Home





# ↑ FROSTY FEEL

Snowflake garland, £5.50, Talking Tables

### ← TASTEFUL **TARTAN**

Red stripe side plate, £6; tartan plate, part of 12-piece dinner set, £18; fork, part of 16-piece gold Midas cutlery set, £20, all George Home

# ONE LOOK Zways SEASONAL UPDATE

Burns Wight

Commemorate Scotland's greatest poet on 25 January with an on-trend take on classic checks and tartan prints, stag motifs and rich red tones. This welcoming and warm palette works particularly well throughout the colder months - mix with other patterns for visual appear

# → FIRESIDE RETREAT

Balmoral chair, £249; stag cushion, £14.99; large tartantrim hyacinth bowl, £12.99, all Dobbies

**∠ CUT GLASS** Decanter pendant light,

£75, Artisanti



# **↓ ANIMAL MAGIC**

Framed stag with bow tie, £175, Alexander & Pearl



**↑ DEEP SEAT** Wolseley armchair in beige plaid, £549, Made.com



Decorate a metal bedstead with a bauble and a sprig of foliage, tied on with ribbon for a special finish to a guest room





# Price patrol SCENTED CANDLES

Revive your rooms with the natural aromas of pine and eucalyptus



← GOOD CHOICE Scented candle, Sophie Allport



тоисн Scented candle. Jo Malone

→ LUXURY

# SAUSAGE, CRANBERRY -& CHESTNUT ROLLS

Savoury bites to impress your guests

Preheat oven to 190°C/fan 170°C/gas 5. Put 400g of pork sausagemeat into a bowl, along with 50g precooked chestnuts and 1 tbsp of chopped sage. Mix together.

Unroll a 320g sheet of puff pastry on a lightly floured work surface and cut in half lengthways. Spoon 2 tbsp cranberry sauce down the centre of each piece. Divide sausage mix in half and roll each into a long cylinder the same length as the pastry. Lay each half on top of the cranberry sauce.

Prush the edges of the pastry with egg. Fold over the sausage, then roll over so the join is underneath. Cut each piece into 8 rolls and transfer to two lined baking sheets. Brush more egg on top and bake for 20-25 minutes, until the meat is cooked.

For more recipes, visit waitrose.com/recipes



# THEEDIT

# Chinese New Year

Add a subtle taste of the Orient on 28 January



**↑ EASTERN ART** Serving bowl, Marks & Spencer



**↑ INSTANT UPDATE** Paper lantern, Flying Tiger Copenhagen



**↑ SIMPLE TO USE** Set of four chopsticks, £3, Primark



**↑ CHINA TEA** Oriental mug, Sainsbury's



FEATURE ALI LOVETT & JESSICA TAVERNER

HIGHLAND

HIDEAWAY Harby bedside chest of drawers, £249.99;

Liberty bedstead, rom £399.99; Gretel double duvet set 20; Fergus double duvet set, £20; odie cushion, £13;

ennox cushion

13, all Dunelm



# Shopping the NEW-SEASON TRENDS

Get bright ideas for your home from the latest ranges on the high street and online









# JANUARY on

Be inspired and head online for seasonal



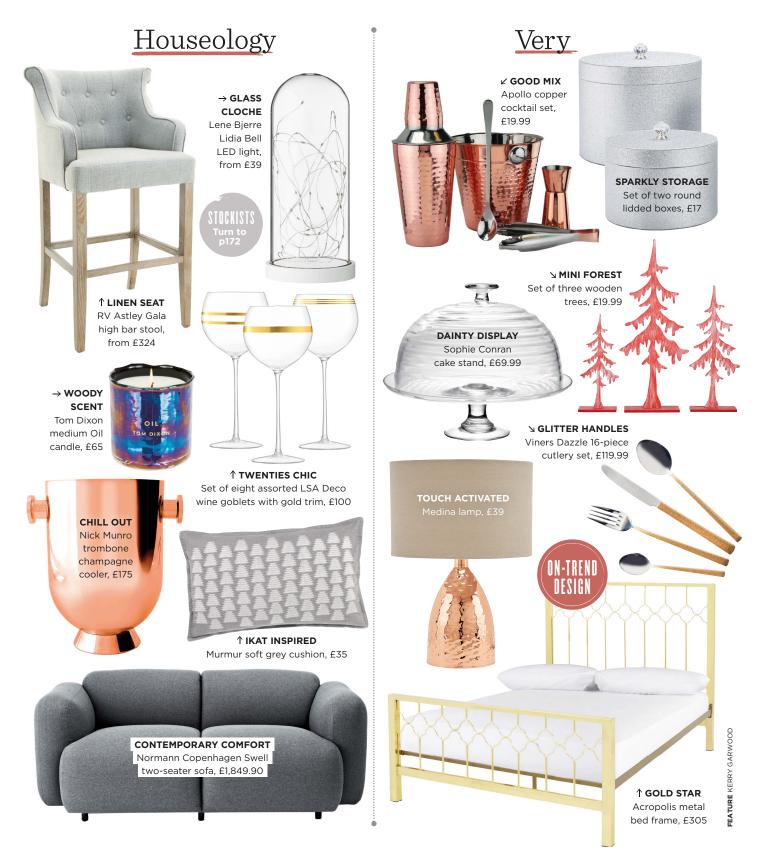






# the INTERNET

updates to give your home a fresh look for the new year







# Colour of the month

# Winter rose

This soft, dusky pink is a versatile shade that will complement both classic and modern schemes

→ DIAMOND PRINT Ikat Kerela linen cushion, £44.50, Bohzaar

## **↑ SPELL IT OUT** Love script balloon, £5.99, Candle & Cake



# **ROSY REFLECTION**

Circum large smoked pink mirror, £265, AYTM at Made In Design

**N** SMALL WONDERS Box of eight mini saucer crackers, £7, Postbox Party

STATEMENT PIECE Single sheepskin, £65, Graham and Green





**↑ LITTLE GEMS** Pair of glass knobs. £4.99, H&M Home

STYLING TIP

Painting a wall just a few shades darker than your sofa will make more

of an impact. Pick out

cushions in similar

tones to enhance the

overall effect





Flopster sofa in clever velvet, from £1,195, Loaf





## ↑ HAND-PAINTED Ambit pendant lamp, £139, Muuto at Rume



**↑ ELEGANT SHAPE** Sannolik vase, £3, Ikea

# SWATCH Watch

Give your rooms a seasonal update

# GLOSSY SHEEN

Covent Garden metro tiles, £32.45 per sqm, Walls and Floors

# → BLUSH HUE

Poetica Plains polyester/ cotton/linen, £24 per m, Harlequin

### STAR BURST

Estella wallpaper by Nina Campbell, £88 per 10m roll, Osborne & Little

# THE LOOK IN ONE BUY



**↑ ETCHED GLASS** 

Tealight holder, £7.50, The Contemporary Home









↑ TAKE A SEAT Walker chair, £169, Holly's House

NEXT MONTH

Kale green

← TACTILE TEXTURE

Felt basket, £25, Nordic

House







# Live the trend

# Cosy cabin

Recreate the snug feel of a mountain retreat by layering wood, knits and fur, and adding dark, rich colours and hints of copper







← GOLD
PLATED
Stainless steel
24-piece
cutlery set,
£34.99. Argos

\*• 150+\* \* shopping buys

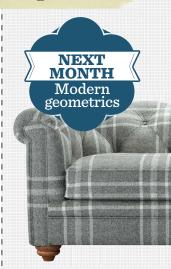
Living room



Stylist's note
The starting point for this rustic scheme

is natural wood panelling – it provides the ideal backdrop for chunky furniture and metallic decorations'

Ali Lovett, Style Editor













# Smart solutions Guest bedroom

Create a welcoming retreat for visitors over Christmas and New Year with these stylish ideas

# **↓ SLUMBER PARTY**

Pre-washed for softness, this understated dusky pink bedding is a good fit for any neutral scheme. From £125 for a single duvet cover, The Linen Works

### **↑ CLOTHES COLLECTION**

AUNDRY

SERVICE

Lend a boutique hotel feel with a retro-print washing bag that will provide your guests with plenty of practical storage. £6.99, H&M Home

# ↑ BRIGHT IDEA

Free up precious room on a bedside table with a smart clip-on light. £149, Original BTC

# NEXT MONTH Bathroom

# **↓ MULTIFUNCTIONAL ELEGANCE**

**QUICK CHANGE** Seasonal throws add texture as well as extra warmth. Normann Copenhagen

Sprinkle quilted bedspread in sand £69.90; Bloomingville grey knitted throw, £209, both Amara

More than a side table, this contemporary design can double as a magazine rack and has a removable tray top. £139, Ross & Brown

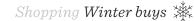


## **↑ DUAL PURPOSE**

If space is at a premium, try the Carter dressing table - it opens up to reveal a mirror or folds down to create desktop space. £499, Dwell







3 INNOVATIVE

HI-TECH BUYS

Improve your guests' stay

with these clever gadgets

# STYLE UPDATE

Make the bed even more comfortable and cosy by arranging cushions and throws in soothing accent colours against a padded headboard

### **↓ MODERN LOOK**

Perfect for keeping make-up and jewellery in one place, the Vana beauty organiser also comes with a useful removable mirror. £35, Umbra



Google Chromecast plugs into a HDTV's HDMI connection and allows users to stream favourite films and shows via Wi-Fi from a smartphone or tablet. £30 each, Currys

**↑ INSTANT ENTERTAINMENT** 



Mobile leads are history thanks to the Riggad lamp and charging pad, complete with USB port. Simply place a smartphone on the cross to power it up. £49, Ikea



# **↑ CABLE-FREE**

Link rose gold Beats headphones to the TV and guests can stay up late without disturbing the rest of the house. Impressively, battery life is a whopping 40 hours. £249.95, Apple

## ← ON-TREND COPPER

Hang these distinctive coat hooks over the door for extra storage, £12, Habitat



### **↑ WAKEY WAKEY**

Help your guests keep track of time with a Covent Garden alarm in dreamy pink, £25, Newgate Clocks



### **↑ ELECTRIC DREAMS**

Machine-washable and inexpensive to run, this heated faux-fur throw will take the chill off winter nights. £99.99, Lakeland

FEATURE JESSICA TAVERNEF









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# SCANDI CUSHION-

Create a comfy corner for reading and relaxing during the festive season with this cosy accessory. Home-spun from wool and felt, the pretty redand-white Nordic design is not only on-trend this Christmas but is a classic style that will stand the test of time year after year.

• H34xW34cm

# BOTTLE CANDLESTICKS

Practical and elegant, these vintage-look designs will softly illuminate your festive scheme. Perfect for a console or alcove, each is decorated with a hanging heart and traditional gingham ribbon bow.

• H21xW7.5cm

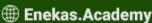


# MESSAGE OF JOY

Make a statement at parties with this stylish white-and-gold festive sign. The elegant typography will send your best Yuletide wishes to all your guests, so stand it on a mantelpiece or shelf, or hang on a wall where every next as see it.

H24xW24xD4cm

For more great buys & ideas, go to idealhomeshowshop.co.: آموزشگاه انعکاس منبع جدیدترین اطلاعات ، مقالات و دورههای آموزشی د کوراسیون داخلی













# TEALIGHT HOLDERS

Go gold with your Christmas decorations and add some sparkle to this year's New Year celebrations with these stylish votives. Made from glass with a dimpled metal base, simply pop a small candle inside to add some shimmer and shine to your dinner parties. H8xDia7.5cm



# RED FESTIVE JUG

Whether used for pouring your Christmas Day gravy or dispensing water, mulled wine or cocktails, this cheerful Nordic-style pitcher will make a great dining table centrepiece. Made from glazed ceramic and embossed with a festive reindeer and snowflake design, it's also ideal for displaying arrangements of winter foliage in. • H21xW19cm(including handle)

# **HOW TO ORDER**

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# Styling your rooms for THE NEW YEAR

Discover this season's latest looks, simple craft ideas and gorgeous colour schemes





**INTERIOR DESIGN COURSE**Easy updates to impress guests over Christmas and beyond



MODERN METALLICS
Throw a party to remember
with eye-catching DIY touches













\* WHERE TO BUY \*

PREVIOUS PAGES Eglantine wallpaper, £56 per 10m roll, Wallpaperdirect. For a similar carpet, try Carpetright. For a similar rug, try John Lewis. For a similar dining table, try Grange. For similar chairs, try Exclusive Interiors. For similar cushions, try Etsy. For a similar bunch of hearts, try Notonthehighstreet.com. For similar chests of drawers, try Brissi. Mirror, £199, Next Home. Frames, from £1.40, Tesco ON LEFT CHEST For a similar silver lidded jar, try Maisons du Monde. For a similar candle snuffer, try JD Williams. Mercurised glass candlestick, £17.99, Zara Home. Set of six grey candles, £6.50, Nordic House. For a similar ribbed mercury **tealight holder** and large bauble, try Notonthehighstreet.com. For a similar bonbon jar, try Houseology.

Set of six Hollywood Connoisseur crackers, £29.50, Marks & Spencer ON MANTELPIECE For a similar garland, try Very. For similar battery-operated fairy lights, try Powerbee. For paper roses and candle holders, try John Lewis. For similar pillar candles, try Caroline Love Interiors ON TABLE For similar bouquets of artificial flowers, try Maisons du Monde. For a similar dome candle holder (used as vases), try Nkuku. For similar large candlesticks, try Pretty Maison. For similar silver candles, try Tesco. For a similar bowl on stem, glass cupcake stand and decanter, try Parlane International. Antique silver glass tealight holders, £2.95 each, Dotcomgiftshop. Doilies, £5.29 for 120, Lakeland. Six-piece cutlery set, £26,

RE. Mink Rim dinner plates, £1.63 each, Homebase. For a similar glitter side plate, try Wilko. Vintage silver glass bowls, £6.95 each, Nordic House. Nougat, £6.50, Waitrose. For similar champagne glasses, try House of Fraser ON RIGHT CHEST For a similar **tray**, try Homesense. For similar gold rim glasses, try House of Fraser. For a similar silver jug and bowl, try eBay. Ice bucket, £189, Brissi. THIS PAGE Dinner plate, side plate, vintage silver glass bowl and nougat, as before. For similar bauble place card holder, try Etsy. For similar napkin rings, try Party Packs. For a similar cake stand, try Amazon. For similar biscuits, try Sainsbury's. For similar **roses**, try John Lewis. For a similar silver vase, try Brissi. For similar long-handled spoons, try eBay







# GET THE LOOK

Create a welcoming space for entertaining with these key pieces







# **↑ PERFECTLY POLISHED**

Simple sweets and biscuits look luxurious when served in a silver tiered cake stand

### **NOW WHITE**

Echo the flowers in your table bouquets by placing delicate paper roses at each place setting

# MOODBOARD MASTERCLASS Romantic chic

# **BUDS & BLOOMS**

Grace viscosemix fabric in 🜃 pale grape, £36 per m, Laura Ashley 🧼

**MATT FINISH** Chalk paint in

# **CREAMY HUE**

Wool-rich deluxe velvet carpet in mascarpone, £45 per sqm, John Lewis

This scheme is about combining calming neutrals with barely there mauves. Use feminine, patterned wallpaper as your starting point and pick out the darker tones and paint the main pieces of furniture in these. Finish with a thick carpet in a similar shade as the background.

# **5 of the best** WALLPAPERS

Choose finely detailed designs in subtle colours



**↑ LOVE HEARTS** 

Olivia Blush, £10 per 10m roll, Wilko



**† SHIMMERING LEAVES** 

Quod II Glace, £48 per 10m roll, Paper Moon



**↑ LARGE-SCALE PRINT** 

Madison Rose in soft grey, £16.99 per 10m roll, llovewallpaper



### **↑ DELICATE DAMASK**

Equus 250 CO2, £48 per 10m roll, Paper Moor



↑ TOUCH OF GLITTER

Sweet Cherry in white sparkle, £15.99 per 10m roll, Inspired Wallpaper











# Delicate CHARM

Combine different depths of grey with floral motifs and sparkling accessories for a soft and feminine living scheme



Be ready to welcome in the new year by setting up a tray of glasses, bubbles and sweet treats in advance for when the clock strikes midnight. Add a few silver baubles as well to provide some celebratory glitz







# \* WHERE TO BUY \*

PREVIOUS PAGES For similar wallpaper, try Spoonflower. For a similar chandelier, try Melody Maison. For a similar sofa, try Sofasworld. Velvet Belouga black cushion, £15.99, Maisons du Monde. For a similar round cushion and glass bowl try Dunelm. For a similar silver console table, try Wayfair. Paper wreaths, stylist's own. For similar bronze beads, try eBay. For a similar bonbon jar and baubles, try John Lewis. Antique silver glass tealight holder and mercurised glass candlestick, as before. For a similar rug, try Next Home. For a similar mercury bowl, goblet and glass

box, try Notonthehighstreet.com. For a similar brown notebook, try Hobbycraft. For a similar silver tray, try Wayfair. For similar script wrapping paper, try Marks & Spencer ON CONSOLE Glass bowl, £30, The White Company. For a similar bonbon jar, try John Lewis. For a similar selection of baubles, try Nkuku. For a similar silver lidded jar, try Maisons du Monde. For a similar tealight holder, try Waitrose Garden. Silver picture frames, from £1.40 each, Tesco. For a similar teardrop decoration, try Nkuku. For similar hanging hearts, try Dunelm. For a similar snowflake bauble, try John Lewis. For a similar peacock

decoration, try eBay THIS PAGE Beregere screen, £269, The Blue Goose. Rochelle French armchair, £395, Within Home.
Angel wings, £35, Cox. & Cox. For similar cushions, try Dunelm. For similar boxes, try Paperchase. Ribbons, from a selection, Hobbycraft. For similar cards, notebook, and gift tags, try Papermash. For a similar photo album, try Paperchase. For similar hanging decorations, try Sainsbury's TRY THIS TWIST Alistair seat, £745; fox cushion, £8; emerald velvet cushion, £8; Emerald cushion, £7; damask cushion, £8; barn candle holder, £8; decoration from a selection, all George Home





# GET THE LOOK

Furniture and accessories to add sophistication to your interiors





← PRETTY **STORAGE** Set of two Josette dove grey boxes, £25, Laura Ashley



# TRY THIS TWIST... Moody blue

For a more masculine take on this look, try introducing dark denim shades through the use of paint and furniture. Opt for cosy wool-upholstered seating, twinkly fairy lights and sprigs of evergreens for a festive touch. Finish by adding a pop of

electric blue behind grey cushions to lift the scheme.



 $\rightarrow$  FEATHER LIGHT

Eos lamp, £160, Nunido

Vita Copenhagen

← STYLISH SHAPE

Sark chair in rustic herringbone, £750, Sofa.com



Stylist's note

This look is about combining contrasting fabrics and materials – soft velvet

with ruffled chiffon, shining mercury glassware with aged parchment papers – to create a luxurious and textured effect'

Ali Lovett, Style Editor

# 5 of the best FABRICS

Pick designs with a slight Gallic twist



### **↑ BLOSSOM MOTIF**

Natural Mariella cotton in natural, £9.99 per m, Dunelm



### **† RUSTIC ROSES**

Emmeline cotton/linen mix in grey, £24 per m, Annie Sloan



### **↑ CHIC SCROLLS**

French vintage cherub combed cotton, £17.05 per yard, Zazzle



## **↑ MANICURED GARDEN**

Topiary linen in charcoal, £21 per m, Just Fabrics



Clarke & Clarke Manuscript linen, £14.50 per m, The Millshop



**آموزشگاه انعکاس منبع جدیدترین اطلاعات ، مقالات و دورههای آموزشی دکوراسیون داخلی**  Enekas.Academy **©** Enekas.Academy



FEATURE JESSICA TAVERNER PHOTOGRAPHS MARK SCOT











### MAKE GUESTS FEEL AT HOME Invest in cosy new duvets,

pillows and bedspreads, display them in a cabinet and encourage visitors to use to whatever they need - simple and effective.

Sealy Select range, from £12.99 for a pillow,







### How to: create a retreat

- If a guest is staying for more than a night, providing them with a peaceful and snug place to escape from festive celebrations is a thoughtful touch. Begin by zoning off their area with a rug next to a fireplace or sunny window.
- Next, add a comfortable armchair with a cosy cushion and warming throw for practical decoration and a useful side table for drinks and snacks.
- Finish with a selection of books and board games to provide entertainment.

Croft Collection Melrose armchair, £949; reindeer cushion, £20; Croft Collection snowshill rug, £200; Articulate board game, £28.30, all John Lewis



# 3 OF THE BEST dinner sets



← OMBRE EFFECT Marble blue 16-piece dinner set, £39, Very

### → FESTIVE SPARKLE

Monsoon 16-piece filigree silver dinner set, Denby



← DECO
DESIGN
Decadence
12-piece
dinner set,
£45, Next
Home







### SPEND AN AFTERNOON ON AN

# easy update

Simple decorating and DIY projects can be finished in a matter of hours, without the need for a big overhaul. From paint and wallpaper to storage and flexible furniture, try these easy ideas to add interest to any room.



### How to: create a pop-up bar

- If you're throwing a New Year's Eve party, an area to serve drinks from is a must. Start by painting a small wall in on-trend midnight blue (try Farrow & Ball's drawing room blue).
- Add a brass-coloured trolley (for similar, try Oliver Bonas) and fill its shelves with cocktail shakers and Art Deco-inspired champagne coupes (for similar, try Next Home).
- Finish by decorating behind your bar with gold paper garlands, fans and balloons (for similar, try Meri Meri).

Star lights, from £25 each; Biba gold ice bucket and tong set, £45; set of four Linea margarita glasses, £35; Living by Christiane Lemieux metal tray, £48; Biba gold cocktail shaker, £25; gold and white nutcrackers, £25 each, all House of Fraser



















### <u>IN A WEEKEND CREATE A</u>

# new look

It's amazing what you can achieve in just a couple of days when you have a simple-but-effective update in mind. Get your home ready for the new year with these easy decorating projects that will make any space magical.









### How to: restyle a bathroom

■ First, update your tiles: if they are in good condition, try using a black grout pen (try Amazon) to revive what's there. If not, re-grout in a dark colour.
■ Revamp a cast-iron tub by painting the underside in a deep grey shade.
Prepare the surface by sanding down with emery paper, de-grease with a

cloth dipped in white spirit, then apply

an oil-based metal primer (try B&Q). Brush on two coats of metal paint, following the instructions on the tin.

■ Finish with industrial-inspired accessories – wire baskets and lettering

Soap dispensers, from £6.99 each; tumblers, £4.99 each; wire word, £6.99; small wire basket, £6.99, all Dunelm

spelling out appropriate words work well.

















### Gilded balloons

Try this clever twist for a table with wow factor

- Fill large balloons with helium to use as a table centrepiece or to tie to chair backs. For place settings, half-fill smaller white balloons.
- Apply PVA glue to the bases of some of the large balloons and lay on sheets of gold foil paper (try Hobbycraft) with your fingers.
- Finish by tying on curls of gold metallic ribbon to some of the balloons, and attach the others to wine glasses acting as weights.

## Gold leaf look

Layer up the foil so that it starts to peel away in places – it adds to the decoration's hand-finished effect



### Perfect presents

Have beautifully wrapped favours waiting at place settings for family and friends

- Take several sheets of tissue paper or gift wrap in assorted colours or patterns. You could also try creating your own designs, by stamping on motifs or drawing them freehand.
- 2 Cut to various shapes and sizes small squares or rectangles and then lay
- them out on a flat surface, fitting the pieces together like a jigsaw puzzle.
- Use decorative washi tape (try MT tape) to fix them together, to create a patchwork effect. Now use this to wrap a small gift – a mini box of chocolates or sweets works well.







# Light-bulb baubles

Transform these ordinary objects into tree decorations

Take a mixture of glass screw-in lightbulbs of different shapes and sizes and ensure they are clean and free of dust. Colour some with matt black spray paint (try Cass Art), using masking tape to protect the screw end. You may opt to keep others as they are, especially if the glass is frosted.

Use PVA glue (try Hobbycraft) to stick on an assortment of sequins, glitter and beads (try John Lewis) over the bulbs. Allow to dry overnight.

Twist fine copper wire around the bases to create loops for hanging.

### Colour scheme

Stick to a black, white and gold palette for a striking result





### Make a mini bar

Serve drinks in style by decanting mixers

Collect and clean different shaped glass bottles (or for assorted new designs, try lkea) and fill with lemonades, spritzers, tonics and juices.
Write a label for each drink, using a gold pen on white card. Trim to size and make a hole in one corner. Tie to each bottle with festive ribbon.

Group bottles together so guests can serve themselves.



**↑ BURNISHED GLOW** 

Cosmic shimmer fabric paint in antique copper, £3.69 per 50ml, Craftasmic



↑ SPARKLING FINISH
Rust-Oleum glitter paint in silver,
£4.99 per 125ml, Homebase













### Tin-can lanterns

For a special finishing touch to your celebrations, these simple tealight holders look stunning displayed in groups

Remove the labels and wash six or more empty tin cans of different sizes. Spray the outsides in copper or gold paint (try Plastikote) in a well-ventilated area. Alternatively, brush with acrylic paint. Leave to dry.

Using different widths of nails, carefully hammer holes into the cans. Focus the openings near

the bottom of the cans where the candlelight will glow through.

Finish with metallic and glitter washi tape (try Papermash) and glue on sequins. Place tealights at the bottom of the cans and arrange on a heatproof surface. To hang, make holes either side of the top of a lantern and tie on thin copper wire.



### FOR MORE

See Decorate for a Party by Holly Becker and Leslie Shewring, £20, Jacqui Small





# WIN A LEISURE RANGE COOKER

Give your kitchen a new-year update with this stylish model, worth £1,449



eat the January blues by taking your culinary skills to the next level with Leisure's stylish model – the Cuisinemaster CS100D510. Boasting a five-zone induction hob, three ovens, a traditional grill cavity and a slow-cooker function, the Cuisinemaster gives you the confidence to create restaurant-style food in your own kitchen. There's also a handy programmable timer on the main oven for when you're preparing multiple dishes, so whether you're making the midweek family meal or hosting a dinner party, it makes it easier to cook up a feast.

There are many reasons why people are switching to cooking with induction – with

more heat intensity and faster cooking high on the list. The Cuisinemaster's induction technology uses magnets to give the same power as a gas cooker, but with better energy efficiency, as it only heats up the pan rather than the cooking surface. With its stainless-steel finish and chrome handles, this Leisure range cooker also offers a striking design, guaranteed to complement any kitchen.

The ultimate in low maintenance, it also incorporates the latest easy-clean features, such as cook-clean catalytic liners, which are treated with a special coating to absorb grease and burn it off when the oven is used at high temperatures – giving you more time

to concentrate on honing your culinary skills rather than arduous cleaning. **Leisure leisurecooker.co.uk** 

### **HOW TO ENTER**

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# Creating a FESTIVE REAL HOME

Take your cue from these imaginative properties, packed with inspiration and clever ideas for you to try





'EVERYONE JOINS US TO CELEBRATE'

Karen Moore's seaside bungalow



'THIS HOUSE IS SO COSY IN WINTER'

Heather Burton's rural self-build

















### HOUSE DETAILS

**HOMEOWNERS** Jo Rutt, who owns homeware shop Nickel & Goose, and husband Simon, who runs a consultancy business and a bicycle sales company, Once Ridden FAMILY William, 16, Harry, 12, and Cassie the Labrador

LOCATION Bushey, Hertfordshire

**PROPERTY** Four-bedroom extended mid-terrace cottage **QUICK BUDGET BREAKDOWN** 

Loft extension

building work £35,000 **Bathrooms** £13,500 **Furniture** £9,000 Carpentry £4,500 Decorating £9,500

**Stripped floorboards** £900

**TOTAL** £72,400 PURCHASE PRICE

£340,000

OUTLAY TO DATE

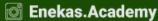
£72,400

VALUED NOW AT £570,000











### **← ACCENT HUE**

Neutral cream sofas are dotted with berry-red cushions from Habitat and Linum in patterns and textures that add to the festive feel

### → STUDY SPOT

An antique table and chair from Jo's interiors shop form a writing area in the snug. The canvas is by her sister-in-law, artist Philly Rutt

### **∀ WARM** WELCOME

Cassie, the family's much-loved Labrador, takes a break at the foot of the stairs, ready to greet guests



Utility





**↑ FIRST FLOOR** 

### **↑ VIEW THE FLOORPLAN**

The hall leads to a snug and living-dining room, with a kitchen and utility at the back. Three bedrooms and a bathroom are on the first floor. The loft houses the master suite

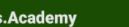
















### **↑ VINTAGE TOUCHES**

To bring personality to the galley kitchen, Jo added characterful accessories, such as the post office sign and wooden shelves

### **← SOCIABLE SETTING**

Open-plan to the living area, this informal space provides a place for the family to relax - and wrap last-minute presents

aving outgrown their London flat, Jo and Simon Rutt's move to their characterful new home in Bushey, Hertfordshire, began with some invaluable local knowledge. 'My sister had noticed that a pretty cottage had come up for sale on the next road to her,' Jo explains. 'She persuaded me to take a look. And as soon as I walked up the path, peered through the letterbox and saw the original cast-iron fireplace in the hall, I was sold.'

Pleasingly, the rest of the interior lived up to that positive first impression: 'It had previously been a rental property,' Jo explains, 'but it was still in good condition, with many of the original features intact.' Convinced it was the home for them, the Rutts put in a successful offer and sold their flat. 'We moved in when our youngest son, Harry, was six months old.'

Once settled, the top of Jo and Simon's to-do list was to replace the dated boiler in the dining room with a more efficient combi model, which they installed in the utility room next to the kitchen. The biggest improvement began five years ago, however, as they decided to extend the loft and >

### IDEAS TO STEAL

Take a leaf out of Jo's book and try a pared-back Christmas scheme



**† CHOOSE STACKABLE CHAIRS** 

Modern designs that can be stored away are ideal for unexpected guests



**† GO GREEN** 

An easy seasonal option, eucalyptus will last up to two weeks in water



**† ADD COLOUR AND TEXTURE** 

Make a guest room more cosy with pillows and throws in seasonal hues







update the family bathroom. Fortunately, for a major job such as this, the disruption and mess was minimal. 'The builders finished the job in six weeks,' says Jo. 'One of their greatest achievements was seamlessly matching the original balustrades on the new staircase that leads up to the loft space.'

The master bedroom is now a tranquil retreat with powder-blue walls and floor-to-ceiling cupboards, hidden from view behind the door. 'I didn't want to see rows of wardrobes,' Jo explains. 'I'm constantly moving furniture, objects and artwork around and I find it easier to live with neutral backgrounds and allow colour to come from accessories. For instance, the mahogany chest of drawers is a great focal point against the blue walls and white-painted wood.'

For the spacious family bathroom, Jo and Simon selected green tiles as a contrast to the traditional white and ceramic and chrome-finish fixtures and fittings, and installed practical black slate flooring.

Indeed, thanks to Jo's talent for finding retro homewares, antiques and upcycling furniture, the couple's cottage has interesting touches in every corner, complemented by colourful abstracts by her sister-in-law, artist Philly Rutt. I have a passion for vintage and spend my weekends at flea markets and antique fairs to treasure-hunt for both my shop and the house,' Jo says. 'Many of my favourite finds are from local car-boot sales and house clearances.'

With the loft conversion now completed, the Rutts plan to turn their attention to the kitchen. 'I still see the house as evolving,' Jo admits, 'so it's very much a fantastic work in progress. We recently saw the amazing extended space in our neighbour's home, so now we want to do the same and open up the back of the property to enlarge the kitchen.'

This Christmas will be spent at Simon's father's home, affectionately known as Rutt HQ. 'We have a large extended family,' explains Jo, 'so this time of the year is always busy, with plenty of fun to be had. Simon's stepmother Sandy is an incredible cook and the days are filled with good food, champagne, games and plenty of festive cheer and laughter. And after all the celebrations, our lovely cottage is the perfect place to come back to and unwind.' GH

### ↑ HINTS OF FIR

The metal bed and vintage dresser are given a cheery Christmas nod with hanging bundles of pine and berries







### → ON THE TILES

Jo created an on-trend design for the revamped family bathroom, opting for a tub with a shower to maximize space







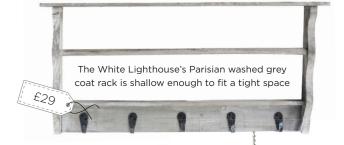
on Christmas Eve?













 ∠ Live Laugh Love's suspended heart tealight holder emits a warm glow

### Luxury touch





↑ Sass & Belle's hanging heart tealight holder would work well outdoors, too



Price patrol

 ${\it Mix eclectic patterns with neutral pieces that have a subtle coastal vibe}$ 



→ Walls and Floors' Hotel de Ville smooth crackle metro tiles in green have a vintage feel





purchase, Spode's blue Italian oval platter features a 18th-century countryside scene

← An heirloom

← Create an uplifting look with the vibrant green of Fired Earth's Retro Metro crackle glaze tiles in lime

£112













### ← PARTY TIME

Freshly decorated in Karen's favoured Nordic scheme, the table is ready for guests to arrive

### → CLEAN LINES

An ingenious and thrifty idea, cupboard doors are painted in matt grey and affixed to inexpensive carcasses from Ikea



# HOUSE DETAILS

### **HOMEOWNERS**

Karen Moore and husband Peter, who works in photography FAMILY Charlie, 18, and Elsie the Labrador LOCATION Burnham Market, north Norfolk PROPERTY Three-bedroom Sixties bungalow QUICK BUDGET BREAKDOWN
Building work

 & materials
 £46,500

 Kitchen
 £1,500

 Bathrooms
 £1,000

 Windows
 £10,000

 Decoration
 £1,000

TOTAL £60,000

£143,000 OUTLAY TO DATE £60,000 VALUED £450,000







### **↓ SEASON'S GREETINGS**

On the front door, a berry wreath highlights a frosted window pane bearing the name of the couple's bungalow



### ← VIEW THE FLOORPLAN

The bungalow comprises a living room, kitchen-diner, three bedrooms and two bathrooms









hen Karen Moore's husband Peter bought her a beach hut at Wells-next-the-Sea in Norfolk for their 20th wedding anniversary

15 years ago, she couldn't have imagined their next big purchase would be a weekend seaside property. 'We came for a holiday when our son Charlie was a baby and fell in love with the pine-fringed stretch of sand with the brightly coloured wooden huts,' she reminisces. 'I never dreamed I would be lucky enough to own one – let alone have a home here.'

After a year of renovating their hideaway at weekends while staying at guest houses and hotels, the couple decided to buy a place of their own to live in while visiting. The only property within their budget was in Burnham Market – 'an unattractive Sixties bungalow with boxy rooms and tiny windows,' Karen recalls. But after seeing a New England-style

makeover of a similar residence and realising the possibilities this house could hold, Karen and Peter took the plunge and made a successful offer.

The pair had plenty of ideas to make the most of their new coastal bolthole, soon to be christened Saltwater. The main priority was opening up the space by removing internal walls and maximising the light by installing huge floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors in every room. Garish carpets from the time the bungalow was built were torn up and replaced with understated, pale laminate flooring. 'By unifying the colour of the floor and the walls we made the interiors appear much bigger,' Karen says, 'we then added light-coloured furnishings and plenty of mirrors, all within a very tight budget.'

The kitchen – 'a Formica horror' – was ripped out. Practical rather than precious about her welcoming holiday home, Karen designed a simple Shaker-style kitchen, using basic carcasses from Ikea with MDF doors made to measure by a local joiner. 'The space >

### **↑ SEASIDE CHIC**

In the living room, a driftwood coffee table and artwork by a local photographer reference the house's coastal setting







# NOEL

### **↑ RUSTIC LOOK**

This wood burner with two viewing panes provides a warming focal point in the living room

### ← MUTED MIX

Floating shelves are decorated with an array of white and silver accessories for an understated look

### IDEAS TO STEAL

Try Karen's innovative seasonal touches in your festive schemes



↑ KEEP PRESENTS TIDY
Organise gifts in fun printed sacks
and keep your floor uncluttered



↑ ADORN A TABLE WITH FRUIT Rosy pomegranates look beautiful in a traditional red-and-white setting



↑ CREATE A PORTABLE DISPLAY A lightweight tray table can be moved around easily if necessary













has to be robust enough to withstand a constant barrage of children, dogs and visitors,' she explains, 'and painted cupboards can be touched up easily.'

All the appliances and fixtures came from sales: the Belfast sink, for example, was a discontinued line. Worktops were made to match the flooring and Karen chose a secondhand glass-topped table to keep the dining space bright. A large, cork-framed mirror is a focal point of the open-plan living-dining area, along with a seascape photograph on aluminium by artist Harry Cory Wright, who has a studio nearby. 'We fell in love with it, despite our budget,' says Karen.

The furniture in this room was also chosen to maximise the space for visitors. 'We have so many friends to stay that I chose two double sofabeds, with matching ottomans that provide extra seating and store toys and games for wet, windy days,' says Karen. The versatile Indonesian rail sleeper coffee table, from Emily Readett-Bayley, moonlights as a bench seat, complete with custom-made cushion.

Two double bedrooms and a bathroom can be accessed from the hallway, off the living room. ▶

### ↑ SUBTLE COLOURS

Textured white fabrics, natural materials and muted blue tones bring a restful vibe to this guest bedroom

### ← SOFT GLOW

A real Christmas tree by the front door and lots of twinkling tealights give guests a festive welcome







### ← LUXURY FEEL

Tall candlesticks in mercury glass, white and nickel add an elegant twist to the Moores' bathroom

### → SCANDI VIBE

Red accents in this predominantly white bedroom contribute an instant burst of festive energy

### **↓ FRESH AIR**

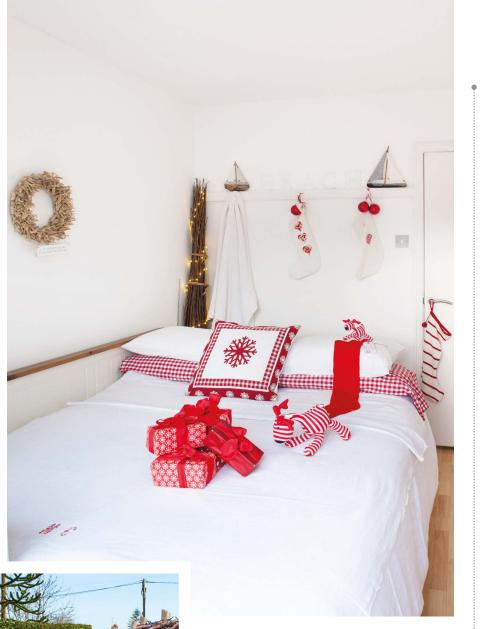
The decked area is a popular place for gathering with a warming glass of mulled wine or cocoa











A further Jack-and-Jill bathroom links the master suite with Charlie's bedroom. The couple made these additions by converting the adjoining garage.

'I love coming to Saltwater for the Christmas and New Year holidays,' says Karen, who decorates her home-from-home for the festive season in a Nordic-style palette of white with a dash of scarlet. A real tree fills the air with the scent of fresh pine and a roaring log burner adds to the cosy feel. A beautiful driftwood trinket tree lays flat against the wall and a third artificial, half-size tree, designed for small spaces, fits snugly into a corner of the living room. Stockings for Santa to fill hang from beds, wreaths decorate walls, presents are bagged up in jolly sacks and an abundance of flickering candles and tealights creates a warm, inviting atmosphere.

'We usually gather here with a big party of family and friends,' Karen says. 'About 20 of us – plus the dogs – meet at the beach hut first, drinking hot chocolate and mulled wine.' After an invigorating walk, they all retire to Saltwater, light the fire and put their feet up. 'At Christmas, it's usually bright but bracing, blue skies and white sands – our coastal retreat is my favourite place in the world.' GH

### IDEAS TO STEAL

Nature-themed updates will enhance your festive schemes



↑ GIVE TWIGS A TWIST

Driftwood branches around a mirror are a good place to hang baubles



↑ COMBINE FAUX & REAL

Juxtapose white winter florals with a row of authentic-looking LED candles



↑ PUT PINES INTO POTS

Trim a few sprigs from your Christmas tree to make a chic bathroom display











£80

← Add some glitz with Very's silver bauble wreath with LEDs

> → Tall and slim, Red Candy's wine glass in midnight red will bring colour to your table



← Provide extra surface space with the Aldsworth butler's tray table by Garden Trading

£9.90

### Luxury touch

→ Handmade from individual glass pieces, Nkuku's Chintu garland is a heirloom item



chunky cut Amara's Victoria & Albert high wine glass in red has a quality feel



→ Loaf's Tray Away console would work well in a hallway, covered in festive trinkets £225

Price patrol

# GET KAREN'S LOOK

Classic red and gleaming silver make for a sophisticated scheme





tree is

brilliant if

you're on

a budget

£30

Low-maintenance,

The London Tile Co's Calacatta gloss bevelled porcelain tile looks realistic







# WINA LUXURY BED

We're giving one lucky reader the chance to update their space with a gorgeous upholstered design, worth £695



SIMPLY STYLISH Gentle curves and clean lines make the Retro Tube II a sophisticated choice



To be in with a chance of winning a Retro Tube II double bed, visit goodhomesmagazine.com



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ombining traditional craftmanship with modern design, online retailer Bedmonkey appreciates the importance of a good night's sleep. Specialising in innovative and bespoke British-made beds and mattresses, the Yorkshire-based company also sells from its impressive showroom, offering customers a chance to try before they buy with a 14-night, hassle-free return service.

Having spent more than 40 years designing and manufacturing quality beds and mattresses, Bedmonkey's stylish range offers nine designs in 12 luxurious fabrics. From the gentle curves and clean lines of the modern Retro Tube II that we're giving away, to the deep-buttoned headboard seen in the classic Chesterfield design, each and every product is handmade to perfection.

Customers can also create a bed tailored to their lifestyle with clever storage options and solid-wood finishes. In addition, the brand's luxurious pocket-sprung mattresses combine two new technologies, innovative Zero Gravity® foam and Outlast® temperature-regulating textiles, specifically created to provide unrivalled comfort.

Bedmonkey is proud to be a member of the National Bed Federation, and is fast becoming known as an honestly priced bed shop that puts customers' needs first. Bedmonkey 01924 469993;

bedmonkey.com

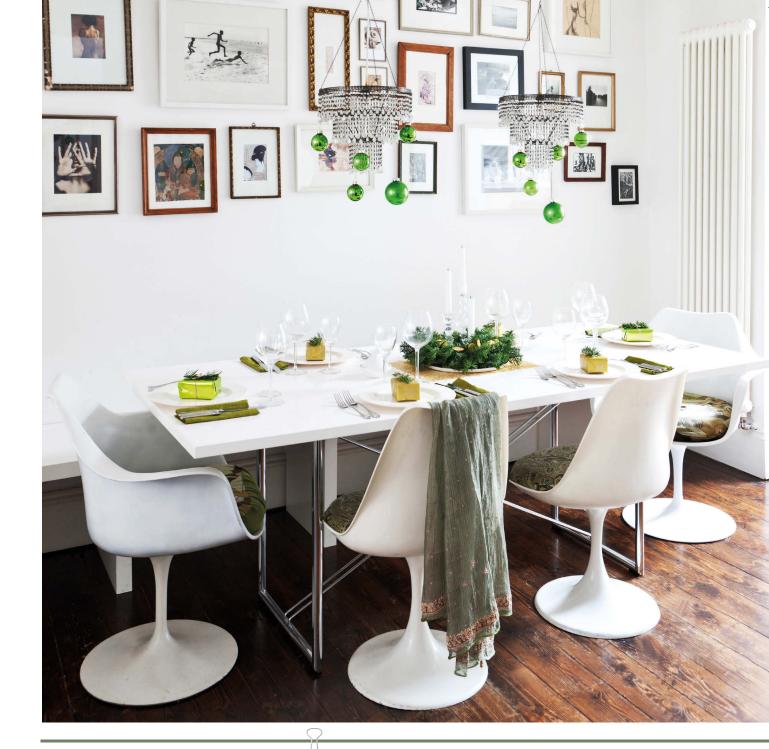














# HOUSE DETAILS

#### **HOMEOWNERS**

Interior stylist Shani Zion and her husband Jake Fitzjones, a photographer AGES 49 and 53 FAMILY Marla, 19 LOCATION Camden, London PROPERTY Victorian terraced house, built in 1901 QUICK BUDGET BREAKDOWN Kitchen £10,000

 Kitchen
 £10,000

 Bathroom
 £8,000

 Shower room
 £3,000

 Loft extension
 £20,000

 Building costs
 £30,000

TOTAL £71,000

PURCHASE PRICE £450,000

OUTLAY TO DATE £71,000

YALUED £1.1M







#### $\leftarrow$ SOCIAL SPACE

Sixties-style chairs give the living-dining area a retro feel, while an eclectic selection of framed pictures add personality

#### $\rightarrow$ LINE UP

To maximise space, the radiator hangs vertically, enabling the sideboard to be positioned flush against the wall

# **∠ INDIVIDUAL** FLOURISHES

Shani accessorises her understated festive dining table with hand-wrapped gifts for her guests

#### **↓ VIEW THE FLOORPLAN**

The ground floor's living room leads on to the kitchen-diner. There's a large family bathroom on the first floor, together with the master suite. The second floor houses a guest



 $\uparrow$  ground floor  $\uparrow$  first floor  $\uparrow$  second floor

↑ ATTIC





# IDEAS TO STEAL

Adapt Shani's styling tricks to give your home some Yuletide magic



↑ ADORN CHANDELIERS

Hang baubles from light fittings for a simple-yet-effective update



**† ADD LUXE MATERIALS** 

Use silk ribbon and scarves when wrapping presents for added impact



**↑ ILLUMINATE A BANISTER** 

Incorporate battery-powered fairy lights into your hallway decorations











# ← TIDY & TIMELESS

Designed by a friend, the kitchen cabinetry is matched by shelves that store all-white and glass crockery

#### **尽 VINTAGE VIBE**

Shani collects old advertising postcards wherever she travels, which she then adds to this distinctive hallway display

or interiors stylist Shani Zion, renovating her own family home can feel like a busman's holiday. 'I see so many design influences in my job, and I can appreciate them all,' she explains, 'so when it comes to our house, I frequently find it hard to stick to one idea.' Fortunately, the decorating process is also a labour of love and, over the years, Shani has been able to distil her favourite elements into her own distinct look. T've developed this eclectic, vintagemeets-modern aesthetic. It's about comfort and happiness and great family memories,' she says.

The house in question is a beautiful, light-filled Victorian property on one of Camden's more tranquil streets. Purchased soon after their daughter Marla, now 19, took her first steps, it was Shani and husband Jake's first family home. 'We were smitten with the area, so when this place came up for sale we just bought it, as fast as possible,' she recalls.

Although it had already been converted back into a single dwelling after decades of being rented out as flats, the renovations were not of a high standard. 'Nothing seemed built to last,' Shani recalls. 'The flooring was horrid, the kitchen flimsy

and it only had one poky bathroom. There were too many doors and little character. But the bedrooms were a good size, the interior was bright, and it had a tiny little patio out back that was full of potential.'

Taking it slow and steady, the couple renovated the four-storey property over a number of years. Tackling the downstairs first, they removed doors and widened entrances on the ground floor to create an open-plan, sociable living space and installed a new designer kitchen. Next, Shani sacrificed one of the guest bedrooms to create a new large family bathroom – and the gamble paid off, as it's now her favourite room in the house. More recently, they converted the attic space into a retreat for Marla and updated what used to be the home's only bathroom into a shower room for her use.

Increasing the sense of flow between the living areas has had a lasting effect on how the family live, especially at this time of year. 'Our home is ideal for entertaining and cooking all together, especially over the festive season,' says Shani. 'The long bench seat and big table in the dining zone means we can easily accommodate 10 to 12 people for Christmas dinner.'

The galley-style kitchen, which leads from the dining space, was created by long-term friend and **>** 







kitchen designer Oliver Peake. 'It's 10 years old now,' says Shani, 'but everything he did is still perfect – and hasn't dated. It works like a dream.' Although she admits open shelving isn't practical if you don't like cleaning, Shani's happy to get the duster out in order to display her beautiful white crockery, which she collected from car-boot sales, markets and antique shops. 'Everything is within arm's reach, which speeds up cooking,' she adds.

Shani has always had a frugal approach to decorating and was busy upcycling furniture and fittings long before it was made fashionable by the Kirstie Allsopp effect. I don't think interiors need to cost that much,' she says. 'Everything expensive or designer can be sourced affordably. Quite a few of our pieces have been salvaged from skips or rescued from collection by the bin men.'

Ikea also features in every room. 'I don't really believe in spending money for its own sake,' Shani adds. 'By adding personal touches to off-the-shelf furniture – perhaps changing the knobs or handles

on a cabinet or repainting a table, for example – you can give it far more character and personality.'

Another key trick in Shani's repertoire is to think plain and simple when it comes to major pieces, such as sofas and dining furniture. This approach comes into its own during the Christmas period: 'I love to change the colour and style of our festive decorations every year,' she explains, 'and because the walls and main furnishings are mostly whites and creams, I can vary the look very easily.'

This time, Shani has gone for mossy greens and golds to match her recently purchased cushions, but she's tried nearly every combination of hues over the years. 'When buying baubles I go for quantity over quality so I can add lots of colour without blowing the budget for Christmas presents,' she laughs.

Nearly two decades on, Shani is still enchanted by the home she has created. 'On Christmas Day, I light the fire in the living room to make it cosy, invite the family around, and count my blessings that we live in such a lovely, happy house.' GH

#### ↑ BRIGHT & AIRY

Located at the front of the property, the master bedroom is flooded with sunshine in the mornings

#### 

This statement wall was created using Dulux's rich bowler hat matt emulsion

#### → CALM SPACE

The couple sacrificed a guest bedroom in order to create a large family bathroom





FEATURE LINDA CLAYTON/GAP INTERIORS PHOTOGRAPHS JAKE FITZJONES/GAP INTERIORS





# ONE SIMPLE CHANGE

#### REPURPOSE A VINTAGE LADDER

Stylish and practical, an old-fashioned wooden design with well-spaced rungs is perfect for keeping towels at arm's reach after a bath or shower. Search for one at your local reclamation yard and sand it down well before staining in a dark colour to contrast with muted grey walls. Alternatively, for a modern version, try Sweetpea & Willow.













£290

basin a

streamlined

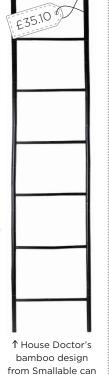
aesthetic

# GET SHANI'S LOOK

Fresh whites and mossy greens with vintage touches create a stylish space

£99





hold lots of towels

↑ Oka's towel ladder could also be used to hang accessories from

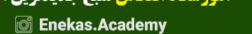




FEATURE JOANNA THORNHILI







# This house is so cosy in winter'

Heather Burton is delighted with the warm, seasonal look she's given her Georgian-style home in York













#### **HOMEOWNERS**

Heather Burton, a writer and artist, and her husband David, a photographer FAMILY Grown-up daughters, Hannah and Kate LOCATION York PROPERTY Four-bedroom, detached house, built in 1998 **QUICK BUDGET BREAKDOWN** 

Kitchen extension £60,000 Utility £2,000 Bathrooms £8,000 Wood-burning fire £2,500 Joinery £5,000 Flooring £3,000 **Furniture** £7,000 £3,000 Decorating

TOTAL £90,500









#### ← BRIGHT SPACE

Light flows into the living room through double doors into the hall. The table in the corner was given by a neighbour who was going to throw it out

#### **↓ QUIET NOOK**

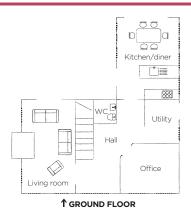
Black-and-white family photographs and artwork by Heather's mum are framed and grouped together over a bench seat in the hallway

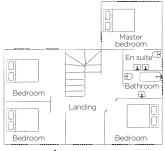


PURCHASE PRICE £130,000

**OUTLAY TO DATE** £90,500

VALUED NOW AT £475,000





**† FIRST FLOOR** 

#### **↑VIEW THE FLOORPLAN**

The living room, office and utility lead off the ground-floor hall, with the kitchendiner at the back. Upstairs, there are four bedrooms - one en suite - and a bathroom











hen Heather and Dave Burton built their house it included everything they thought they could possibly want: a rural location, room

for a growing family and lots of light and space. But they soon realised the property would have to evolve along with them. 'No matter how much time you spend on planning the design and build, there is always room for improvement,' says Heather. 'You have to live in it for a while before you begin to appreciate both its strengths and weaknesses.'

When the house was constructed in 1998 the kitchen was half its current size and had a large island and breakfast bar in the middle of it. There was a small office on the ground floor and a long, narrow utility, along with a dining room and separate living area. It suited us well at first but I was working from home and as the business grew we needed a bigger office,' says Heather. 'Dave and I decided to move it into the dining room, which was only used on special occasions, and put the table in the kitchen. It was a bit of a squash, but it ▶







# ↑ AMPLE STORAGE

For an unfitted look, the Burtons designed bespoke cupboards and added units from Kutchenhaus

#### **NOPEN PLAN**

The kitchen was extended to create more space. Roof lights and bi-fold doors on to the garden add to the roomy, relaxed feel

#### ← ARTISTIC IDEA

Heather made the 3D city scene to fit the wall space. She bought the table, chair and crate from fairs and charity shops

# IDEAS TO STEAL

Look to Heather's home for simple seasonal touches



↑ CREATE CITRUS BAUBLES

Cut slices into oranges and dry them out in the oven on a very low heat



#### **† UPGRADE YOUR NAPKINS**

Patterned linen can be used year after year for a sense of occasion



#### **↑ CUSTOMISE SANTA SACKS**

Decorate inexpensive hessian bags with felt shapes and use to store gifts





# IDEAS TO STEAL

Discover new ways to refresh your interiors for the season



**† HANG A HALLWAY MIRROR** Check your appearance quickly and easily before heading out to parties



**↑ MAXIMISE STORAGE SPACE** Even a small area can be utilised with the help of a corner cabinet



**† MAKE FIREWOOD A FEATURE** Showcase the beauty of cut timber by stacking logs either side of a stove



served its purpose,' says Heather. 'Then we had to work out what to do with the old office.' It was a tiny space and had many uses - as a guest bedroom, a hobby studio, a laundry and as storage - until the couple decided to knock down a wall to create a much larger utility. 'We wondered why we hadn't thought of it sooner,' remembers Heather. 'It was much better use of the space and really opened up the ground floor. We then realised that we could do something similar with the kitchen.'

So the Burtons asked a friend, a local builder and joiner, to build a single-storey extension that almost doubled the size of the room, creating an open-plan living area with bi-fold doors opening on to the garden. It completely transformed the house and gave us a large, light family kitchen where we now spend most of our time,' says Heather. 'It's made a huge difference to the look and feel of the space. Now it's more like a garden room with lots of light pouring in during the day, whatever the weather.'

#### **↑ ROSY GLOW**

Daughter Hannah chose a soft pink and white scheme for her bedroom and left the floorboards uncovered to add texture and contrast









In recent years Heather and Dave have also had the family bathroom refitted, bespoke cupboards built in the main rooms and a wood-burning fire installed in the living area. They've had new carpets upstairs, redecorated several times and gradually updated furniture to create a light, spacious and contemporary feel. Earlier this year, the couple also modernised their en suite with Scandi-look wood panelling.

'We don't have a particular style, but the house has changed dramatically as we've grown into it,' says Heather. 'It's hardly recognisable from what we first built. We used to have lots of pine cupboards, terracotta floor tiles, assorted bright colours and a mish-mash of furniture. Now it's decorated in layers of neutral tones with lots of natural textiles, unusual accessories, pictures and mirrors.'

'We have a lot of things which have been passed down the family, too' explains Heather. 'We like a combination of antiques and family mementos that hold their own stories, and modern things ▶



#### **↑ DARK PANELS**

Dave designed the bathroom to include feature wall tiles on the cupboard doors and behind the mirror of the basin unit

#### ← CALM ZONE

Heather's artwork fills the walls of the single guest bedroom, which is furnished in a timeless style







that keep the house up to date. I'm a bit of a collector – I love simple things with some history, natural textures and elegant shapes. Every so often I have a clear-out just to keep the schemes evolving. It doesn't take much to change the look of a space.'

Christmas gives Heather the perfect excuse for such an update: with a tree from a local farm in the living room and another in the kitchen, she decorates the ground floor with laurel, ivy and holly picked from their garden, adding baubles collected over the years and seasonal touches at the dining table. 'We like the house to be lived in,' says Heather.

'The more friends and family who come round over Christmas, the better. But it's also a very peaceful, cosy place when it's just the two of us. Now the girls have moved away, we've converted one of the bedrooms into an art studio, so the house never really stands still.'

Although their love of this ever-evolving home is clear, Heather and Dave say they would build again if the opportunity arose. 'It's exciting to design your own home,' says Heather. 'We've learned a lot from this property and there are lots of design ideas we would include again – but no matter what we built, we would still expect it to change with the times.' GH

#### **↑ SOFT SPOT**

Heather and Dave wanted their superking bed to work with the dimensions of the large room

#### → RUSTIC TWIST

The en suite was recently transformed with painted tongueand-groove panelling











# Good choice



↑ Introduce a splash of seasonal green with the Indulgence shaggy rug from Dunelm

Wickes' durable matt emulsion in Earl Grey is a chic alternative to cream

The grey undertones of Fired Earth's matt emulsion in dowager still feel warm

Luxury touch



↑ With a deep, thick pile, The Rug Seller's Amazon in green feels wonderfully soft underfoot



# GET HEATHER'S LOOK

Contrast earthy tones and natural materials with flashes of festive gold









# Updating your KITCHEN & BATHROOM

Inspiring projects full of sleek solutions and bright ideas to transform your busiest rooms





**'WE LOVE TO ENTERTAIN'**A sociable space for family and friends was Abigail Lynn's aim



**'OUR EN SUITE IS HI-TECH'** Karen Hibbert has created the ultimate modern bathroom













# KITCHEN DETAILS

#### **HOMEOWNERS**

Janet Wattison and her husband, Peter, who run their own business

**LOCATION** Mold, North Wales

**PROPERTY** Traditional stone farmhouse, built in the 19th century

#### **COST OF NEW KITCHEN**

 Cabinetry & overmantel
 £14,800

 Worktops
 £3,700

 Appliances
 £9,015

 Sink & taps
 £550

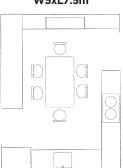
 Tiles
 £800

 Lighting
 £390

 Bespoke bench
 £285

TOTAL £29,540

#### SIZE OF ROOM W5xL7.5m









#### **WORK CARRIED OUT**

The layout was reworked and the tired country kitchen replaced with a modern interpretation that still retains its sociable feel



#### ↑ PERIOD STYLE

To preserve the space's traditional character, an overmantel was constructed around the range cooker

#### ← HIDDEN ASSETS

Stylish larder units house a generous pull-out food store and fridge freezer









hile Janet and Peter Wattison had lovingly renovated the majority of their period farmhouse and even extended into an adjoining barn, how to transform their kitchen proved elusive. It was the hub of our home, 'Janet says. 'Although the old country pine units and exposed brickwork were dark and dated, it was still the place where family and friends would gather, drawn by the warmth of the traditional range cooker and large, sociable table.' Understandably, the couple were concerned that a potential update might not recapture that cosy, welcoming feel that made the space so important.

It was only when a replacement range cooker was required that the Wattisons were finally prompted into decisive action: 'The range supplies all of our hot water and heating,' Janet explains, 'so a new installation was always going to be a fairly major operation. This presented us with the perfect opportunity to carry out any other work.'

Structurally, the room and layout were to remain more or less the same, although the couple did opt to remove a heavy brick surround and block up a redundant doorway in order to free-up space for extra units. However, Janet's new kitchen nearly didn't materialise - having set her heart on a modern interpretation of the existing scheme, she simply could not find anything that fitted the bill. I had

#### **† STARTING POINT**

Replacing the old range with a smart new black one spurred the rest of the renovation work



#### ↑ RETRO VIBE Wooden crates. Vincent & Barn

# IDEAS TO STEAL

Try out Janet's clever, practical finishing touches in your own home



#### **† INCORPORATE STORAGE**

Decorative details such as overmantel columns can double up as cupboards



#### **↑ TAKE A PEW**

Build a bench-style window seat to match your dining table and chairs



#### **† KEEP YOUR GREENS HANDY**

Store wicker drawers for vegetables by the sink for easy preparation





almost given up hope,' she confesses, 'when Peter spotted the De Novo showroom in Chester while driving home one evening. Soon after, we both paid it a visit and when I saw Burbidge's painted oak Shaker-style units, I knew I'd found my new kitchen.'

Janet was even more delighted to discover that the De Novo team was more than happy to work around her beloved table and chairs – which had originally been salvaged from the farmhouse's old dairy – and seemed undeterred by her request for incorporating a large flatscreen TV into the space. 'They also persuaded us to cover the beams to allow for better lighting,' she recalls, 'and when a waste pipe proved problematic they decided to simply step the larder units forward, making them a deliberate design element within the kitchen.'

The couple opted for pale units and walls to keep things bright and airy, teaming them with practical large-format porcelain floor tiles. Characterful details, such as the tongue-and-groove panelling, woven baskets and a striking overmantel, added the injection of country-cottage warmth Janet was longing for.

Fitting integrated appliances also ensured the overall look remained simple and uncluttered. 'De Novo's idea of installing a discreet induction hob, which allows the range to be turned off when

required, was inspired,' continues Janet. However, her favourite feature is the new built-in bench, designed to replicate a seat originally positioned under the window. It really helps create the feel of a modern farmhouse kitchen and the shelves underneath are just perfect for my collected kitchenalia,' she says.

Janet is delighted with every aspect of her new design. I love the contrast of clean, contemporary cream units and matt-black worktops against all the traditional, tactile timber and wicker, she says. The room still feels familiar as my old table and chairs remains at its heart. I'm happy to report that family and friends continue to relax and gather in here.

#### ↑ RUSTIC CHIC

Tongue-and-groove panelling and an open wine rack help soften more modern components, such as the wall-mounted flatscreen TV



# Shopping list

CABINETRY Lansdowne painted oak kitchen, £750 for a base unit (600mm), Burbidge at De Novo Kitchens. Custom oak window seat, £285, DN Kitchen Fitting WORKTOPS Silestone Sensa Abyss Leather natural granite with upstand, approx £400 per sqm supplied and fitted, The Merchant House APPLIANCES Brandon range cooker, from £7,100, Stanley. Bosch dishwasher, £355; Neff microwave, £290; Neff fridge-freezer, £560; ceramic domino hob, £380; Britannia Visso extractor, £330, all De Novo Kitchens SINK & TAP Franke Belfast sink, £370; Abode Taura monobloc tap, £180, both De Novo Kitchens FLOOR TILES Large format porcelain, from £40 per sqm, Rossett Tiles PAINT Willow tree matt emulsion, £19.99 per 2.5ltr, Dulux LIGHTING Under-unit LED strip lighting and LED interior cabinet down-lighters, £390, De Novo Kitchens



FEATURE PAULA WOODS PHOTOGRAPHS LIZZIE ORME







#### **HOMEOWNERS**

Abigail Lynn and her husband Christopher, a director

AGE 38 and 40 FAMILY Joshua, 6, and Jacob, 4

**LOCATION** South Croydon **PROPERTY** Four-bedroom, detached Fifties build

#### **COST OF NEW KITCHEN**

 Kitchen cabinetry
 £8,000

 Worktops
 £4,000

 Appliances
 £3,372

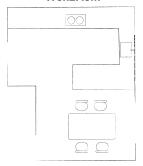
 Sink & tap
 £350

 Tiles
 £900

 Radiator
 £350

TOTAL £16,972

#### SIZE OF ROOM W5xL7.5m









#### **WORK CARRIED OUT**

The existing kitchen has been combined with the former garage. New contemporary units, flooring, windows and doors have been installed



#### **N DUAL PURPOSE**

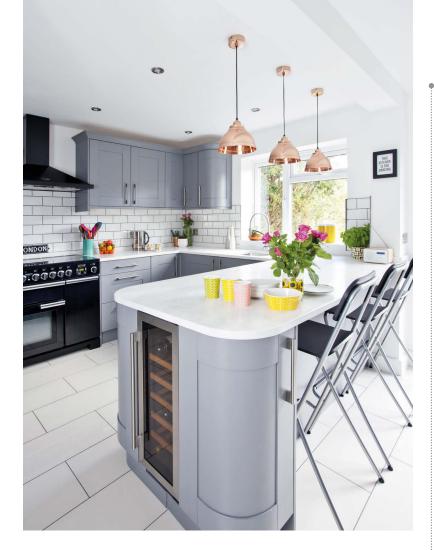
Instead of an island, this peninsula bar allows Abigail to separate the kitchen from the dining zone

#### ← MIXED MATERIALS

Black appliances, bar stools and radiators, together with copper pendants, lend a subtle industrial feel







ouse-hunting can be a tricky business, but for Abigail Lynn the process was made all the more difficult by having her heart set on an exceptionally specific location. 'I wanted to raise our boys close to my childhood home in south Croydon,' Abigail explains. 'It's not only extremely quiet and residential, but it also has direct links to central London. However, the area I love comprises just a handful of roads, and properties come on the market once every blue moon.'

So when a detached, four-bedroom fixer-upper with a spacious garden went up for sale in 2015, Abigail was quick to act – particularly as it was only five doors down from her old house, and her mum lived around the corner. 'We viewed that weekend, had our offer accepted the same day and then put our home on the market that week,' she recalls.

With the keys in their hands, Abigail and her husband Christopher hit the ground running. Just three months after moving in, they had installed new electrics and heating; carpeted, plastered and painted three of the bedrooms; and landscaped both the front and back gardens. Keen to take the transformation to the next level, an architect was commissioned to draw up plans for the downstairs.

'The old kitchen was dark with a small, ineffectual window, and the past-its-best cabinetry was ill-fitting,' Abigail recalls. 'Knocking through into the garage >

#### **↑ CURVE APPEAL**

Rounded units help encourage a gentle flow between the kitchen and diner



THIGH SHINE
Där Lighting
Yoko pendant,
Love Lights

## IDEAS TO STEAL

Make the most of your scheme with some of Abigail's space-saving tips



#### $\uparrow$ OPT FOR A SEAMLESS LOOK

Extend your worktop by cladding the windowsill in the same material



#### ↑ BE CREATIVE WITH SHELVING

Hang a ladder horizontally to create a place to display trinkets and pictures



↑ CHOOSE SLIMLINE APPLIANCES Install a compact wine fridge at the end of a peninsula or island unit







was the obvious solution. Also, we'd befriended the neighbours who had gone for a similar conversion, so I knew exactly what kind of space it would create.'

The renovations began in May 2016 and the demolition stage moved rapidly. 'We repositioned doors and windows to maximise the light and views over local woods,' Abigail says. The kitchen was designed to boost storage and have a modern look – but with a twist: 'I wanted something unusual, yet classic enough to stand the test of time, and I kept coming back to Shaker-style cabinets in grey.'

Fortuitously, the couple found what they were looking for in a half-price sale at Wickes. 'It was

perfect as I wanted solid carcasses,' says Abigail. 'My old kitchen had thin, cardboard backing that you could push out at the back if you were too rough.'

Now that the Lynn family has had time to enjoy their bright new space, Abigail knows she made the right decisions. 'I wanted a really family-friendly environment with a defined kitchen and dining area,' she explains, 'and the peninsula bar works brilliantly. I can watch the kids at the table as I cook, and it's a great social area for the adults, too.' So much so, in fact, that Abigail and Christopher haven't had a free weekend since the renovations were completed: 'We've been entertaining constantly,' she beams.

#### ↑ BRIGHT IDEA

A large window and double doors bring ample light into the redesigned space

#### **∠** ECLECTIC TASTE

Retro-style chairs in tonal shades of blue provide the room with interest and colour





UNITS Tiverton Slate units, £8,000, Wickes WORKTOP Sheridan Apollo Slab Tech in marmo bianco, £4,000, Wickes APPLIANCES Rangemaster professional deluxe 90cm with induction hob, £2,004; Rangemaster 90cm chimneyhood, £389, both John Lewis. Daewoo American fridge-freezer, £699; small 30cm wine fridge, £280, both Currys SINK & TAP Sheridan Apollo Slab Tech cut-out undermount sink, £150, Wickes. Franke Wave pull-out tap, £200, Screwfix TILES Extreme white high-gloss porcelain floor tiles, £30 per sqm; metro wall tiles, £10 per sqm, both Tile Mountain RADIATOR From the Acova range, £350, Screwfix LIGHTS Copper pendant lights, £38 each, Horsfall & Wright FURNITURE Eames-style chairs, £59 each; dining table, £220, all Cult Furniture. Bar stools, £30 each; Junior Urban chair, £30, both Ikea. Vintage ladder, £10, Four Elms Nursery. Wire wall shelf, £55, Primrose & Plum







# WIN A MODERN WOOD BURNER

One reader has the chance to cosy-up with a Contura stove, worth over £2,000

here's nothing like a crackling real fire to inject a warm and snug feeling into your interior spaces. Contura's range of efficient, modern, wood-burning stoves are built to the highest quality standards; these design-led products also generate an average of 60 per cent more heat than a traditional open fire.

Clad in a smart white finish, the new Contura 556G:2 features a wide-screen glass door and top, with generous windows on three sides, and complements both classic and contemporary homes. Inspired by on-trend Scandi interior design, the 556G:2 would create a striking focal point in any room. This model features a rotary grate and sliding ash pan for easy cleaning and maintenance, and the cool-touch handles ensure adding logs is safe and simple. And thanks to its flat-back panel, each stove can be installed comfortably along a wall or sit equally neatly in a corner.

In addition, the majority of Contura's stoves are DEFRA Clean Air Act exempt, meaning that they can be installed in Smoke Control Areas. To view the Swedish brand's complete collection, take a look at its easy-to-navigate website.

#### Contura contura.eu



↑ WARM GLOW
Watch the flames
through the 556G:2's
three glass windows

# → **TWO TONE**This model has a glossy black top and white finish





To be in with a chance of winning this prize, visit goodhomesmagazine.com

# Contura

Valid from 25 November 2016 to 2 January 2017

Terms and conditions apply. For full details, visit goodhomes-magazine.com/website-t-cs





# Pick the best TUMBLE DRYER

How to choose a modern design to suit your lifestyle

specially useful during the winter months, the latest tumble dryers are also ultra energy-efficient — and therefore less expensive to run. Useful innovations include sensor drying, which measures the humidity in the laundry and stops the drying process once it reaches the selected level, as well as eco and speed-drying programmes, and heat pump technology, which uses lower temperatures. Contemporary designs also offer a variety of cycles to suit different fabrics, with settings for duvets, denim and delicates, as well as a delay start function.

Capacity is another important factor to consider: go for the largest your budget allows, as this will dry clothes faster with less creasing. Gadget lovers may be best served by a connected machine that can be controlled from a smartphone or tablet.

Finally, think about whether you want a condenser model that can be installed virtually anywhere, or a vented design. The latter is less expensive than the former, but needs to be installed by an external wall with a dedicated vent to expel damp air.



# \*\*LARGE CAPACITY Candy's GVCD101WB

candy's GVCD101WB condenser has an 10kg drum – ideal for big families. Features include four sensor programmes, delay start and filter care.

H85xW59.5xD61cm

#### → KIND TO CLOTHES

Sleek and chic, Hotpoint's Futura SUTCD97B6KM offers sensor drying, as well as a Soft Motion motor to help protect fabrics. • H85xW59.5xD61cm







#### ← VERSATILE MODEL

Prevent creases with the White Knight C44A7W vented tumble dryer from Currys, which has a reverse tumble action. The door can be switched to either side, so it can fit into most spaces.

H85xW60xD53cm









# NEED TO KNOW

- **CONDENSER** dryers separate water from moist air into a container. This allows the appliance to be installed in any well-ventilated room. Most models will alert you when the container is full, while the latest designs can pump the water out via your own plumbing system.
- **VENTED** models take damp air and discharge it using a plastic hose. For this, a permanent vent in an outside wall is required. Alternatively, the pipe can be hung out of a window.

#### HEAT PUMP

**TECHNOLOGY** is now found in most condenser dryers. It recirculates warm air, resulting in a more efficient design with an A energy rating. Check this grading before buying: A+++ is the highest, most efficient; G is the lowest.

■ DRUM SIZES vary from 6kg to 10kg. As a rule of thumb, 1kg will dry an outfit or five T-shirts. Ideally, it should equal the capacity of your washing machine, as the larger the drum, the more efficient it is.

#### **2£400-£600 №**



#### ← GENTLE TOUCH

Silk and handwashonly woollens can be dried in the Electrolux EDH3887GDE Delicatecare dryer. Additional features include a handy Optisense system, which ensures clothes don't get too dry. • H85xW60xD60cm



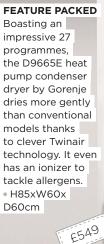
Save on small loads thanks to the Ecotime IDPE 845 A1 ECO heat pump dryer from Indesit and its energy saver sensor. It also features new Thermo Air technology for minimum power consumption. H85xW59.5xD61cm



# £419.99 ECO OPTION

#### ← GREAT GUARANTEE

For peace of mind, the John Lewis own-brand JLTDH21 heat pump model comes with a three-year warranty. There's a range of special programmes, including bed linen, easy iron plus, and actiwear. H85xW60xD63.7cm









#### ≥£600-£850 ♥

#### → WI-FI OPERATED

Equipped with Home Connect, the Serie 8 WTWH7560GB condenser dryer from Bosch can be controlled remotely via a smartphone or tablet. • H84xW60xD60cm





#### ← SMART SYSTEM

Samsung's DV90H8000HW heat pump dryer with extralarge door is rated A++. Easy-to-use features include a filter-clean alarm, anti-crease function and swirl drum. H85xW60xD64.5cm



#### **† DESIGNER LOOK**

An alternative to all-white, LG's RC8055EH2M condenser model comes in steely silver. It can operate in an eco mode as well as a speed setting, and there's antibacterial protection in the water tank, too. H85xW60xD64cm



#### ⊘ Over £850

#### **↓ PERFECT PERFORMANCE**

The TKB 640 WP from Miele uses clever sensors to set the optimum drying time based on the mineral and moisture levels in clothes. H85xW60xD64cm



← SUPREME CLEANING

#### ↑ GET CONNECTED

Featuring 6th Sense live connected technology, which allows for remote control of your appliance, Whirlpool's Supreme Care HSCX 10441 dryer is an A++ rated state-of-the-art design. H86xW60xD66cm

Siemens' iQ700 WT4HY790GB comes with a self-cleaning condenser, sensor drying and a range of special programmes, including mixed fabrics, wool drying, outdoor, towels, blankets and pillows. H84xW60xD63cm





#### ← NAUTICAL **STRIPES**

Organise your clothes with this chic monochrome bag from Rigby & Mac



more classic, this rustic woven design from Sisters Guild fits the bill



#### ← ON-TREND **GEOMETRICS**

Make a style statement with Ferm Living's Spear laundry basket, from



Cloudberry Living





FEATURE HAYLEY GILBERT

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Becky Cawthorne-Smith transformed her space into a sophisticated-yet-playful scheme







#### **HOMEOWNERS**

Becky Cawthorne-Smith, a bespoke events company owner, and her husband Paul Maguire, a managing director

**AGE** 43 and 44

FAMILY Jed, 10, and Kitty, 6

LOCATION

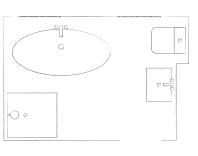
Weybridge, Surrey

**PROPERTY** Five-bedroom, detached Edwardian house

COST OF NEW BATHROOM

Sanitaryware £3,900 Shower £3,125 Tiles £1,538 Lighting £100 Radiator £1,150 Blinds £364 **Paint** £165 Mirror £30

TOTAL £9,882



SIZE OF ROOM L3.2xW2.5m









ooking to settle in the rural town of Weybridge after living in London for many years, Becky Cawthorne-Smith and her husband Mark felt a strong pull towards their rather ramshackle Edwardian property as soon as they saw it. It was a lovely solid house near the river, and the proportions were great, but nothing was to our taste,' says Becky. 'However, we could see instantly how we could make it work - it was too good an opportunity to miss.'

The family bathroom was one of the first projects they tackled. Although it had a large footprint, the decor and fittings just weren't hitting the right note. 'There was lots of marble and it all felt a bit heavy. It was high quality, but the most obvious omission seemed to be a separate shower,' she remembers.

Becky knew how she wanted the new bathroom to look. Understated elegance was my aim, staying true to the period of the house.' Finding nearly everything she wanted in one place - the nearby Fired Earth showroom in Cobham, Surrey - she used their designers to crystallise her ideas. 'It made sense to keep the bath in between the two windows and for the sanitaryware to stay in a similar spot, as the pipework was already there. But there was a towel rail the other side of the original basin that looked crammed in, so that had to go,' Becky explains. Replacing the existing radiator with an overhead rack-style model above the WC gave a more spacious feel. 'There was another heated rail on the other side, which was more in keeping >

#### ← BOLD SHADE

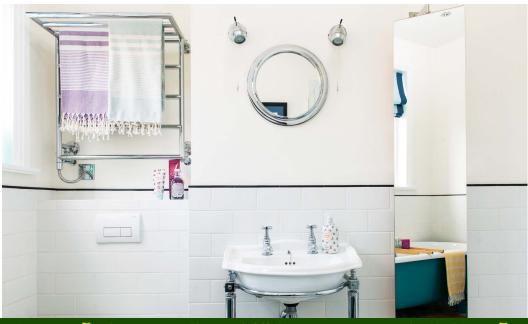
The neutral colour scheme has been livened up with a vibrant bath so it appeals to children as well as adults

#### **↓ SLEEK SOLUTION**

Building a false wall for the pipework has enabled Becky to install a modern wall-hung WC with a discreet flushplate

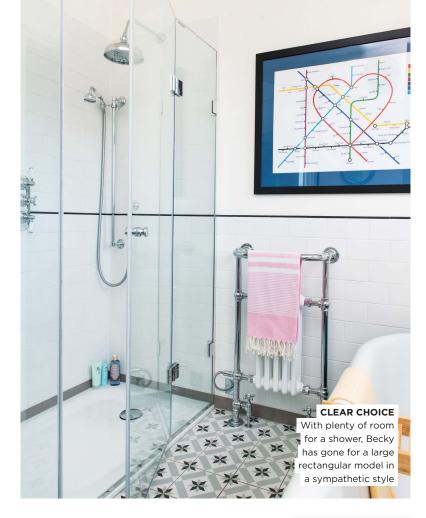
#### **WORK CARRIED OUT**

The old bathroom suite has been ripped out and space for a separate shower planned in, with a new enclosure fitted. The room was also retiled and painted









and in good condition, so we've kept that, but just moved it along a bit to make room for the shower.'

The new enclosure needed to be rectangular on the wall opposite the tub and bespoke doors have been added to make it the right shape. 'The original marble tiles were floor-to-ceiling, which was too much for me, so our new plain metro designs only go up halfway, and the walls above aren't painted a stark white but a very pale pinkish tone. I've added pattern on the floor for a bit of texture and interest.'

With the basics in place, Becky debated how to add a touch of fun. I wanted it to be appealing to the children, but also to grow with them and not be too infantile for guests, so I added a funky element by having the bath painted a really vibrant blue.'

The couple now have no problem telling Jed and Kitty it's bath time. 'They rush to leap in,' Becky says. I'm so glad I was brave with the colour of the tub too, as it's the first thing people comment on.'



large towels,

Ville & Campagne

# Shopping list

SANITARYWARE For a similar bath, try the Mali, £1,600; for a similar washstand and basin, try the Battersea, £1,000; Classic concealed shower, £1,275; tray, £750; doors, £1,100; Maida Vale WC, £925, all Fired Earth TILES Terrazzo floor tiles, £295 per sqm; suede white wall tiles, £54.90 per sqm; suede black trim, £2.95 per tile, all Fired Earth MIRROR CABINET £375, Fired Earth TOWEL RAIL Holmwood, £1,150, Fired Earth PAINT Walls in debutantes gown eggshell; bath in Mrs Booth eggshell, both £55 per 2.5ltr, Fired Earth BLINDS £182 each, Laura Ashley MIRROR £30, eBay SPOTLIGHTS £50 each, eBay TOWELS £28 each, Drift Linens ACCESSORIES Duckboard, £60; rack, £45, both Fired Earth. Family tube map, £28.50, Kiaco for Notonthehighstreet.com

# IDEAS TO STEAL

Adapt some of Becky's ways to make the most of your bathroom



#### † THINK DUAL PURPOSE

Becky sourced a clever swivel mirror storage unit to keep toiletries tidy



↑ INTRODUCE PATTERN

Geometric tiles in subtle tones won't overpower a restful scheme



**† INCLUDE PERIOD DETAILS** 

Be consistent with your property's era to ensure a cohesive look









## BATHROOM DETAILS

#### **HOMEOWNERS**

Karen Hibbert, 50, and her husband Martin, 49, both chartered accountants

**FAMILY** Matthew, 19, and Jessica, 17

**LOCATION** Wynyard, County Durham

#### **PROPERTY**

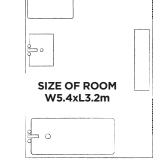
Four-bedroom, detached house, built in 2001

#### COST OF NEW BATHROOM

Fixtures & fittings £17,857
Wall & floor tiles £5,127
Underfloor heating £680
Wallpaper

**& curtains** £2,000

TOTAL £25,664









fter putting their own stamp on the main living areas of their four-bed home, Karen and Martin Hibbert's thoughts turned to upgrading the bathrooms - starting with the largest of the two. 'We wanted to tackle our en suite first as it's actually the biggest,' Karen explains. 'But considering it was such a large space it just didn't feel that huge. The corner bath was difficult to lie down in and the lighting was inadequate. Also, the layout just didn't work with the shower behind the door and the sink tucked away in the corner.'

Specialist bathroom company Domani was employed to undertake the project, factoring in the five must-haves Karen and Martin had on their wish list: a walk-in shower with both a fixed and hand-held showerhead; a Jacuzzi spa bath; underfloor heating; decent lighting; and plenty of storage. 'As we already had underfloor heating downstairs, I knew it would be essential if we were having a tiled floor,' says Karen. As for the overall style, the couple wanted the room to feel contemporary and sleek. 'I love mirror-effect finishes, but I wasn't necessarily thinking of going for black and grey when we first started looking,' she adds. 'The design simply evolved as we started selecting fittings.'

As well as choosing a stunning scheme, the Hibberts went to town on innovative fixtures. 'Martin's a big gadget man,' Karen explains, 'so he was keen to integrate the latest in technology, including a bath that fills itself to the correct temperature. You can even turn on the shower >

#### ← MONOCHROME MIX

Boutique hotels were the inspiration for the black glass panels, walk-in shower and low-level LED lights

#### **↓ TACTILE TOUCHES**

Eye-catching printed wallpaper and luxe curtains soften the minimal sanitaryware and simple palette

#### WORK CARRIED OUT

The positions of the sink and shower were swapped and new underfloor heating, cabinetry, lighting and sanitaryware were installed









or bath with an iPhone.'The thermostatic controls of the shower and the basin tap also feature other helpful digital elements. 'The tap is programmable,' Karen explains. 'I've set it up so that it's one click for warm water and two clicks for cold.'

A mixture of ceiling spots, LED lights around the tiled skirting boards and task lighting above the vanity unit have solved the illumination issue. 'The ceiling lights are dimmable, which is nice when you're having a relaxing bath, and the ones above the sink are brilliant for putting on make-up.'

Bathroom fitted, Karen's interior designer friend Pam Willis of Graham Willis Interiors stepped in, bringing her pattern books for wallpaper. I chose a beautiful floral design by Kandola for the wall by the two windows,' says Karen. 'It makes it feel more like a room rather than just a functional space.'

With the project now completed and, delighted with the end result, Karen and Martin say they wouldn't change a thing. 'The bathroom is just how we imagined,' she beams. 'It looks spectacular.'

## LOOK FOR LESS Add sleek storage £250 **↑ ON REFLECTION** Storjorm two-door mirror cabinet with built-in

lighting, Ikea

## IDEAS TO STEAL

Be like Karen and consider finer details when planning a scheme



**↑ GO FOR GLOSS** High-shine black surfaces help to bounce light around a space



**↑ INTEGRATE FITTINGS** 

A showerhead set into the ceiling exudes contemporary elegance



**↑ THINK SYMMETRICAL** Aligning multiple elements with care creates a sense of balance

## Shopping list

SANITARYWARE Duravit Happy D.2 bath, £2,780; Duravit digital filler with pull-out shower, £2,836; Duravit Puravida wall-mounted WC, £842; Keuco Edition 11 two-drawer side unit, £2,332.70; Wisp digital mixer tap, £632; Vado Aquablade round showerhead, £324; Hansgrohe Raindance handheld shower, £151; Keuco Edition 11 vanity unit, £1,239.30; Kudos Ultimate glass shower panels, £518; Keuco Royal Universe mirror cabinet, £997.50, all Domani TILES Q-Stone Minimal Day and Night porcelain tiles, £70 per sqm; Q-Stone Minimal Night mosaics, £41 per sheet, all Domani RADIATORS Revive floormounted radiator in gloss black, £415; Revive vertical double-panel radiator in gloss black, £337.50; towel rail, £85.84, all Domani WALLPAPER Vogue champagne wallpaper, £104 per roll, Kandola, For similar curtain fabric, try Designers Guild at Tangletree Interiors TOWELS For similar, try Christy ACCESSORIES Linea stainless steel soap dispenser, £9.60, House of Fraser



FEATURE KAREN WILSON PHOTOGRAPHS KATIE LEE

## Add style with WALL TILES

Give your bathroom a striking new look with one of these designs to suit every scheme

iled surfaces are practical for bathrooms, as they're hard-wearing, easy to keep clean and water-resistant, plus, they're ideal for adding colour, pattern and texture to your walls.

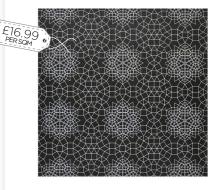
The most popular materials include stone, ceramic, porcelain, and glass, with a wide range of designs available to suit every budget. Large-format options will make a small space feel bigger, while light-reflecting, glossy styles are suited to rooms with limited natural light. If you want to use the same tiles on walls and floors to create uniformity, shop for ranges that are suitable for both.

To create a designer look on a budget, only tile small areas to draw attention to a key feature. Stylish options include installing a floor-to-ceiling panel behind a freestanding bath, a splashback above a basin, or a bold design highlighting a walk-in shower.

The latest trend is about creating a unique look, so whether you opt to mix and match patterned styles or create a geometric effect with hexagon-shaped tiles, it's never been easier to achieve a personalised scheme.

## ON TREND **NEW WAY TO LAY** Give brick-shaped designs an update by fitting in a herringbone pattern. Fired Earth's Ravello Frezza ceramic wall tiles come in five colourways. H20xL40cm

#### 



#### **† AUTHENTIC GEOMETRICS**

Perfect for creating a bold look, Tile Mountain's Meissa porcelain design from its Marrakech range is inspired by the traditional tiled courtyards of Morocco. Suitable for use on both walls and floors.

H30xL30cm



#### ← GOOD VALUE

Featuring an industrialinspired print, these Aura ceramic tiles from B&Q are perfect for adding subtle pattern. They are available in seven colours, including concrete, mulberry and taupe (pictured). H10xL30cm



#### → GLAMOROUS MOSAIC

An ideal solution for a statement splashback behind a basin or for adding wow factor to a plain tiled wall as an inset border, this glass mosaic tile in silver and blue from Wickes is supplied on a mesh backing for easy installation. H28xL26cm







## NEED TO KNOW

- **CERAMIC** is widely available and affordable. Easy to cut and install, it requires minimal maintenance as you'll only need to update the grout regularly.
- PORCELAIN tiles are denser than ceramic, so are considered more hard-wearing. The latest printing technology means it is available in realistic wood and stone-effect designs, making it a more affordable alternative.
- STONE includes materials such as marble, slate, limestone and

travertine – perfect for creating a high-end, luxury look. Unlike ceramic and porcelain, however, they require more maintenance, with the majority of options needing to be sealed after installation.

■ GLASS designs, such as mosaics, are easy to clean and are the perfect choice if you want to create a glamorous scheme. Ideal for reflecting light around a space, they work particularly well when used as an inset border or splashback.

#### arnothing £27-£50 per sqm $\circ$

# E3780 PERSON

#### ← EASY UPDATES

Part of Craven Dunnill's Renaissance collection, these striking ceramic tiles in a subdued palette are great for adding interest. Choose from the 3D effect of the Bravura Sense or the mix of eight motifs on the Bravura Custom. • H29.5xL59.5cm

#### → HIGH SHINE

Available in wide variety of colours, ranging from neutrals to bold greens and dark greys, these ceramic Manhattan wall designs from Tile Giant feature a slightly bumpy texture and glossy finish.

• H7.5xL30cm





If you want to create the high-end appearance of marble without the budget-busting price tag, Bathstore's Marble Arch ceramic field tiles are a fantastic alternative, thanks to their luxurious Carrara stone effect.

• H24 8xI 49 8cm





#### £50-£70 per sqm \( \)



#### ← SLEEK SLATE

Scored to give the appearance of several smaller tiles on one design, the naturallooking Nero tile from Bathrooms.com can be used to define a walk-in shower area in your scheme. H20xL30cm





#### **↑ FOCAL POINT**

By combining plain and patterned rhombus-shapes in a range of colours from The Baked Tile Company's Creative Geometrics range, you can design a bespoke look for your wall. Continue on to the floor for a striking effect. H14xL24cm



#### ↑ MODERN MIX

Showing that contrasting walls and floors can very effective, Original Style's Half Tile glazed ceramic wall tiles are the ideal contrast to its patterned Victorian floor tiles. Available in 26 colours, including London Stone as pictured. • H7.5xL15.2cm

Over £70 per sqm



These Artisan porcelain designs in Aspen from Johnson Tiles have a wood-surface effect and are also available in three other sizes and five additional timber-effect colours. H15xL90cm



## 3 OF THE BEST wall lights



#### ← FLEXIBLE SOLUTION

A great-value buy, Ikea's Vitemolla light can be installed with the round glass shade facing upwards or downwards



light in satin nickel from The Farthing is a classic choice for bathrooms



#### ← ELEGANT ADDITION

Astro Lighting's Lincoln design features a polished-chrome finish with a stylish frosted glass diffuser

BETH MURTON FEATURE





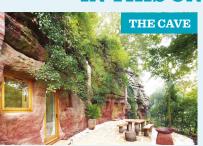
# Grand Designs COLLECTOR'S EDITION



To commemorate nearly two decades of the groundbreaking TV series, Grand Designs magazine has created this special issue, comprising a comprehensive collection of the best renovations, conversions and extensions from the show's history. As well as some of the favourite Grand Designs Awards winners, it's packed with projects and inspiring ideas. This collector's edition is not to be missed.



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## EXTENSION 1

## 'GETTING GOOD ADVICE WAS KEY'

Finding the right team to help them was essential to the success of Sam and Simon Ogden's modern new space



#### ← OPENED UP

With a fully glazed wall featuring bi-fold doors, the extension has transformed the rear of Sam and Simon's property

#### → VIBRANT TOUCH

Sam chose orange as the main accent colour, co-ordinating items such as the bar stools and pendants





## EXTENSION DETAILS

HOMEOWNERS Sam and Simon Ogden, who both work in healthcare FAMILY Alex, 16, and Harry, 14

**LOCATION** Harpenden, Hertfordshire

**PROPERTY** Four-bedroom detached house, built in the late 1990s

#### **COST OF THE EXTENSION**

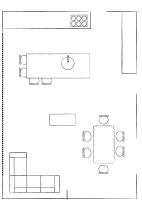
Professional fees £3,500 Build cost £78,000 Bi-fold doors £7,000

Kitchen, worktops

**& appliances** £50,000 **Flooring** £1,800

Fireplace, including flue & installation £7,000

TOTAL £143,800



SIZE OF ROOM L7.35xW5.45m









#### PROJECT BRIEF

To knock the existing kitchen and separate dining room into one space, then extend into the garden to create a large, openplan layout

onverting their double garage into a playroom for their two children gave Sam and Simon Ogden the renovation bug, opening their eyes to the option of redesigning other areas of their home. 'We moved into this house just after Harry was born and the layout worked well when the boys were small,' says Sam. 'Since then, however, the way we want to live here has changed considerably.'

Although thrilled with the additional living space the garage conversion created, the property still lacked the large open-plan kitchen-diner that the couple dreamed of. 'We've always loved entertaining, but whenever we had friends round everyone seemed to congregate in our small kitchen, which was always tricky when I was trying to cook,' explains Sam. 'We liked the idea of extending the rear of the house to create an open-plan space that would work just as

well as an entertaining area as it would an informal living room. Somewhere where we could relax with a newspaper and cup of coffee at the weekend.'

After saving up for several years, the couple were ready to start. With the key elements of their brief already mapped out, they approached local company Sue Murphy Interiors for advice on fine-tuning their plans. 'Sue worked on a couple of projects for friends, so we were keen to see how she could help us too,' explains Sam. 'Perhaps naively, I'd thought interior designers were only able to help with choosing finishing touches such as soft furnishings, but Sue did so much more, offering advice on everything from planning the layout and size of the extension to helping us brief the kitchen designers.'

With the couple hiring the architect and builder who had completed their previous project, plans were drawn up for an extension stretching the full







width of the house. As it fell within the guidelines for permitted development and therefore didn't need planning permission, work soon got under way, with the build completed in around 12 weeks.

Looking at the home today, there's no trace of the previously awkward layout. The large, open-plan space has contemporary bi-fold doors leading out on to the garden. Four roof windows ensure lots of natural light, while a built-in fire forms a striking centrepiece. 'For structural reasons we had to have a pillar in the middle of the room, so Sue suggested we turn it into a feature fireplace,' says Sam. Tt's a fantastic addition and is always such a talking point.'

Designed by local firm Brynmor Interiors, the modern handleless kitchen features a combination of sleek matt-white units and a wall of full-height cupboards with concrete composite doors, giving an

on-trend, industrial look. Elsewhere, there's plenty of space for a large dining table and comfy corner sofa, while the area in front of the fire is ideal for some post-dinner dancing. The always wanted to have somewhere to boogie at our parties, so it was on my wish list from the beginning, says Sam.

The couple's favourite feature, however, is the lighting scheme, which Sue helped design. 'In Sam and Simon's extension it was important to create layers of adjustable illumination for different uses,' explains Sue. A mix of ceiling downlights, uplighters, LED strips under the cupboards, and pendants allow them to create everything from bright task lighting to more atmospheric mood lighting.'

'The extension is even better than we imagined,' adds Sam. 'Spending a little bit extra money to get the help we needed was worth every last penny.'

#### ↑ IDEAL LAYOUT

The scheme features distinct areas for cooking, entertaining, eating and relaxing

#### **↓ SEAMLESS LOOK**

A bespoke wooden worktop wraps around the island and down to the floor



## Shopping list

KITCHEN Bespoke Zeyko units, worktops and built-in Miele appliances, £50,000, Brynmor Interiors. For a similar tap, try Zecca single-lever sink mixer with pull-out spout, £284.40, Just Taps Plus APPLIANCES For a similar hob, try Miele KM6381 integrated induction hob, £1,475; for a similar oven, try Miele H2661BP-1 built-in multifunction oven, £1,099, both John Lewis GLAZING Bi-fold doors, £7,000, Origin FLOORING Porcelain tiles in riverstone grey, £1,800, Butterfields Building & Timber Supplies FIREPLACE Nordpeis stove, £7,000, M W Forsyth Fireplaces LIGHTING Decode Vessel pendants in bronze, £216 each; Tam Tam wall lights in orange/green, £119 each, all Viaduct. Discoco 53 pendant light, £330, Twentytwentyone. FURNITURE Pam bar stools in orange by Ligne Roset, £336 each, Heal's. Sofa and footstool, £2,246, Camerich. Bespoke sideboard/cupboards, £1,500, Dee Jay Carpentry



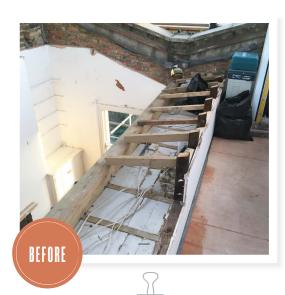




## EXTENSION 2

# 'WE NOW HAVE THE SPACE WE NEED'

Building up into their attic was a cost-effective way for Alex and Laura Kennedy to gain a stylish master suite



## EXTENSION DETAILS

## **HOMEOWNERS** Alex Kennedy, a

project manager in the rail industry, and his wife Laura, who works for the BBC FAMILY Ava, 4 LOCATION Stoke Newington, London PROPERTY Threebedroom Victorian

flat conversion

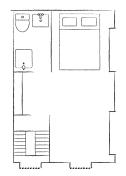
## COST OF THE EXTENSION

Build cost £67,128 Architect fees £6,782 Additional fees £4,177 En-suite

fittings £3,733 Wood flooring £975 Bedroom

fittings £5,496

**TOTAL £88,291** 



SIZE OF ROOM L8.2xW4.8m



## PROJECT BRIEF

To convert the loft space and create a spacious master bedroom with an en suite and study area









#### **↑ UNDER THE EAVES**

With reduced head height under the roof, this sloped area at the front of the house is the ideal location for the Kennedys' bed

#### **▼ BRIGHT IDEAS**

A large roof window and a mirrored panel behind the basin enhance the light entering the en suite

#### ← COSY CORNER

Wall lamps help to zone off this peaceful retreat. Neutral paint colours enhance the room's calm feel chance conversation with one of their neighbours was the starting point for Alex and Laura Kennedy's redesign project. 'Our flat is situated on the top two floors of a converted Victorian house and has what is known as a London valley roof. This is where the two sides slope down into the centre in a butterfly shape and a meet at a gully,' explains Alex. 'For this reason we had always assumed that we couldn't convert the attic into a bedroom space, but talking to someone who owned a similar property and was doing just that made us investigate the possibility of extending further.'

That one lucky exchange led the couple to add an extra storey to their flat, turning their two-bedroom property into a spacious three-storey home with a trio of bedrooms and fantastic views of the capital.

But first, they had to obtain permission to go ahead with the project from the freeholder, who lives in the lower apartment. Once this was in place, the Kennedys then worked with an architect on the first set of plans for a mansard extension – which involves raising the side walls and creating a new steep roof pitch to front and rear – that would

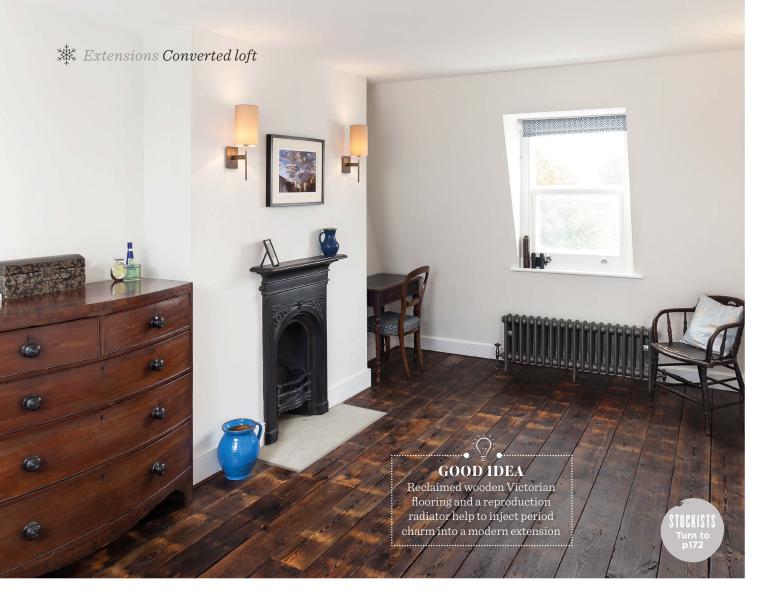
house a master bedroom and en suite. Dan Gibbons of APE Architecture & Design was commissioned to take on the next stage of the project. He tweaked the initial blueprints for the loft slightly, with the amended plan also approved by the council. 'By moving the en suite to the area under the sloping roof at the front of the house, we could create more space in the main bedroom,' Dan explains.

When the project went out to tender, however, Alex and Laura realised that they'd need to increase their initial budget significantly if they wanted to achieve their vision. 'We'd originally estimated around £50,000 for the build costs – however, over the course of the year we'd been planning the conversion, the quotes we received ranged from £68,000 to £100,000,' explains Alex. 'It meant we had to reduce the specification of the finished space slightly to bring it in closer to our original budget.'

Impressively, Outside In Construction completed the build in just under five months, during which time the couple and their daughter, Ava, continued to live in the flat. The finished L-shaped layout features a wall of built-in storage at the entrance to the attic, freeing up the rest of the room for the







bedroom zone at one end and a small study area at the other. 'It's lovely to be able to lie in bed in the morning and look out through the window opposite, as we can see right down to the City of London with fantastic views of The Shard,' says Alex.

The well-designed en suite is spacious enough for a contemporary walk-in shower and a traditional-style basin, with a large rooflight carefully positioned to provide the necessary head height above the WC and basin area, as well as illuminating the space.

To ensure the new scheme was in keeping with the architecture and style of the rest of the period property, the couple worked alongside Dan to source authentic fixtures and fittings. These included the reclaimed Victorian pine floorboards, a cast-iron fireplace found at a London reclamation yard, a reproduction radiator, and statement black-and-white encaustic floor tiles for the bathroom – all of which combine to give the loft instant character.

'Converting the attic was well worth the investment,' says Alex. 'With increasing property prices, stamp duty and moving costs, three-bedroom homes in this area were well beyond our budget. This was a more cost-effective way to get the space we needed, creating a three-bedroom house of our own with a fantastic master suite that we love spending time in.'



#### ↑ PERFECT FIT

A period fireplace provides an elegant focal point, while a compact study area is tucked into an alcove

## ← CLEVER CARPENTRY

Built on site by a joiner, floor-to-ceiling, handleless wardrobes are designed to blend into the background

#### Shopping list

FLOORING Reclaimed floorboards, £975, Encore Reclamation
LIGHTING San Marino bronze-plated wall lights, from £62 each, Astro
Lighting FITTINGS Vintage cast-iron fireplace, £540, Architectural Forum.
Reproduction radiator, £429, Cast Iron Radiator Centre FURNITURE
Bespoke wardrobes, £2,040, Dennis Tod Interiors. Shaker bed, £640;
three-drawer bedside cabinets, £275 each, all Warren Evans. For a similar
vintage chest of drawers, try eBay TILES Victorian encaustic-effect
floor tiles, £134, Tiles Etc. Retro brick wall tiles, £204, Tower Ceramics
SHOWER ROOM Victorian basin with stand, £489; Cleaver radiator,
£329, both Burlington Bathrooms. For a similar WC, try CP Hart

Enekas.Academy





# Choose your ideal SOFA

From sleek and streamlined to relaxed and cosy, update your space with one of these stylish designs

urchasing a sofa is a major investment, so before you start, think carefully about what its purpose is going to be. Are you looking for a sleek, contemporary model for occasional use, or a big, squishy one to fit the whole family on? It sounds obvious, but try before you buy to make sure a design is comfortable as well as stylish – and remember if you're shopping online this may not be an option.

While it is important to look at the quality of the upholstery, check the frame as well. Hardwood is more durable than soft timber such as pine. You could also find out how it is joined together: wooden dowels, corner blocks or metal screws and brackets are the most solid fixings.

Upholstery-wise, foam filling is usually supportive and provides a more tailored appearance than feather or fibre-stuffed cushions that give a softer look but require regular plumping. Fabrics fade in direct sunlight, so think about where you position your sofa and consider that leather, while durable, can crack if it is too near a radiator.





Featuring plump cushions, Harveys' Cargo Layla two-seater sofa in Wedgwood blue provides comfort in a simple, solid design. It comes in 18 colours at the £389 price (and 17 at £289) and there's a sofabed and footstool available.

• H92xD95xW158cm

**⊘Under £400** ⊗



At just under 1.4m wide, the George Home Ramona sofa is ideal for smaller rooms – and budgets. Upholstered in durable yarn dye fabric, it comes in four colours, including this hot pink. • H81xD81xW137cm

THREE T COOL COMFORT

Ikea's Norsborg three-seater design in Gräsbo dark blue has a choice of two leg colours (beech or grey) and its washable covers feature handy pockets in the armrests.

• H85xD88xW213cm

#### → SOFT TOUCH

Available in five colours including aubergine, pictured, the Andover Mills Broadway Village threeseater from Wayfair is made in a tactile chenillestyle fabric, complete with four large scatter cushions. A two-seater size is also available.

• H97xD88xW191cm









#### MODULAR MODELS

enable you to create your own sofa set-up and provide the most flexibility. They can be positioned in different configurations, are easy to move around and ideal for getting in through narrow doors or up stairs.

**CORNER STYLES** are good for large

households and for defining living spaces in an open-plan scheme. They are available in left- and right-hand chaise configurations.

SOFABEDS come in many forms, with various mattress options. Threefold designs usually have foam mattresses that are fine for occasional use. Consider a two-fold option that allows for a more comfortable, deeper, base for sleeping on if it is going to be used on a regular basis.

#### ∅ £400-£800 ७



The retro-inspired Lexie range by Hygena at Argos includes this large sofa with smart detailing. As well as yellow, the design comes in grey, poppy red and green. H86xD85xW190cm



A contemporary version of a traditional Chesterfield. Furniture Choice's Hampton three-seater sofa is shown here in slate grey and is also available in oatmeal. • H75xD84x216cm



Steeped in Fifties style, the rounded lines and stitched detailing of Very's Marcel three-seater sofa recreates an iconic look. Scandi-style legs add to the vintage vibe.

• H76xD88xW204cm







#### 



**∠** ELEGANT **PROPORTIONS** 

Slim scroll arms and plump seat cushions give this Phoebe sofa by The Lounge Co a classic shape. It comes in more than 100 fabrics, including country house stripe. H90xD97xW165cm



#### → BUTTON DETAIL

Upholstered in a grey linen-blend fabric, the RV Astley Aceline two-seater design from Houseology has a high back and elegant winged arms and is set on distressed oak feet. H80xD89xW170cm

£1,550

**† STRIKING SHAPE** The best things come in small packages; this compact Aragon design by Arlo & Jacob commands attention with its high-backed silhouette and Kirby Sahara coral colourway. • H100xD87.5xW155cm

#### **↑ SOPHISTICATED CHOICE**

Upholstered in deep turquoise velvet made from 100 per cent cotton with a luxurious matt finish, the Zeppelin two-seater design from Sofa.com oozes oldschool glamour. A matching armchair is also available. H76xD94xW154cm

## Open-plan flooring

#### ⊘ Over £1,200 ⑤



Cloaked in forest green velvet, the Pillowtalk two-seater sofa by Content by Terence Conran features an ingenious plinth that make it seem as though it's floating above the floor. H75xD89xW202cm



#### **↓ NATURAL MATERIALS**



Laura Ashley's Tarran sofa is available in more than 100 exclusive fabrics including Adele natural woven linen, pictured, as well as tweeds. Made to order, it comes with a choice of chestnut or light oak legs. H89xD108xW176cm



## 3 OF THE BEST footstools

#### → NORDIC FEEL

Upholstered in dusk pink fabric, Made's Oslo is a stylish ode to midcentury design



#### **↓ STORAGE SOLUTION**

Loaf's Stasher has a detachable lid and comes in a selection of fabrics, including bumblebee clever velvet



#### **↓ LUXURY ITEM**

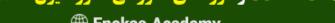
In soft and supple leather, this Chaser design from Furniture Village is deeply cushioned for comfort



FEATURE JO MESSENGER



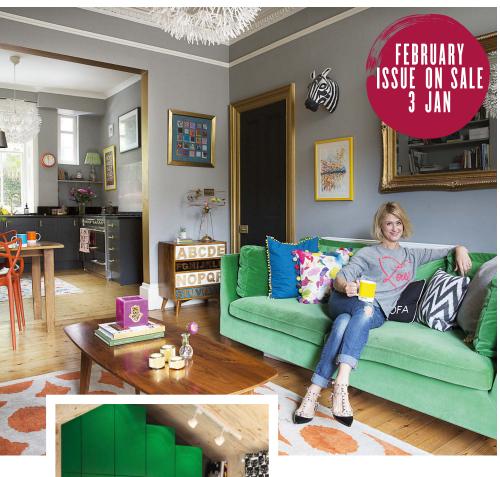






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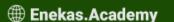
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# Plan the perfect NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Prepare ahead of time and enjoy a relaxed evening with family and friends sharing these recipes from delicious. magazine

 $Beefshin\ ragu\ pie$  Great comfort food - this hearty bake with a festive decorative finish should serve eight hungry people

PREP 11/2 HOURS, PLUS COOLING **COOKING TIME APPROX 5 HOURS** 

FOR THE FILLING 50g unsalted butter • 2 tbsp olive oil • 3 shallots, finely chopped • 5 carrots, sliced • 200g chestnut mushrooms, halved • 3 garlic cloves, chopped • 1kg British beef shin, diced • 60g plain flour • 400g tin chopped tomatoes • 2 tbsp tomato purée • 1 tsp caster sugar • 2 tbsp Worcestershire sauce • 600ml red wine · Few fresh oregano and thyme sprigs FOR THE PASTRY 500g plain flour, plus extra to dust • 1 tsp fine salt • 1 medium free-range egg, plus 2 yolks, lightly beaten, to glaze • 80g unsalted butter • 80g lard, plus extra to grease

Heat 25g of the butter and 1 tbsp of the oil in large, deep casserole. Add the shallots and carrots and fry gently for 5 mins. Add the mushrooms and garlic and fry for 5 minutes. Set aside.

Add the remaining butter and oil. Coat the beef in the flour, and brown in the pan for 2-3 mins. Return the veg and add the chopped tomatoes, tomato purée, sugar, Worcestershire sauce, 500ml of the wine and the herbs.

¶ Bring to the boil, then simmer gently  $oldsymbol{
m J}$  with the lid on for 3 hours, stirring every 20 mins, to ensure it doesn't stick. If the beef isn't falling apart after this time, simmer for another 30 mins. When ready, stir in the remaining wine and season, then take off the heat and cool.

Meanwhile, make the pastry. Put the flour and salt in a heatproof bowl, make a well in the centre, crack in the egg, then cover with the flour.

Put the butter and lard in a pan with 200ml water and bring to the boil. When the fat has melted, pour into the flour, mixing well with a knife. When cool enough to handle, knead on a floured surface until smooth. Shape into a disc, cover and leave to rest for 30 mins.

Pheat oven to 200°C/180°C fan/gas 6. Once the pastry is lukewarm, cut off one third, wrap in cling film and chill. Roll out the rest to a Dia40cm circle. Grease a Dia23xD5cm fluted loose-bottomed tart tin. Line with the pastry, leaving a 2-3cm overhang. Cover with baking paper or foil, then fill with uncooked rice or baking beans. Blind bake for 20 mins. Remove the paper or foil and rice or beans, brush half the egg yolk all over the pastry, then bake for another 13-14 mins. Cut away the overhanging pastry. the remaining pastry to the thickness Fill the case with the ragu then roll out of a £1 coin. Stamp out as many oak leaf shapes as you can and arrange over the filling in a circular pattern, slightly overlapping. Glaze with the remaining

egg, then chill in the freezer for 15 mins.

Bake pie on a metal sheet for 40 mins

150°C fan/gas 3½ and bake for 20 mins

until golden. Reduce heat to 170°C/

more. Cool for 10 mins before serving.



### MAKE A TOAST WITH...

**FLAMING RUM PUNCH** In a large jug, mix together 200ml dark rum. 100ml brandv. the juice of 3 oranges. 45ml grenadine, 500ml pineapple juice and 30ml sugar syrup with a cinnamon stick. Cover

and chill until needed. When ready to serve, warm in a pan if you're serving hot, or add ice cubes if drinking cold. Slice up an orange and stick cloves into the top and bottom slices and float these

on top. Warm a couple of ladlefuls of brandy in a pan until steaming, then pour over the oranges and ignite using a long match. Once the flames have died, ladle into glasses garnished with orange.











## Roast squash with blue cheese & pickled walnuts

Adapt the quantities of this simple side dish to cater for a larger crowd

**SERVES 6-8 PREP 20 MINS COOKING TIME 1 HOUR** 

2 tbsp olive oil • 1 large (about 1.2kg) butternut squash • 100g vegetarian Stilton (or for a non-veggie option, you could use gorgonzola dolce or Roquefort) • Handful fresh flatleaf parsley, chopped • 4-5 pickled walnuts (try delis or the condiments section of supermarkets), chopped • Squeeze of lemon juice

Heat oven to 200°/180°C fan/gas 6. Put the oil in a large, shallow baking tray and put in the oven to heat up. Deseed and chop squash into 1.5cm pieces. When the oil is very hot, add squash, season and roast for around 1 hour, turning once or twice, until the pieces are golden and slightly charred. Orumble over the Stilton, then return to the oven for 5 minutes so it melts. Sprinkle over the parsley, walnuts and some salt, then squeeze over a drizzle of lemon juice and serve hot or warm.

### Coconut & lime cheesecake

A tropical twist on a family favourite

SERVES 12 **PREP 45 MINS COOKING TIME 50-60 MINS** 

**FOR THE BASE Flavourless oil** for greasing • 300g digestive biscuits • 50g desiccated coconut · 160g unsalted butter, melted · 25g coconut oil, melted FOR THE FILLING 560g full-fat cream cheese • 250ml coconut cream (try Blue Dragon) • 397ml tin condensed milk • Juice 4 limes • 4 medium free-range eggs **FOR THE CARAMEL 100g caster** sugar • 25g unsalted butter • Splash rum • 75ml double cream, at room temperature • 1-2 pinches sea salt flakes • Pulp of 3 ripe passion fruits

- Lightly oil a Dia20xD8-10cm loosebottomed cake tin. Process the biscuits and coconut to fine crumbs. then pour in the melted butter and coconut oil to combine. Tip into the prepared tin. Press the crumbs down with a metal spoon, working them up the sides to form a deep case. Smooth until even, then chill.
- ¶ Heat oven to 160°C/140°C fan/gas 3. Put the cheese, coconut cream and condensed milk in a large bowl and combine. Gradually add the lime juice, then the eggs. Pour into the biscuit base. Bake for 50-60 mins until lightly set with a wobbly centre.
- Remove tin to a wire rack and cool d completely, then chill. To serve, bring back to room temperature before removing from the tin.
- For the caramel, put the sugar in 🖣 a heavy-based frying pan and heat very gently until dissolved - every now and then lightly stir with a fork. Turn the heat up and bubble to a rich golden-red, then remove from the heat quickly and add the butter and rum very carefully. Stir to combine, putting the pan back on the heat if the caramel hardens. Once smooth, stir through the cream and salt.
- Put the caramel in a heatproof f J bowl, cover with a piece of cling film touching the surface, then cool for 30 mins. Mix in the fruit pulp, then drizzle over the cheesecake. Leave a jug of the caramel on table for guests to serve themselves.











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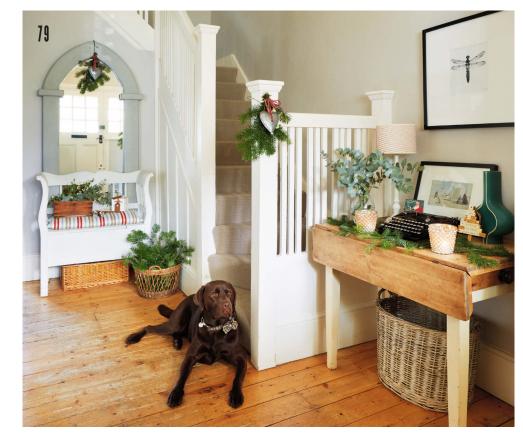
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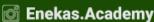
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A beautiful and intelligent system that transforms simple water into pure thirst-quenching pleasure. How do you like your water? Still, medium or sparkling, it's all a matter of taste. GROHE Blue Home has a simple and intuitive mechanism that lets you carbonate your

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PERFECT FIT® BLINDS BY LOUVOLITE



NEW PERFECT FIT® ANTHRACITE GREY FOR UPVC WINDOW & DOOR FRAMES

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