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September 2023 | goodhomesmagazine.com

Houses - Makeovers - Shopping - Lifestyle - Decorating

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prints

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Amalfi Sunset

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# From the Editor Welcome

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Karen

While we're still enjoying the last of the summer sun and spending evenings outside, looking to the season ahead is often the last thing on our minds... But September is a month of new beginnings, fresh starts and the launch of the autumn/winter homeware collections, which always inspires me to start redecorating EVERY room in my house! Top of my list is a gorgeous pink wood kitchen just like Kate Whitfield's on p26 to replace my modern white, handleless units – and Kate's three-year self-build project has resulted in a home that ticks many of my boxes, from the ultimate built-in larder to the utility-cum-boot room! So if, like me, your home is changing this month – whether that's kids starting a new school, university or returning home – I always find that a little room update helps ease me (and them) into the transition. With this in mind, our edit of graphic prints on p72 is the perfect addition for all ages: I like a gallery wall to inject colour and personality, and I'm sure you'll find your style here, too.

Karen x

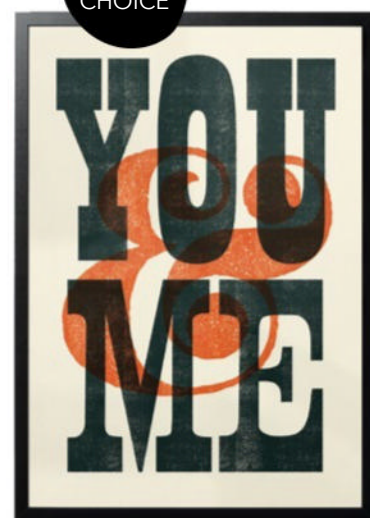
40.



12.



Editor's  
CHOICE



*Instantly refresh your room scheme  
with a statement typography print*

↗ 72.




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**SIGN UP  
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Cover photo Richard Gadsby.  
Turn to p58 for a tour of this stunning  
light-filled home in rural Kent



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Laura Zireva rejigged  
her kitchen layout to  
create a more sociable  
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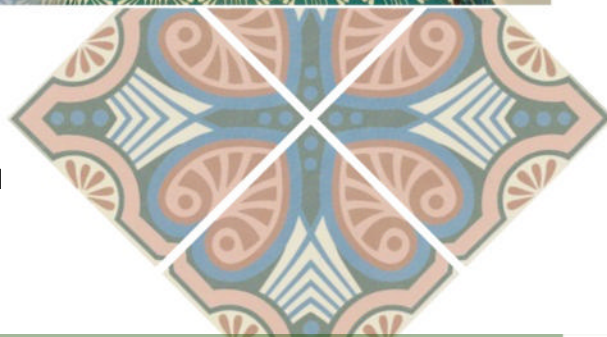
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NEW Riva2 55 Ecodesign fire with Profil XS 3-sided frame.  
Also shown, Stovax Sandringham Limestone mantel.  
Energy Efficiency Rating: **A**

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**40**  
YEARS





Laelia cushion, £40;  
Zinnia cushion, £55, both  
John Lewis & Partners

## Did you know...

...that John Lewis & Partners' Herbert Parkinson textile factory in Lancashire celebrates its 70th anniversary this year? It still makes 340,000 cushions, 130,000 pillows and 30,000 duvets per year, plus bespoke curtains and blinds - impressive!



# Enjoy evenings ALFRESCO

Make the most of the late-summer weather with a sheltered outdoor seating area, creating a cosy vibe with festoon lights, lanterns and cushions aplenty to watch the sunset...





Colwell **armchairs**, £900 per pair; Colwell two-seater **sofa**, £950; Colwell **coffee table**, £250; Eshott linen **cushion covers**, from £20 each; Hampnett **cushion**, £25; Islay **rug**, from £80; Adlestrop **lanterns**, from £22 each; Mayfield **tray**, £36; large ribbed **vase**, £35; Berkeley gin **glasses**, £40 for 4; Berkeley tall **tumblers**, £30 for 4; 10m outdoor **wire lights**, £12; Wire **lights curtain**, £35; Festoon classic **lights**, £70, all Garden Trading



Just landed...

**Pooky x Collaborative Craft Projects**

One of our favourite lighting brands, Pooky, has joined forces with basket makers Collaborative Craft Projects to create a collection of beautiful pendant shades. Inspired by handcrafted baskets, each of the four designs has been woven by artisan craftswomen in Zimbabwe using locally grown ilala palm - and we just love the effect the natural weave creates on the walls of a room. From £75 for a shade and £25 for a pendant kit; Pooky.com.



Rug, £19; basket, £9; baskets with lid, £15 for two, all Mayninn at Ikea



Style spotter

**Candy stripes**

- 1 Caramel & rose striped stoneware bowl, £65, Rose & Grey 2 Summer haze double duvet set, £20, Habitat 3 Blue striped posy basket, £28, Graham & Green



# Refresh your kitchen... SUSTAINABLY

Try these easy ways to be more eco in the heart of your home...

Want a new look without harming the planet (or your wallet)? Interior designer Lesa Bertie from Decorbuddi.com shares her top tips...

**PAINT THE UNITS:** The easiest and cheapest way to makeover your space, choose a mineral, chalk or eggshell paint - check out Rust-Oleum, Frenchic or Little Greene - and apply with a small roller to avoid brush marks. You'll find lots of DIY tutorials online to help; just sand wooden surfaces first, and use an all-purpose primer (try Zinsser) on glossy fronts.

**REPLACE THE FRONTS:** Are your kitchen carcasses in good condition? Add new doors from companies such as Naked Kitchens; commission a carpenter to make them bespoke; or if you have an Ikea or Howdens kitchen, either buy replacements direct, or go for beautiful birch ply - try Superfront.

**DECORATE YOUR DOORS:** Wooden reeding, batons or moulding will give existing unit doors a stylish transformation. For veneers and panels, try The Wood Veneer Hub, and for paintable stick-on moulding, Orac Decor.

**BUY RECYCLED:** Find well-priced, great-quality secondhand or ex-display kitchens from high-end brands through sites such as Rehome.com. Professionally checked and reassembled in your home, you can even pick up a reconditioned boiling-water tap!



Haddon kitchen in Plaster, from £15,000, Burbidge Kitchen Makers. For a similar tap, try Victorianplumbing.co.uk. For similar tiles, try Mandarin Stone. For a similar paint colour, try Hellebore intelligent satinwood, from £41 per ltr, Little Greene 1 Reconditioned Quooker Flex tap, from a selection, Rehome 2 Hill W110 wall moulding, £32.95 per m, Orac Decor 3 Hobby Wood & Bo Peep eggshell No. 17, from £29.50 per 750ml, both Earthborn





### Easy update Plank's aluminium handles

Innovative hardware brand Plank has created a range of kitchen handles and knobs in sustainable aluminium, which uses 60% less carbon emissions than brass, and can be recycled at the end of its life. Available in mottled aluminium or black, and starting from £7.95, they're a sustainably stylish way to update your kitchen cupboards; visit [Plankhardware.co.uk](http://Plankhardware.co.uk)



### Great idea

#### 'Rescued' coffee

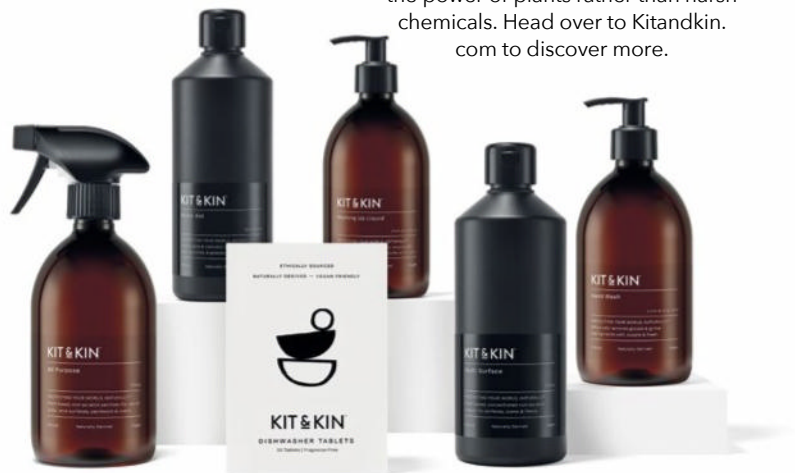
*Set up to combat waste in the industry, the Odd Coffee Co rescues surplus Nespresso-compatible pods from specialist roasters, repackaging them into 'lucky dip' boxes in different flavours and strengths. £27.95 for 100 at [Oddcoffee.co](http://Oddcoffee.co)*



### New launch

#### Planet-friendly cleaning products

Wannabe more eco-friendly? Spice up your kitchen with the new range of refillable, natural cleaning products from Kit & Kin – a family eco brand founded by former Spice Girl Emma Bunton. Including 12 different products, from dishwashing liquid to multi-surface cleaners in good-looking reusable bottles and refill pouches, the formulas all use the power of plants rather than harsh chemicals. Head over to [Kitandkin.com](http://Kitandkin.com) to discover more.



FEATURE JENNY WOOD



## SHOPPING



**£34.99**

Large seagrass framed mirror, H&M Home



**£34**

Micuit starfish dinner plate, Micucci Interiors



**£47**

Large cross woven willow basket, Escapology



**£45**

The Bamboo four-piece cutlery set in black, Sazy



**£16**

Set of four Cordelia floral short tumbler glasses, Next Home



**£39.99**

Icon Amara velvet footstool in Ochre Yellow, Bean Bag Bazaar

# 10

**under £50**

On-trend buys to update your space



**£40**

Sommarlånke LED floor lamp, Ikea



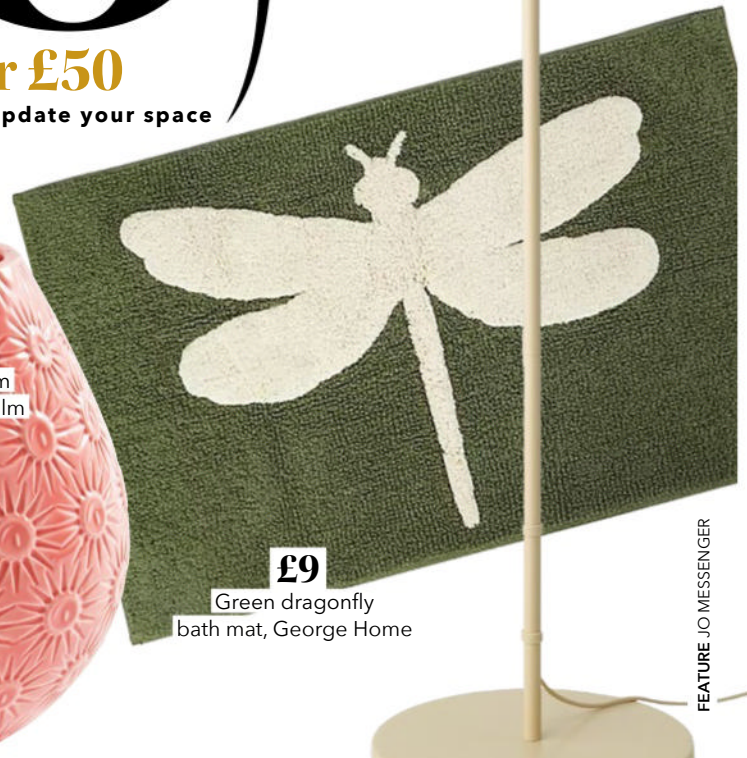
**£8**

Global stoneware oil pourer, Habitat



**£8**

Natural History Museum Corallite bud vase, Dunelm



**£9**

Green dragonfly bath mat, George Home

FEATURE JO MESSENGER

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## SHOPPING



1



2



3



*'Warm neutrals, from soft clay to darker caramel, are soothing yet sophisticated'*

Jo Messenger, Associate Editor



Colour trend...  
**ICED  
LATTE**



4



6



5



7



**SHOP THE LOOK** 1 Champagne coupe in Amber, £8.99, H&M Home 2 Sun Rays beige square art print by Jodi Feddon in white frame, from £50, Fy! 3 Muuto Unfold pendant light in Clay Brown, £195, Nest 4 Beige terracotta vase, £18, Heavenly Homes & Gardens 5 Klynnetåg double duvet set, £30, Ikea 6 Flora Americano outdoor cushion, from £29.99, Claire Louise 7 Blanc D'Ivoire Lina armchair in Nude Beige, £980, Sweetpea & Willow





Wall painted in Intelligent masonry paint in Lute & Flint, both £79 per 5ltrs, Little Greene

## THE ESSENTIALS



1. PAINT



2. WALLPAPER



3. FLOORING

1. Caramel Cream mixing matt **emulsion**, £36.49 per 2.5ltrs, Dulux 2. Slice Retro Flower tile print **wallpaper** in Beige, from £69 per 7m roll, Bobbi Beck 3. Luken Beige pre-scored **wall tiles**, £25.99 per sqm, Tile Mountain





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DECORATING



# Folksy

From bold, embroidered blooms to meadow-inspired prints, this fresh, wholesome style is a celebration of pattern & colour

*florals*



Wensum dining chairs, £395 each; Santa Croce tablecloth, from £195; Pentola cotton maché vases, from £25 each; limited edition Suzani throw, from £295; round jute placemats, £12 each; Piastrelle embroidered napkin, £18 each; wooden cutlery set, £160; tableware from a selection, all Birdie Fortescue



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### Go for bold

For an eye-catching look, match interior woodwork to one colour within a vibrant wallpaper design. Choose a complementary or contrasting shade depending on how much impact you want to achieve.







Decorating tip...

For an informal but cohesive look, team a rustic farmhouse dining table with raw steel chairs, set against a backdrop of nature-inspired wallpaper in an invigorating hue

**LEFT** V&A Peacock Topiary wallpaper in Fern Green, £124 per 10m roll, 1838 Wallcoverings. Hyde brass table lamp, £408, David Hunt Lighting. **Woodwork** painted in Air Force Blue intelligent eggshell, £37 per ltr, Little Greene. **Byron console table**, £1,150, Galvin Brothers

**ABOVE LEFT** Brocade wallpaper, £120 per 10m roll, Farrow & Ball. For similar **chairs**, try the Tolix A56, £345, Made In Design. For a similar **table**, try the Teresa solid reclaimed teak design, £1,299, Tikamoon

**ABOVE RIGHT** Roman blind in William Morris Blackthorn Summer Garden, from £47.84, Blinds2Go. For a similar **paint colour**, try Mermaid interior eggshell, £36 per ltr, Graham & Brown

**RIGHT** Hani floral wool **rug**, from £89; Pride & Joy Linford frill **cushions**, £16 each, all Dunelm. For a similar **chair**, try the Pudding love seat in Pressed Peonies clever velvet, £1,915, Loaf. For a similar decorative **side cabinet**, try Oliver Bonas





## DECORATING

### Pattern play

Opposites attract when the clean lines of Mid-century style furniture are paired with whimsical wallpaper and fabric designs. The key to a successful scheme is to stick to one colour palette to allow the characterful prints and embroidered detailing to shine.



#### *Decorating tip...*

*Inject effortless style into a bathroom scheme with a statement floral paper on one half of your wall, teamed with a simple tiling formation and streamlined vanity unit below*

**ABOVE** William Morris Brophy double **duvet cover**, £140; matching Oxford **pillowcases**, £32 each; sham **pillowcases**, £45 each, and quilted **throw**, £220, all Bedeck. William Morris Middlemore **wallpaper** in Chalk Charcoal, £109 per 10m roll, Sanderson. For a similar **bed**, try the Teramo, £1,420, Ercol. For a similar **armchair**, try the Liseleje, £109.95, Jysk. For a similar **bedside table**, try the Chadwick

Mid-century, £539, West Elm. **RIGHT** Alice Meadow **wallpaper**, £155 per 10m roll, Victory Colours. For similar **tiles**, try the Metro Deco Union Square, £59.84 per sqm, Claybrook. For a similar **vanity unit**, try the Alani 600, £418, Bathroom City. For similar **wall lights**, try the Long Roddy, £145 each, Pooky. For a similar **mirror**, try the Anyday thin round metal design, £45, John Lewis & Partners







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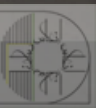


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## Kitchen

With its stunning views, this large open-plan space features stylish cabinetry by Willowfield Bespoke in three different colours. 'I ordered pale blue custom-made stools by The Chair People for the breakfast bar, and chose aqua lights with a dimple effect above the island by Lights4Living,' says Kate. The pink Brambles dining chairs are from Furniture Village, matched with an Arundel rectangular table by Neptune







# ‘I designed my own home from scratch’

Buying a plot of land and building a house with a New Zealand vibe has been a three-year labour of love for Kate Whitfield

Words STEPHANIE SMITH Photography DAVID GILES

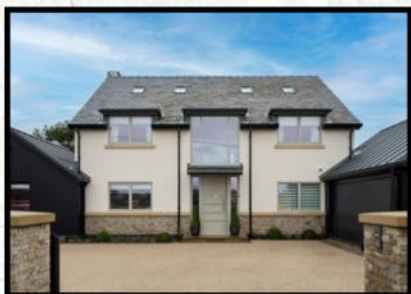




## AUTUMN HOMES

### → Colour contrast

Making sure she got in her signature burst of pink, Kate asked for the bank of units at the end to be painted in Little Greene's Confetti for a colourful complement to the blue lighting



## Step inside...

### Meet the owners

Kate Whitfield (@blake water\_build) lives here with her husband, a retail executive, and daughter Anna, 13, plus their two working cocker spaniels, Monty and Chester

### House details

A six-bedroom detached new build in West Lancashire

### When they built it

2020



When Kate Whitefield spotted a plot of land with planning permission to demolish the existing house and rebuild, she knew she had to act. 'We were living in a big old Victorian place in a town nearby, and it needed lots of things fixing,' Kate recalls. 'I was fed up with it, and had always wanted to build my own house – so my husband had agreed if the right property came up, he was in.'

After viewing the plot in a rural location, with stunning views over rolling fields, the couple were sold. 'It was everything we











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#### ↑ Design details

As the section of the kitchen with the mirrored splashback is in the neutral Neptune Shell, Kate chose the Elise cooker from Rangemaster to fit in. Large-format porcelain floor tiles from Rockform throughout the space are a practical choice next to the garden

it further. 'I discovered that the property was actually a bungalow, which I didn't want, but I really liked the way it had been done.'

So Kate got to work herself, designing a house with a central cottage and two barn extensions on either side. Although she doesn't have design experience, Kate has always been creative, so once the couple had talked through her initial design, they took it to an architect to have it drawn up.

The whole process took a year, with planning permission going through smoothly before the search for the right builder began. 'I googled local builders, and Martin Silcock of Tricklebank came up,' explains Kate. 'He emailed me straight back asking if we could meet that Saturday, which I took as a good sign that he wanted to meet on a weekend – and it was.'

After taking an immediate liking to Martin, the couple chatted through the project, and although they contacted two other builders, hoped his quote would be the winner. 'Given the problems that were to come, I'm so thrilled that it was Martin we chose,' says Kate. 'He and his team really cared; I think he enjoyed the project too, and we became good friends.' →







#### ↑ Utility & boot room

The main entry point to the house for taking boots off and drying the dogs, this space features units painted in Neptune Blue and a blind in Orla Kiely's Blue Hydrangea fabric for a pop of pattern

#### ↗ Cloakroom

Paired with panelling painted in Little Greene's Pleat, Ceracasa's Couture Sauvage monkey tiles give the illusion of wallpaper. The vanity ribbed unit and loo is from Ribble Valley Bathrooms



Kate

“ I love colour; my base shade in each room is a dusky pink, with plenty of navy blue, black and hints of mustard so it doesn't feel too girly ”



### Living room

With an impressive vaulted ceiling, this separate space is nicknamed 'the posh lounge', with Kate choosing sofas in her favourite pink and blue from the Crystal range at Sofology. 'The Llenya wallpaper in Blush Harbour Gold by Harlequin and the multi-coloured glass pendant by Lighting Styles really makes the most of the pitch'







↑ **Relaxed spot** One end of the room has fantastic views out over the fields, and Kate has added two armchairs from Sofology and tables from Next Home's Bronx range, continuing the mustard detailing with some cushions from Dunelm

With the first spade going in the ground in June 2020, it was to be two years before the couple could move into their new house, renting a property nearby while it was built. It was supposed to take a year, but the project was beset by problems – the main one being bats.

'It appeared that there had been bats living in the roof of the old house, which triggers a big procedure,' explains Kate. 'The permission to demolish the house couldn't be granted until

an ecologist had done a bat survey, only possible at certain times of the year.' So the couple had to wait four months, plus provide bat boxes in the trees and make sure there was a new home for them on the back of the new house, which they were happy to do. 'In the end, they didn't actually find any bats, but you could say I have become a bit of an expert on the subject!' she says.

Covid then reared its ugly head, which made finding materials much harder, and increased →







↑ **Hallway** Kate's love of colour stems from when she lived in Thailand for three years. 'My husband's job took us there, and I grew to love the way colour was used,' she says. The bright blue cabinet was bought from a shop in Bangkok and the Asiatic Pink Amelie rug is from Next Home

costs. This, combined with drainage issues and poor soil quality on the plot, lead to even more delays. 'It was definitely frustrating at times, but I never regretted it,' says Kate.

When it came to the interior layout, Kate was determined to make the most of the views, so the design includes a large central kitchen, dining

and living area in the middle of the main house, which looks over the fields, and a separate living space for quieter moments. 'We've also tried to futureproof the property by putting a guest suite in one of the wings on the ground floor.'

All six bedrooms have their own en suites, as Kate didn't want a single main bathroom. 'Our →



### Guest room

Panelling painted in Little Greene's Lamp Black complements the Amalfi velvet bed in dark green by Danetti. 'I didn't want it to feel too masculine, so chose a big floral bespoke mural by Wallmur next to it,' says Kate









**Anna's bedroom**

'Our daughter's room has plenty of pink in it, which I love,' says Kate. 'We found the Liberty bed at DFS, and the curtains were made by local firm Sewing Street, using velvet fabric by Clarke & Clarke.' The bedlinen and wall lights are from Next Home

**↑ Pink en suite**

This elegant scheme has an added element of wood, with the vanity unit, taps and mirrors from Ribble Valley Bathrooms. Ca' Pietra's Medina Rosa hexagon wall tiles complete the look

families are spread quite wide, from my sister in Australia to relatives in London and Scotland, so when people come to visit, they stay for a while, and I loved the idea of offering them their own bathroom space.'

Kate was also keen to add colour into her schemes, describing her decorating style as 'cosy modern'. 'I really didn't want loads of grey; she

says. 'I love colour, and my base shade is a dusky pink, which I've included an element of in every room. But I also didn't want it to feel too girly, so I've added plenty of navy blue, black and some hints of mustard.'

With the hard work and build finally completed, Kate regards the house as her family's forever home, and since moving in, has been adding →



## AUTUMN HOMES

the finishing touches and putting a personal stamp on the newly completed interiors. 'I had two years to plan, and the pieces I'd bought were piling up in the rental property!' Kate admits. 'Nothing from our Victorian house would have fitted, so we didn't bring any of it.'

'We made sure that our new home was all fully decorated before we moved in, but I've slowly been putting up pictures and arranging accessories. It's now time for us to enjoy it after all the hard work.' 

↓ **Nature en suite** National Trust Woodland Glade hexagon tiles by Ca' Pietra reflect the outdoors, and provide a stunning backdrop for the tub. 'I just fell for them immediately and knew I had to use them somewhere,' says Kate





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## THE EDIT



Pacific Porto optic glass tapered pendant in orange **£100** Next Home



Plateau ceiling fitting in antiqued brass **£175** with Small Lisboa glass shades in Violet **£94 each** Pooky

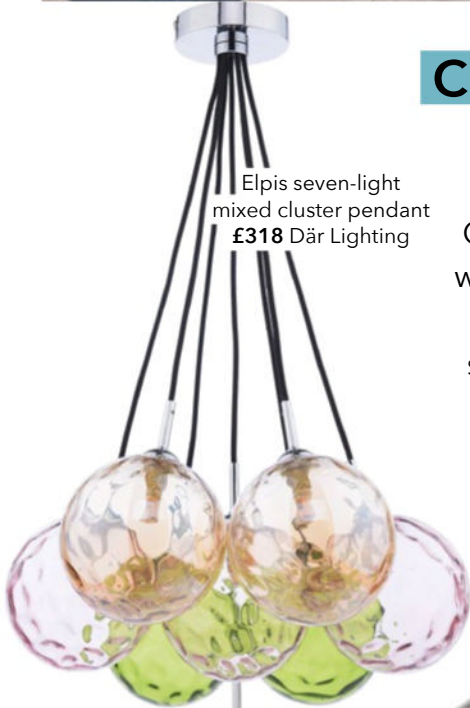


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Innermost Jelly glass pendant in yellow **£198** Glassdomain



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**Terrace**

Luana had a chair and stool from her old house reupholstered in a bright Graffiti velvet by Timorous Beasties for this garden room, which looks out to the terrace. Filled with outdoor furniture from Tesco, this space gets the sun till mid afternoon, with durable composite decking for the Manchester weather next on the to-do list

# ‘It feels like a Mediterranean retreat here’

Light and space were the main draws for Luana Hanson, who has swapped London life for a relaxing oasis in a vibrant Manchester suburb

Words **KAREN WILSON** Photography **KATIE LEE**





Luana

“My style is modern, clean and minimalist, but with an eclectic twist”

## Step inside...

### Meet the owner

Luana Hanson, a production designer in the film and TV industry who also runs an interior design practice ([luanahansoninteriors.co.uk](http://luanahansoninteriors.co.uk)) lives here with her son, 14

### House details

A modern, three-bedroom split-level property in south Manchester

### When she bought it

September 2019



### ↑ Kitchen

Luana loves the simplicity of the kitchen for preparing and cooking meals, with a favourite canvas of Porthmeor beach by her mum taking pride of place on the wall. 'I'd like to eventually change the worktops to quartz, adapt the island to create a breakfast bar and remove the extractor fan, adding one flush to the ceiling,' she says







**A**fter 30 years living in London as a student at The Royal College of Art then a film and TV production designer, Luana Hanson decided to sell the Victorian terraced house in Twickenham she shared with her 14-year-old son, and return to her native Manchester. 'I'd always enjoyed coming back up here for work,' explains Luana, who has designed

sets for productions including BBC's *Last Tango in Halifax*, as well as winning a Royal Television Society Award for her work on Channel 4 drama *It's a Sin*. 'There are more work opportunities here now than ever before, especially in TV, so I was happy to move back up north for a new lifestyle,' she says. 'I wanted somewhere similar to Twickenham with a sense of community and good transport links to the city.' →





### ↑ Outdoor access

Off the kitchen is a door leading to another small patio area, where Luana sometimes has breakfast. 'Along with the rear decked patio, there's also a little roof terrace, so it's nice having three different outside spaces'

In her bid to find the ideal house, Luana viewed 18 properties. 'I viewed 65 potential homes when I lived in London, so to me it wasn't that many!' she admits. 'The market was very buoyant though, so as soon as something came up for sale, it was being snapped up straight away.'

Eventually Luana found a modern eco home with solar panels in a suburb of south Manchester that was perfect. 'I loved the open-plan, split-level layout, and it was full of light, which was so important to me,' she explains. 'Plus, it's very green around here; there are 70 acres of meadows just down the road where you can go walking.'

After tackling all the DIY snagging jobs during lockdown alongside her busy job, Luana has gradually worked her way around the house, replacing the bedroom carpets and re-painting the white walls with a combination of natural stone shades. And by opting for contrasting dark navy feature walls in the living room, kitchen and bedrooms, her cherished possessions and artwork can really sing.

'My style is modern, clean, uncluttered and minimalist, but with an eclectic twist,' says Luana. 'I'm inspired by everything from magazines and Instagram to art galleries and exhibitions, and I often →







#### Dining area

There's ample space to seat eight when friends and family visit, and the glass balustrade and open-tread stairs enable plenty of borrowed light to come through the large windows at the rear. 'I picked a classic Scandi design table by Hay and teamed it with chairs from John Lewis & Partners that won't date,' says Luana









**Mezzanine living room**

A dark feature wall painted in Dock Blue by Little Greene makes Luana's artworks - including a framed glass box of memorabilia found in her late father's sculpting studio - stand out, while creating a contrast with the lighter faux-suede sofa from Habitat. 'I like a bold pop of colour, so the pink velvet cushion from John Lewis & Partners works well,' she says







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### ← Fireplace

The wood burner was already in situ but Luana has painted behind it to accentuate it. 'I created the artwork myself many years ago from leftover paint, and it fits perfectly in this space,' she says

### → Staircase

A trio of pendants from Tala Lighting make the most of the ceiling height and complement the glass balustrade. 'I love the unusual split-level layout,' says Luana. 'It's what originally drew me to the house'

get ideas when I'm out recceing for shoot locations and looking inside people's houses.'

Dotted around the house are several pieces with special meaning created by Luana's late father, a sculptor who was head of studio at Madame Tussauds. They include a bronze model of Luana's head from when she was six, and her son when he was eight. There are also coastal scenes by Luana's mum, a painter and sculptor who lives in St Ives, as well as film and TV memorabilia from various projects. 'I've framed some of Gary Oldman's story boards, which he gave me as a thank you present when I worked

on his film *Nil By Mouth*, she says. 'And I have a cast of Alfred Hitchcock's hands from 1979 that my dad was involved in creating, which I plan to put up in an alcove.' There's also a gold painting in the living room created as a test piece when Luana was designing Rifat Ozbek's London Fashion Show in 1993. 'We then gold-leafed an enormous backdrop for his catwalk show, in which Naomi Campbell, Yasmin Le Bon, Linda Evangelista and Cindy Crawford were all modelling,' she recalls.

Next, Luana wants to add more fitted wardrobes in the bedrooms and replace the wooden fencing at the front →









Luana

“We live in a world of endless consumption, but I try to buy classic pieces that won’t date and will last a long time”

with glass balustrades. However, she’s not one for impulse buys or wastefulness. ‘You might want things, like an outdoor kitchen for instance, but you don’t actually need one,’ she says. ‘We live in a world of endless consumption, but I try to buy classic pieces that won’t date and keep them for a long time. I’ve had the Habitat sofa for about 25 years, for example, and the coffee table was originally maroon, but I’ve painted the top in the same stone colour as the walls.’

Having started an interior design business in London, Luana is keen to share her expertise with homeowners in Manchester too. ‘My job had taken me to 18 different countries, and it was difficult juggling the travelling and long hours expected in TV and film,’ she explains. Her top tips include keeping a project diary, getting a detailed breakdown for any quote, never selecting a paint colour under artificial light and always having a contingency fund of around 20%. ‘You only have to watch *Grand Designs* to know that every project goes over budget!’ she says.

Luana has no regrets about moving and the new lifestyle her home affords her. ‘It’s given me space to entertain, an office to create in, plus it’s near the hustle and bustle of a lively, trendy street,’ she says. ‘I do tend to get itchy feet, and would love to go travelling for a year in a camper van, but I can always rent this place out if I do.’



↑ **Landing** Luana picked up the pair of Egon Schiele art prints at the Pompidou Centre on a trip to Paris when was 18, opting for a simple monochrome pendant light from Amazon with a Tala bulb to complete the look





↑ **Main bedroom** A long made-to-measure shelf provides a spot for an ever-changing display of prints and family photos. Luana has painted the bottom half using Off-Black by Farrow & Ball, which makes her bed from The White Company stand out, and the bee motif on the Timorous Beasties cushion is a symbol of Manchester







### Bathroom

Trailing plants bring verdant freshness and a softer element to the monochrome bathroom, which features wall-hung fittings to make the space feel bigger







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## THE EDIT



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# ‘This house has such a lovely feel’

Leaving the city for a more rural setting, Jo Edwards has injected personality into her Victorian villa

Words **AMY MAYNARD**

Photography **RICHARD GADSBY**



## Living room

A gallery wall sets the tone for this space, where a vintage leather sofa and a Mid-century coffee table - a Robin Day at Habitat piece found on Ebay - are teamed with a teal sofa from La Redoute for a pop of colour











### Designs details

Jo has added warmth to the scheme using wood tones and natural materials, including a mirror from Ikea, rug from Sunday & Story and ikat cushion from Hunter Jones







## ← Colour contrast

With a good eye for sourcing framed posters, including this Bauhaus print from PSTR Studio, Jo has incorporated further mustard hues and pinks with cushions from SHOP in St Leonards and Dunelm



## Step inside...

### Meet the owner

Jo Edwards, who works in retail, lives here with her daughter Mimi, 10, and cats Basil and Florence

### House details

A two-bedroom semi-detached Victorian villa in an idyllic village not far from the market town of Tenterden, where grass verges are mown into neat stripes and the front gardens overflow with flowers that hum with bees in the summer. 'The seller had modelled the interior like a rustic French villa,' recalls Jo. 'It was all painted white inside, even the floorboards – and as it was a second home, was immaculate. I loved it and could envisage the changes I wanted to make.'

### When she bought it

May 2013

Jo Edwards was a born-and-bred Londoner, living in a terraced house in Lewisham with her then husband and their daughter, when she began to yearn for something a bit different. 'As much as I loved London, I was ready to move,' explains Jo. 'We were also keen to be nearer to my mum who lived in north Kent, and for a more rural lifestyle to bring up Mimi.'

It didn't take long for the couple to find the perfect spot in early 2013 – a semi-detached Victorian villa in an idyllic village not far from the market town of Tenterden, where grass verges are mown into neat stripes and the front gardens overflow with flowers that hum with bees in the summer. 'The seller had modelled the interior like a rustic French villa,' recalls Jo. 'It was all painted white inside, even the floorboards – and as it was a second home, was immaculate. I loved it and could envisage the changes I wanted to make.'

The price would allow the couple to make a few alterations to the interiors, and as they loved the village so much, they decided to go for it. 'The process →



### Dining room

Using a large rug from SHOP in St Leonards and colourful cushions, Jo has injected red accents into this entertaining space, where hearth tiles from Tiles Direct, Pause artwork from H&M Home and a Jean-Luc Godard poster from Agnès B in Paris add monochrome definition. A sideboard from Habitat, lamp from Heal's and wicker pouffes from Ikea complete the scheme







Jo

“I love posters; I seem to have a knack for picking them up, and some of my favourites I found while in Paris”

was straightforward and went through without a hitch’, says Jo.

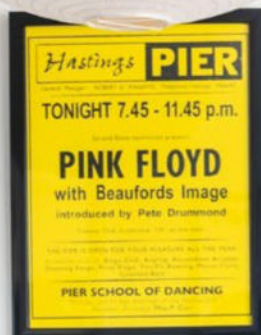
Village life suited the family and offered a few amenities – including a pub, tea room, shop and post office – which helped ease the transition from city life. ‘People were very welcoming, which was a far cry from London, and we made friends straight away’, explains Jo. Mimi, now 10, also made local friends and began attending the local primary school.

Not long after moving in, the couple set about making some changes. ‘The house wasn’t terribly practical for family life’, recalls Jo. ‘As the kitchen was made up of freestanding units, the first thing we did was employ a local joiner to make us →



### Stylish seating

The Cesca chairs were sourced on Ebay, and for similar Wishbone-style chairs, try Dunelm



### CREATING A GALLERY WALL?

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**Bespoke feature**

Jo has made the most of the space by adding a breakfast bar, teamed with Cesca bar stools to match the dining chairs beyond



some in-frame cupboards, and we also did some decorating throughout the rest of the house.'

Over the next few years, the couple went on to do a few more alterations to the property, including replacing the kitchen's painted panelling and concrete sink with a cleaner white metro-tile splashback and butler sink. 'We also updated the bathroom, adding a shower and new basin unit but keeping the existing metal tub,' Jo adds.

Unfortunately, there was a bit of a disaster with the shower tiles. 'I splashed out on a Bert & May design and the tiler did a terrible job,'

recalls Jo. 'We had to take them down and then use a cheaper alternative and get in a new tiler as we couldn't afford to buy the same ones again. Thankfully I did manage to salvage some and use them as the basin splashback though.'

With white walls and floorboards, the bathroom is now a calm space that Jo has added a bright red kilim rug to as a contrast to the vibrant splashback, while the vast bathtub remains a real wow-factor piece in the space. Along the corridor, the main bedroom has been given a luxe splash of colour with Gucci pink heron-print wallpaper, ➔





### Kitchen

Metro splashback tiles from Topps Tiles work well with the dark cabinetry in Farrow & Ball's Railings, which Jo has teamed with taps from Perrin & Rowe. Pretty crockery is displayed on a vintage-style metal wall rack from Stovold & Pogue, with interest underfoot created with a Hunter Jones rug









## Bathroom

The statement William Holland tin tub was already in the house when Jo moved in, and she's added taps from Lefroy Brooks. Warm wood accents include a basin unit from Tikamoon, ladder from Habitat and an Ikea shelf, while the Andy Warhol poster is from TK Maxx





**Design details**

Jo managed to salvage some Bert & May tiles from a shower tiling disaster to use as the basin splashback. The round mirror is from John Lewis & Partners



Jo

“  
I would  
describe my  
style as Mid-  
century with  
a Danish twist;  
I like to mix  
old with new  
”

complemented by Jo's choice of pastel accessories. And most recently, Jo has transformed the attached outbuilding from an office space into a stylish one-bed studio, which she now lets out for short breaks.

Featuring two bedrooms, a large family bathroom and walk-in wardrobe upstairs, then a kitchen in a charcoal hue with matching woodwork, dining room, living room and cloakroom downstairs, the main house now has off-white walls that are the perfect backdrop for Jo's fabulous selection of colourful art. 'I really love posters,' she says. 'I seem to have a knack for picking them up – for example, I always buy them whenever I go to the ballet, and I also sourced some of my favourites while I was

in Paris.' Jo has added splashes of colour with her choices of furniture and accessories, too. 'I would describe my style as Mid-century with a Danish twist,' she says. 'I like to mix old with new.'

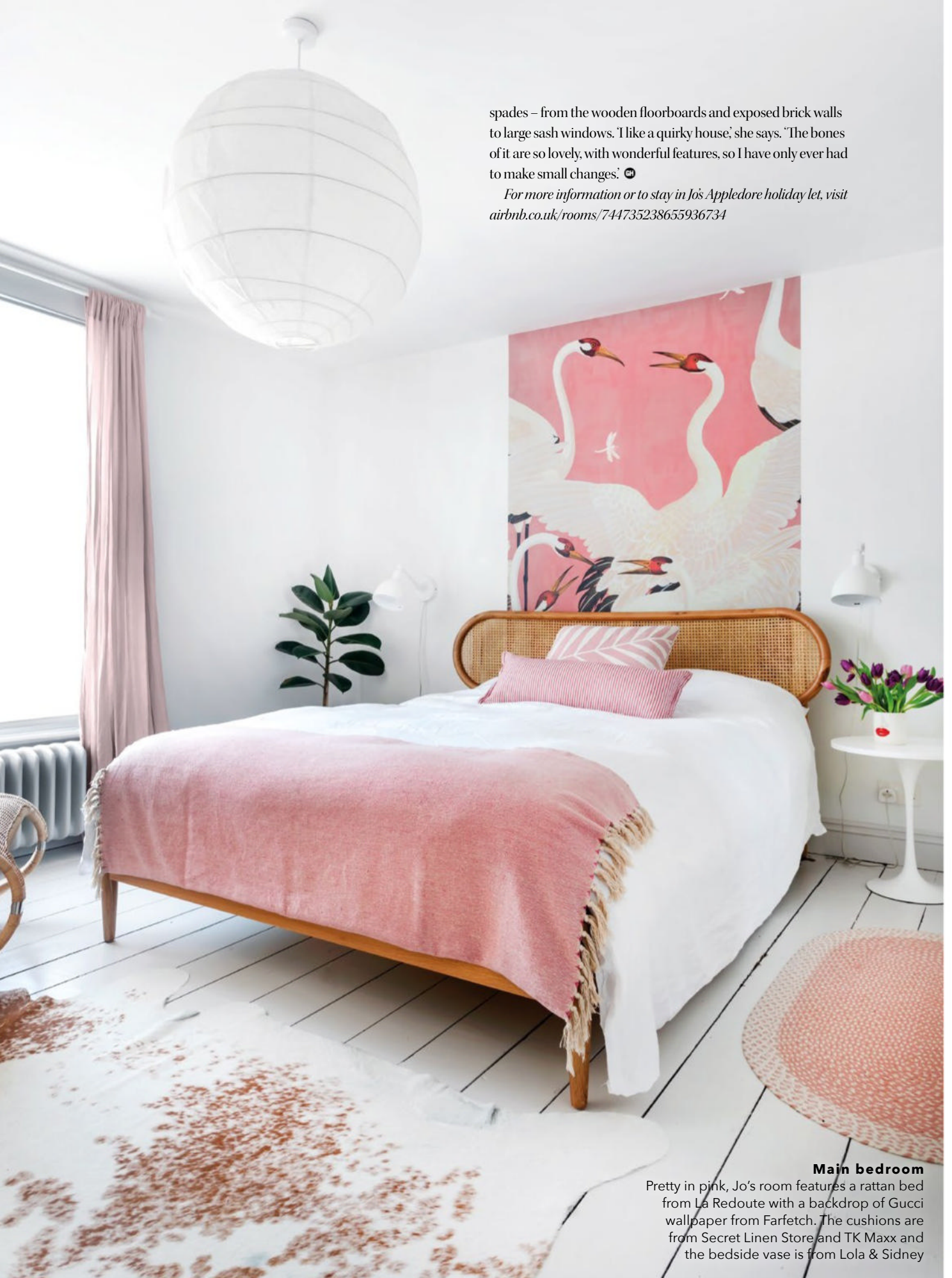
As much as she's happy with the end result, Jo admits she would love a little more space. 'If money was no object, I would definitely open up the kitchen into the side return so that I have a view out onto the garden,' she says. 'Plus, I would add another bedroom, as the house originally had three, but the previous owner turned the smallest bedroom into the bathroom and walk-in wardrobe.'

On the whole, however, Jo is delighted with her characterful home, which has original features in →



spades – from the wooden floorboards and exposed brick walls to large sash windows. 'I like a quirky house,' she says. 'The bones of it are so lovely, with wonderful features, so I have only ever had to make small changes.' 🌿

*For more information or to stay in Jo's Appledore holiday let, visit [airbnb.co.uk/rooms/744735238655936734](https://airbnb.co.uk/rooms/744735238655936734)*



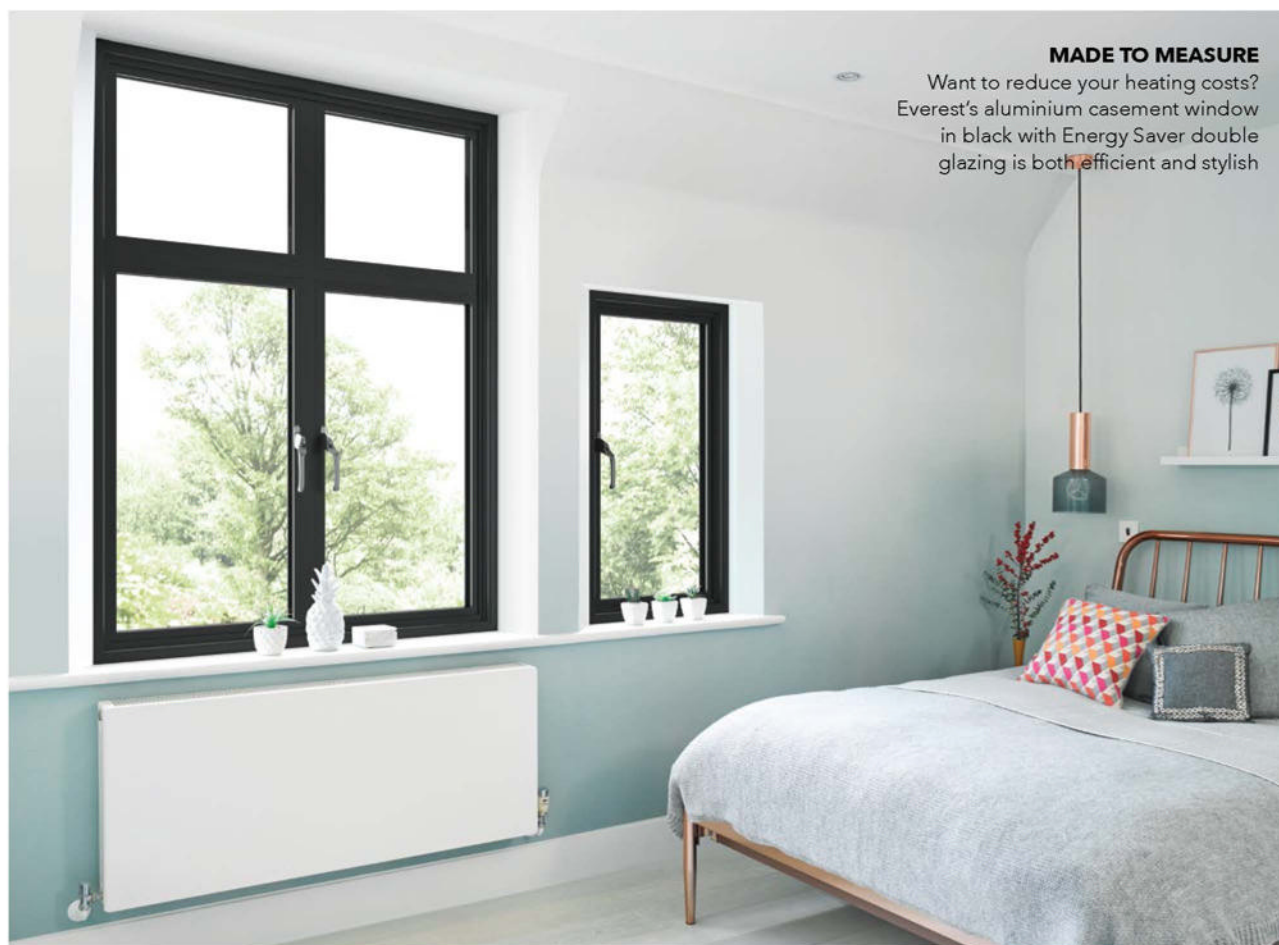
#### Main bedroom

Pretty in pink, Jo's room features a rattan bed from La Redoute with a backdrop of Gucci wallpaper from Farfetch. The cushions are from Secret Linen Store and TK Maxx and the bedside vase is from Lola & Sidney



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**T**hanks to some exciting new developments in glass technology, there are many different types of glazing for windows now available, allowing homeowners to choose the option that's best suited to the needs of their property.

'There's a misconception that the glass used in windows is all the same,' says Everest's Anthony Threlfall. 'In fact, it comes in varying thicknesses, clarity levels and coatings, meaning that every window and room in a home can be fully customised to meet the specific conditions of each space.'

With the right type of glass installed in a replacement window, homeowners will see a significant difference in their property, as it can reduce heating costs, improve safety and security, reduce sound levels, improve privacy and comfort, as well as protect furniture against UV damage.

'Glass is fantastic for tackling a range of issues, from improving energy efficiency in colder rooms to reducing external noise,' says Anthony. 'We always encourage homeowners to think about the different problems they experience in each room of their home to

help them on their search for the perfect replacement windows.'

Working with a company that not only delivers a fantastic service but the expertise on what glass should be used will help homeowners create comfortable living spaces that can be enjoyed all year round – and Everest offers a full range of glazing units containing specialist glass that can be tailored to different rooms and requirements, whatever your property or lifestyle. To find out more about the Everest Ultimate, Energy Saver and Noise Reducing ranges, see below.



For more information, visit  
[everest.co.uk/glass](http://everest.co.uk/glass) or call 01707 830732



## THE EDIT



*Brighten up your space with this Pop Art-inspired, motivational design*



Now orange limited edition print **from £35** Floppy Toast



Bring Me Sunshine print (unframed) **from £15** Nanas of Anarchy



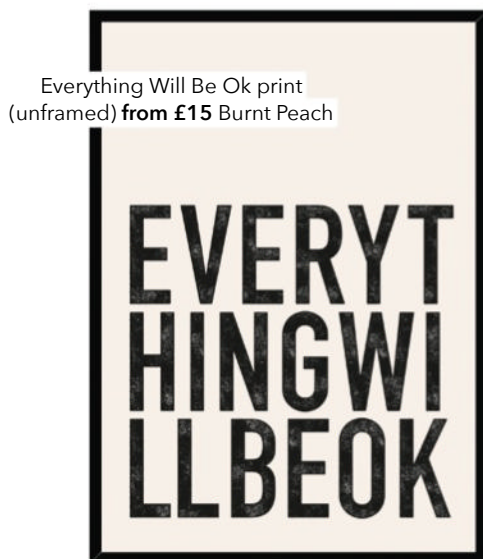
It Was All A Dream neon print (unframed) **from £13** Ink & Drop

## TYPOGRAPHY PRINTS

Make your wall a talking point like Jo has with this statement selection



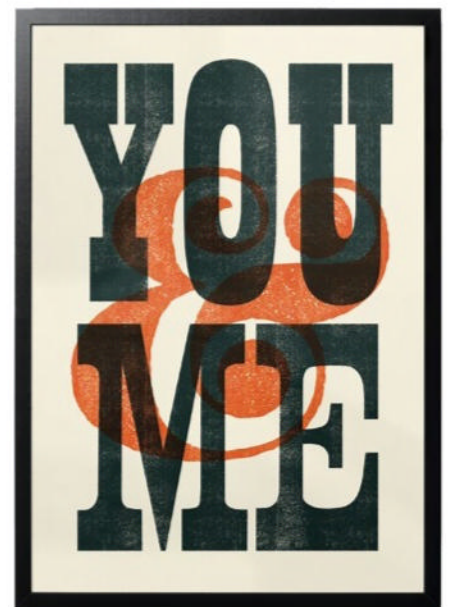
More Art framed wall art **£69.50** Oliver Bonas



Everything Will Be Ok print (unframed) **from £15** Burnt Peach



Be Love vintage-inspired typography print (unframed) in Coral **from £15** Lime Lace



You & Me A3 print (unframed) **£40** Mint & May

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How to...

# ADD WARMTH TO YOUR HOME

While the weather's still warm outside, it's the perfect time to get your home's heating system in place to ensure your energy bills are kept at a minimum this winter. Read on for how to achieve warmth and efficiency without compromising on style...

Milano Windsor column  
radiator in bronze, from  
£260.96, BestHeating

*Give your space a contemporary focal point with a radiator that's both practical & super stylish. Choosing the right size for the room is key: calculate the British Thermal Units (BTU) of the design online at [bestheating.com/btu-calculator](https://bestheating.com/btu-calculator) to find out the heat output before you buy*





# BEAUTIFUL BURNERS

## 1. STAND ALONE

If you're not a fan of more traditional-looking wood burners, try a minimalist, freestanding design like this one, where the clear door allows you to see the flames from the side as well as the front.

Morsø 4340, £2,699, Morsø

### TOP TIP

Wood-burning stoves are usually 60-80% efficient - higher than an open fire, but less than a gas or electric

# 1.





2.



As well as classic log burners, multi-fuel or wood pellet stoves are available. Keep in mind that since January 2022, all wood-burning stoves purchased need to be EcoDesign compliant



3.

## 2. COLOUR MATCH

There's nothing to say you have to stick to a black or grey stove: going for a shade to complement your scheme will instantly add interest to a room. This design is ideal for storing your logs, burns both wood and solid fuel, and comes in seven different shades. Farringdon small eco stove in Chestnut, from £1,616.80, Arada Stoves

## 3. SITTING PRETTY

If you can't decide between a stove or a fireplace, a freestanding design like this is a happy medium. By sitting it on top of built-in cabinetry at eye level when seated, rather than on the floor, it creates a more prominent focal point. There's also the bonus that you can store logs underneath it, too. Ecodesign-ready Studio Air 2 freestanding 8.2kW cast-iron and steel stove in Black (also available in Grey and White) £2,829, Stovax

## 4. BUILD IT IN

Sitting snugly into the chimney breast, this stove allows you to design and customise a fireplace to your exact specifications to give any living space an understated, modern look. i7 fireplace insert stove, from £2,315, Contura



4.



*Powder-coated steel radiators are a stylish, energy-efficient option that can work with any domestic heating system*



5.

#### TOP TIP

Don't have much wall space? A vertical radiator will make the most of a narrow or unused area



6.

## SHOWSTOPPER RADIATORS

### 5. DOUBLE UP

Featuring a handy bench seat, this two-in-one radiator is perfect for hallways or boot rooms where space is at a premium and heat is a welcome addition as you come through the door. Its column design has a solid-oak top that's not only practical, but comes in a range of sizes, RAL colours and special finishes, so it's easy to find one to suit your space.

DQ Bench column seat radiator, from £833, Just Radiators

### 6. GO SLIMLINE

An ideal space-saving solution, this sleek double-panel oval radiator will add a modern feel

to your decorating scheme. And despite its slimline design, it also has a high heat output, making it a great choice for large open-plan and small spaces alike. Double panel oval tube designer radiator in Anthracite, £159.99, Radiator Outlet

### 7. PARE IT BACK

For a strong yet clean look, a flat-panel radiator in one solid block of colour offers a real design-led aesthetic that's ideal for making a statement in more contemporary style interiors. Suave mild steel wall-mounted radiator in Anthracite, £508.80, Vogue UK



7.

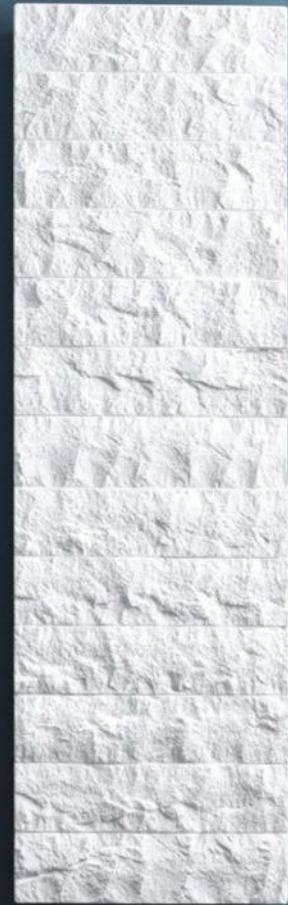


## 8. CREATE ART

Adorn your wall as you would with a piece of artwork or decorative mirror but with an eye-catching radiator. Look for different materials and textures; the stone finish of this design provides a rugged contrast to the fixtures of a modern home.

Ceramica Pavia radiator, from £2,085.60, The Radiator Company

# 8.



*Work with the size of your surface - most radiators now come in both horizontal and vertical orientations*



# FABULOUS FIREPLACES

## 9. WOW-FACTOR CENTREPIECE

Suspended, ceiling-hung fires are particularly suited to open-plan areas, with the latest cutting-edge electric models less costly and easier to install than wood-burning versions.

Orbit 1.5kW, 340-degree rotating steel fire with Chromalight® immersive LED visual effects system, thermostatic eco handset & flame-only option, £3,295, Onyx







10.

## 10. GO LANDSCAPE

Offering ultra-realistic flames, this stunning electric fire is the next generation of modern living. It can act as a room divider in a large open-plan space or designed with built-storage solutions to showcase books or homeware, while its landscape style and choice of three flame colours makes it the ultimate focal point in a contemporary home. Polaris 1600e electric stove, from £2,062, Charlton & Jenrick

### TOP TIP

If it's purely for ambience, choose a model that allows you to have the flame effect on without the heat

*You can conveniently position electric fires anywhere you have a plug point, while a gas fire, which gives out three times the heat, will need to be installed by a registered Gas Safe engineer*



11.

## 11. KEEP IT CLASSIC

Love the look of a traditional wood burner but don't want the upkeep? The latest electric stoves use cutting edge technology to provide instant heat, realistic flames and ambience you can remotely tailor for an authentic experience, from flame speed to the crackling sounds of burning logs. Horizon electric stove, £1,049, E-line Solus Collection at Vision Fires

## 12. TWO-SIDE STYLE

A double-sided fire offers the perfect solution to heat a dual-purpose space, while also providing a visual divide between the two zones. This particular design also rotates, so it can be easily directed towards the area in use. Nestor Martin THS 15 2-5kW gas stove, from £3,686, Eurostove



12.



# Get snug with Crittall

Create a space to express your style and maximise light with the steel-window specialist

**P**lanning a new look for your interiors? As our lifestyles have changed to include spending more time at home, a snug is a trending additional space in which to kick back and express your individual style – think dimmable lighting, tactile soft furnishings and cosy corners.

But while the nature of a snug is to make a space comfy, clever use of tailor-made internal glazing ensures that light is let in throughout the home to ensure a bright, stylish scheme without compromising on cosiness.

'Using natural light to define a space is a key element within a home's design, and has a positive impact on our daily lives and wellbeing,' says Russell Ager, managing director of Crittall Windows, a pioneer of bespoke steel-framed window manufacture for almost 180 years. 'Internal screens and windows with elegantly slender frames and the slimmest of profiles offer open-plan living and spaces with a different dimension, partitioning areas to create contemporary 'zones' for relaxing, socialising, eating, exercising or working while creating flow.'

For example, matching combinations of Crittall's minimal profile windows and Innervision internal glazed steel screens with sliding or hinged doors are bespoke and designed for modern living. Their subtle detailing and excellent technical properties will make a snug – although small by nature – seem bigger, while also keeping heating bills down. Internal windows also benefit rooms sharing light across spaces, meaning reliance on artificial light is reduced.

Advanced glazing options will maximise natural illumination without compromising your space, while the



enhanced acoustic properties also keep noise at bay,' says Ager. 'Steel-framed screens and windows are also ideally suited to any type of property, whether it be a period home or a new build seeking an industrial look, offering you the freedom to create a unique design.'

What's more, Crittall products are polyester powder-coated too for minimal maintenance,

with a vast palette of shades available to suit your decorating scheme. 'Adding a savvy splash of colour will ensure an even bigger wow factor,' adds Ager.

Expertly handcrafted by artisans and built to last, Crittall steel windows, doors and screens are uniquely British made – often imitated but never matched.



For more information, call 01376 530800  
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84.



“These hexagonal tiles fitted perfectly with my ideas to overhaul our dated bathroom”





FAMILY-FRIENDLY  
RECONFIGURATION



# ‘We’ve managed to get more into less’

By rejigging the layout, Laura Zireva has created a more sociable kitchen with added storage

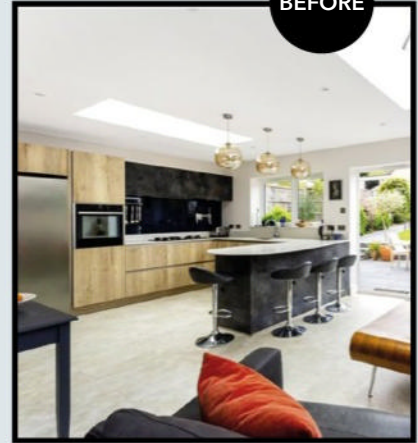
Feature **MANDI MILLAR** Photography **FIONA WALKER-ARNOTT**





## KITCHEN MAKEOVER

BEFORE



### The project details

#### MEET THE RENOVATORS

Content creator Laura Zireva (@homeatspringbank) lives here with husband David, a civil servant, and daughter Talia, 3

#### MAKEOVER BRIEF


To make the kitchen layout work for a family that loves entertaining by bringing the dining area closer and reconfiguring storage space

#### PROJECT COSTS

Units **£5,884** Splashback, upstands & worktops **£4,491** Furniture **£3,097** Appliances **£1,386** Lighting **£378** Handles **£256** Flooring **£200** Taps **£169**

#### TOTAL SPEND

**£15,861**

 **NEW SCHEME** Laura chose Shaker-style units for a traditional aesthetic, taking them to the ceiling to maximise storage. A trio of pendant lights illuminate the must-have island, with wood and brass accents completing the look

#### WHAT WAS WRONG WITH YOUR ORIGINAL KITCHEN?

We're a family that loves to have everyone over for dinner, but the existing layout of the kitchen just didn't allow us to do that, mainly because the dining area was in a different space. The kitchen we inherited with the house was relatively new and in good condition, but unfortunately it just wasn't our style at all, and the existing

peninsular unit just wasn't going to work for our family as we wanted an island as a focal point. Changing the layout allowed us to incorporate this and so much more – all better suited to the way we live.

#### HOW DID THE DESIGN BEGIN?

We wanted to create a more traditional-style kitchen but with a contemporary twist and that all-important island. People →





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## KITCHEN MAKEOVER



### HIDDEN PANTRY

A family-friendly pull-out larder next to a large American-style fridge stores and displays more items with ease



### WINE FRIDGE

A great way to fill an awkward space in a run of units, this wine fridge is a handy addition for when entertaining



**DESIGN DETAILS** In place of wall cupboards, shelving has opened up the space and allowed Laura to curate a display of her favourite pieces, while the beautiful quartz splashback below brings organic texture to the scheme

tend to perch there while I'm cooking when we have friends and family over, and it will be perfect for Talia too as she gets older for doing homework while I'm getting dinner ready. I also have lots of treasured pieces that I've collected over the years, and wanted somewhere to display them so they're not hidden in cupboards. That meant doing away with some wall cabinetry and replacing them with open shelving.

### DID YOU HAVE ANY DOUBTS?

Taking away those wall units was pretty risky as, like every other family, storage is

at a premium, and we always seem to have more stuff than places to put it! But we found that the glazed dresser we now have in the dining area actually gives us more storage than we previously had – and I get to enjoy my open shelving.


### WAS THERE A HIGH POINT?

We kept the existing flooring but the new layout revealed some parts of the floor that hadn't previously been tiled. So we didn't know how on earth we'd match it until I lucked out by finding the previous owner's invoice for the flooring in a folder they had left us! →



## KITCHEN MAKEOVER



 **DINING AREA** Laura opted for bench seating so there's always room for an extra guest or two, and splashed out on the multifunctional dresser, where cupboards allow her to hide clutter on the bottom and the glazed top means she can have her collection of treasures on show

### HOW DID YOU MAKE THE BUDGET WORK FOR YOU?

It was tricky but we managed to stick to it by reusing existing appliances as well as power and water points. In the end we spent a little more on electrics for the island, but we did the painting and snagging ourselves as well as laying the additional flooring required. We actually enjoyed being hands on as it really gave us a sense of ownership over the project, while sticking to a budget made us think a bit more creatively.

### LOOKING BACK, WOULD YOU DO ANYTHING DIFFERENTLY?

If money was no object, we'd have included an integrated fridge and maybe a boiling-water tap and waste disposal, but these weren't essentials.

### ARE YOU PLEASED WITH THE RESULT?

We absolutely love it. The rooflight and bifold doors were already there, but we think the new look really sets them off and makes the most of the lovely bright room. 

“I love that the glazed dresser in the new dining area gives us more space than we had with the wall cupboards”

## Shopping List

Shaker Chelsea Ermine **units** in Matt Olive, £5,884; Jessica & Chloe **handles** in brass, £13.50 each; Bora ceramic double Belfast **sink**, £549; Fortuna bronze **tap** with white handles, £169, all Wren Kitchens. **Splashback, upstand & worktop** in Statuario Gold quartz, £340 per sqm, all Pure Quartz. LVT **floor tiles** in Camaro Limestone, £29.99 per sqm, Polyflor. Austen glass **pendants**, £97.50 each, Soho Lighting Company. Rufus **wall lights** in antique brass, £35 each, Laura Ashley. Elm Home Store **stools**, £89 each, Amazon. Vintage dining **table**, £300, Taylor Grey. For a similar custom-made **bench**, try the Bridewell, £83.99, Wayfair. Chester **dining chairs**, £99 each, Cotswold Company. **Dresser**, £2,500, Maison du Monde. Briar Rose **wallpaper** in Green Mist, £118 per roll, Little Greene



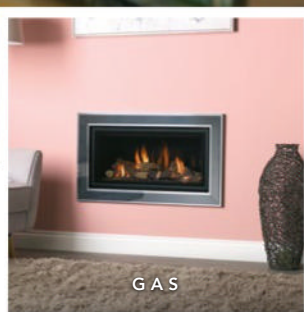


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## FILTERED WATER

The Purity Glass Brita kettle from Russell Hobbs has a Brita Maxtra+ water filter to reduce build-up of impurities **£69.99**



## STRIPED STYLING

A great all-rounder in six colour choices, Kenwood's Dawn and Dusk collection features a handy wide spout **£49.99**

*Combines a stainless-steel body with rubberised painted finish*

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## SCANDI VIBE

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## RETRO LOOK

Smeg's 1950s-style KLF04 kettle has seven temperature levels while a keep-warm button means your brew won't go cold **£179.95**



## ADJUSTABLE HEAT

The Multi-Temp Jug kettle from Cuisinart can be adjusted in 5°C increments, with an LCD screen so you know when to reboil **£100**

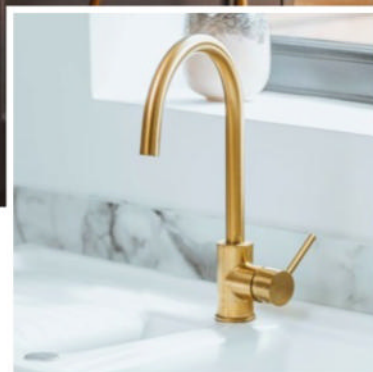
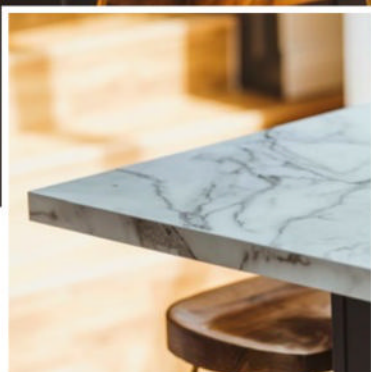
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## SECRET GARDEN

As we enjoy the last of the late-summer sun, create a magical feel by adding an extra-special architectural touch to your outdoor space. This stunning set up, including a unique gothic window feature that appears like it's always been there, is giving us serious al fresco inspo, teamed with colourful lanterns and accessories for a boho vibe.

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## Find us on Pinterest...

Continue the summer hues with some fresh and fruity tablescaping ideas. We love this citrus-themed tableware from Rockett St George, which paired with vibrant candles is the perfect way to entertain into the evening. Check out our Pinterest page for more ideas to make your table the star of the show...

Competition



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## DESIGNER-LOOK RENOVATION

# ‘It’s turned out even better than I expected’

Refusing to compromise when it came to the design, Helen Freed has created a modern space packed with savvy ideas

Feature & styling **MAXINE BRADY** Photography **COLIN POOLE**

### TELL US ABOUT YOUR ORIGINAL BATHROOM

Moving from London to Bristol, we found a lovely new family home, but it was a 1960s time warp and needed a complete renovation. The main bathroom – complete with carpet and old-fashioned tiles – was dated and hadn’t been decorated for years.

### WHAT WERE YOUR BIG IDEAS FOR THE ROOM?

My initial plan was to salvage some original features as a homage to the era. I tried to repurpose a pink bathroom

suite from another bathroom, but sadly it was beyond repair. Going back to the drawing board, my inspiration came from the hexagonal tiles I spotted in a tile showroom; I love monochrome spaces and these tiles fitted perfectly with my revised ideas.

### HOW DID THE DESIGN START TO EVOLVE?

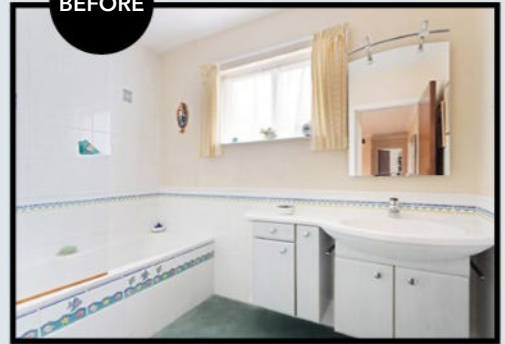
The builders moved a wall a foot to the left, stealing space from the main bedroom to create a larger bathroom, and installed a small step to hide the pipework and drainage for →





## BATHROOM MAKEOVER

BEFORE



### The project details

#### MEET THE RENOVATORS

Helen Freed, a lawyer, and her husband Charles, an operations manager, live here with their sons Freddie, 5 and Stanley, 3

#### MAKEOVER BRIEF

To enlarge the room to fit in a shower and bath by taking space from the adjacent bedroom, replacing the dated fixtures and fittings for a boutique-hotel feel

#### PROJECT COSTS

Bath **£1,154** Tiles **£906** Shower screen **£695** Sanitaryware **£477**  
Vanity units **£336** Taps **£204** Towel rail **£200** Shower head **£139**

#### TOTAL SPEND

**£4,111**

#### CONTEMPORARY STYLING

Falling in love with the idea of using two types of tiles, Helen chose to paint half the wall then team a wood-effect design to match the window frames with a monochrome hexagonal tile, giving her new bathroom visual interest on a budget







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R2







a walk-in shower. It then became obvious where everything else should be positioned in terms of the layout – with the bath and shower in the raised area at the rear, and double basins and the toilet towards the front.

#### WAS IT DIFFICULT TO STICK TO THE BUDGET?

We had a whole house to renovate at once, so we had to look for ways to get the style we wanted but within our means. It was Charles' idea to paint the walls navy to save on tiling costs, and it means we can change the colours in here if we want later on. We were willing to spend a bit more money on the bathroom

fixtures and fittings, though, so it would stand the test of time. The first quote we received from a designer bathroom company was astronomical, so our builders put us in touch with a local firm who were able to supply the same products, but for much less.

#### HOW DID YOU ARRIVE AT THE FINAL LOOK?

I like clean, sharp edges so I wanted a square-shaped bath. I saw my dream tub, but it was out of my budget, so I shopped around for an affordable alternative. I love blue, and this colour runs through the whole house. I found the peppermint-coloured vanity unit to tie →

#### DESIGN DETAILS

The slight curve of the underside of Helen's bath gives the appearance that it's floating above the floor, while brushed-brass fixtures add a warm, metallic accent for a touch of luxe



## BATHROOM MAKEOVER



**DOUBLE FEATURE** There was enough room to install twin basins in a corner of the new space, while the streamlined wall-hung vanity unit keeps clutter hidden



**COMPACT SOLUTION** Boxing in the toilet's pipework made it simpler for the builders to install, as well as providing a handy extra display shelf

in with the walls but in a fresher, lighter tone. Not only does it look good, but with two basins it's also very practical too – we can all use the bathroom in the mornings, and the under-sink storage keeps clutter at bay, so the space always looks tidy. The bath still cost more than we wanted, so we bought cheaper basins to make up for the overspend.

### ARE YOU PLEASED WITH THE END RESULT?

As we had to make so many compromises, I was worried that this bathroom wouldn't turn out how we imagined. But it is even better than I expected. Plus we managed to stick to our budget, which is a relief – I couldn't be happier with it. 🍷

## Shopping List

Pod Mono **wall & floor tiles**, £52.71 per sqm, Mandarin Stone. For similar **wood-effect tiles**, try the Southwold elm herringbone, £84.80 per sqm, Fired Earth. BC Design Murali **bath**, £1,154; Aemera Anthem wall-hung **WC**, £141.54; Crosswater WC **frame & cistern**, £147.36; Crosswater Arena **flush plate**, £65.80; Crosswater MPRO thermostatic **valve**, £235.67; Crosswater fixed **shower head**, £139.89; Crosswater **shower arm**, £57; Crosswater MPRO **shower kit & wall outlet**, £97; Crosswater MPRO **bath spout**, £65.03; Crosswater MPRO **shower valve**, £302; Curver Linnear **basins**, £220 each; Duravit L Cube **vanity unit** in light blue, £215 each; Roman wet-room **panel**, £695, all Keystone Bathrooms. **Radiator**, £400, Porcelanosa. For similar **paint**, try Scotch Blue modern emulsion, £59 for 2.5ltrs, Farrow & Ball at the Designer Paint Shop



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# 7 of the best BATHROOM TAPS

Update your basin, whatever your decorating scheme, with our pick of sleek, stylish designs



*This wall-mounted model will free up space in a cloakroom or en suite*

## INDUSTRIAL LOOK

Handcrafted in the UK and featuring ceramic disc flow control, Perrin & Rowe's Armstrong mixer comes in chrome, pewter, nickel or 24-carat plated gold **£856.80**



## EFFORTLESS OPERATION

Cold water starts in the central position on Roca's soft-turn, energy-saving Ona tap, so it's not opened in hot-and-cold mode **£374.45**



## WATER-SAVING MODEL

The Essence single-lever mixer in Warm Sunset from Grohe features Ecojoy technology to limit water flow and save you money **£415.73**



## CLASSIC STYLING

Victorianplumbing.co.uk's chrome-plated Chatsworth 1928 traditional pillar taps are perfect for period properties **£54.95**



*Ridged detail on the handle allows a firm grip, ideal for those with limited movement*

## METALLIC APPEAL

Also available in a lever design, the angular EVO basin mixer in brushed brass from JTP will add a touch of textured bling **£290**



## SWIVEL SPOUT

Ideal Standard's elegant Joy-Neo one-hole mixer features on-off ceramic valves, a water-saving aerator and 120° swivel **£325.55**



## HYPOALLERGENIC DESIGN

With a PVD gunmetal finish, the Fantini Sailing tap from Aston Matthews is lead-free and resistant to corrosion **£1,820.28**





## Shower-toilet SensoWash® Starck f. Iconic design. Maximum comfort.

Duravit and Philippe Starck present SensoWash® Starck f, a new generation shower toilet for state-of-the-art, natural toilet hygiene. Maximum comfort is guaranteed thanks to technical finishing touches such as a motion sensor for automatic lid opening through to a wide range of setting options for seat heating, water spray and the controllable warm air dryer. Combinable with all Duravit design series thanks to its uncompromisingly puristic design. [www.duravit.co.uk](http://www.duravit.co.uk)

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## BEDROOM CONVERSION



# ‘We did most of the work ourselves’

Clever planning of space and a can-do approach gave Enlli Thurman and her partner Scott a rustic-meets-industrial scheme on a shoestring

Feature & styling **LISA MOSES** Photography **KATIE JANE WATSON**

### DID THE HOUSE NEED A LOT OF WORK WHEN YOU BOUGHT IT?

To be honest, it was in a state, having been home to numerous students for years. Absolutely everything needed doing, and there was no upstairs bathroom, so we had to completely start from scratch – although this did give us the luxury of being able to do exactly what we wanted.

### WHAT WAS THE STARTING POINT FOR THE ROOM?

We discovered there was plumbing in one of the upstairs bedrooms and realised it must have been the original bathroom. This made things a lot

easier as there was already a waste pipe capped off and water pipes ready to be reconnected. We spent a long time planning, to make sure we used the full potential of the space, and then began to think about the design. It's a fairly big room, but we were surprised that we could fit more in than we originally expected. We were also lucky that we could still use the downstairs bathroom while refitting the new one.

### TELL US ABOUT THE LAYOUT...

It can be hard to visualise how furniture will affect the room when planning your layout on a computer, so we did a lot of sticking masking →







#### MODERN-FARMHOUSE VIBE

Describing her style as rustic with an industrial feel, Enlli has created a characterful scheme with plenty of natural materials accented with black. The hanging accessories she created using Ikea lanterns, woven twine and artificial foliage

## BATHROOM MAKEOVER

BEFORE



### The project details

#### MEET THE RENOVATORS

Enlli Thorman, a pet-health checker, lives here with her partner Scott Benton, who works on a farm

#### MAKEOVER BRIEF

To turn a large bedroom into an upstairs bathroom with both a bath and a shower on a budget

#### PROJECT COSTS

**£2,128**



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**BESPOKE PIECE** Scott made the vanity unit, which cost £60 in total, from scaffold boards treated with linseed oil to bring out the grain, sealed with worktop oil

tape to the floor and drawing on walls to get a feel for where things would fit. We didn't know if we had space for a bath and a shower, and initially the shower was going to go where the tub is now. When I laid it out with the tape, we realised that by turning the shower around we could have both.

## HOW DID THE REST OF THE SCHEME EVOLVE?

With quite a big area by the bath, we felt a single basin would be lost in the room so decided to have double sinks,

and I had the idea of incorporating a handmade wooden unit. Scott is really handy, so I explained what I had in mind and he made it. We used scaffold boards for the main unit, fence posts for the legs, and the shelf slats are wood from a pallet.

## WAS THE BUDGET EASY TO MANAGE?

I hunted online and locally to get the best bargains, and decided to attempt the tiling myself. With so many online tutorials it's easy to save money if →

## WARMTH UNDERFOOT

The floor tiles were half the price of Enlli's first choice and work well with the colour scheme







#### DESIGN DETAILS

At only £9 per sqm, the subway tiles were laid in a herringbone pattern for a high-end look, and Enlli sprayed the copper pipe towel rails black to match the shower screen

you're willing to give DIY a go, but patience is key! I have to admit the herringbone design was a nightmare to tile as it was difficult getting the measurements right. A little mistake at the bottom became really exaggerated towards the top, so I had to start a couple of rows again, but the satisfaction when it was finished was immense.

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF THE NEW ROOM?

I love the vanity unit. It was so cheap to build, and not that difficult either, according to Scott!

#### HOW DO YOU FEEL NOW IT'S ALL FINISHED?

It was tough doing all the work ourselves while working full-time, but it's a great place to relax in now, so it was definitely worth all the effort. 🍷

“We did a lot of sticking masking tape to the floor and drawing on walls to get a feel for where things would fit”

## Shopping List

For a similar **bath**, try the Verona small freestanding, £599.95; for similar **basins**, try the Hudson Reed rectangular countertop vessel, £89.95; for similar **taps**, try the Pablo matt black crosshead basin mixer, £169.95; for a similar **towel rail**, try the Vos brushed brass, £54.94; for a similar **shower head**, try the Arezzo square matt black plus wall-mounted arm, £79.95, all Victorianplumbing.co.uk. For similar **wall tiles**, try the Metro brick flat white matt, £15 per sqm; for similar **floor tiles**, try the Devonstone grey feature, £17.96 per sqm, both Tiles Direct. For a similar **shower**, try the Carrick matt black square thermostatic bar set, £139.99, Bathroom Mountain. For a similar **shower tray**, try the Essentials rectangular, £127.71, UK Bathrooms. Hudson Reed frame-effect **wet-room screen** with support bar, £236.95, Heat & Plumb. For a similar **radiator**, try the Milano Alpha black vertical designer, £154.95, BestHeating. **Mirror**, £13; Toppig **lanterns**, £12 each, both Ikea. Wilhelm antique brass-style wall **light**, £20, Iconic Lights





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# Showers & enclosures

Whether it's a luxe wet-room vibe, space-saving solution or statement screen you're looking for, follow our guide to choosing the right products for your dream scheme

Feature **CHARLOTTE LUXFORD**

## TOP TIP

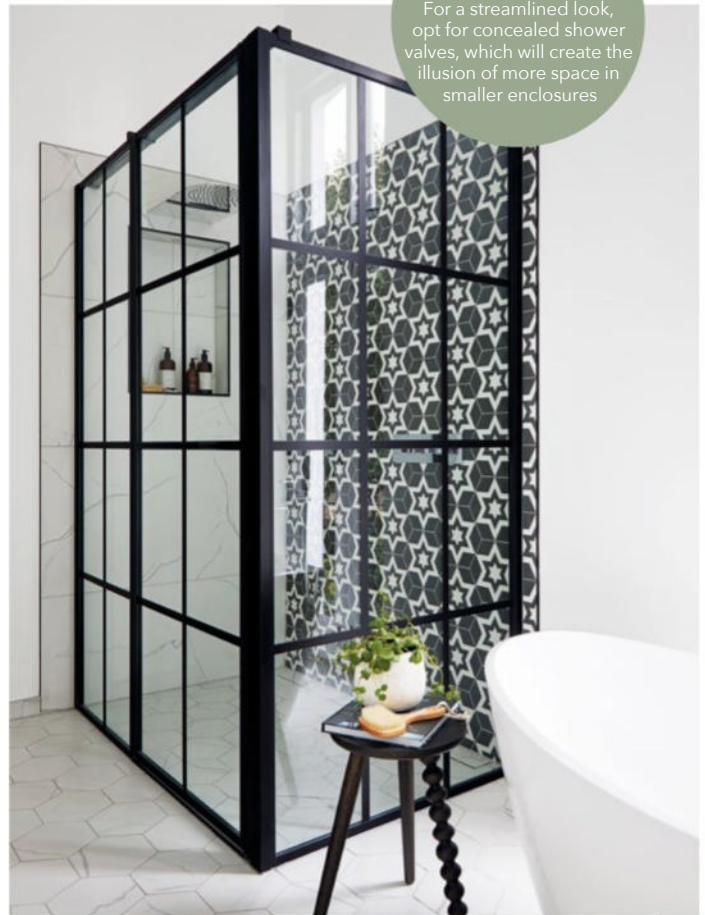
For a streamlined look, opt for concealed shower valves, which will create the illusion of more space in smaller enclosures



### Make it family friendly

A shower screen that folds back fully against the wall provides easier bath-time access, while a separate handset is ideal for washing the kids' hair or muddy pets. A handy wall niche will also mean toiletries won't get knocked off the side of the bath.

Brushed Gold 3 control landscape thermostatic valve, £743.17; easy-clean hand shower head, £81.62; toughened-glass two-panel double-hinged bath screen, £1,006.25; traditional 8-inch shower head, £215.95, all Ripples



### Create a focal point

Put your shower centre stage with a Crittall-style enclosure. The black steel frame adds an industrial edge while striking monochrome tiles create extra wow factor. For a truly spa-like experience, a customisable rain shower completes the scheme.

Gessi Tondo 300 multifunction shower system, £2,174.40; Drench Crittall-style enclosure, POA; Maté hexagonal tiles, £247.09 per sqm, all C. P. Hart

IMAGE ADAM CARTER



### Upgrade your screen

Add a luxe touch and textural interest to your shower set-up by swapping standard clear panels for an on-trend reeded glass design. The bonus is you get an added layer of privacy, making it a great choice for en suites.

Harbour contour fluted glass screen in  
Brushed Brass, £379.99, Drench





## SMART IDEA

Low water pressure?  
Air-injection technology in  
water-saving shower heads  
creates a silky-smooth  
flow and a more  
powerful spray

### Create contrast

Pair dramatic dark wall tiles with striking brassware for a statement look, and consider mixing contemporary metro tiles with a traditional-style shower head and exposed valves for further interest.

Keswick exposed valve shower system  
in Brushed Brass with 200mm shower  
head, £1,150, Roper Rhodes









## SPOTLIGHT ON

### Let it slide

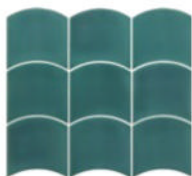
If your shower is set in a recess, opt for a sleek sliding enclosure instead of a hinged door that opens outwards, which will ensure you've got a more usable footprint. Make it feel more contemporary with a black-framed design and match with black accessories.

Essentials Volta 2000 sliding door in Matt Black, from £507.60, UK Bathrooms

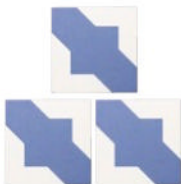
### 3 of the best DECORATIVE TILES



↑ 1860 Saint Germain De Pres tile  
£86.66 per sqm The Baked Tile Co



↑ Bondi ceramic wall tile in Teal  
£72 per sqm Porcelain Superstore

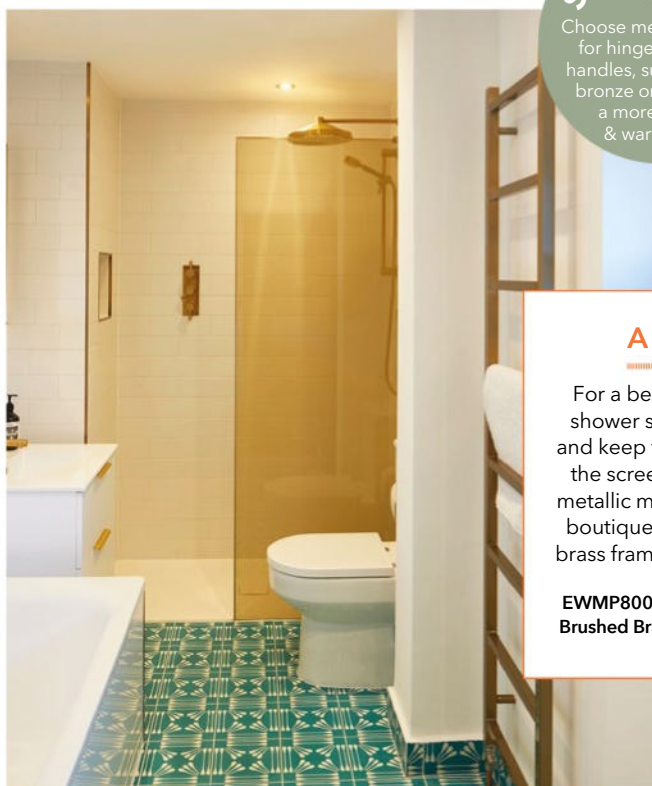


↑ Bert & May Crosses porcelain tile in Blue  
£79.75 per sqm Fired Earth



### STYLE STEAL

Choose metallic finishes for hinges, frames & handles, such as brass, bronze or copper for a more tailored & warmer feel



### Add colour

For a bespoke finish, invest in a shower screen with tinted glass, and keep the tiling neutral to allow the screen to really pop. Matki's metallic mesh design adds a bouji, boutique-hotel feel, with elegant brass framing completing the look.

EWMP800GM Gold Mesh screen with Brushed Brass frame, £4,628.40, Matki

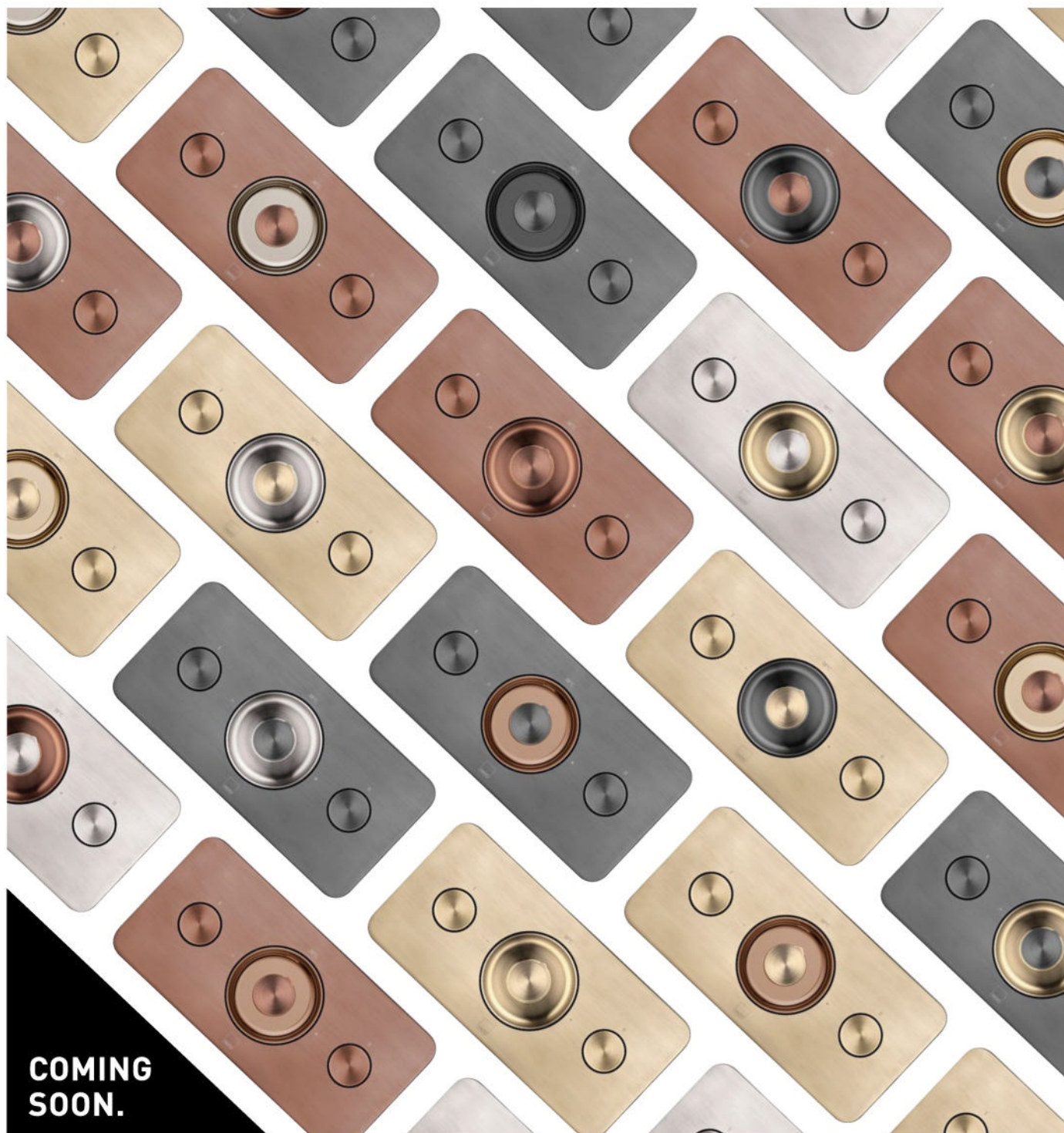


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**Roper Rhodes** 01225 303900; roperrhodes.co.uk  
**Rose & Grey** 0161 926 8763; roseandgrey.co.uk  
**Russell Hobbs** 0345 658 9700; uk.russellhobbs.com  
**Rust-Oleum** rustoleum.com  
**Sanderson** 020 3457 5862;  
sanderson.sandersondesigngroup.com  
**Sazy** 020 3161 1308; sazy.com  
**Secret Linen Store** 01243 822599;  
secretlinenstore.com  
**Smeg** 0330 094 7779; smeguk.com  
**Sofology** 0344 481 8181; sofology.co.uk  
**Soho Lighting Company** 020 8106 1221;  
soholighting.com  
**Stovax** stovax.com  
**Stovold & Pogue** stovoldandpogue.co.uk  
**Sunday & Story** sundayandstory.com  
**Superfront** superfront.com

**Swan** swan-brand.co.uk  
**Sweetpea & Willow** 0345 257 2627;  
sweetpeaandwillow.com

**TUV** Tala Lighting tala.co.uk  
Talking Tables  
020 7627 6767; talkingtables.co.uk  
**Taylor Grey** taylorgreyhome.co.uk  
**Tesco** tesco.co.uk  
**Tikamoon** tikamoon.co.uk  
**Tile Mountain** 01782 223822; tilemountain.co.uk  
**Tiles Direct** 0113 253 0005; tiles-direct.com  
**Timorous Beasties** 020 7833 9867;  
timorousbeasties.com  
**TK Maxx** 01923 473561; tkmaxx.com/uk  
**Topps Tiles** 0800 783 6262; toppstiles.co.uk  
**UK Bathrooms** ukbathrooms.com  
**Victorian Plumbing.co.uk** 0345 862 2878  
**Victory Colours** 01258 841310; victorycolours.co.uk  
**Vision Fires** 01204 868550; visionfires.co.uk  
**Vogue UK** 01902 387000; vogueuk.co.uk

**WZ** Wallmur wallmur.com  
**Wayfair** 0800 756 4212; wayfair.co.uk  
**West Elm** 0800 404 9780; westelm.co.uk  
**Where Saints Go** 0161 368 9638;  
wheresaintsgo.co.uk  
**William Holland** 01305 251930;  
williamholland.com  
**Willowfield Bespoke** 01625 306100;  
willowfieldbespoke.com  
**The Wood Veneer Hub** 01525 851166;  
thewoodveneerhub.co.uk  
**Wren** wrenkitchens.com  
**Zinsser** 0191 410 6611; zinsseruk.com



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# 3 accounts to follow on... INSTAGRAM

FIND A TWIST ON TRADITION, ECO POTS & RUSTIC EMBELLISHMENT

@goodhomesmag

## Interiors inspo

@theinteriorframe

Describing her style as 'your nan's house, but make it fashion', Anna has elevated traditional-style interiors for a contemporary, collected feel in her Oxford home. Finding the Insta community an invaluable source of advice and inspiration, Anna has beautifully renovated and curated each space with both new and secondhand pieces, and we love her kitchen's Parisian vibe. Up next? Restoring an original 1930s front door.



FEATURE EMILY HAWKES

## Reno diary

@making\_a\_home\_

It was during lockdown that Claire discovered a love of DIY and styling, and she's put these skills to good use while renovating her 1920s former mill-owner's house in North Yorkshire. Reinstating original character with TLC, Claire always gravitates back to neutrals - and the bathroom is a perfect example of her classic signature look with modern finishes. Follow for plenty more inspiring before and afters and handy how-tos on her feed...



## One to shop

@potr.co

Reinventing the humble plant pot with sustainability at its heart, Andy and the POTR team have created a recycled plastic, self-watering origami design that's flat-packed to hugely reduce its carbon footprint. As well as The Letterbox vase, launched in partnership with Bloom & Wild, check out the new Saved from the Sea range made from discarded fishing gear, with 5% of profits donated to help fund ocean clean-ups.



## #trending



### EMBROIDERED DETAILING

For a fresh take on the decorative needlework found on vintage linens and homespun pieces, this Laceflower petals embroidered boudoir cushion, £60 from French Bedroom, will add a tactile touch to a folksy floral scheme.









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