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# Ideal Home

BRITAIN'S BESTSELLING HOMES MAGAZINE

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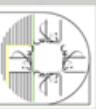
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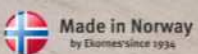
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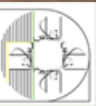
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# Welcome

Let's be honest here: the real joy of this magazine (and [idealhome.co.uk](http://idealhome.co.uk), actually...) is seeing inside other people's homes. I love it so much, I made a career out of it! For style snoopers like me, Rightmove is basically porn. I know. Don't judge me! It's not just about the ideas you can shamelessly rip off, but also the fascinating insight you get into people's varied approaches to home improvement and decor. You'll see it in this issue: Davina Fox-Hill's is considered, consistent and carefully put together; Monika Pedersen made it up as she went along, and Sarah Jarman's shows how creative spontaneity can make magic happen. So, what's your approach?

PHOTOGRAPH SIMON WHITMORE





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77



116



128



50

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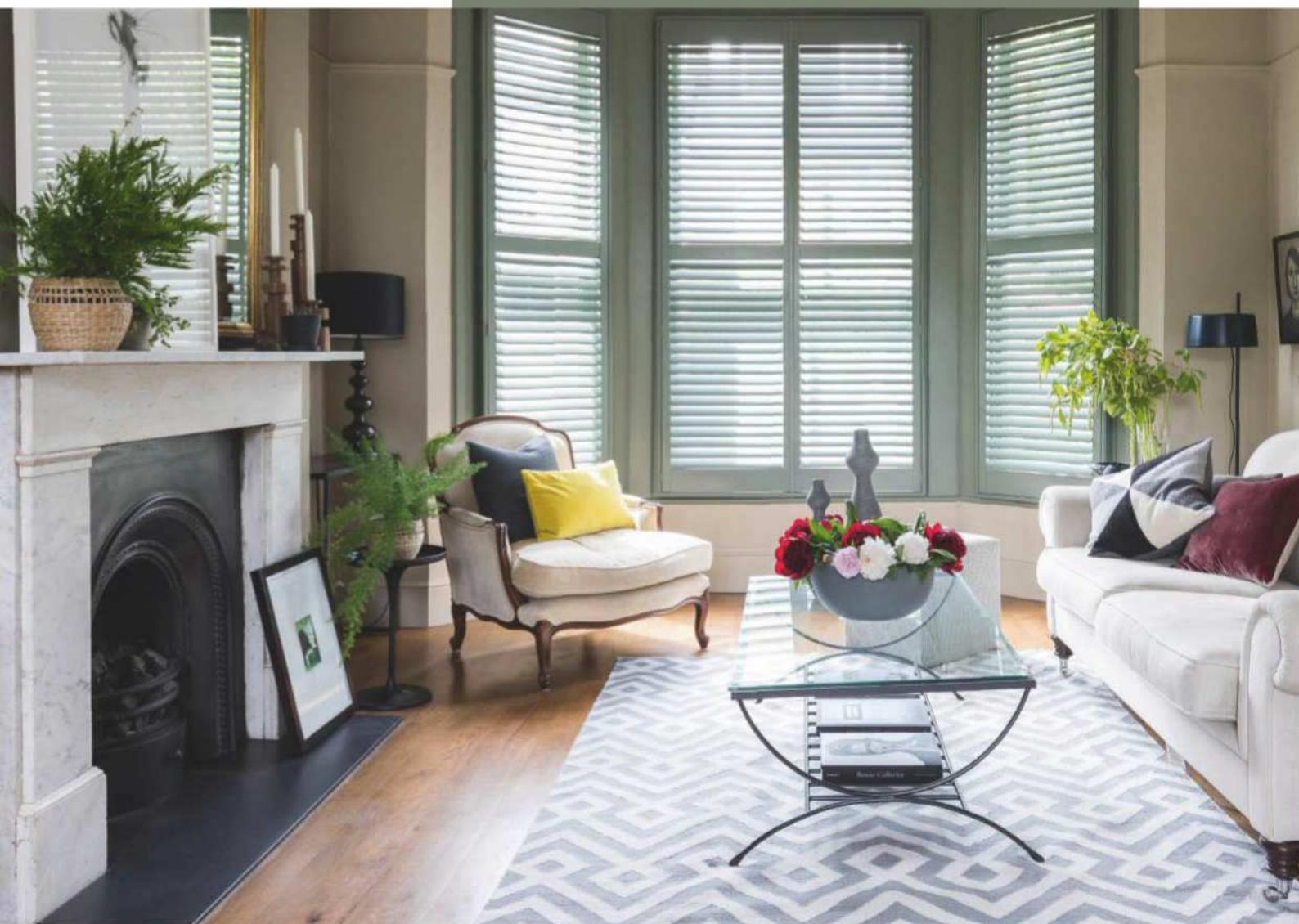
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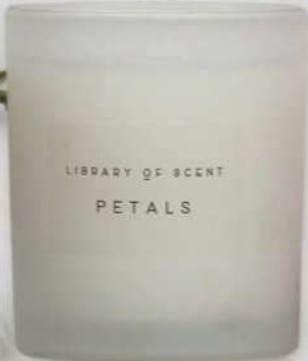




IN JULY

# *You deserve... the scent of summer*

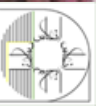
Fill your home with the heady aroma of a flower garden by lighting one or two of these floral-fragranced candles



FEATURE HOLLY WALSH STYLING NICKY PHILLIPS  
PHOTOGRAPH DOMINIC BLACKMORE

**WHERE TO BUY** (from top left clockwise): Lavender and Basil travel candle, £16, Meylor. Peony and Linden Blossom candle, £5, Sainsbury's Home. Bergamot and Cassis candle, £28, Ted Baker range, John Lewis. Peony and Rose ceramic candle, £6, Waitrose. Flowers signature candle, £20, The White Company. Lavender and Geranium candle, £4, Sainsbury's Home. Heather and Hay candle, £24, Plum & Ashby range, Amara. Petals candle, £7.50, Library of Scent range, Marks & Spencer. Roses candle, £47, Diptyque range, Selfridges

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**BOHO LUXE**  
Velvet vintage  
print cushion,  
£25, Marks &  
Spencer



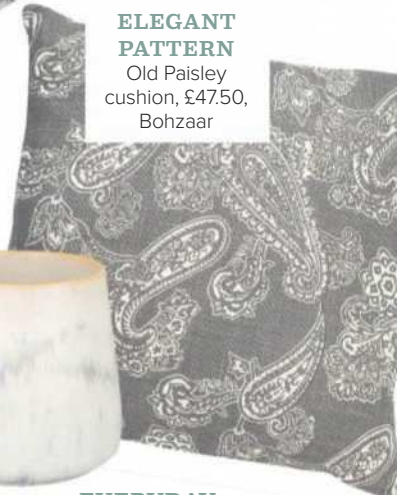
**HIGHLIGHT  
PLANTS**  
Terracotta  
bronzed planter,  
£28, Ella James



**DAZZLE 'EM**  
Smykke pendants,  
from £355 each,  
Moonbeam  
Lighting



**DINE IN STYLE**  
Bohemian  
Wanderer runner,  
£12, Sainsbury's  
Home



**ELEGANT  
PATTERN**  
Old Paisley  
cushion, £47.50,  
Bohzaar



**EVERYDAY  
ARTISTRY**  
Emilia mug, £16,  
Oliver Bonas

# HOW TO ADD *wow!*

Go on, pick something  
you love - because every  
room needs a magic  
ingredient that takes it  
from finished to *fabulous*

## GORGEOUS GEO

Tile-effect rug,  
from £40,  
Next Home



## AUTHENTIC DESIGN

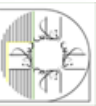
Moroccan brass  
stool, £190, India  
May Home



**PEARLY  
SHIMMER**  
Dots photo frame,  
£20, Amara



**EXTRA DETAIL**  
Mint trinket box, £15;  
flower bowls, from £15;  
coasters, £12 each, all  
Monsoon Home







**EXOTIC RETREAT**  
Clipper Mother of Pearl side table, £355; Mosaic wall art, £229; Tanya lamp, £259, all Barker & Stonehouse



**SOFT INDUSTRIAL**  
Nova pendant light, £75, Houseology

**HANDCRAFTED INLAY**  
Banyan mirror, £325, Loaf



**REFLECTIVE GLOW**  
Signe decorative tray, £29, Houseology



**LASTING BLOOMS**  
Faux magnolia flower stem, £24, Oka



**FRINGE BENEFITS**  
Scandi pom-pom throw, £65, John Lewis

FEATURE MICHELA COLLING



**RECLAIMED BEAUTY**  
Whiteleaf trunk coffee table, £375, Barker & Stonehouse

**TABLE STUNNERS**  
Monsoon Gather bowls, £38 for four, Denby



**PRECIOUS PIECE**  
Mother-of-pearl jewellery box, £49, Oliver Bonas



# loaf



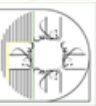
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# NEED TO *know*

We've been shamelessly snooping around the shops, so you don't miss a single thing that matters...

## WE KEEP SEEING...

### BEADED CHANDELIERS

They may not be sparkly, but these lights still make a statement

**GORGEOUS  
GOTHIC**  
Camille  
chandelier, £160,  
Debenhams



**PICK 'N'  
MIX PASTEL**  
Sweetie beaded  
chandelier, £150,  
Sweetpea  
& Willow



**BOHO  
STYLE**  
Clara  
chandelier,  
£150, Matalan



Sophie Stripe  
bedlinen, from £14;  
Pompom throw,  
£95; cushion, £40;  
Linen Frill square  
pillowcase, £35; all  
Secret Linen Store



## What Sophie did next...

Great Interior Design Challenge judge Sophie Robinson is a big cheerleader for splashing colour around the home, so she's teamed up with bedding company Secret Linen Store to inject some seriously saturated hues into their range. Bucking the trend for neutral bedrooms, she's picked a dazzling blue Breton stripe bedlinen set, while the Super Lemon and Hot Coral frilled pillowcases mean you can now layer a joyful pop of colour on to plain white.

## SURPRISE IN STORE!

### FUNKY FINDS AT WYEVALE

If you're not getting the tropical vibes from the weather just yet, Wyevale Garden Centres has an array of outdoor accessories to up the sunshine stakes: bold botanical cushions, £12.50; brightly coloured garden rugs, £20; and an Aladdin's cave of lanterns, from £20, that will help create your own little garden oasis at home.

1 Tropical Leaf scatter cushion 2 Jungle Parrots scatter cushion 3 Pineapple scatter cushion, £12.50 each, all Wyevale



## Just heard...

**IKEA** is teaming up with home sound specialists Sonos for a big launch in 2019. The aim is to help you play a song anywhere in the home without interrupting the flow of daily life. CEO of Sonos Patrick Spence says, 'We believe that sound should be a considered element of home design, and together we will work with Ikea to create products and experiences that make people's home look and sound more amazing.' Watch this space to see what this forthcoming marriage of sound and Scandi design will look like.



## WHAT'S NEW



Amelia sideboard,  
£1,140, Ercol

## ERCOL: STILL NAILING IT!

As lovers of mid-century design know, Ercol products are made to last, so it's no wonder that there is a big market for vintage pieces. But this hasn't stopped the company creating new future collectibles – the latest still feature the iconic steam-bent curves and streamlined shapes, but in white. This opaque finish is a neutral, pared-back alternative to wood finishes, but still allows the grain to be the star attraction.



Salina eight-drawer tall chest, £995, Ercol

IDEAL

GREAT DEAL

### SQUISHY SEATING FOR INSIDE AND OUT



#### COOL COLOUR

Extreme Lounging bean bag in pastel green, £139.95, Cuckooland



#### TEAM TERRAZZO

Ayra chair, £99, Made.com

## New rugs by Accessorize

This high street store sure knows how to add the final flair to an outfit. Now it's bringing that expertise into the home with its debut range of rugs, for the perfect finishing touch. As you might expect, the collection is all about adding pattern and colour with 15 vibrant designs including bold tropical florals, bright kilims and modern geo patterns. From £129.99, Accessorize range, The Rug Seller.



Pink Poppy rug,  
£182.99, The  
Rug Seller



Pastella rug,  
£129.99, The  
Rug Seller

## Need a plumber? Try John Lewis!

There's nothing like a friend's recommendation for tried and trusted tradespeople. Now, John Lewis is proposing to be that friend with its new Home Solutions service. To ensure the best are on its books, top traders are taken through a five-stage vetting process, including reviews of past work. Use the site with your postcode to search the service you need and find local experts. Then get a quote via the app, website or over the phone. John Lewis is so sure of its recommendations, it'll offer a 12-month guarantee on the work. Coming soon, [homesolutions.johnlewis.com](https://homesolutions.johnlewis.com).

FEATURE MICHELA COLLING

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**JAGGED EDGE**  
Mezcal green cactus vase,  
£22, Artisanti



**LOOK SHARP**  
Faces cylinder vase,  
£45, Habitat



**TRUE BLUE**  
Marine shapes ceramic vase,  
£29.99, Zara Home



**BRONZE BEAUTY**  
Reform pebble vase, £198,  
Jonathan Adler

THE SHORTLIST

8

*work of  
art vases*  
DESIGNED TO  
CATCH THE EYE



**HEADS UP**  
Large modernist face vase,  
£24, The Contemporary Home



**GET A HANDLE**  
Small handled vase in blue,  
£45, Clay Collective



**GEO GEM**  
Oily folds vase, £50,  
Pols Potten range, Amara



**FACE OFF**  
Many faces porcelain vase,  
£42, Rockett St George

FEATURE HOLLY WALSH





## A Homely Home for Summer

The sun is rising early, the days are getting warmer, and the brightness of summer is on the way. A home refresh, a new look or just a need for some extra shading, we've got a window dressing for every space and every style in our collection. Now you can inject some true homely charm into your family nest thanks to our new Emma Bridgewater collection, filled to the brim with charisma and traditional inspirations, and made to measure just for you.

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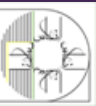


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# Look what we found!

The thing that's got the *Ideal Home* team buzzing loudest this month...

## FAB DECKCHAIRS AT GEORGE HOME



“The team love these summertime classics not only for their totally tropical prints, or because they'll have us lounging shamelessly in the sun, but for the fact that you can get your hands on a pair of them for just £55! Party seating sorted...”

SPOTTED BY... STYLE EDITOR  
MICHELA COLLING



Deckchairs in Watermelon or Botanical, £55 for two with the same print, flamingo & pineapple print cushion, £6; firebowl & log burner, £25; wooden lantern, £25; all George Home at Asda







1

Watercolour Fern duvet cover set, from £49, Ideal Home range, Very



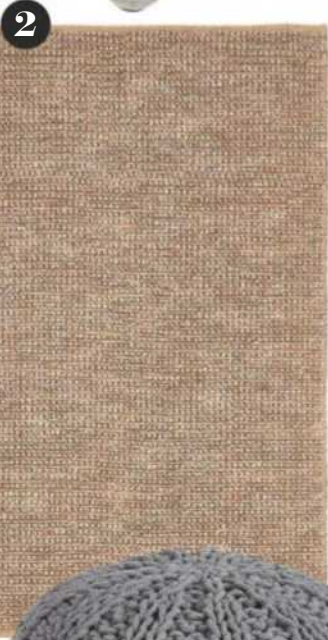
9



8



7



2

### BEDROOM RESTYLE #1

# Modern country

For a balanced, laid-back look, complement neutrally painted furniture with tactile accessories and natural textures



3



6



4



5

COLOUR PALETTE

1 Grey pendant lamp, £34.99 2 Zulia jute loop rug, from £89.99 3 Knitted pouffe, £59.99 4 Hannah two drawer bedside chest, £79 5 Modal zero twist super soft luxury four piece towel bale, £35 6 Blake double storage bed frame, £499 7 Alexa throw, £29.99 8 Loki tripod table lamp, £49.99 9 Knitted cable cushion, £14.99, all Ideal Home range, Very

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Aaliyah damask duvet cover set, from £35, Ideal Home range, Very



BEDROOM RESTYLE #2

# Glam romance

Combine luxe touches, such as sparkling glass and polished metallics, with velvet and classic patterns for an opulent finish



FEATURE MICHELA COLLING

COLOUR PALETTE

1 Florence crystal diner ceiling pendant, £199.99 2 Parisian smoked mirror three drawer bedside cabinet, £149 3 Set of three vintage mirrors, £59.99 4 New Luxor fabric accent chair, £289 5 Parisian smoked mirror dressing table, £219 6 Silver ombre four piece towel bale, £35 7 Arabian Nights wool rug, from £79.99 8 Bergao smoky glass table lamp, £49.99 9 Loretto cushion, £14.99, all Ideal Home range, Very

## PROMOTIONAL FEATURE



1

Sketchy Town  
duvet set, from  
£25, Ideal Home  
range, Very



2



3



10

9



8



7

### BEDROOM RESTYLE #3

# Fresh Scandi

Use pale woods and a simple, monochrome scheme with pops of yellow and dashes of geometric pattern to create a calming space



4



5



6

COLOUR PALETTE

1 Oslo cushion, £14.99 2 Folding side table, £39 3 Freydis floor lamp, £99.99 4 Toco triangular rug, £42.99 5 Grey waste paper bin, £12.99 6 Croft double bed frame, £399 7 Grey open storage boxes, £17.99 for two 8 Grey geo print four-piece towel bale, £35 9 Wall mirror, £99.99 10 Freydis table lamp, £49.99, all Ideal Home range, Very

FEATURE MICHELA COLLING

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17th June



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TV when on

THE  
FRAME

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# *‘We don’t want our home to be like everyone else’s!’*

Sarah and Paul Jarman have ignored trends to put together a unique mix of styles and colours they love – and it works beautifully...

*Love*  
SARAH'S  
STYLE?

Turn to page 37  
to shop the look

## **Kitchen-diner**

Vintage Sixties furniture and brass-fronted units give this room a glam, mid-century vibe. ‘I call this my Liberace kitchen!’ says Sarah. ‘I see ideas like this in bars and restaurants, and work out how I can incorporate them into our home.’

### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

Marble worktop, £1,200, Andrews Tiles. For a similar pendant, try the Ranarp ceiling light, £25, Ikea

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THE **WOW**  
MOMENT

*The Ikea carcasses were wrapped in brass plate by a local vehicle wrapping company for about £900*







## Welcome to my home

Sarah Jarman, a graphic designer, lives here with Paul Alexander, a creative director.

**THE PROPERTY A** three-bedroom, three-storey Victorian townhouse in Leeds, built in 1886.

**THE VALUE** The house is currently worth around £425,000 or more.

“We wanted to create something unusual. The best ideas evolve gradually as you slowly work out the possibilities, and that’s how this house has developed”



## Take a quick tour...

### HOW TO DO...

## An eclectic look

### 1 START WITH A SUBTLE BACKDROP

Soft whites or neutrals on the walls will hold together a mix of furniture styles.

### 2 STICK TO A SINGLE COLOUR FAMILY

Add colour with upholstery and accessories, but choose either autumnal shades, like Sarah has, or brights, or pastels – never mix groups.

### 3 MAKE IT PERSONAL

Put your journey on show with mementoes, keepsakes and quirky finds.





## THE *wow* MOMENT

*Beautiful wood-block parquet flooring gives the downstairs rooms rich colour and warmth*

### *Seating area*

French doors flood this space with light. 'When we were decorating, we had dust sheets at the window and I loved the way the light came through them,' says Sarah. 'So I decided to recreate the look by buying some wide hessian fabric and making a blind myself.'

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

Solid Oak parquet flooring, £35sq m, Direct Flooring





## Seating area

Sarah and Paul's quirky collections add colour to the kitchen-diner's seating area, with a gallery of junk-shop art and car-boot glassware on an old Ikea shelf unit, which Sarah spray-painted gold.

### BUY THE KEY PIECES

Grass cotton velvet sofa, £999, Made.com. Fjallbo shelf unit, £59, Ikea. For similar, try the Gatsby marble table, £199, Cult Furniture

**“I love brass, gold and copper, but not too much of it. I didn't want the house to look blingy!”**



## THE **wow** MOMENT

*The green velvet sofa adds a block of colour that connects this area to the green outside space*











THE **wow**  
MOMENT

*A simple wooden  
Thirties mantel was  
replaced with this  
grander, marble  
surround*





## Sitting room

'We've used Dulux ultra-flat matt in Polished Pebble throughout the house,' says Sarah, 'which allows the colourful furniture and decorative items to ping out.'

### BUY THE KEY PIECES

Haresfield snuggler seat in Napoli Primrose cotton velvet, £1,881, Sofas & Stuff. High pile Adum rug in Green, £80, Ikea. Shutters, from £315sq m, Hillarys







THE *wow*  
MOMENT

*This old-school oil painting belonged to Sarah's dad and gives this neutral room character*

**Main bedroom**

The chests of drawers, bought in a sale room, inspired the style of the main bedroom. 'I wanted it to look a bit like a Scottish cabin, with the skull, plaid blankets and a picture of the Highlands,' says Sarah.

**BUY THE KEY PIECES**

For a similar bed, try the Maya bed frame, £161.99, Wayfair. Ogilvy wall lamp in matt black, £59, Made.com







'The tiles in the en suite are bright, but you can go a bit mad in a small room,' says Sarah



Sarah dyed their white towels and bath mat fluorescent pink to work with the wallpaper





SARAH'S STYLE RULES

*'I like a home to have depth and character'*



**W**e moved into this house after outgrowing a two-bed terrace in another part of Leeds. We needed a place big enough for me to have a home office. The kitchen was small and the bathroom was accessed through a bedroom, but we loved the light and its peaceful location.

**You have to bite the bullet when renovating.** We spent five months redesigning the upstairs layout and revamped the kitchen. Later, we regretted not taking out a chimney breast in the middle of the space. We'd knocked out the walls either side, but it still felt like a room of two halves. We had an RSJ fitted and opened it all up. Suddenly, it was light and open and became one big party room.

**We keep favourite everyday items out, to enjoy them.** In the kitchen, we decided not to have too many units, because they can look overwhelming. We put up a shelf for all our crockery, instead. There's no point in buying nice plates or glassware and hiding them away.

**We also like to collect things and display them.** If you like something, you'll find a home for it. I treasure many of my grandparents' belongings, too, like the vintage suitcases once owned by my grandfather, in which I keep old toys, books and mementos.

**Mixing old and new, modern and retro works, even in a contemporary setting.** I get inspiration from a single piece of furniture and develop a room from that. I like a home to have depth and character. There are some things I've had for years and would never part with, and other

pieces we've bought recently. We don't want our home to be like everyone else's!

**It's worth thinking outside the box and repurposing items.** If we need a coffee table, like the one we have outside, I'll cut down an old dining table. I sell things on eBay, too.

**I don't follow trends that will be gone within a year.** I would rather think creatively and long term. I love to experiment with bold and unusual design ideas or to marry modern urban chic with cool retro for an eclectic style.

**I love bright statement colours.** I am fond of green and yellow, so it's a theme running through the house. I create a backdrop first – something neutral, which means the pops of colour look exciting.

FEATURE: HEATHER DIXON, VANESSA RICHMOND  
PHOTOGRAPHS: COLIN POOLE PLANS AGENCY SERVICE



A decagonal mirror bounces light around the L-shaped hall



A large display shelf houses the couple's quirky items



Sarah's vintage furniture mixes with modern accessories in the guest room







# Make it work for you

## SARAH'S STYLE: BOTANICAL LUXE

Lush greens and intriguing objets contrast with metallic accents for a collector's feel with a glam edge

### MY GO-TO STORES...

- **WAYFAIR** 'It's great for sinks, hardware and shower fittings'
- **ZARA HOME** 'This is my favourite place for bedding and accessories'
- **ROCKETT ST GEORGE** 'A winner for fabulous lighting and wallpaper'
- **MADE.COM** 'Just the place for affordable, modern designer furniture'



Splashes of green and copper details instantly lift a simple room scheme

**SOFT TOUCH**  
Velvet mustard cushion, £29.99, HomeSense

**INDUSTRIAL VIBE**  
Radley glass bistro pendant ceiling light, £85, John Lewis

**NATURAL WORLD**  
Vintage Decor Prints Tamarind print, £11.71, Etsy

### BOUNCE LIGHT

Hexagon wall mirror, £35, Next Home

**FAUX FOLIAGE**  
Fern in pot, £75, Debenhams

**PLUSH PERCH**  
Scott three seater sofa in Grass cotton velvet, £999, Made.com

**SIMPLE DESIGN**  
Wonder brass side table, £195, Loaf

**WORLD CLASS**  
Globe light in azure blue and copper, £82, Red Candy

### STYLIST'S NOTE

“For a grown-up feel, introduce tactile textures like sumptuous rich velvets and hammered metals to a quirky eclectic scheme”

STEPHANIE DURRANT, SENIOR FEATURES EDITOR

FEATURE STEPHANIE DURRANT PHOTOGRAPHS COLIN POOLE

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## COLOURS WE LOVE

# Palm greens

*These yellowy shades naturally freshen and energise a space, while keeping the vibe cool and calm. They work brilliantly in rooms that overlook outdoor spaces, blurring the lines between inside and outdoors. Use darker, bluey greens and pure yellows to create a subtle, layered scheme, or go as vibrant as you dare with splashes of pink*

**THIS PAGE** Walls in Palm Jungle, £99 a roll, Cole & Son. Fern plate, £9, Amara. Sintra side plates, £35 for four; Sintra dinner plates, £45 for four; Robyn vase, £30, all Habitat. Saksio planters, from £27, La Redoute. Artichoke tea light holder, £12, The Contemporary Home. Forte sideboard, £1,359, Willis & Gambier.





**THIS PAGE** Walls in Garden absolute matt emulsion, £44 for 2.5L, Little Greene; and Railings modern emulsion (below), £45 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball. Haywood dining chairs are similar, £149 for four, Made.com. Helmer green cabinet, £30, Ikea. Framed palm print, £95, French Connection. No 204 Lampe Gras black wall lights, £234 each, Made in Design. Large cheese plant, £49.50, Marks & Spencer. G copper wire letter, £3.50, Hobbycraft. Paper storage boxes, £60 for set of three, Cox & Cox. Croft mug, £6, John Lewis. Congo green glass tumbler, £30 for six, Habitat.



**NEUTRAL BAND**  
A clever trick if all-over colour is too much for you



**Serene scene**

Mid-weight greens are great for setting a calm and creative scene. Balance out the bright colour with warm greys and natural wood





**THIS PAGE** Walls in Village matt emulsion, £46 for 5L, Lakeland Paints. **Curtain** in Jungle Aruba, £27m, Prestigious Textiles. Wiston **sofa**, £1,995, Lombok. Poste **coffee table**, £275, Loaf. Nodebo **rug**, £250, Ikea. **Canvas**, £269, Furniture Village. Saba **lamp base**, £175; Empire **shade** in raspberry, £55, both Pooky. **ON SOFA** Cushions from left: Linoso Jade, £13m, Clarke & Clarke; Linara Camellia, £38.50m, Romo; Tropical, £63; Kynance moss, £47, both Helen Hallam; Abstract, £12, Next. **ON CONSOLE** Jungle **vase**, £20, Graham and Green. **Planter** with faux fern, £10, Marks & Spencer. **Reactive vase**, £16 for three, Next. **Bottle vase**, £45, Shimu. **Berry jug**, £23, Marks & Spencer. **ON COFFEE TABLE** Potted faux **cactus**, £25; **tray**, £15, both Marks & Spencer. Intagande **carafe**, £5; **glass**, £2, both Ikea. **Leaf dish**, £6, Dunelm. **Palm tree tea light holder** (used as vase), £15, Graham and Green. **ON BOOKCASE** Potted **plant**, £20, Marks & Spencer. **Pink vase**, £42, Graham and Green. Similar hanging **basket**, £45, Notonthehighstreet.com.

**HANGING PLANT**  
Create a greenhouse feel with plants in every spare space



### Stylist's Note

“Work with the yellow and blue undertones of palm greens by adding touches of chartreuse and teal in accessories and artwork”

NICKY PHILLIPS, DECORATING EDITOR

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**THIS PAGE** Sucre sideboard, £695, Loaf. Ribba frame, £12, Ikea. St Lucia A2 print, £50, Clarissa Hulse. Plantation bath bag, £20, Wallace Cotton. Green jug, £45, Shimu. Mari scarf, £120, Helen Hallam. Body polisher, £34, Molton Brown. Indigo flex large lamp base, £139; Falling Leaves in Winter large lampshade, £110, both Anna Jacobs.



### **Natural contrast**

Reclaimed or limed oak furniture looks relaxed and rustic with palm greens. For a smarter, more polished look, go for black-stained wood finishes instead

STYLING SARITA SHARMA PHOTOGRAPHS DOMINIC BLACKMORE





**THIS PAGE** Walls in Valspar Idyllic Island premium blend, £25 for 2.5L, B&Q. Iris king bed in sage, £695, Button & Sprung. Forte side table, £439, Willis & Gambier. Boston rug, £99, Dunelm. **ON BED** Aruba king-size duvet set, £120; Asana cushion, £45; Monarch pillowcase, £25 for a pair, all Wallace Cotton. **Throw** in Linara Camellia, £38.50m, Romo. **ON BEDSIDE TABLE** Brooklyn lamp, £38, Next. Pink peppercorn candle, £39, Molton Brown. Faux large potted cheese plant, £50, Marks & Spencer. Framed Hummer print, from £150, Anna Jacobs.



**PRETTY PINK**  
From soft blush to fierce fuchsia, it's the ideal accent with lush greens

### Stylist's Note

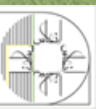
“ Bold botanical prints fit perfectly in a green space, but if you prefer a more subtle bedroom scheme, go for grey or blush pink linen bedding ”

NICKY PHILLIPS, DECORATING EDITOR

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# Make it work for you

## PALM GREENS: JUST ADD AN ACCENT

If you have neutral walls – white, grey, cream or taupe – these lush greens will give the room a fresh, calm feel



### WHERE TO BUY

#### 1. TABLE LAMP

Lolita table lamp, £195, Pooky Lighting

#### 2. CREAMER JUG

Emerald Maguelone creamer, £22, Amara

#### 3. COASTERS

Celestial coasters, £8 each, Anthropologie

#### 4. CUSHION

Jangala velvet cushion, £29, Made.com

#### 5. ARMCHAIR

Kalmar armchair in Fern, £649, Swoon

#### 6. RUG

Viesta rug in Lime, from £799, Heal's

#### 7. WALL LIGHT

Bronze Maria Banjo wall light with green shade, £203, Urban Cottage Industries

#### 8. PLANTER

Kana London large shallow planter, £180, A New Tribe

#### 9. STORAGE JAR

Green glass jar container, £15, Marks & Spencer

FEATURE STEPHANIE DURRANT PHOTOGRAPH DOMINIC BLACKMORE



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home





# 'I like to come home to a bit of calm'

She's the woman behind Asda's bold and colourful George Home range, but design manager Siân Kerrigan has come to love a more neutral decor in her own home

**S**iân designed textiles for Marks & Spencer, Dunelm and Debenhams before joining Asda in 2012. George Home was launched shortly afterwards and she now heads up a team of eight. She lives in Mirfield, West Yorkshire.

**My house has changed a lot since I bought it two years ago.** Back then the decor was very Sixties – it had a peach bathroom suite, woodchip wallpaper and a stairlift. However, the rooms were big and, once the heavy curtains and pelmets came down, there was so much light. Even now, I still manage to find new ways to improve it. I'm always decorating and getting stuck into new projects.

**I toyed with going dark in some rooms, but I knew I'd get bored.** It's nice to come home to a bit of calm after a day at work, so most of the rooms are painted in Valspar's 'Sleeping In', which is a white-grey. It gives me a blank canvas to furnish and accessorise however I like.

**I'm a complete hoarder and collector.** I have lots of accessories, cushions, throws, vases, frames, lamps, and so on. I'm constantly



**TOTALLY TROPICAL**  
Neo picnicware set, £15;  
Tropical print cushion,  
£7; Stay Sassy cushion,  
£6; picnic rug, £7, all  
George Home



**FAB FRUIT**  
'The pineapple trend is here to stay!'  
Pineapple bath range,  
from £3, George Home

**COLOURFUL KIT**  
Tropical melamine picnicware, £12 for a mixed 12 piece set, George Home



**PARTY ESSENTIAL**  
Pineapple shaped drinks dispenser, £12, George Home



## STYLE HERO

### SHINE BRIGHT

'This lights up my stairwell.'  
Huxley light, £210,  
John Lewis



'Pearl Lowe is my interiors hero – I blame her for my lace curtains!'



### LOUNGING ABOUT

'I love the bohemian look of this table and chairs combo.'  
Arizona bistro set,  
£249, George Home



moving things around the house and getting pieces in and out of storage. That's why neutral rooms work so well for me. It means I don't have to get my paintbrush out every time I want to change or refresh a space.

**I've been collecting vintage mirrors for a while now.** Bevelled designs with hanging chains are my favourite. You can get sets of new replica ones, but the original mid-century pieces have more charm. I think they look amazing hung together on one wall but they are so big and heavy, I've yet to get around to hanging all of my collection!

**I have a real passion for house plants.** I love bringing the outdoors in, so I have plants in nearly every room and some of them are really huge now! They look amazing in handwoven baskets.

**The kitchen is probably the most transformed room in the house.**

I updated it on a shoestring, so it's also had the least money spent on it. I painted the melamine cupboards black and found some copper handles that looked great against it. I also painted the brown tiles white and redid the yellow walls in Valspar's 'Magic Touch'. There was an old pantry in the corner, so I papered the back of it in palm-print wallpaper and painted the shelves black to create a home for my crockery.

**At work, I like that there's no restrictions to my creativity.**

I work across so many trends and seasons – I mean, where else could you buy a resin fox in a bell jar, a rainbow-shaped butter dish and a family of giant garden gnomes?! We're constantly looking for new trends and ideas.

**I love to travel, but I love coming home, too.**

I live on my own, but the house is always full of family and friends. I enjoy having the girls over for a few Proseccos and a dance-off! I like to play the hostess, so having my house full of happy people is always a joy to me.

### GO BOTANICAL

House Plants print bedlinen, £12 for a double duvet set,  
George Home



### PLANT POWER

House Plants print cushion, £5, George Home



### MAKE IT YOUR OWN

'This vintage display cabinet is the first piece of furniture I ever restored.'



## WHAT I'VE LEARNED



“Always create a mood board of what you want the room to look like before starting a decorating project – it will give you more confidence in your choices!”

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# *'We had to make savvy choices with our small budget'*

After lots of renovation work, the Jaulins put together a simple, modern look on a shoestring



*Love*  
EMMA'S STYLE?

Turn to page 59  
to shop the look





**PAINTED MIRROR**  
Sprayed blue to  
add an accent hue



**CUBBYHOLES**  
Handy for logs  
or displaying  
treasures

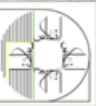


### *Keep it consistent*

Emma and Hendrik laid grey floor tiles throughout the ground floor and painted the walls white. 'White is flexible and inexpensive,' says Emma. 'We chose low-maintenance things in a mix of old and new. This is an easy home to live in.'

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

Dwell tiles, £44.88sq m, Tileflair.  
Ypperlig bench, £35; Hektor floor lamp, £39, both Ikea. Hipster dining chair, £79, Cult Furniture. The Circular mirror with shelf is similar, £35, Tesco Direct





# Welcome to my home



Emma Jaulin, a yoga teacher (emmajaulin.com), lives here with her husband Hendrik, an airline pilot. They are expecting their first child in September.

## THE PROPERTY

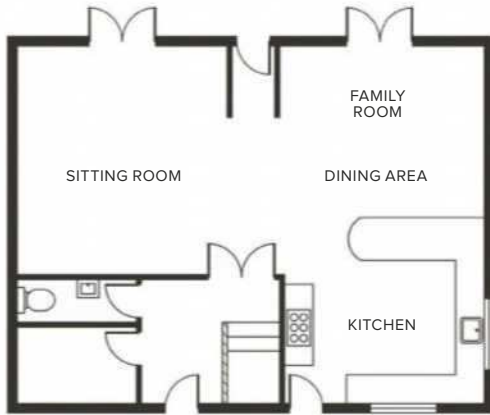
A four-bedroom Victorian farmhouse near Ottery St Mary, Devon.

## THE VALUE

About £600,000.

**“We hadn’t been looking to take on a project this big, but it was a real opportunity to make a house our own”**

## Take a quick tour...



**GROUND FLOOR**



**FIRST FLOOR**

Having fallen for a quaint, red-brick Devon farmhouse, Emma Jaulin had a battle on her hands to persuade her husband Hendrik it would work for them. ‘His first impression was “No way!”’ she says. ‘He thought it was dark and cramped. Once we left, I started explaining how the ground floor could be opened up to bring in more light. By the time we got home, he was convinced. We’d seen nothing else with so much potential.’

The house had barely been touched for 20 years, and had tired decor and old-fashioned fixtures. Once Emma and Hendrik moved in, they stripped away the old carpets and wallpapers, and tackled the layers of old paint on the skirtings, dado and staircase. ‘We spent every day sanding and painting,’ says Emma. ‘Although it was summer, we didn’t relax in the sun even once. It was horrible, but we definitely learned a lot!’

They knocked through the kitchen and dining room, central passageway and sitting room to boost light levels and to create one multifunctional living space. ‘The window frames needed replacing and we wanted minimal frames and maximum glass,’ says Emma. ‘UPVC would have jarred with the exterior, so we went for aluminium. We swapped the two back windows for much taller shapes, which make the interior brighter.’

Now, with the interior finished, the couple are looking to the future. ‘We’re expecting our first child soon,’ says Emma, ‘and the open-plan layout may not work so well as our family grows. With that in mind, we’re planning to divide the room with a glass partition and sliding glass door between the dining and seating zones. It will give us separate spaces when we need them, without losing light or the open feel.’





***Make it yourself***

'If we can't find exactly what we want, Hendrik and I will have a go at making it ourselves,' says Emma. 'He made this lovely corner bench in the sitting room. I wanted this to be an inviting little area.'

**BUY THE KEY PIECES**

Customised pendant light, £30, Dowsing & Reynolds. Woven hanging plant holder, from a selection, No Guts No Glory

***“With an entire house to furnish, I've had to shop around and reuse whatever I could”***





**WOODEN PANEL**  
A feature wall made from old pallets adds character



### **Choose basic key pieces**

Simple, square-lined corner sofas zone the seating area and are easy to push together or move apart when the couple want to rearrange the furniture. In off-white, they'll go with any accent colour, too.

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

Soderhamn corner sofas, £280 each; Frosta stool (painted pink), £9, both Ikea. Karla armchair, £549, Swoon

### **Mix in lots of interesting details**

Reclaimed wood and clusters of houseplants add natural texture, colour and character to the simple sitting room scheme.

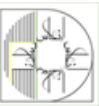
#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

The Axel media unit is a similar design, £329, Swoon



**DIY STORAGE**  
Made from an old futon base, with hairpin legs added

The tile flooring makes it easy for Emma to push back the furniture to make space for yoga





*“We didn’t want to spend a fortune on the kitchen, as we might change the whole lot in time”*

### **Refresh old fittings**

We couldn’t afford to replace the kitchen,’ says Emma, ‘so I upgraded the worksurfaces, bought a new cooker and tiled the splashback with leftover bathroom tiles. The existing cabinets were made-to-measure and still solid, so I spent about £900 on a professional spray paint to extend their life until we’re ready for a redo.’

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

Brick Blanco tiles, £51.62sq m, Tileflair. Rangemaster Classic 100 cooker, £1,839, John Lewis

**MEMO ROLL**  
Brown paper propped on hooks makes an easy to-do list



**UPCYCLED TABLETOP**  
Decorative tiles slot into the panels of an old door





**HANGING TRAY**  
A worktop offcut suspended on string makes a hanging shelf

### **Works both ways**

The guest room bed can be arranged either way around. With the higher rail at the foot, it doubles as a hanging rail. Lack of space for two bedside tables inspired Emma to make the hanging tray.

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

Gjora bed, £199; Bjornloka bedding set, £35, both Ikea. Hue pendant lightshade, £29, Made.com



An open wardrobe from Ikea keeps the guest room feeling airy



### **WHAT I'VE LEARNED**

“Having the same floor tiles throughout the ground floor was a cost-effective choice, because by buying in bulk, I could negotiate a really good deal for them”





**SKINNY UNIT**  
Tons of storage  
for a tiny footprint



**SLIDING DOOR**  
A space-saving  
solution for  
an en suite



**Blend old and new**

Emma kept and repainted the tongue-and-groove wall panelling in the bathroom, but replaced everything else, choosing ultra-modern fittings that let the dark grey floor and rustic wood vanity unit stand out.

**BUY THE KEY PIECES**

Brick Blanco tiles, £51.62sq m, Tileflair. Orchard Wharfe bath, £399; Mode Tate bath filler, £319, both Victoria Plum

**Build a unique piece**

Emma's builder made the chunky wooden washstand to her design. The towel ring is a galvanised gate fitting, costing just a few pounds.

**BUY THE KEY PIECES**

Tobias mirror, £103, Maisons du Monde. The Rosa countertop basin is similar, £39.99, Soak. Mode Tate basin filler taps, £74.99 each, Victoria Plum





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# Make it work for you

## EMMA'S STYLE: INDUSTRIAL LITE

Crossing salvage chic with a rustic coastal vibe and natural materials creates a fresh, easy-going, lived-in look

### IDEAL



**SHINE A SPOTLIGHT**  
Plug in light cable with bulb, £75, Mink Interiors



**COUNTRY LOOK**  
Angus stripe red linen cushion, £40, Ian Mankin

### GREAT DEAL



**STRIKE A CORD**  
Simple plug in light, £46, Urban Cottage Industries



**SEASIDE STYLE**  
Coastal red woven stripe cushion, £12, Dunelm



**FAKE IT**  
Rubber tree, £49.50, Marks & Spencer



**DISPLAY PIECE**  
Hula, W70cm, £175, Loaf



**TWO IN ONE**  
Round mirror with shelf, W52cm, £35, Tesco Direct



**FOREVER GREEN**  
Artificial dumb cane plant, £20, Wilko

FEATURE MICHELA COLLING PHOTOGRAPH COLIN POOLE

**SKINNY STORAGE**  
Williamsburg hairpin sideboard, £350, Next



**ECO SHOPPER**  
Naturalle jute bag, £32, La Redoute



**LUXE TOUCH**  
Seren Baa beauty stool, £250, Baa Stool



**RECLAIM SPACE**  
Felix industrial console table, £200, My Furniture



**FLUFFY FAUX**  
Pin'Up stool, £43, Maisons Du Monde



**CARRY-ALL**  
Woven basket, £18, Sainsbury's Home



THE NEW WAY TO DO

# Rustic style

It's still simple and still neutral, but this enduring look now embraces artisan crafts, global influences and a more eclectic attitude

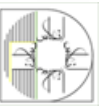
## *Mix trad with contemporary*

Put ornate, traditional scroll-arm sofas and armchairs with ultra-simple, raw wood tables.

### **WHERE TO BUY**

Petersham snuggler sofas, from £1,600; Brocklesby tables, from £550; Salcombe rug, from £295; table lamp, £180; vases, from £28; cashmere throw, £325, all The White Company

آموزشگاه انعکاس منبع جدیدترین اطلاعات، مقالات و دوره‌های آموزشی دکوراسیون داخلی





## STYLE & DECOR

### TRY A PAINTERLY EFFECT

From watercolour-look wallpaper to simple, colour-washed ceramics. Gradient vase, £25; Artisan 16-piece dinner set, £35; Prestige chopping board, £15; all Argos



### STYLIST'S NOTE

“You can mix different wood tones with this look, but make sure they all have a grainy, not polished, finish”

STYLE EDITOR, MICHELA COLLING

### Go for a relaxed dining style

Throw a linen cloth over a whitewashed refectory-style dining table, then add some simple white tableware... and, voila, you're done.

#### WHERE TO BUY

Huxley dining table, £650; Huxley XL bench, £199; Colton By Baker dining chair, £198 for two; Fairford 12-piece dinner set, £48, all Next

#### NICE KNOTS

Macramé cushion, £45, French Connection



**MONO MIX**  
Jute storage basket, £13, H&M



**SERIOUS STRING**  
Crosillia chair, £395, Design Vintage



#### LAYER TEXTURES

Keep them natural – linen, soft cottons and wool. Striped and plain linen blankets, £90 each, Zara Home



**PICK A SUBTLE  
STATEMENT PIECE**  
Include the natural  
beauty of reclaimed  
timber and hand-  
crafted design.  
Grand Orinoco  
sideboard, £845, Loaf



### *Embrace imperfections*

Rather than fine glassware or porcelain, choose ceramics and stoneware that look handmade straight from the pottery, with thick-dipped and opaque glazes, wonky edges or speckled, textured surfaces.

#### **WHERE TO BUY**

Stoneware vases, from £28,  
The White Company



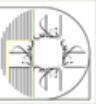
#### **GET A HAND- CRAFTED LOOK**

Go for unsophisticated,  
undyed woven textiles.

Alem rug, £320; Andas  
cushion, £35; throw,  
£95; Kibo bench, £265,  
all Also Home



**PRETTY  
PRACTICAL**  
Vittorio storage  
trunk, £125,  
Habitat







### Use a spectrum of neutrals

Combine all the whites, creams, greys and browns you want, but make sure you cover light, mid-weight and darker hues.

#### WHERE TO BUY

Washed linen bedding, from £40; cushions, from £35; Ezra rug, £500; taupe abstract canvas, £125; flat rattan wing chair, £275, all Cox & Cox

### ADD COLOUR WITH FLOWERS

Think less is more for floral displays, using white and soft tints.

Corinium jug vase, £14; dahlia stems, £10 each, both Neptune



### STYLIST'S NOTE

“Not enough colour for you? Work in matt tints of blush pink, terracotta, deep forest green or indigo blue”

STYLE EDITOR, MICHELA COLLING

#### LIGHT FINISH

Natasia wood easy fit shade, £40, Matalan



#### SMOOTH CONTRAST

Stoneware jug, £12.99, H&M



#### FINE FRINGE

Jofrid throw, £35, Ikea



#### SPECKLED EFFECT

Lowther dinner plates, £78 for six, Neptune







**ADD GLOBAL REFERENCES**  
Work in Japanese- or Moroccan-inspired designs and motifs for an injection of pattern. Cushions, from £45; pitcher, £39; bowl, £10; tray, £75, all Murmur

**STYLIST'S NOTE**

“Beware of complex patterns – this look lends itself to basic stripes, zigzags and simple geometrics”

**STYLE EDITOR, MICHELA COLLING**

**Rethink rattan**

This natural material is making a comeback in the home, not just the garden. Its flexible nature means stems can be woven to fit modern furniture shapes.

**WHERE TO BUY**

Nadia dressing table set, £295; Ariano mirror, £120, both Habitat



**WORK IN A WEAVE**

Offset classic pieces with tactile towels and seagrass storage. Ren basket, £40; Lagra basket, £56; Kibo stool, £135; Andas throw, £95, all Also Home



**SOFT PATTERN**  
Indigo Aztec cushion, £38, French Connection Home

**DISPLAY PIECE**  
Almas flower pot, £22, Debenhams

**NATURAL FIBRES**  
Avery dining chairs, £150 for two, Habitat

FEATURE MICHELA COLLING

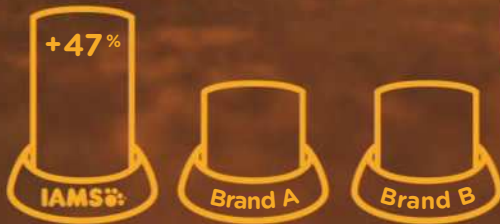




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\*Based on the opinion of 1280 cat owners who took part in an IAMS campaign survey in June 2017, among which 94% were non-users before the campaign. \*\*Adult Rich in Succulent Roast Chicken dry cat food compared with GO Cat Chicken & Duck and Purina One Cat Adult Chicken And Rice. †Top 2 leading brands sold in supermarkets based on IRI data for 52 weeks ending 16 Sept 2017.

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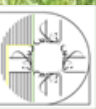


### **Work with what you've got**

'Don't get hung up on "indoor" and "outdoor" furniture,' says Monika. 'I've used a mix of both on our deck so it feels like a proper room and we use it more.' The exterior was painted with leftover mint green paint from a neighbour: 'It gives the house a fresh and summery seaside feel.'

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

For similar, try the Jonah garden sofa, £499; Jonah armchair, £299; and Alif coffee table, £179, all Made.com





# 'We've had to be flexible and evolve our style'



Rebuilding their rundown home exhausted their budget, so the Pedersens have devised room schemes that develop as their finances allow



## IDEAL HOME *loves*

### **Outdoor rugs**

More comfortable for bare feet, and they help stop garden dirt being carried into the house





## Welcome to my home



### THE PROPERTY

A three-bedroom cottage in the centre of Copenhagen, Denmark.

Artist and trainee teacher Monika Pedersen lives here with her husband Henrik, who works in the construction industry, and their children, Frigg, aged six, and Falke, four.

**“The location of this house is the perfect combination of social city living and urban oasis”**

### Take a quick tour...



With its double-height ceiling, beams and open staircase, this house has the features of a spacious loft apartment, but tucked into the 109sq m confines of a cosy cottage. Built in the style of a typical Danish summer house, it is tucked away on the site of a former community garden in the heart of the city. ‘Families live here all year round now, so we are close to our neighbours but we can also see the plants growing and hear the birds,’ says Monika Pedersen. ‘It’s the perfect combination of social city living and urban oasis.’

Monika and her husband Henrik bought the house in 2010. Two years later, they started a two-year renovation project, living in one room with their children, Frigg and Falke, as the house was torn down around them. ‘As soon as we started looking behind the walls, we realised the place was in a bad state,’ says Monika. ‘We had to rip everything out – walls, floors, windows. All that’s left of the old house are the roof and rafters.’

The process allowed them to rethink the layout and make the most of the property’s small footprint. The open-plan design offers long views through the house and an illusion of space. Look up and roof lights give a view of the sky. Gaze out through the French doors and picture windows and you’ll see the garden. There’s even a wraparound deck that’s used as an extra room. Space, light, views – it sounds pricey, but that’s not the case. ‘I bought all the windows and doors from a recycling database where people sell glazing they’ve bought in the wrong size,’ says Monika. ‘Wherever I could, I bought reclaimed or second-hand materials; it saved us a lot of money. Each time we complete a project in the house, I’m grateful. We’re living in our dream home!’



**“I can’t resist a bargain! Even our mugs are bought at flea markets, but if they’re perfect, what does it matter?”**

**DOT DISPLAY**  
Monika has mixed Muuto’s Dot hooks in various sizes

### **Use natural elements**

‘There’s exposed timber throughout and a lot of our furniture combines bare wood with painted surfaces,’ says Monika. ‘I also use plants as accessories, creating displays to fill a corner or create a focal point.’

### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

For similar, try the World Map mural, £43.99, All Posters. The Originals Chairmakers rocker is similar, £955, Ercol. The Dots hooks, £89 for five, Made in Design







*Love*  
MONICA'S  
STYLE?

Turn to page 75  
to shop the look

### *Keep kitchens simple*

In an open-plan space, you have to decide what zone to make the focus. Monika has picked out the dining area, but chosen kitchen units that blend into the background, with black accents to give the all-white space structure.

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

Bodbyn kitchen, from £26 for a door; Hitshult handles, £8 for two; Saljan worktop, from £40, all Ikea

### *Combine old and new*

Monika mixes new furniture with fleamarket finds (often revamped with white paint), which gives the open-plan living space a relaxed and unique look. 'We virtually rebuilt the house, so it has a new feel, but the reclaimed flooring and our vintage things help to give it character.'

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

For a similar sofa, try the Fletch in Marl Grey, £1,299, Made.com. Molecular pendant, £256, House Doctor range, Made in Design



#### **MAP MURAL**

Track your travels with this timeless idea for a feature wall





**DRAPED BRANCHES**  
Create a living ceiling over the dining table



### *Limit your palette*

'Sticking to a small group of colours gives continuity and flow,' says Monika. 'I've used white as the main shade, with black accents and hints of pink. I repaint the wall in the kitchen-diner every now and again to keep the decor fresh.'

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

Mallorca table, from £411, Ilva. The Lule chair, £229 for two, Made.com, is similar

### *Don't block sightlines*

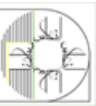
'Views are important in a small space,' says Monika. 'We opened everything up, exposing the rafters and even fitting an open-tread staircase to add light and space.'

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

For similar pink wall paint, try Colours Premium Tutu matt emulsion, £16 for 2.5L, B&Q. Black Ribba frame, £4, Ikea



**Choose black metal taps instead of chrome for a vintage vibe**







Plants on the treads soften the staircase's hard lines

### Tackle clutter in small bedrooms

In the main bedroom, a pretty valance conceals under-bed storage boxes, and a selection of baskets are positioned to hold everyday clutter.

#### BUY THE KEY PIECES

For similar, try the Fladis seagrass basket, £10, Ikea. For similar bedlinen, try the Warren duvet set, from £120, Habitat



REPURPOSED BASKET  
Useful as an easy-to-carry plant pot



The open-tread staircase light flow through the hallway



### WHAT I'VE LEARNED

“It would have been easier to tear down the house and rebuild from scratch, as renovating was a long and complicated process. But the end result would never have had the same spirit!”

FEATURE CAMILLA SKÖTT, ANDREA CHILDS,  
VANESSA RICHMOND PHOTOGRAPHS CAMILLA SKÖTT  
PLANS AGENCY SERVICE





**TOWEL LADDER**  
A slim and repositionable solution

### *Flip the colour ratio*

Harlequin check tiling and black furniture means that black, not white, is the dominant colour in the bathroom. Monika's blush pink towels soften the look.

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

For similar try Checker tiles, £67.56sq m, Topps Tiles. Try the Duke roll-top bath, £349.95, Victorian Plumbing; and the Marlborough freestanding unit & basin in Charcoal, £863, Laura Ashley







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# Make it work for you

## MONICA'S STYLE: SIMPLE SCANDI

A calm palette of black and white is combined with touches of dusty pink and natural finishes for a fresh, relaxed home

### MY GO-TO STORES...

- **DBA.DK** 'An ebay-style shop, where I find a lot of second-hand buys'
- **BAHNE.DK** 'One of my favourites for home accessories'
- **BOLIA** 'These stores smell great and have lots of beautiful furniture'
- **HOMEISH.DK** 'Great for unusual lighting solutions and gorgeous, timeless furniture'

Make the most of wall space with discreet, natural-coloured hooks



### NATURAL STORAGE

Le sac en papier, from £8.50, Pea Style

### Le sac en papier

Ce sac est fabriqué à partir de papier recyclé, 100 % naturel. Double épaisseur 180g/m² : kraft blanc doublé de kraft brun. Contenance : 33 litres 100 % Ecographik™ Ne le jetez pas. Il peut servir plusieurs fois.

### STYLISH SPRITZER

Water mister in chalk, £10, Garden Trading



### COMFY PAIR

Stig dining chair, £229 for two, Made.com

### COSY FIND

Nude throw, £91, Normann Copenhagen range, Amara

### FEATURE WALL

Map mural, £36sq m, Murals Wallpaper



### FAKE IT

Faux potted staghorn plant, £106, Audenza



### COFFEE BREAK

Tablo table in white/natural ash, £365, Nest



## STYLIST'S NOTE

“Plenty of greenery brings this look to life, so place pots on windowsills, in raised planters and even on the stairs”

HOLLY WALSH, FEATURES EDITOR

FEATURE HOLLY WALSH PHOTOGRAPH CAMILLA SKÖTT

COLOUR PALETTE



Pure Freude  
an Wasser



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# *The Ideal Home Guide to* **TIMELESS STYLE**

**THREE FUTURE-PROOF LOOKS WITH A MODERN SPIN TO INSPIRE YOUR NEXT ROOM REDO. PLUS, THERE'S A SPACE OR STYLE PROBLEM SOLVED IN EACH ONE...**



**1**

## **SIMPLE, GLOBAL STYLE**

HOW TO... give your mid-century or Scandi-style furniture a modern remix with global patterns and statement storage, against a backdrop of easy-to-live-with colour



**2**

## **MODERN MINIMALISM**

HOW TO... decorate a hectic family kitchen-diner to promote a sense of calm and quietness, without compromising on character or happy, upbeat colours



**3**

## **LAID-BACK LUXURY**

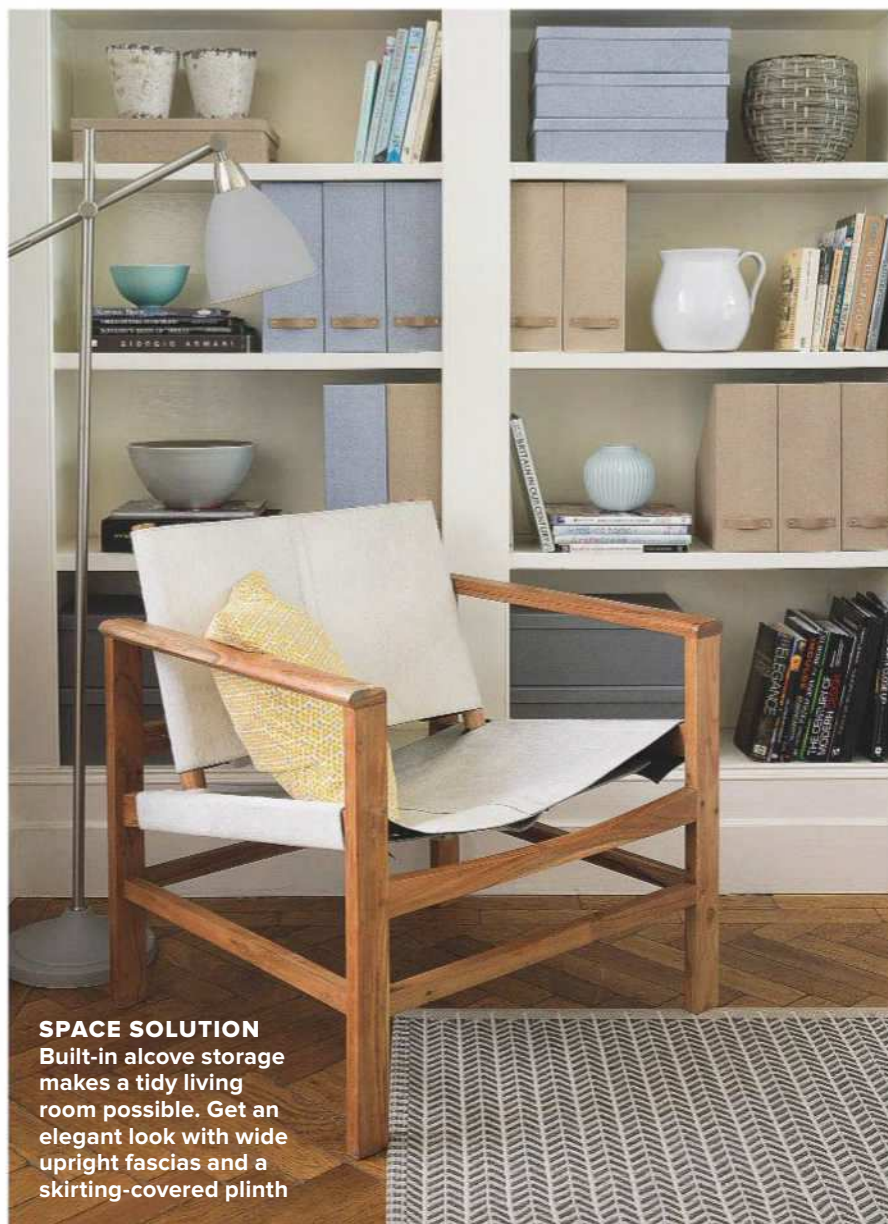
HOW TO... create a calm, neutral look in the bedroom that still has lots of style, using a clever mix of gentle colours and textures, plus a genius storage hack to banish clutter



*The Ideal Home Guide to*  
**TIMELESS STYLE**

# *Simple, global style*

If you love mid-century or Scandi-style furniture, give it a modern, boho twist with Moroccan-inspired rugs, tassel or pompom trims and statement pieces of furniture with exotic wood or bone-inlay patterns



**SPACE SOLUTION**  
Built-in alcove storage makes a tidy living room possible. Get an elegant look with wide upright fascias and a skirting-covered plinth



**DARK WOOD**  
You can mix wood tones from light to dark in this look





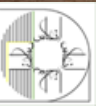
**Stylist's Note**

'Be careful choosing patterns for this look – you want soft contrasts, not sharp, so go for blurred lines, weaves and ombre instead of crisp geometric prints'

Nicky Phillips, Decorating Editor

**BLACK FRAMES**

Black accents give an eclectic scheme like this structure and definition





*The Ideal Home Guide to*  
**TIMELESS STYLE**

# Modern minimalism

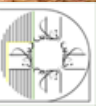
Family kitchens can be chaotic at the best of times, so use the decor to set the right mood. White walls and units, teamed with pared-back Scandi-style furniture, will give you a calm foundation to add colour to



**SPACE SOLUTION**  
Fit a floating shelf at surface height to create a skinny workspace in a corner of a kitchen-diner, with an extra bar stool or dining chair



**DARK WEAVE**  
With dark wood finishes, it'll inject much-needed warmth into an all-white kitchen





**LARGE-FORMAT  
WALL TILES**  
Make a kitchen  
feel tidier and  
more streamlined

### **Stylist's Note**

'The key to a calm look is restricting colour. We stuck to white and aqua, with a couple of touches of sunny yellow sneaking in!'

Nicky Phillips, Decorating Editor





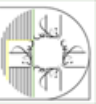
*The Ideal Home Guide to*  
**TIMELESS STYLE**

# *Laid-back luxury*

Luxe looks aren't just for glamourpusses!  
This version is altogether more relaxed.  
The key to luxury is texture, so use super-soft linen bedding, chunky wool rugs and matt ceramics to build it up in layers



**SPACE SOLUTION**  
Build a storage headboard by stacking Ikea's Trones shoe cabinets and securing them to the wall. Great for spare bedding, pyjamas, books, out-of-season clothes and general clutter





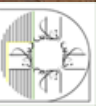
**HANGING LIGHT**  
Perfect where  
bedside space  
is tight

**MIXED BED SETS**  
Use two – one  
neutral, one pastel  
– to dress the bed  
in layers of colour

**Stylist's Note**

“To create a layered neutral scheme, use a base of taupe and grey, then add pastel tints as subtle accents. We used sky blue and mint, but lilac or blush pink would work, too’

Nicky Phillips, Decorating Editor





## The Ideal Home Guide to TIMELESS STYLE

# Where to buy



### Simple, global style

Walls painted in Eiderdown **claypaint**, £70.50 for 5L, Earthborn. Flokati **rug**, £450, Habitat. **Curtains** made in Harlequin Purity Voiles in Ecru 141696, £49m, Style Library. Coast Grande **sofa** in ivory, £1,299, French Connection at DFS. **Side table**, similar from French Connection. Blu Dot free range **coffee table** in marble, £749, Heal's. Executive cowhide **lounge chair**, £495, French Connection Home. Ariella Chevron three drawer **chest**, £895, Graham & Green. **ON COFFEE TABLE** Medium Apothecary **vase**, £19.50, Marks & Spencer. AYTM Unity large oak **tray**, £55, Amara. Paddywax Celestial **candle**, £18.95, Hurn & Hurn. Dipping **bowl**, £9, Murmur. Marrimeko Oiva white **teapot**, £65, Cloudberry Living. **ON SOFA Cushions**, from left: Robin's Room Grasses linen cushion cover, £40, Notonthehighstreet.com; made in Harlequin Speckle in linen 131863 (front), £54m, Style Library; Launay in duck egg, 7725/38 (back), £54.50m, Romo; Grace & Favour Home Suits cushion, £35, Notonthehighstreet.com; made in Rafu in Cashew 7775/09 (front), £72.50m; Launay Hay 7725/47 (back), £54.50m, both Romo. Ella **throw**, £38, Perch & Parrow. Mai shopper **basket**, from £37.50, Parlane. **ON CHAIR Cushion** made in Bowood duck egg F0733/02 (front), £46m, Clarke & Clarke; Launay Hay 7725/47 (back), £54.50m, Romo. **ON SIDE TABLE** Little Bruges **desk lamp**, £135, Loaf. Primrose yellow oval **vase**, £50, Lucy Burley. **ON SIDEBAR** Prestbury **jug**, from £29.95, Parlane. Castleford **tall bottle**, £49, Neptune. Elzora **bowl**, £30 for four, Habitat. **ON WALL** *Le Cheval* and *L'Ecureuil* by Pablo Picasso, framed **silk screen prints**, £90 each, King & McGaw. **SHELVING DETAIL** From top: Bay terracotta **pots**, from £10 each, Neptune. A4 document **boxes**, £14 each, The Holding Company. Rattan **planter**, from £150 for three, Parlane. Duck egg **bowl**, from £28, Lucy Burley. Estelle **magazine files**, £15.95 each; Ulrika **storage boxes**, £25 for two, all The Holding Company. **Bowl**, from £10, Murmur. Kahler Hammershoi mint green **vase**, £32, Heal's. For a similar white **jug**, try Parlane. Leda task **floor lamp**, £129, Marks & Spencer. Lobbak **rug**, £65, Ikea



### Modern minimalism

Underneath breakfast bar painted in Cats Cradle **eggshell**, £60 for 2.5L, Earthborn. Hay high oak **stools**, £195 each, Amara. Jasper Conran **pendant light**, £125, Debenhams. **ON BREAKFAST BAR** AYTM Unity walnut **tray**, £55, Amara. Acacia egg **tray**, £15; Retreat **bowls**, £6 each, all Marks & Spencer. Stelton Emma **pitcher**, £59, Cloudberry Living. Off white ceramic **mug**, £11.95, Graham & Green. Heart shaped slate **place mats**, £7 for two, Wilko. Kilney pasta **bowls**, £45 for four; dinner **plates**, £45 for four, all Loaf. For similar **tea towels**, try the True Linen Shop at Etsy. Ikea has similar **cutlery**. Iittala Sarpaneva **casserole pot**, £185, Cloudberry Living. LSA Mia Partial Optic **tumblers**, £22 for four, Amara. Retreat **serving bowl**, £19.50, Marks & Spencer. **Bowl**, from £19.50, Parlane. **ON WORKTOP** Smeg four slice **toaster**, £139.95, John Lewis. Marble and ash oval **platter**, £25, Marks & Spencer. Joseph Joseph **bread bin**, £60; T&G Oblique **salt and pepper mills**, £48 each, all John Lewis. **Tea towels**, from a selection, The Towel Shop. **Condiment set**, £34, French Connection Home. Grey **jug**, £39, Murmur. Andalucia medium **serving bowl**, £8, Habitat. Stelton Emma **kettle**, £139, Cloudberry Living. Pastel geometric **boxes**, £16.95 each, Heart & Parcel at Notonthehighstreet.com. **ON WALL Screen prints**, clockwise from left: *Lily Pond*; *Polar Bear*; *Mouse*, £49.55 each, LU West Studio at Etsy. Karlsson Mr White **wall clock**, from £54, Hurn & Hurn. **ON FLOOR** Large wicker **basket**, £95, Rose & Grey. Eyes **bedspread** (in basket), £120, Habitat. **DESK DETAIL** Lack **shelf**, £10, Ikea. Hanging ceramic **flower pots**, £25 each; large faux **cactus**, £22.50; faux hanging **succulent**, £59, all Rose & Grey. **ON WALL** Tom's Bakery **claypaint**, £70.50 for 5L, Earthborn. Wire mesh **board**, £55; large **bulldog clips**, £5 for two; binder **clips**, £5 for 10, all Block Design. Jonzac **screen print** by Ruth Allen, £20, Madebyhand online.com. Cavendish **clip lamp**, £29.50, Hurn & Hurn. **ON DESK** Black **pens**, from a selection, Ikea. Storage **house**, £14, Block Design. Waves Design **file**, £20, Harris & Jones at Notonthehighstreet.com



### Laid-back luxury

Walls painted in Paw Print **claypaint**, £70.50 for 5L, Earthborn. Medium Bobble floor **rug**, £295, Loaf. **Curtains** made in Harlequin Purity Voiles in Ecru 141696, £49m, Style Library. Headboard, Trones **shoe cabinet storage**, £30 for three, Ikea. Store storage king size **bed**, £895; **mattress**, from £445, both Loaf. Ashanti **bedside drawers**, £229, Atkin & Thyme. Mina printed **chair**, £450, Graham & Green. **ON BED** Classic white housewife **pillowcases**, £30 each; Picardie Ecru housewife **pillowcases**, £30 each; all The Linenworks. Relaxed Denim natural linen king size **duvet cover**, £130, Secret Linen Store. **Cushion** made in Launay in duck egg 7725/38 (front), £54.50m; made in Launay in Hay 7725/47 (back), £54.50m, both Romo. Linen herringbone **throw** in mint, £119, Heal's. Silver soft jacquard linen **throw**, £320, The Linenworks. Cut glass **pendant light** with black fitting, £65, Rose & Grey. **ON BEDSIDE TABLE** Duck egg pyramid **jewellery peak**, from £10, Stackers at Notonthehighstreet.com. Normann Copenhagen small **shorebird**, £30, Cloudberry Living. Duck egg **bottle**, £90, Lucy Burley. **ON HEADBOARD** Normann Copenhagen large **shorebird**, £42, Cloudberry Living. Aqua **bottle**, £40, Lucy Burley. Beatrice layered landscape **pot**, from £14, Anthropologie. **ON WALL Artwork** by Graham Stuart Thomas, framed from £55 each, RHS collection, King & McGaw. **ON FLOOR Wire basket**, £35 for two, Murmur. Duck egg **bath towel**, £19, Secret Linen Store. **DETAIL** Duck egg **hand towel** (in shoe storage), £10, Secret Linen Store



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... sky,  
a ship and a star to steer her by.  
John Masefield

### Stick to a theme

'I didn't want a clichéd seaside look, so I've reflected the location in subtle ways in accessories, artwork and natural textures like linen, wood and wool. I wanted it to be like a Hamptons beach house, Colonial in style,' says Davina.

#### BUY THE KEY PIECES

Jennylund armchair, £160, Ikea. San Quentin Beckwourth table, £439, Barker & Stonehouse. Rhapsody shaggy rug, £499, John Lewis

**Love**  
DAVINA'S  
STYLE?

Turn to page 95  
to shop the look



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# *‘Small flats can still be fabulous!’*

Davina Fox-Hill’s seaside apartment is packed with small-space solutions and sassy style ideas inspired by big beach houses in the Hamptons





# Welcome to my home



## THE PROPERTY

A four-bedroom ground floor flat in a Thirties house in Sandsend near Whitby, Yorkshire.

## THE VALUE

Around £500,000.

**“We can spend hours just watching the changing tides of the sea from here. I still have to pinch myself!”**

Davina Fox-Hill lives here with her son Zachary, 17. Davina runs a property renovation and holiday rental company, Zachary Valentine.

## Take a quick tour...



**GROUND FLOOR**

Davina Fox-Hill has lived in London and in the South of France, but the place closest to her heart is the coastal town of Whitby, where she grew up. So when a seafront flat came up for sale in nearby Sandsend in 2016, she snapped it up. ‘No sooner had I bought it than the one next door also came up for sale,’ she says. ‘I realised I could dismantle the lot, link the two and start again.’

One of the flats had been modernised but wasn’t to Davina’s taste, while the other was dark, damp and very dated. ‘I was able to live in one side while the other was renovated and then switch over,’ says Davina. ‘I have done up properties before, so am used to the chaos.’

Davina employed builders to strip every room back to a shell and remove walls in the front rooms, which overlook the sea, to make them more spacious. ‘All the rooms were very small and cramped and I wanted to make everything seem bigger and flow together,’ says Davina. Steel lintels were put in to strengthen the openings, leaking windows were replaced, new electrics and a central heating system were installed, and the unmodernised side was fitted with a new damp proof course. A wall was also taken out between two small bedrooms to create one large space.

‘It took about four months to renovate the flat and we love being here now it’s finished, whatever the weather. In summer, we throw open the doors and sit on the terrace where we spend hours watching the changing tides of the sea. While in winter, we batten down the hatches and stare at the dark skies from the comfort of the sofa. I still have to pinch myself sometimes. I’ve always loved the sea but I never thought for one minute that I would find somewhere as close to it as this place.’



### *Add touches of darker colour*

A vintage dresser brings depth to the all-white dining area. Davina even painted an old table white and covered inexpensive chairs with neutral slipcovers to match.

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

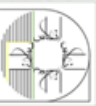
For similar model yachts, try Pond Yacht Antiques, from £165. For a similar custom-made table, try the Farmhouse Table Company



### IDEAL HOME *loves*

#### **Wood-effect lino**

*It has the look of wood, but is less expensive and easier to look after. Also, it's made from non-toxic materials*







**GRID OF FRAMES**  
Neat and simple displays are best in small spaces

**Keep colours light**

‘The ceilings are low, so I painted them and the walls in soft white and grey to emphasise the sense of light and space,’ says Davina. ‘All the colours have been chosen with the view in mind. I created a scheme that reflects the sea and sky in subtle layers.’

**BUY THE KEY PIECES**

pudding sofa, £1,500, Loaf. Liatorp coffee table, £139, Ikea. Cushions, from £35 each, Cream of Cornwall







**MIRROR-BACKED BUILT-INS**  
Make a small space feel much bigger



'I like to mix and match green and blue glassware,' says Davina

### Screen off clutter

'The kitchen is designed so you don't really see it when you walk in,' explains Davina. 'I had a panelled half wall built to conceal the units but keep sightlines to the bay window – and the view – clear.'

#### BUY THE KEY PIECES

Smeg fridge, £1,219, Appliances Direct. Karndean Korlok flooring, £39sq m, Beevers & Co. Units, £5,000, Merseyside Catering Fabrications. Walls painted in Ammonite estate emulsion, £45 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball

### Do it with mirrors

Glass shelves fixed onto a fitted piece of mirror on the back wall of the kitchen reflects light from the window opposite back into the room. It has also given Davina a place to display her collection of glassware.

#### BUY THE KEY PIECES

Sardine tray, from £20, Thornback & Peel. For a similar board, try the Nautical Octopus cutting board, £31.25, Zazzle



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**COPPER ACCENT**  
Brings an all-neutral  
scheme to life



**MIRRORED  
WARDROBES**  
Made by a  
joiner to fit a  
narrow space  
perfectly



### **Think big in small bedrooms**

'It's tempting to downsize everything in a small room, but I prefer to do the opposite. Where floor space is limited, I've made the most of the height of the room with bold paper, pictures, a statement bed and tall lamps,' says Davina.

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

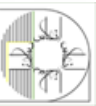
Sueno divan bed, from £179, Sueno. Bourgie Kartell bedside copper lamps, £340 each, Ambiente Direct. Kings Mirror wallpaper, £95 a roll, Cole & Son. Shutters, from £150, Whitby Blinds and Shutters. For a similar yacht, try Pond Yacht Antiques, from £165

### **Don't hold back on luxury**

Two very small bedrooms were knocked into one to create this en-suite area, which just has enough space to squeeze in a freestanding bath - inspired by boutique hotels.

#### **BUY THE KEY PIECES**

Clovelly slipper bath, £895, The Cast Iron Bath Company. For similar, try the Copper Complements lantern, £73.42, Look & Buy







A sun-soaked terrace at the front overlooks the bay



A joiner made this single four-poster bed, which makes this small space feel grand

## WHAT I'VE LEARNED

“Always over-budget, so you have a safety net – just in case. Keep one room habitable, so you have somewhere to escape to. The chaos doesn't last forever!”



Reflective metallic wallpaper and mirrored furniture brighten the back bedroom, which has restricted light

FEATURE HEATHER DIXON, VANESSA RICHMOND  
PHOTOGRAPHS COLIN POOLE







# Make it work for you

## DAVINA'S STYLE: COASTAL CLASSIC

Blue accents and traditional maritime motifs pair up perfectly with pale neutrals for an elegant home by the sea



IDEAL

### NAUTICAL THEME

Maritime Anchor cushion, £39, Cream Cornwall



### SHIPSHAPE

Authentic Models America's Cup Columbia 1901, £135, Houseology



### CLASSIC LINEN

Weekender armchair in oyster white clever linen, £1,095, Loaf

### ON THE SIDE

Oken white folding side table with removable tray top, £40, Habitat



### LINE UP

Royal Doulton Pacific mug, £9, Amara



### PLAIN SAILING

Classic English sailing yacht model, £50, The Nautical Company

GREAT DEAL



### COASTAL MOTIF

Anchor cushion, £20, Batela



### TIMELESS STYLE

Jennylynd armchair, £160, Ikea

### CLEAN LINES

Betsy folding tray table, £29, Ideal Home range, Very



### KNOW THE ROPES

Riviera Rope mug, £4.50, Sainsbury's Home



### BACK TO NATURE

Seymour coffee table with two drawers, £650, John Lewis



### RUSTIC LOOK

Toronto storage coffee table, £349, DFS

### UNDER THE SEA

RJR John Rocha silver coral shaped bowl, £58, Debenhams



### OCEAN DEEP

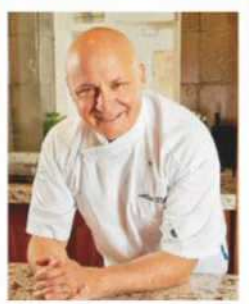
Coral silver metal platter, £47, ArtisanTi

FEATURE HEATHER YOUNG PHOTOGRAPH COLIN POOLE



# ULTIMATE ITALY CRUISE

WITH ALDO ZILLI



Enjoy our eight-day Italian voyage on a magnificent tall ship, where chef Aldo Zilli will join you for a unique on-board cookery demo

There's no better way to experience the beauty and gastronomic wonders of Italy than on our new eight-day Ultimate Italy cruise, sailing from Rome to Sicily with wonderful chef and restaurateur Aldo Zilli, next spring.

Best known for his successful restaurants – including Signor Zilli and seafood specialist Zilli Fish – Aldo certainly knows a thing or two about Italian cuisine and will be happy to share his knowledge with you during this exclusive trip.

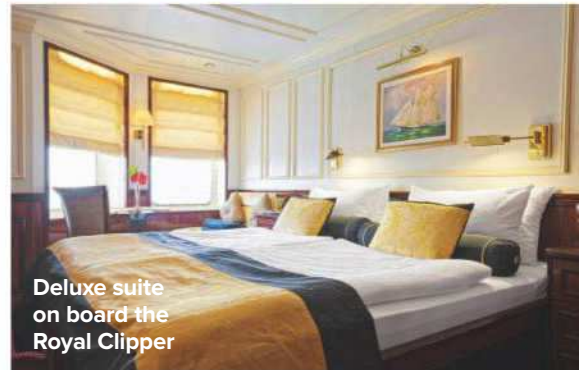
We've partnered with tall-ship cruise specialist Star Clippers, who will be hosting us on the 439-ft Royal

Clipper – the pride of their fleet. It's the largest full-rigged sailing ship in the world and features many modern facilities (including three pools!), as well as luxury cabins, a three-tiered dining room, Edwardian library and superb health club and spa.

Foodies will enjoy an exclusive talk with Aldo, as well as two cookery demonstrations and a special lunch with him when we moor in Amalfi. 'I'm over the moon to be travelling to some of my favourite parts of Italy,' says Aldo. 'I'll be able to teach you, while learning more myself about all of the different foods this amazing region has to offer.'



Watch the sun go down over pretty Taormina

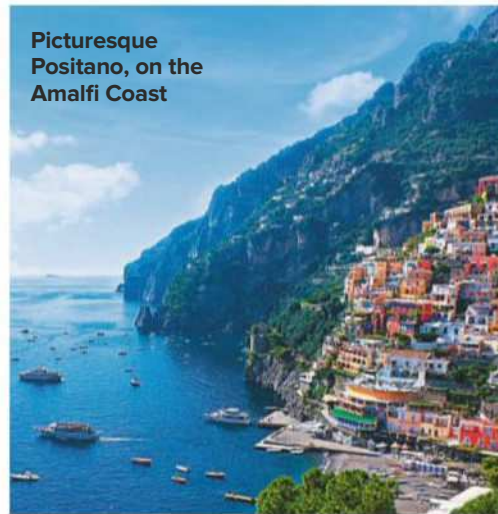


Deluxe suite on board the Royal Clipper





Spectacular views  
across the rooftops  
of Rome



Picturesque  
Positano, on the  
Amalfi Coast

## YOUR EXCLUSIVE ITINERARY

### Day 1 FLY TO ROME

You'll fly direct from London to Rome (where you could opt for a two-night pre-stay), home of St Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel; the Spanish Steps, leading up from Piazza di Spagna; plus two of the Roman Empire's greatest architectural marvels – the Pantheon and the Colosseum. You'll then board your luxury home for the next seven nights, the majestic Royal Clipper, which, with its 42 sails, is the largest full-rigged sailing ship in the world.

### Day 2 PONZA & PALMAROLA

Today we'll disembark in the delightful, unspoilt town of Ponza, on one of the beautiful Pontine Islands off Italy. Behind its busy harbour – home to sleek yachts and old-fashioned fishing boats – lie rows of pretty, pastel-coloured houses and charming little streets. Your next stop, the spectacular and largely uninhabited island of Palmarola, offers a rocky coast dotted with natural grottos, bays, cliffs and crags. Its pink coral beaches and emerald coves are perfect for swimming and snorkelling.

### EXCLUSIVE IDEAL HOME EXPERIENCE

Enjoy a private talk and Q&A with Aldo, and discover more about his extraordinary life and career as a top chef and restaurateur.

### Day 3 SORRENTO

This impressive coastal town, whose city walls rise straight out of the sea, is one of several unmissable destinations you'll visit along the Amalfi Coast. As well as offering sweeping views across the bay of Naples, Sorrento is also home to elegant piazzas, atmospheric medieval streets and beautiful baroque churches.

### EXCLUSIVE IDEAL HOME EXPERIENCE

Join Aldo for an alfresco cocktail party before the first of your two exclusive cookery demos.\*\*

### Day 4 AMALFI

Today you'll visit the picturesque town of Amalfi, famous for its great views and

historical highlights at every turn, where you'll join a guided walk through the atmospheric cobbled streets.

### EXCLUSIVE IDEAL HOME EXPERIENCE

After the walk, Aldo will prepare local specialities during a cookery demo at the Sensi Restaurant. Then it's time to enjoy a two-course luncheon with a menu based on the dishes Aldo has just prepared, while taking in the stunning sea views from the restaurant's terrace.\*\*

### Day 5 TAORMINA, SICILY

This morning the Royal Clipper will travel at full sail through the Straits of Messina towards Taormina, the stunning town that clings to the side of Mount Etna. In the afternoon, there's an optional excursion\*\* to the country estate of the aristocratic di Villagrande family, where you will be welcomed by the Baroness in person. You'll be taken on a tour of the winery, before settling down in the Old Stable to sample some of the estate's delicious wines and enjoy a Sicilian meal prepared using local products.

### Day 6 LIPARI

Rising out of the turquoise seas off the northern coast of Sicily is an idyllic cluster of UNESCO-protected volcanic islands, known as the Aeolian Islands. Today you'll visit the largest, Lipari, where you can walk the narrow streets to the medieval castle and unwind by the sea at a secluded beach. Look out for fiery eruptions from the nearby island of Stromboli as we sail past.

### Day 7 AT SEA

Today you'll experience the full splendour of travelling across the Mediterranean on board the Royal Clipper, as you depart the Aeolian Islands and set sail towards Rome.

### Day 8 RETURN HOME

Today your unforgettable journey ends back where it began a week ago, in the captivating capital city of Rome. From here, you'll fly back to England on a direct flight to London.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Direct return flights from London to Rome\*
- Seven nights luxury accommodation on board the Royal Clipper
- All meals on board
- An exclusive talk and Q&A, two private cookery demos, lunch in Amalfi and an alfresco cocktail party with Aldo Zilli\*\*
- All included activities as listed in the itinerary
- The services of an expert tour guide

## THE DATES

11-18 May 2019

## THE PRICE

From £2,249pp\*

## HOW TO BOOK

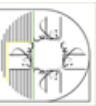
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# 40 *Easy style updates*

**From best buys and clever tricks to mini decor projects... this is our roundup of the simplest, quickest ways to make your home more beautiful *now***

## **1** *Update with a mix of fabrics*

Inject some life into a neutral living room this summer, with some vibrant prints. Mixing florals, stripes and motifs works if they share a colour palette. Just make sure your upholstery, flooring and walls are muted and calm to show off the patterns.







## 4 *Paint your front door a perfect pink*

Create a welcoming entrance for guests by painting your front door a happy shade of pink. If bubblegum or rose shades seem a bit too girly, try a pink hue with a grey base.

## 5 **REPLACE PLAIN DOOR KNOBS**

Update a chest of drawers or cabinet in an instant by replacing boring-looking pulls with prettier alternatives. For an eclectic look, choose a different knob per drawer or door.

Door knobs, £4 each, Monsoon



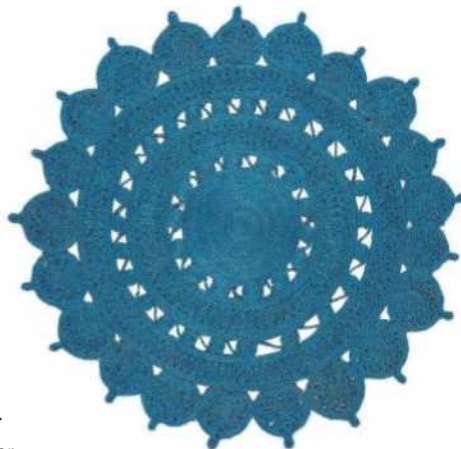
## 2 **GO BIG ON GREENERY**

Give your living space a hot-house feel by building an arrangement of indoor plants. Pick pots in similar shades and styles and stagger their heights by displaying on tiered shelves and low ledges.

## 3 **COVER A TIRED FLOOR WITH A STATEMENT RUG**

If your carpet or wooden floor has seen better days, you have the perfect excuse to invest in some beautiful new rugs. Great for zoning the room into 'playing' and 'relaxing' areas, they'll lift a room from drab to fab. It's also an easy way to make an area feel cosier without adding any clutter.

Zira circular jute rug in blue, £199, The Rug Seller



Castors, from £10.50, Homebase



## 6 *Repurpose a chest*

Make your own movable kitchen island from an old chest of drawers, four castors and a worktop offcut attached to the top. Add a strip of hanging hooks to each side, too, for utensils.



# 7 HANG FLOATY VOILES

Embrace the early-morning sunrise and swap thick curtains for light sheers that'll still provide privacy

# 8 INVEST IN A SMART DRINKS TRAY

If you're having a party this summer, a sturdy serving tray will save multiple trips to the kitchen for drinks and nibbles. Choose one that is pretty enough to be left out on the side.

Moroccan style tray, £9.99, HomeSense



Huxley desk, £325, Next



# 9 Tidy your work space

A streamlined and clutter-free desk is the first step needed for an engaging home office. So choose one with drawers to hide away stationery and opt for a few baskets to keep any other mess and mayhem tidy.



# 10 Dress a dining table

Have two sets of table linen: one in deep, rich colours for winter and a crisp, cotton runner for summer. Allow for an overhang of no more than 50cm each end and a width that lets one fifth of the tabletop to show on each side.

# 11 PAINT YOUR PLANTERS

Revamp shabby outdoor plant pots with a cheery new paint colour. Choose cool creams, white, pale yellow or greens if you have red brickwork; try blues, lilac, pinks or corals against stone or concrete.



## 12 CHOOSE A SASSY MIRROR

Hang a mirror in your hallway or bedroom that makes you smile, to ensure you leave the house happy each day. A statement mirror with a combination of materials is decorative as well as useful.



Unity cane mirror, £145, Oliver Bonas



Dotty Red vinyl flooring, £15.99sq m, Rococo range, Lifestyle Floors

## 13 Make stairs a statement

For the ultimate wow factor, paint or paper the front of each step in a different pattern or colour. To complete the look and draw it together, keep the top of each step the same shade.

## 14 MAKE A SHELL TIEBACK

Use shells collected at the beach or on holiday to make an easy curtain tie-back. Twist string with natural raffia for the tie then knot shells on for decoration.



Bed linen, £35; jersey bedspread in mustard, £40, both House by John Lewis

## 15 Brighten up your bedding

Swap plain white bedding for an on-trend tropical or botanical print to give your bedroom a lift for summer. For a layered look, use a contrasting plain bottom sheet and pillowcases.





Grassflower bed linen set in forest, from £95, Clarissa Hulse

## 18 Put up a plant shelf

Fix a shelf along the wall behind a bed, paint it the same shade as the wall and add a selection of plants (both real and faux) for a fresh display. Pick bedding to reflect the greenery, too.

## 19 JAZZ UP PLAIN BASKETS

Make simple, colourful tassels or pom-poms out of wool and use to pimp up a plain seagrass basket. Attach with a needle and thread in a group or all the way around the top.

Neon yellow tassel basket, £29, Bobby Rabbit



## 16 HIDE AN UGLY DRAINPIPE

Disguise an unsightly drainpipe by wrapping a semicircular trellis around it and using it as a support for a flowering climber. Try Gardman tube trellis, £10.99 for two, greenfingers.com.



Catini round box mirror, from £1,449, CP Hart

## 17 TAKE SEATING OUTSIDE

This wicker-effect armchair from M&S is suitable for both indoor and outdoor use. In summer it makes the perfect spot for a little sun worshipping in the garden, while in winter, it can come back inside to be cosied up with cushions and a throw.



Capri teak chair, £199, Marks & Spencer

## 20 BARE ALL WITH BRICKS

For a rustic, industrial look in the bathroom, create a bare brick wall with either moisture-proof lookalike wallpaper, or cheat with a brick slip-covered wall.



## 21 *Make a feature of terrazzo*

Jazz up a feature wall in a bedroom with a terrazzo-print wallpaper. As it's quite a busy pattern, keep bedding plain, but mirror the design in lamp bases, vases and accessories.

Camelia king-size bed frame in slate soft wool, £1,075, Button & Sprung



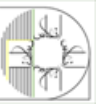
## 22

### CLEAR CLUTTER

Placed at the end of your bed, an ottoman can store lots of shoes and makes the ideal spot to sit and put them on, too.



Yellow bench stall, £149.99, HomeSense







Giro hanging coat rack, £85, Next

## 25 BRING OUT THE SUMMERY CUSHIONS

It's time to store away woolly cushions and thick throws and accessorise sofas and chairs with summery florals. You could pick a new season fabric and sew a few simple fabric 'envelope'-style cushion covers, then just slip them over your wintry cushions.

Voyage Maison Lotus Leaves duck egg cushion, £45, Bridgman



## 23 Sort hall storage

Keep everyday essentials – shopping bags, dog leads or garden string, plus outgoing parcels or homework – tidy at the front door by choosing a coat rack that comes with shelves as well as hooks.

## 24 HANG BUNTING OUTSIDE

Give your garden a celebratory feel all summer long and hang pretty bunting made of oilcloth along a fence, or strung from trees and bushes.



Sandtex 10 Year External paint, £19 for 750ml, B&Q



Tablecloth in Norfolk stripe indigo, £27.50sq m, Ian Mankin

## 26 Revamp outdoor furniture

Left the garden bench outside to brave the wintry weather? Give it a clean new look for summer with a coat of hardy paint. This will not only add fresh colour, but also weatherproof it for the next season.



## 29 POSH UP A PICNIC

It's time to switch your mismatched, kids' character picnic plates to a set that's a little more grown-up and stylish. While melamine is still a popular choice for alfresco eating, more and more eco-friendly bamboo options are hitting the shops, too.



Bamboo Palm Tree pitcher, £19.95; Palm Tree cup, £5, both White Stuff

## 30 PAINT THE EDGE OF A DOOR

Add some unexpected colour to the edge of internal doors by painting them in bright, happy colours. If that seems a little bold, try a shade that complements the door, like dark charcoal if the door is light grey, or pale pink if you have white doors.



## 31 Add pretty tiles

An easy weekend project is to tile a splashback behind a kitchen sink. For added ease, tile a width and height that means none of the tiles will need cutting.

## 28 Make your table talk

For a fresh, coastal feel to your dining table, choose a wide-stripe tablecloth in bright royal blue. Plain white tableware laid on top will look chic, and a large vase of fresh foliage will add the finishing touch to your setup.

## 27 ADD A PEBBLE BORDER

Line pathways and flowerbeds with a smart pebble or gravel border, to add interest and style. Dig down a couple of inches into the soil, lay down some landscaping fabric, then cover evenly.





Asho pendant lampshade, £75, Kalinko

## 32 *Be bold with blue*

With paint experts

Little Greene releasing a new range that's entirely shades of blue, this versatile colour for the home isn't going away any time soon. Paint a wall in a dark, inky hue to make an instant statement.



Whitewashed wood flooring, from £70sq m, Amtico

## 33 *PLAY WITH PATTERN ON FLOORS*

Don't just stick to the classic offset brick or herringbone formula for flooring – try a pattern inspired by traditional parquetry, like this castel weave (above).



## 34 *SHABBY CHIC A SHELF*

Give an old wooden shelf a new lease of life by painting it a bright, eye-popping shade, then lightly sanding away at corners and edges to reveal the wood underneath.



Salina dressing table, £599; Salina dressing table stool, £199, Ercol

## 35 *Scale up your wall art*

Rather than hanging prints, make the wall the art with a large-scale mural printed on photo paper. MuralsWallpaper.co.uk have a huge range.

FEATURE HOLLY WALSH PHOTOGRAPHS TIMEINCUKCONTENT.COM



## 36 *Go green in the kitchen*

If you find you're always drawn to one particular colour, why not make this a feature in your kitchen? Paint cupboard doors and walls in the same shade, and then display pretty crockery and glassware in the same hue, too.

## 37 **MAKE FLOWERS GO FURTHER**

Pick up a bunch of inexpensive supermarket flowers and divide into several groups of just two or three stems, then display them in jam jars with some greenery from the garden.

## 38 **UPCYCLE AN OLD LADDER**

Repurpose a shabby stepladder into a plant stand. Leave it natural or spruce it up with garden paint, then prop it against an outside wall. Stand pots on the rungs or use S-hooks to suspend them instead.



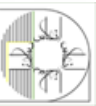
## 39 **TILE IN A NEW DIRECTION**

Laying metro tiles in a chevron pattern for your bathroom gives them a whole new feel. Choose a golden grout to up the style stakes.



## 40 **HANG A WELCOMING SUMMER GARLAND**

Tuck in-season blossoms, blooms and foliage into the weave of a willow wreath. Decorate two thirds of the ring, leaving some bare for an undone, rustic look.





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# *'We were desperate for a bigger, brighter space'*

Fed up with their dark, narrow kitchen, the Jameses knocked through and gave a light, fresh look to the space they gained

**GLAZED DOORS**  
Break up a solid run of units





Merging the old kitchen with an adjoining family room gave the couple a lot of space to play with. 'I wanted to design the kitchen around an island and decided to go for the biggest one possible!' says Suzanne.

Lansdowne painted oak kitchen units in French Grey, around £240 per 600mm unit, Burbidge. For similar flooring, try white porcelain anti-slip tiles, £50.45sq m, Walls & Floors



**IDEAL HOME**  
*loves*

**Supersize floor tiles**  
Simple, seamless,  
streamlined - plus they  
work well with underfloor  
heating and are easy  
to keep clean



*Welcome to my home*

Suzanne James lives here with her husband Martin.

**THE PROPERTY**  
A five-bed detached Fifties house in Tewin, Hertfordshire, bought in December 2010.

**WHAT IT COST**

Units including handles.....	£10,800
Worktops and upstands.....	£2,505
Appliances.....	£5,190
Floor tiles.....	£1,300
Blinds.....	£845
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>£20,640</b>

*“I love the way the room functions, whether it’s just the two of us or we’re entertaining. Everything is within reach”*



## HOW SUZANNE AND MARTIN DID IT

'We decided on a whole-house renovation, transforming the exterior of the house with New-England-style cladding, and chose Shaker-style units for the kitchen to suit that look. The traditional design has a timeless quality that won't fade with changing fashions. The space was originally two rooms, but we took down the wall and I designed the layout around the biggest island we could fit in. It makes a big

impact, so we kept the colour scheme subtle, which matches what we've used throughout the house – plus the white walls maximise the light levels. Our builder measured up the space and fitted the kitchen. The installation cost £1,500 and took just over four weeks to complete. The kitchen was just a small part of the whole project, but now the house is finished, this is definitely my favourite room.'

**BELOW** Half of the new living space has become a comfortable seating area – Suzanne decided against having a table here as there's a separate dining room next door. The breakfast bar is ideal for informal meals.

For a similar four-seater sofa try the Vento, £999, Made.com



**MAP PRINT**  
Suzanne's  
colour inspiration  
for the room

**NEUTRAL RUG**  
Subtly zones the  
sitting area in an  
open-plan space







*Love*  
SUZANNE'S  
WORKTOPS?  
**Turn to page 115**  
to shop the look



**ABOVE** This run of worktop is dedicated to food prep and the quartz is smooth and hygienic for rolling pastry. 'It's ideal for baking, and the drawers house all my kit,' says Suzanne.

Bianco Grigio quartz worktop, £225sq m, Luna Stone. For similar tins, try the Kitchen Craft storage tin set, £24.99, Wayfair

**BANK OF OVENS**  
Twin double ovens, a steam oven and a microwave

**ABOVE** The island provides plenty of work space and storage, as well as being a sociable place to sit and chat with the cook.

Lush real leather brushed stools, £219.99 each, Atlantic Shopping. Bosch HBM13B150B electric double ovens, £599.99 each, Currys

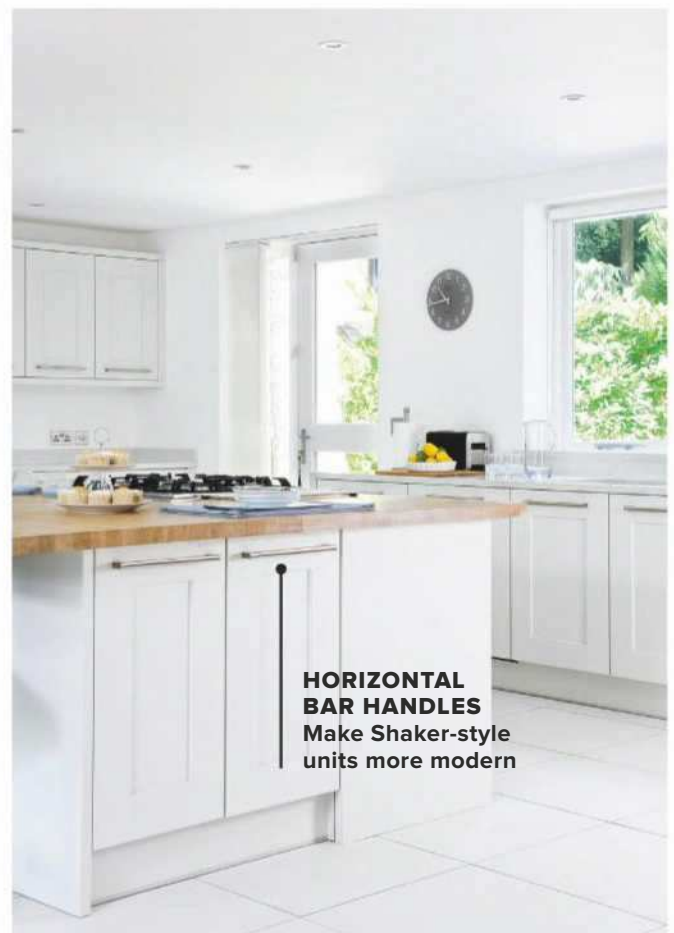
**RIGHT** The island conceals a down-draft extractor behind the hob. 'When it's raised it acts as a splashback,' says Suzanne. 'A ceiling hood would have blocked the view.'

For similar bar handles, try the Innova Boss bar handle, from £2.52, DIY Kitchens



**WHAT I'VE LEARNT**

*“Take your time when adding accessories, to be sure you know exactly what it is you need to finish the room. They need to be functional as well as good looking”*



**HORIZONTAL BAR HANDLES**  
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# Make it work for you

## SUZANNE'S CHOICE: COMPOSITE WORKTOPS

Like the look of Suzanne's sleek composite worksurfaces? Here's everything you need to know before you shell out...

It's easy to be overwhelmed with choice when it comes to choosing a worktop, but for a surface that's hard wearing and low maintenance, composite designs tick all the right boxes. There are two main types, quartz composite and acrylic composite.

**Q How are they similar?**  
Both are man-made with hard-wearing qualities, although it's wise to use chopping boards and trivets to prevent scratching and heat damage. Quartz composite is predominantly made from quartz, resin and pigment, while acrylic composite is made from stone and mineral dust, acrylic, resin and pigments.

**Q So, what's the difference?**  
Acrylic based composites are more flexible and can be seamlessly moulded to create curves and shapes, like integrated sinks with invisible joints that won't harbour germs. Quartz-based composites can be joined inconspicuously, but the connection between the two won't be invisible.

**Q Is damage easily repaired?**  
In the very unlikely case that your composite surface is scratched, chipped or stained it can often be repaired by a specialist. However, it is easier to achieve perfect

restoration with acrylic composites as scratches can be sanded out, while quartz is more likely to be filled and any polishing can leave a dull area.

**Q Are they expensive?**  
Yes, compared to laminates and wood. In some cases, composites can prove pricier than natural stone. Some brands are more expensive than others, often based on the quality of materials and manufacturing techniques. You can also bump up costs further by choosing fancy curves, outsized runs and multiple cut-outs for sinks and hobs.

**Q Who will fit them?**  
Fabrication is done by specialists and usually arranged by your kitchen supplier. Templates will be taken once the base units are in place and it can be one to two weeks before the worktops are ready to install.

*“It pays to seek out a skilled installer – even the most expensive composite worktops will look cheap if they are badly fitted”*

**JONATHAN STANLEY**, VP MARKETING, CAESARSTONE UK



Composites come in a wide range of designs often mimicking luxury stone

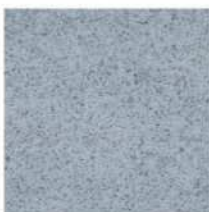
### BEST FOR...

**GREAT CHOICE**  
Second Nature's parent company, PWS, makes both quartz and acrylic worktops in its own high-spec County Durham factory.

**PENNY SAVING**  
Maia has developed a DIY installation-friendly worktop made from 3mm-thick solid surface (acrylic composite) bonded onto particleboard.

**EASY CLEANING**  
B&Q stocks Unika's range of non-abrasive cleaning and maintenance kits suitable for both types of composite worktops, priced from £20.

## IDEAL HOME LOVES...CHIC NEUTRAL COMPOSITES



### LIGHTER LOAD

A honeycomb core makes a lighter, affordable option. **Pewter Grey quartz type**, from £220sq m, Maxtop



### STAIN SHIELD

Patented technology offers stain protection. **Marquina quartz type**, from £400sq m, Silestone.



### STONE EFFECT

This granite like design will hide a multitude of sins. **Colorado quartz type**, £250sq m, CRL Stone.



### SUBTLE SHADES

Warm taupe swirls weave through this neutral design. **Sandalwood acrylic type**, from £310lin m, Corian

FEATURE LINDA CLAYTON  
PHOTOGRAPHS AMANDA TURNER

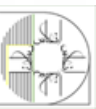


**WHITE FRAMES**  
Painting the dark  
wood has brightened  
the whole room



# *‘A bit of colour can fix everything!’*

The Hill family made their kitchen a happier place by stripping out the bland wooden units and dated details, then filling it with fresh colours and character





BEFORE



*Love*  
SARAH'S  
STYLE?

Turn to page 121  
to shop the look



## Welcome to my home

Sarah Hill lives here with her husband Andrew and sons Guy, eight, and Jasper, six.

### THE PROPERTY

A five-bedroom, detached Fifties house in Datchworth, Hertfordshire.

### WHAT IT COST

Kitchen units.....	£13,895
Appliances.....	£2,030
Sink.....	£345
Tap.....	£460
Worktops.....	£3,000
Flooring.....	£2,000
Lighting.....	£1,005
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>£22,735</b>

“The tiles are the stand-out feature for me – they make me smile every morning, and they get a lot of compliments!”

‘Old-fashioned units and fussy curtains made the kitchen feel dark and cluttered,’ says Sarah. ‘To create an unfitted effect, I chose soft grey for the units and blue-green for the island. I knew the pink tiles would work with that – and I loved their handmade look.’

Real Shaker kitchen units, £600 for 600mm base unit; island in Trinity Blue; wall units in Lead, all DeVol. Pink Pradena tiles, £168sq m, Bert & May. Heythrop large woven tray, £75, Soho Home



## HOW SARAH AND ANDREW DID IT

'The house needed top-down renovation when we bought it and I knew the kitchen would be an important room for us as a family, as well as a sociable space to enjoy with friends. Everything was stripped out and the builders laid the new floor and constructed a false chimney breast from MDF to frame a range cooker. I wanted a functional space that felt fun and laid-back and discovered DeVol's Shaker-style cabinets,

which were just what I was after. I also wanted open shelving for all my china. The trickiest bit was co-ordinating all the deliveries, but I kept track of everything on a big spreadsheet and while it was full on, it was exciting, too. The building work took two weeks and cost around £3,000, and the kitchen fitting cost around £2,000. I'm really happy with how it's turned out – I love the visual variety and the colours.'

**BELOW** 'Removing a fitted unit left an alcove, perfect for our dining table. I've given the area its own atmosphere with tongue-and-groove cladding and interesting lighting. It's a great family and entertaining space,' says Sarah.

Jar pendants, from £45 each, Baileys. Hitchcock wall lights, £225 each, Tinsmiths. Bossy Beached chairs, £290 for two, Loaf. Tabletop painted in Hague Blue full gloss, £67 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball



### IDEAL HOME *loves*

**Farmhouse tables**  
*Classic, characterful,  
customisable with paint,  
and easy to pick up  
cheaply in antiques  
shops*

**BUILT-IN BENCH**  
Wall-to-wall seating  
means more friends  
can squeeze in





## KITCHEN PROJECT

### FALSE CHIMNEY BREAST

Built to frame the range, this also conceals the extractor



**ABOVE** 'The aged brass I've chosen for the taps and handles has the same timeless, weathered look as the colours and tiles, so everything works well together,' says Sarah.

Villeroy & Boch Farmhouse 80 sink, £345; Ionian tap in Aged Brass, £460, both DeVol

### TALL SHELVES

Space for Sarah's biggest pots and storage baskets



**ABOVE** 'The units, sink and oven are in much the same positions as before,' says Sarah, 'but we added the island as the anchor piece.'

Minerva Cararra White worktop, £393sq m, FC Store. Egg of Columbus pendants (over sink), £30 each, Seletti at Made in Design

**RIGHT** 'I've collected pieces from junk shops and jumble sales since I was a teenager,' says Sarah. 'I'm drawn to colour, but I don't always worry about them matching.'

Chimney breast painted in Oval Room Blue modern emulsion, £45 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball



### WHAT I'VE LEARNED

*“Don't over-spend on swish appliances.*

*I found a reconditioned range on eBay, bought a basic but functional dishwasher and our fridge is second-hand”*





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Alfresco dining just got a whole lot more stylish



The Summer Living range also has beautiful bedding

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bags in box and backpack designs, and melamine picnicware. We're also loving the coastal theme running through the range. It's perfect for bringing classic British seaside nostalgia to your home.

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# Make it work for you

## SARAH'S STYLE: MODERN RUSTIC

Shaker-style painted cabinets, wood flooring and encaustic tiles in subtle tones create a relaxed, country vibe



Pastel hues and wood units create a chic, timeless look



### WHERE TO BUY

- 1. PAINT**  
Oval Room Blue estate emulsion, £45 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball
- 2. LIGHT**  
Blown glass bell pendant, £140, Amara
- 3. WALL TILE**  
Pink Pradena tiles, £125sq m, Bert & May
- 4. STOOL**  
Milk kitchen stool, £245, Loaf
- 5. BASKETS**  
Seurat baskets, £25 for set of two, Habitat
- 6. SHELF**  
Ekby Hensvik/Ekby Osten shelf, £16, Ikea
- 7. SCALES**  
Vintage shop scales, £49.95, Rex London
- 8. RANGE COOKER**  
Rangemaster Elise 110 Dual Fuel range cooker, £2,179, John Lewis

FEATURE LISA FAZZANI PHOTOGRAPH COLIN POOLE



# 'Great design can transform a room'

Getting help from a bathroom designer meant Avril Taylor squeezed in a separate bath and shower, without making the room feel cramped

BEFORE



**CURVED SHELF**  
Turned a wasted recess into a storage area

Avril swapped an over-bath shower for a roll-top tub and a walk-in shower positioned where the basin and towel rail used to be. 'The new layout has made the room feel twice the size,' she says.

Bisley cast-iron bath, £1,056; Vado Kensington exposed bath shower-mixer tap in chrome/black, £253, both The Brighton Bathroom Company. Bath painted in Railings estate eggshell, £60 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball

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The loo was slotted in next to the shower, separated by a barely-there glass partition. Its frameless design keeps the look open.

Walk-in wet room clear glass panels, from £191, Ionic by Merlyn. Burlington back-to-wall pan WC in matt white, £264, The Brighton Bathroom Company



LED LIGHTS illuminate the step at night-time



Avril Taylor lives here with her children, William, 24, Jack, 22, Thomas and Patrick, 20 and Emily, who is 17.

## Welcome to my home

### THE PROPERTY

A five-bedroom Edwardian semi in Hove, East Sussex.

### WHAT IT COST

Bath.....	£1,056
Shower.....	£1,838
Loo.....	£264
Tiles.....	£1,488
Taps.....	£617
Washstand.....	£1,526
Mirror.....	£785

Music system.....	£349
Lighting.....	£807
Paint.....	£130
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>£8,860</b>

“The bathroom is the one room in the house with a lock on the door, so with music and candles it's an oasis for me!”



## HOW AVRIL DID IT

'The bathroom wasn't working for our family. With the over-bath shower, we always ended up with water all over the floor. We needed a separate shower, but I couldn't work out how to fit one in. I also didn't want any pipework to be visible, even if it meant reconfiguring the plumbing. I found The Brighton Bathroom Company online and liked its gallery

of projects. The company's designer visited and quickly tuned in to what I wanted. She sourced the elegant ball-and-claw-foot bath, which was our starting point, for a good price. The project took five weeks and cost £11,286. We had some problems laying the underfloor heating because of existing pipework, but generally the project went very smoothly.'

**TRAD RAD**  
Small enough to  
squeeze into a  
tight space

'I wanted a statement feature, so chose patterned floor tiles,' says Avril. 'Although the design is bold, the muted colour means it doesn't overwhelm the room.'

Handmade encaustic tiles, from £60sq m, Demosaica





## BATHROOM PROJECT

'My dream was to have a freestanding roll-top bath,' says Avril. 'I wanted the room to be modern, but it had to relate to the house's Edwardian character.'

Walls painted in Pavilion Gray estate emulsion, £45 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball

**PLATFORM**  
Defines the shower area and hides all the pipework



**ABOVE** Floor tiles have been used to finish the recess in the shower.

Rustic Metro Blanco tiles, £22sq m, Trade Price Tiles, are similar. Try Grespania Meteor Negro Relieve tiles, £51m, Tile & Stone Online, for the edges

**BELOW** Wall-mounted taps keep the washstand surface free for daily essentials.

Vado Kensington three-hole basin mixer wall-mounted tap in chrome and black, £364, The Brighton Bathroom Company. Mirins Copenhagen hand wash, £15, Life Story

*Love*  
AVRIL'S MUSIC SYSTEM?

Turn to page 127  
to shop the look



FEATURE CAROLINE FOSTER, VANESSA RICHMOND  
STYLING DILLY ORME PHOTOGRAPHS DAVID PARMITER



### WHAT I'VE LEARNED

“I would never have thought about having a sound system installed, but the designer suggested it and now I spend many happy hours relaxing in the bath with my favourite music filling the room!”

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# Make it work for you

## AVRIL'S CHOICE: A BATHROOM SOUND SYSTEM

Looking to belt out show tunes in the shower, catch up on the news or listen to podcasts? These should do the trick

Bathrooms haven't always been the easiest place to enjoy your favourite tracks. But thanks to developments in wireless tech and speaker quality, you can up the tempo of your daily ablutions. And by streaming from services such as Spotify or Deezer, the options are virtually endless.

### Q How can I ensure the best sound quality?

Consider linking your bathroom to a home music system. Waterproof speakers are wired to an audio player and amplifier outside the bathroom; music can be controlled via a wall panel. 'Alternatively use a waterproof remote control,' says Phillip Pini of Crestron EMEA. All bathroom electrics must conform to strict safety regulations.

### Q Is there a cheaper option?

Bluetooth speakers that stream music from a smartphone or tablet are our retro-fit friend. For safe bathroom use, they're powered by waterproof low-voltage transformers connected to shaver cables. The most common are in-ceiling speakers and those in mirrors and cabinets.

### Q If I don't want to rewire?

Go for a portable solution. There are plenty of waterproof Bluetooth speakers available and

the humble shower radio, now with vastly improved DAB quality, is always an option. Try Fugoo's portable speakers (from £49 on Amazon), which run for up to 40 hours. Also, check out portable wi-fi speakers, like Denon's Heos 1 HS2.

### Q Any other tech advice?

To change tracks in the bathroom without fear of dropping your phone in the bath, go for a waterproof model when you next upgrade. This year sees a whole host of launches from the likes of Sony, Samsung and Apple, using the latest nano-coating protection.

### Q What is an IP rating?

IP stands for Ingress Protection, and any source of music in the bathroom needs it. Look for at least IP67 or IPX7, covering immersion; IP65 or IPX5, means splashproof. In-ceiling speakers not located above a bath or shower only need to be moisture proof so IP44 is sufficient.

*“Integrating audio into the bathroom is becoming easier, thanks to the latest advances in Bluetooth microchip technology”*

AMIT RAVAT, CO-FOUNDER, LITHE AUDIO

From radios to wireless tech, there's an audio option to suit



### BEST FOR...

#### PHONE-FREE

Made in the Netherlands with free shipping to the UK, AquaSound's N-Joy Music Center doesn't require a smartphone to listen to Internet radio.

#### HOME SYSTEMS

Crestron EMEA provides automation systems for luxury homes. Control your bathroom lighting from the same panel as your music to really set the mood.

#### SINGING IN THE SHOWER

Kohler's Moxie showerhead, £179, hosts a wireless speaker that pairs to Bluetooth-enabled devices, delivering audio overhead.

## IDEAL HOME LOVES... BATHROOM SPEAKERS



**MUSICAL MIRROR**  
Has a built in Bluetooth speaker and lighting.  
**Lunar LED mirror, £199, Soak.com**



**SING FOREVER**  
Enjoy up to 100 hours of battery power.  
**ICF-S80 shower radio, £45, Sony**



**POLE MOUNTED**  
With a docking station for fast recharging.  
**Aquatunes, £89.95, Victorian Plumbing**



**VOICE ACTIVATED**  
Alexa enabled for hands free control.  
**IP44 ceiling speaker, £229.99, Lithe Audio**

FEATURE LINDA CLAYTON  
PHOTOGRAPHS DAVID PARMITER, TIMEINCUKCONTENT.COM







*‘Putting the garden  
to work has doubled  
our living space’*

Caroline and Tim Norris traded some lawn and shrubbery for seating, a kitchen, a summerhouse and even a hot tub!

آموزشگاه انعکاس منبع جدیدترین اطلاعات، مقالات و دوره‌های آموزشی دکوراسیون داخلی

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BEFORE



## *Welcome to my home*

Caroline and Tim Norris live here with their children, Maya, 17, Stanley, 13, Ted, 12 and Ada, five.

### THE PLOT

A large 30x15m plot belonging to a Fifties five-bedroom house in Hampton, Middlesex.

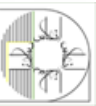
*“Being in the garden feels like being on holiday in all seasons”*

**ALL-WEATHER SOFAS**  
Can be left out all year round and match the interior decor



### *Inside out*

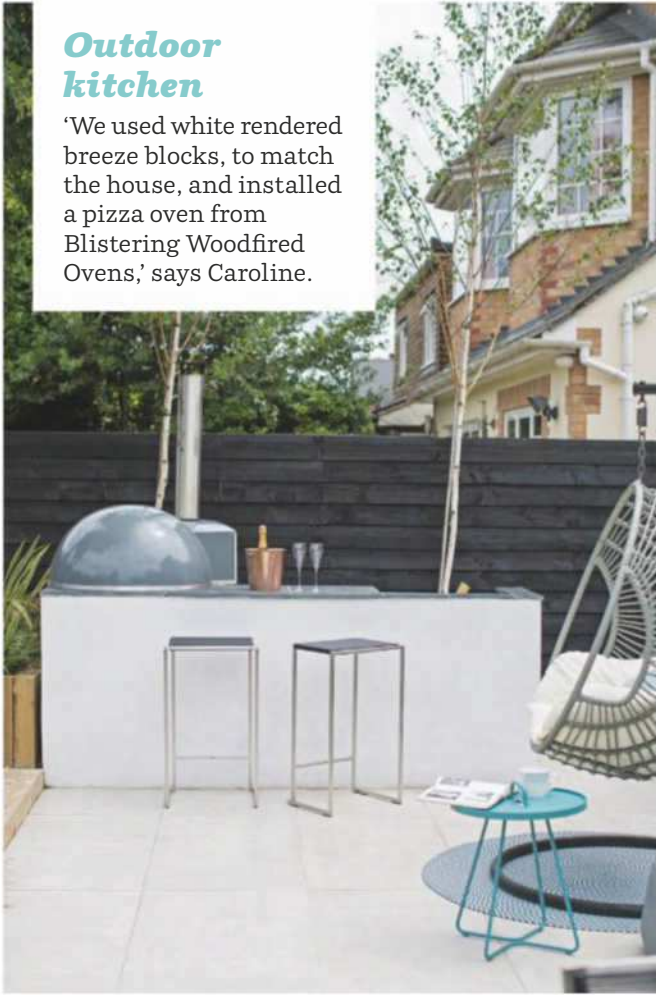
‘We wanted to connect the house to the garden and make it a space we could use all year round,’ says Caroline. ‘We still wanted it to look lovely, but also be a sociable space for entertaining, and we needed storage, too.’





## Outdoor kitchen

'We used white rendered breeze blocks, to match the house, and installed a pizza oven from Blistering Woodfired Ovens,' says Caroline.



After extending and renovating their home, which took around nine months, Caroline and Tim Norris decided to take a break for a couple of years before turning their attention to the garden. 'We are both complete garden novices, so we really needed to think about what we wanted and do lots of research,' says Caroline.

The garden was a good size, stocked with mature shrubs and trees, but the couple rarely ventured past the patio seating area, which meant all that space was going to waste. 'We went to the Hampton Court Palace Flower Show as a starting point,' says Caroline, 'then we used Pinterest to find images to illustrate a wish list of what we had in mind for the garden.'

'Luckily, we knew a landscape gardener, Simon Fraser, and trusted him to do a good job. Initially, we paid him a £500 design fee to plot out everything on our wish list. We tried not to be too prescriptive, so he had the freedom to come up with creative solutions and ideas that we hadn't thought of.'

Once the plans were agreed, the garden was cleared and the summerhouse was built, taking five days including one to lay the foundations. Simon did the rest, including the raised beds, outdoor kitchen, shed, wood store and planting. 'We wanted low-maintenance plants, especially various grasses, to create the Mediterranean look I had in mind,' says Caroline.



**RECLAIMED  
TIMBER**  
Gives the garden  
a lived-in look

## View from the patio

Wooden elements – a deck, raised bed edging and a plank path – give the garden structure easy-maintenance style. The grey stones and paving setts were chosen to tie in with the house's window frames and roof.





*Love*  
CAROLINE'S  
STYLE?

Turn to page 133  
to shop the look



**LAVENDER ROW**  
Will grow into a  
fragrant hedge

### Summerhouse

The garden room doubles as a living space and home office, decorated with green accents to visually link with the garden beyond. 'We found a brilliant company, Green Retreats, which sorted it all - design, build and electrics,' says Caroline.

### Spa corner

'We saw hot tubs on a trip to the Hampton Court Palace Flower Show and it inspired us to buy one - a natural wood design from Riviera Hot Tubs. It was definitely the right decision. It means we are in the garden summer and winter - we were even in it on Christmas Eve!'



**FAST-GROWING  
BAMBOO**  
Screens off the  
hot tub, which  
is overlooked

FEATURE AND STYLING DILLY ORME, VANESSA RICHMOND PHOTOGRAPHS CLAIRE LLOYD DAVIES



### WHAT I'VE LEARNT

“We chose the wrong pebbles for the path! They don't blend well with the garden and are tough on bare feet. It would be easy to change, but we've decided to live with them”



# PLANTS NEED MORE THAN JUST WATER

As seen  
ON TV!

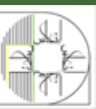


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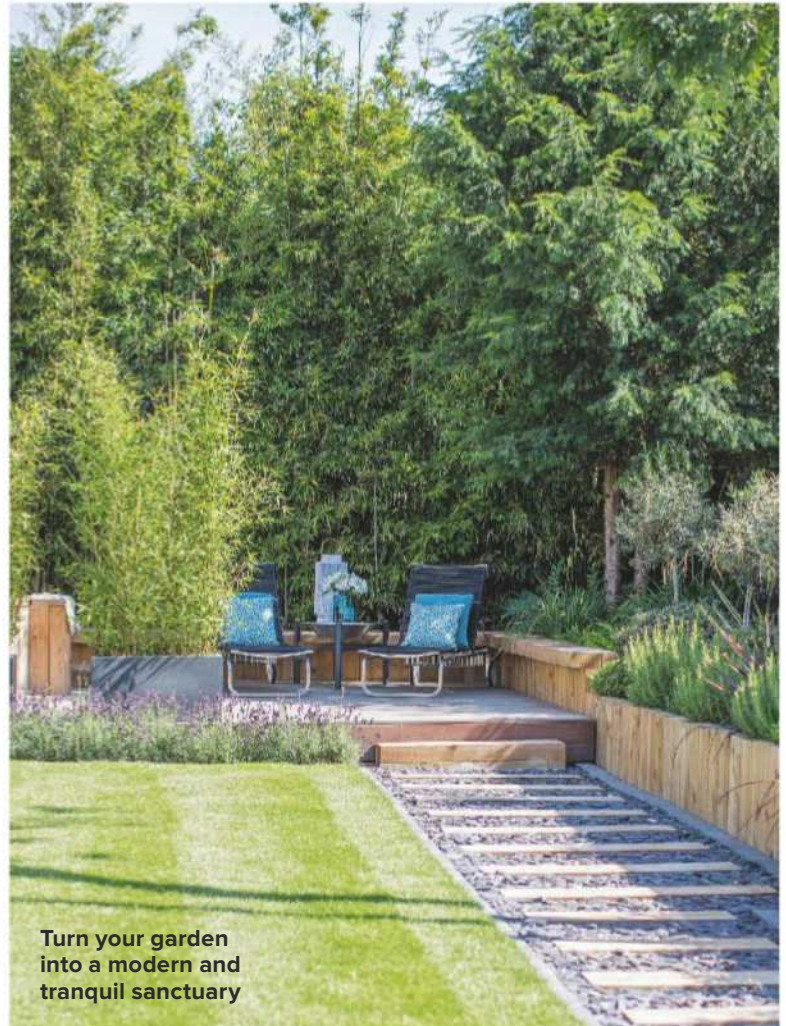




# Make it work for you

## CAROLINE'S STYLE: COOL STRUCTURE

Clean lines, simple colours and structural planting create a modern garden with a calm, stylish vibe



Turn your garden into a modern and tranquil sanctuary

## 3 PLANTS FOR LUSH BORDERS



### Lavender

Great for drought-tolerant gardens, this easy-to-grow shrub thrives in sunny spots, producing a mass of fragrant blooms.



### Bamboo

Bamboo with its tall foliage is good for year-round screening and adding structure to borders. Beware, it can be invasive.



### Ornamental grasses

These will soften hard landscaping, and the wide variety of colours and textures makes them a versatile addition to any garden.

## WHERE TO BUY

### 1. LIGHTS

Squirrel festoon string lights, £45, Amara

### 2. CUSHION

Garland silk cushion, £59, Clarissa Hulse

### 3. RUG

Fab Hab Marina outdoor rug, £89.95, Cuckooland

### 4. LAVENDER

Artificial lavender in

cement pot, £14, Matalan

### 5. TABLE

Wire design stool table, £35, Sainsbury's Home

### 6. VASE

Skylar balloon vase, £14, Made.com

### 7. SUNLOUNGER

Cherrelle sun lounger, £151.99, Wayfair



# *‘Our dated house looks brand new’*

Jo and David Glenton have extended and dramatically revamped their once-ugly home by upgrading the roof, windows and cladding



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IDEAL HOME  
*loves*

**Trad garage doors**

Timber gives a property a more classic look than the usual metal up-and-over design



'We knew the original brick house wasn't attractive, but we bought it because it felt homely'



**Welcome to my home**

Jo Glenton, a marketing freelancer, lives here with her husband David, a teacher, and their children, Isobel, 21, and Mike, 18.

**THE PROPERTY A**  
detached five-bedroom Sixties house in Cheshire.

**THE VALUE** Bought in 2013 for £422,000; now worth around £850,000.

**WHAT IT COST**

Design, legal fees and planning.....	£25,000
Kitchen.....	£30,000
Windows/bifolds....	£33,000
Roof slates.....	£6,000
Landscaping.....	£20,000
Flooring.....	£15,000
Building work and materials.....	£160,000
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>£289,000</b>

“It looks like new, but hasn't lost the homely feel that first drew us to it”

Extending outwards and updating the windows, roof and cladding has given the house a pretty New England appearance

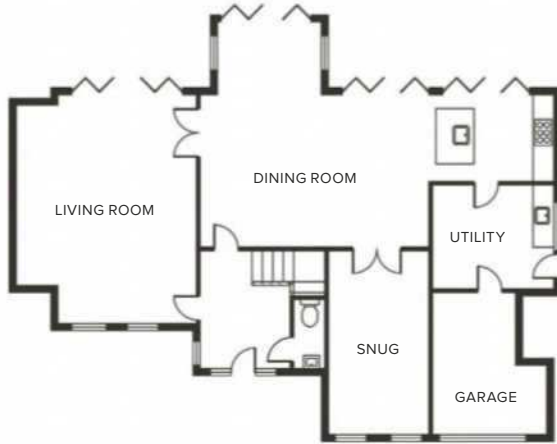


## Take a quick tour...



FIRST FLOOR

SECOND FLOOR



GROUND FLOOR

Jo and David Glenton bought this Sixties house, arguably the ugliest on the road, on an impulse based on gut feeling. 'It felt like home when we walked in,' says Jo. 'We've renovated houses before, and were ready to move on from our Victorian home.'

**THE COUPLE SOUGHT DESIGN ADVICE** as soon as they moved in. 'I had seen external makeovers by Back to Front Exterior Design ([backtofrontexteriordesign.com](http://backtofrontexteriordesign.com)) on television,' says Jo. 'They came up with some bold suggestions for us, including remodelling the front dormers with a pitched roof and cladding the whole house in composite weatherboarding. And replacing roof tiles with slates and fitting more traditional timber windows completely changed the exterior.'

**THE FAMILY MOVED OUT** for the four months of building work. Walls were taken down and an L-shaped ground-floor extension was built to make a spacious kitchen/diner/family room, replacing a narrow corridor and poky kitchen. 'We built a kitchen extension, without losing too much garden,' says Jo. 'The old garage is now a utility room and store, with timber garage doors.'

**MAKING SUCH MAJOR AND EXPENSIVE CHANGES** was a big decision. 'We did consider knocking down the house and starting again, as the roof didn't actually need to be replaced, but the makeover was less costly. We love the way the house has been transformed,' says Jo.

Using composite weatherboard for cladding is a low-maintenance option to go for



**ROOFLIGHTS**  
Bring daylight into the far corner of the kitchen







**LEFT** A cabinet maker produced bespoke doors for the units in the newly extended kitchen

**RIGHT** The old Sixties staircase was replaced, and Jo has created a picture gallery on the wall beside the stairs



**GLAZED INTERIOR DOOR**  
Let light flow from room to room

**ABOVE** Building a small rear extension has created an open-plan dining area

**5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT...**

**Replacing your roof**

Neil Butterworth of Fairway Construction ([fairwayconstruction.co.uk](http://fairwayconstruction.co.uk)) gives his tips

**1 IT WILL TRANSFORM A HOUSE** Changing an unattractive roof covering is becoming a popular update. Altering shape and pitch is a bigger undertaking involving major structural work.

**2 REGULATIONS APPLY** You shouldn't need planning consent, unless you live in a listed building or conservation area. Check with the local council. Building regulations will apply to the new roof, however.

**3 IT MAY BE EXPENSIVE** Prices vary depending on shape, size, pitch and materials, with natural slate or clay tiles more costly than man-made.

**4 IT'S NOT A DIY TASK** Find a reputable roofer at the National Federation of Roofing Contractors Limited ([nfrco.co.uk](http://nfrco.co.uk)).

**5 IT'S A SUMMER JOB** Make sure the roofer provides protective coverings. We created a tent over Jo and David's house using plastic and scaffolding to work in winter.

**WHAT WE'VE LEARNED**



*“Finding a talented designer and a meticulous builder made all the difference to our project, and their enthusiasm and ideas carried us along, so it really pays to spend time to find the right team at the start”*

FEATURE DEBBIE JEFFERY PHOTOGRAPHS RICHARD HOOKWAY





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# 'Our small extension had a big impact'

Stylish doors with a bronze finish give Christine and Mark Evans' new kitchen extension an edge

When Christine and Mark Evans bought their Edwardian semi-detached home in 2015, they knew the dated kitchen needed to go. 'Our plan was to extend the space,' says Christine. The new single-storey extension, which opens onto the garden through two sets of stylish metal doors, has created a bright, open-plan space for cooking, eating and socialising.

**GETTING STUCK IN** The couple wanted just one company to do everything, from drawing up the plans through to decorating, and had used Plus Rooms (plusrooms.co.uk) before. 'They work really quickly and efficiently, which is important when you're living on site,' says Christine. 'Once planning permission was granted, our builders made us a temporary kitchen so that we could continue living in the house during the 12-week build.'

**ENJOYING THE SPACE** Christine and Mark now have a kitchen to be proud of and where they're happy to entertain guests. 'These days, we tend to neglect the other rooms and spend most of our time living in the kitchen because it's so light and sociable,' says Christine.

BEFORE



The old kitchen had a poor connection to the rear garden

AFTER



Extending into the garden has opened up the kitchen, and three frameless rooflights now let in light from above

## Welcome to my home



Christine and Mark Evans live here.

### THE PROPERTY

A four-bedroom semi-detached

Edwardian house in south London.

### THE VALUE

It was bought in 2015 for £1,320,000 and is now worth around £1,850,000.

### WHAT IT COST

Building work and materials.....£50,000  
Glass doors.....£25,000

Kitchen and appliances.....£55,000  
Floor tiles.....£3,000  
TOTAL.....£133,000

*“We love cooking and entertaining, so the extension has been carefully designed with that in mind”*





Bronze-coloured metal doors from Jennyfields Limited open onto the new sandstone patio

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT...

*Metal doors*

Russell Frame of The Green Window Company (thegreenwindowcompany.co.uk) shares his tips

- 1 THEY'RE ON TREND** Metal-framed glass doors – especially those with panelled glazing – are increasingly popular with homeowners wanting to let in light and make a statement.
- 2 THEY'RE VERSATILE** From factory-themed to elegant townhouse or listed building, slimline metal-framed doors are a versatile choice for both new builds and older homes, and are ideal for extensions.
- 3 THEY'RE LONG LASTING** Metal frames, including steel and aluminium, are strong, hard-wearing and low maintenance. Double-glazed, metal-framed doors will ensure your home is efficiently protected against both the weather and intruders.
- 4 THEY WORK INSIDE, TOO** Glazing isn't only for outside walls – metal-framed doors and fixed screens can also be used internally as room dividers.
- 5 CHOOSE YOUR COLOUR** Black is often the traditional choice but most manufacturers will offer their metal frames in a choice of colours, using a maintenance-free powder-coated paint finish.



**ABOVE** As well as three rooflights, Christine and Mark have a fixed glass panel in one of the side walls to allow light to flood into the extension

**LEFT** The kitchen, from Roundhouse Design, has an antique mirrored splashback beneath a run of bronze cabinets. 'The mirror reflects the glass doors on the other side of the room, giving a view outside to the garden,' says Christine



**WHAT I'VE LEARNED**

“Think about the small details right from the start. We wanted a built-in music system, a pull-out spray tap, and the instant boiling water tap was also a must-have”

FEATURE DEBBIE JEFFERY PHOTOGRAPHS FINE HOUSE STUDIO



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# GENIUS PROBLEM SOLVERS

## HOLIDAYING AT HOME

Whether you're entertaining friends and family or simply relaxing in the sunshine, make the most of your outdoor space this summer with these clever finds and fixes

### THE STORE-ALL BOX

When the rain showers hit, tuck away your garden furniture into this must-have chest. Its removable front panel makes for hassle-free storage.

Rowlinson wooden garden storage chest in Honey Brown, £149, Cuckooland.



### THE BALCONY SHADE

Keep the sun at bay and target the shadows perfectly with Ikea's clever Ramso parasol, £8. It attaches to your railing so you can move it around to exactly where you need it.



### THE PARTY MULTITASKER

A table that doubles as a drinks cooler? That lights up after dark? With a tabletop that lowers into the base for easy storage? What's not to love?

Keter illuminated cool bar table, £99, Kaleidoscope

### THE HOME BREW KIT

Keep ale experts happy with a beer-making kit. Each one produces around 4 litres, and refill mixes will set you back just £14.

Brewdog Punk IPA beer making kit, £40, Sous Chef



### THE EASY CLEAN CLOTHS

Pretty up your outdoor table while protecting it from spills by covering it with a neat wipe-clean oilcloth.

Moorland Taupe; Hessian Blue; Bees Linen, from £14, Wipe Easy Tablecloths



### THE INSTANT SPRITZER

Quench your thirst for fizzy water and reduce your plastic bottle consumption at the same time, by investing in an Eighties classic – the SodaStream.

Spirit in white or black, £100, SodaStream



### THE HANGING HEATER

This neat heater will warm up an outdoor space in no time.

Hanging copper outdoor heater, £165, Cox & Cox



### THE PORTABLE WINE BAR

Whether in the garden or picnicking in the park, keep your wine bottle and glasses safe from spillages with this ingenious table.

Outdoor mini wine table with wine glass holders, £25, Lakeland

### THE OUTDOOR AQUARIUM

If you fancy a water feature, the stylish Hozelock Cyprio aquarium, £259 (H70xW95xD95cm), takes a mere half hour to build – with no digging or tools. Lights and fountain also available.





# GENIUS PROBLEM SOLVERS

## CAMPING & CARAVANNING

Before you set off to explore the great outdoors this summer, make sure you're armed with all the gadgets and gear you need to make your trip as stress-free as possible



### THE CAR TENT

Attach the mini awning to any vehicle (not just a campervan) for that highly sought-after extra space. The SheltaPod comes complete with ground sheets and window shades, making it a welcome addition to your camping set-up come rain or shine.

Vehicle awning, £294, SheltaPod

### THE QUICK FIX ESSENTIAL

A roll of tape is a must-have piece of kit on any camping trip for instant repairing or sealing.

Gorilla tape, £3 for 11m or £5 for 32m, B&Q



### THE NIGHT LIGHT WATER BOTTLE

Avoid fumbling around your tent for a drink in the night thanks to this insulated glow-in-the-dark bottle, £26.99 for 500ml, from Lakeland.

### THE SOLAR CHARGER

Ensure you don't run out of power with this super handy, lightweight, solar charging panel for iOS and Android.

Maniska solar charging panel, £39.99, 7DayShop



### THE ECO BARBIE

Ready to cook on in just five minutes, this truly disposable barbie can then be used as campfire fuel.

CasusGrill, £8, The Fowndry



### THE MOBILE KITCHEN

With two zip-close 'cupboards' and three internal shelves, the sturdy Quechua kitchen unit, £59.99, from Decathlon provides plenty of storage as well as a very welcome surface for food prep.



### THE ONE FOR FORAGERS

Want your camping experience to be as green as possible? The Ezystove is fuelled entirely by twigs and sticks, so you can collect your own fuel.

Ezystove, £74.99, Waitrose Garden

### THE BRING-YOUR-OWN TABLE

Put an end to eating lunch off your lap, thanks to the stylish Outwell Dawson folding table, £120, from Cotswold Outdoor. Weighing 12.9kg, this table-and-stools combo folds away in a flash so it's easily slung in the back of the car.



### THE INFLATABLE BED

Camp in comfort with this self-inflating mattress and duvet combo.

Bundle Beds roll-up guest bed, £200, Cuckooland.com

FEATURE GINEVRA BENEDETTI



# GENIUS PROBLEM SOLVERS AWAY FROM HOME

Make your holiday run smoothly with the help of these ingenious travel essentials, so you can spend less time snag-fixing and more time having fun

## THE TRAVEL MIRROR

Nail that sun-kissed look (regardless of the lighting in your hotel or villa) thanks to this adjustable LED-lit travel mirror. Illuminating travel mirror, £19.99, Lakeland



## THE BIJOU STEAMER

Perfect for use at home or abroad, the compact Fridja clothes steamer will get your party dress crease-free in no time. Packing light? Leave the tank at home and attach to a water bottle instead. Handheld clothes steamer, £100, Fridja



## THE SCANNABLE LUGGAGE TAG

Durable and secure, the Tagonce luggage tag makes it easy for someone to return your bag if it goes missing – all they need to do is scan the QR code to be given your contact details. You'll be sent its location anytime it's scanned. Tagonce luggage tag, £9, Amazon



## THE MINI PROJECTOR

Stop the kids fighting over the iPad on holiday with this clever little projector, which enables more people to watch the screen at once. Pico smartphone projector, £40, Artlii at Amazon

## THE COMPACT DRY BAG

Perfect for keeping your dry and wet clothes separate, as well as protecting your gadgets at the beach, this 3L bag folds into a keyring. Droplet dry bag, £13, Bear & Bear



## THE IN-A-FIX LAUNDRY KIT

Wash your smalls on the go with this portable laundry set, £13, from Muji. It features a washboard for hand scrubbing and an eight-peg square hanger.



## THE PACKING TRIO

Keep toiletries, jewellery and other holiday must-haves organised with these super handy (and budget-friendly) packing bags.

Forfina accessory bags, £4 for three, Ikea



## THE UNDIES ORGANISER

Keep your dirties separate from your clean with the Flight 001 Spacepack underwear bag, £40, from Flo & Joe.



## THE HEAD REST

Prevent the kids from using you as a cushion on long journeys by giving them their very own travel pillow.

Neck cushion, £4, Flying Tiger





Available on line at [www.mmlinen.com](http://www.mmlinen.com) and [www.next.co.uk](http://www.next.co.uk).  
Further stockists listed on line

# Ideal Home.co.uk

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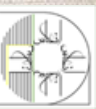
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# CLEAN IT QUICKER

## BATHROOM SUITES, FLOORS AND TILES

Best buys to keep your bathroom looking spick and span for family and visitors alike



### THE FLOOR REVIVER

With a fresh grapefruit and eucalyptus scent, this liquid floor cleaner is perfect for use with a mop or cloth.

**Ecological floor cleaner, £2.99 for 750ml, Waitrose**



### THE LIMESCALE REMOVER

Blast away any scaly deposits from around your taps or showerhead with this hardcore spray.

**Viakal limescale remover spray, £3.17 for 500ml, Morrisons**



### THE HAND PROTECTOR

The longer cuffs on these rubber gloves ensure your arms stay nice and dry while you're scrubbing away.

**Marigold longer bathroom gloves, £2.75, Sainsbury's**



### THE DAILY SQUEEGEE

Give your shower screen a quick once over with this squeegee every day to keep it sparkling and spotless.

**Lillnaggen squeegee, 80p, Ikea**

***Ideal Home Tip***  
*Remove balls of hair and soapy build-up from your plughole without the need for chemicals, thanks to Lakeland's genius Drain Weasel, £8.99*



### THE NATURAL CLEANER

This eco cleaner is pretty enough to keep out on display, helping you remember to spritz surfaces regularly.

**Kinn Living bathroom cleaner, £4.25 for 500ml, Holloways of Ludlow**



### THE WC SOLUTION

Pop one of these clever tabs in your loo and it'll remove any limescale, calcium or rust from the bowl and U-bend.

**Astonish Power Clean toilet bowl tabs, £1.49 for 10, The Range**



### THE NOOK & CRANNY BRUSH

Give your bath and surrounding tiles a weekly once over without getting your hands dirty, using this super handy scrubbing pad.

**Extendable tub and tile scrubber, £13, Oxo**



### THE GLASS REVIVER

Make sure all your mirrors and windows remain crystal clear and fingerprint-free with these convenient, easy-to-use glass wipes.

**Smear-free glass wipes, 50p for 20, Wilko**



# STORE & ORGANISE KIDS' STUFF

Get the little ones' toys, clothes and general clutter in order (and reveal their bedroom floors once again) with help from these clever and stylish storage heroes

## THE RAISED STORAGE BED

Great for kids of all ages, the neat Zanzi day bed comes with a range of added extras, including a pair of extra-deep storage drawers for £190 – ideal for hiding away bulkier toys.

From £395, Cuckooland.com



## THE EVERYTHING BASKETS

Make it super easy for the kids to pack their toys away with this set of Ludo cotton baskets.

£25 for two, Made.com



## THE STATEMENT JEWELLERY ORGANISER

Guaranteed to please a young jewellery collector, this pretty wall rack is the perfect spot for storing and displaying pendants, necklaces and bestie bracelets. Also available in gold.

£12, Urban Outfitters

## THE BITS & BOBS DRAWERS

From teeny bits of Lego to itty bitty beads, these drawers will keep those easy-to-lose pieces out of the vacuum's reach.

£2, Flying Tiger



## THE HANGING POCKETS

With three deep pockets, this striking flamingo organiser is just the thing to store pretty much anything, from nappies to art supplies.

3 Sprouts range, £22, Dotty Hippo



**Ideal Home Tip**  
*Hang several simple hook racks together in a row (try Iris Hantverk four-hook rail, £10, Arket) for instant storage*

## THE FREESTANDING SHELVING UNIT

Measuring 177cm in height and featuring five roomy shelves, this Tipi bookcase can hold a large array of toys and books, so your children can keep their favourites close to hand.

£199, Store



## THE GROWING WARDROBE

Available in six colours, the Fritids/Stuva wardrobe is tall and narrow (so won't take up too much floor space), but deep enough to hold full-sized hangers, so it'll last for years.

£107, Ikea



## THE STATEMENT SHELVES

So beautiful you'll wonder why you didn't buy more for the rest of the house, the Babou shelf comes in five shades.

£73, Bobby Rabbit



# AWARD-WINNING LUXURY RIVER CRUISES IN EUROPE



## CRUISE THE HEART OF EUROPE

15 DAY RIVER CRUISE FROM ONLY £1,899PP

DEPARTS UP TO OCTOBER 2018 & APRIL TO OCTOBER 2019

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DEPARTS UP TO OCTOBER 2018 & APRIL TO OCTOBER 2019

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- Visit to Melk Abbey, central Europe's most spectacular baroque monastery
- Visit to medieval Dürnstein where Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned
- Tour of Salzburg, one of Austria's most beautiful cities
- Explore the amazing basilica at Esztergom, Hungary's oldest cathedral
- Tour of Budapest, Pearl of the Danube
- All meals on board from dinner on your day of arrival until breakfast on your day of departure, welcome cocktails and dinner, plus Captain's Dinner
- Return flights from a selection of regional airports
- Seven nights on board in your choice of luxury cabin or suite
- The services of a Riviera Travel cruise director and tour manager



## RHINE CRUISE TO SWITZERLAND

EIGHT DAY RIVER CRUISE FROM ONLY £1,199PP

DEPARTS UP TO OCTOBER 2018 & APRIL TO OCTOBER 2019

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- Explore medieval Koblenz
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- Cruise through the spectacular Rhine Gorge
- An evening in Speyer dominated by the imposing basilica
- Guided tour of Strasbourg amazingly rich in a wealth of sights
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- Tour of the beautiful Black Forest and lakeside town of Titisee
- See the Jungfrau and the Eiger, Interlaken and stunning lakeside Lucerne
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- Seven nights on board in your choice of luxury cabin or suite
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# LIFESTYLE TECH

## 5 BEST GAMES CONSOLES

If you think computer games are just for mopey teens and dads who should know better, you'll be happily surprised to discover how inclusive they can be. With games now available for all interests, the whole family can enjoy some rainy-day fun together

1

### THE BEST SELLER

It's the world's most popular console and with good reason – not only is it a powerful computer with a state-of-the-art graphics processor, but it has a lightning-quick 8GB memory and fully-featured controller, too, as well as more than 1,600 dedicated games to choose from.

**PlayStation 4 Pro, 1TB, £350;**  
games from £15, [playstation.com](http://playstation.com)



2

### THE HOME ENTERTAINMENT HUB

The Xbox One S will not only keep gamers happy, but box-set bingers and movie addicts will love it, too. As well as the huge catalogue of games on offer, it can play 4K Ultra HD Blu-rays and stream shows from Netflix and Amazon. The wireless controller can also be used to play the same games on any Windows 10 PC.

**Xbox One S 1TB, £249; games from £11.99,** [xbox.com](http://xbox.com)



4

### THE VERSATILE ONE

Plug into a TV for big-screen action, use as a compact tabletop or on-the-go console, or pair it with a Labo cardboard construction kit for even more fun. The Joy-Con controllers can be used for serious single-player gaming, as multiplayer joypads or as motion-sensitive wands.

**Nintendo Switch, £279; games from £30; Labo kits from £59.99,** [nintendo.co.uk](http://nintendo.co.uk)



3

### THE VIRTUAL REALITY FAVE

Drizzly outside? Pop on the Oculus Rift headset and slip off to another world. Choose between sci-fi and action games or explore the globe in a documentary. You'll need a PC computer, with at least an Intel i5 CPU processor and 8GB of RAM.

**Oculus Rift, £399; games from £3.50,** [oculus.com](http://oculus.com)



5

### THE RETRO CLASSIC

Next time the kids roll their eyes at you for talking about the good old days, show them this updated palm-sized version of the Nineties classic SNES. This great-value console comes with two wired control pads and is pre-loaded with 21 well-known games, including Super Mario World.

**Nintendo classic mini SNES, £79.95,** John Lewis





# TECH SUPPORT

## HOW TO GET YOUR TECH REPAIRED

From coffee cups to last year's smartphone, there's no escaping the fact we live in a throwaway society, and while low prices make it tempting to buy new rather than repair broken items, sometimes you can – and probably should – do the latter...

### **Q My TV has broken – given how cheap they are now, is it worth getting it fixed?**

If your TV is more than eight years old it's probably not worth repairing, but if it's more modern, call the manufacturer or a repair shop for a quote. You may also be able to see what the fault is via the service/fault menu screen.

### **Q What if something breaks when it's new?**

You can ask the retailer for a repair or refund within 30 days. If it breaks within the first six months and the retailer can't prove that it wasn't faulty at the point of sale, you're entitled to a free repair or replacement. If they refuse, contact Trading Standards.

### **Q Is there any way I can guarantee my stuff won't break in the first place?**

It's impossible to know whether something will last for decades or not, but investing in a high-quality item usually ensures it'll give you many years of service. One example is Dualit's Classic toaster which, while expensive, can be repaired and should last for decades. For more investment buys, check out [buymeonce.com](http://buymeonce.com).

### **Q I've smashed yet another smartphone screen, what's the best way to fix it?**

Accidental damage is not covered by standard warranties, but there are lots of high street and online repair shops that specialise in screen repairs (try Geek Squad for official repairs). Stay clear of



### **Ideal Home Tip**

*Many people don't realise that when you use a credit card to buy anything between £100 and £30,000, the card company offers free purchase protection if the item is faulty, or the company goes bust before delivery*

unofficial third-party repair shops – however temptingly cheap – to avoid invalidating your warranty, just in case your phone develops a technical fault down the line. If you're clumsy it might be worth taking out insurance to cover drops.

### **Q What about DIY appliance or gadget repairs?**

That depends on whether or not you're handy with a toolkit and don't mind potentially invalidating your warranty. You'll find hundreds of YouTube videos and unofficial

repair guides online, such as [ifixit.com](http://ifixit.com), for mending most faults.

### **Q Is gadget insurance worth it?**

If you're prone to losing things it may be worth it, especially for larger items. While you can insure a bundle of small gadgets from just £40 to £60 per year, remember that the cost of the insurance plus any excess may work out similar to buying a replacement. Check your household insurance, too, as many policies offer gadget cover as standard, while many banks offer mobile phone insurance as a freebie.





# KITCHEN TECH

## 5 BEST NEW-GEN MICROWAVES

Modern microwaves now offer many more useful options than just reheating and defrosting. By combining grill and microwave technology, and even steam features, there's very little the latest models can't cook – and all in double-quick time

1

### BUILT TO LAST

With only a 26L capacity it's an expensive option, but being from Miele, it's bound to give years of service. With the power adjustable from 80-900W, it can heat oh-so-gently, and by combining microwaving with the powerful grill, you can roast a chicken in as little as 30 minutes.

**M6012 ContourLine microwave with grill**  
(H30.5xW52xD44.4cm), £649, Miele



2

### THE PRO CHOICE

Brilliantly made and feature-packed, this 25L, 1,000W combination microwave with grill has a large screen for temperature and setting choice, plus recipes and tips for things like toasting nuts. Buttons behind the door cover everyday tasks like baking a potato or melting chocolate.

**Sage Quick Touch Crisp microwave** (H30.6xW44.3x D51.3cm), £299.99, John Lewis



4

### BEST FOR STEAMING

This 32L flatbed (no turntable) combination model offers a 1,000W microwave with 1390W grill, so it can grill, reheat and even roast. Fill its tray with water to steam fish and veg, or pop a joint of meat in whole for succulent results. The top and back walls are self-cleaning, too.

**NN-CS894S Steam combination microwave** (H39xW49.4x D43.8cm), £489, Panasonic



3

### SMALL BUT MIGHTY

This compact 1,000W, 25L combination oven has eight power levels and 30 functions. It can work out cooking times, roast or grill three times as fast as a conventional oven, and steam and boil, too.

**Ultimate Collection MWH30243B microwave**  
(H33.3xW54.8xD52.5wcm), £249, Hotpoint



5

### FOR BIG FAMILIES

Loaded with 10 Auto Cook options, including cooking by weight, this great-value 42L, combination microwave has five power levels and a 1,400W grill. Its two-stage recipe setting can switch between microwave and grill, so it can cook a dish without stopping.

**R982STM combination microwave** (H33xW55xD55cm), £199.99, Sharp





FOOD WITH FRIENDS

# *Put on a posh barbecue*

Sun's out, buns out! Prepare a stylish cookout with this simple but impressive spread – perfect for a special occasion, or just because the sun is shining...



***Pulled pork buns  
& tangy slaw***

See page 157 for recipe

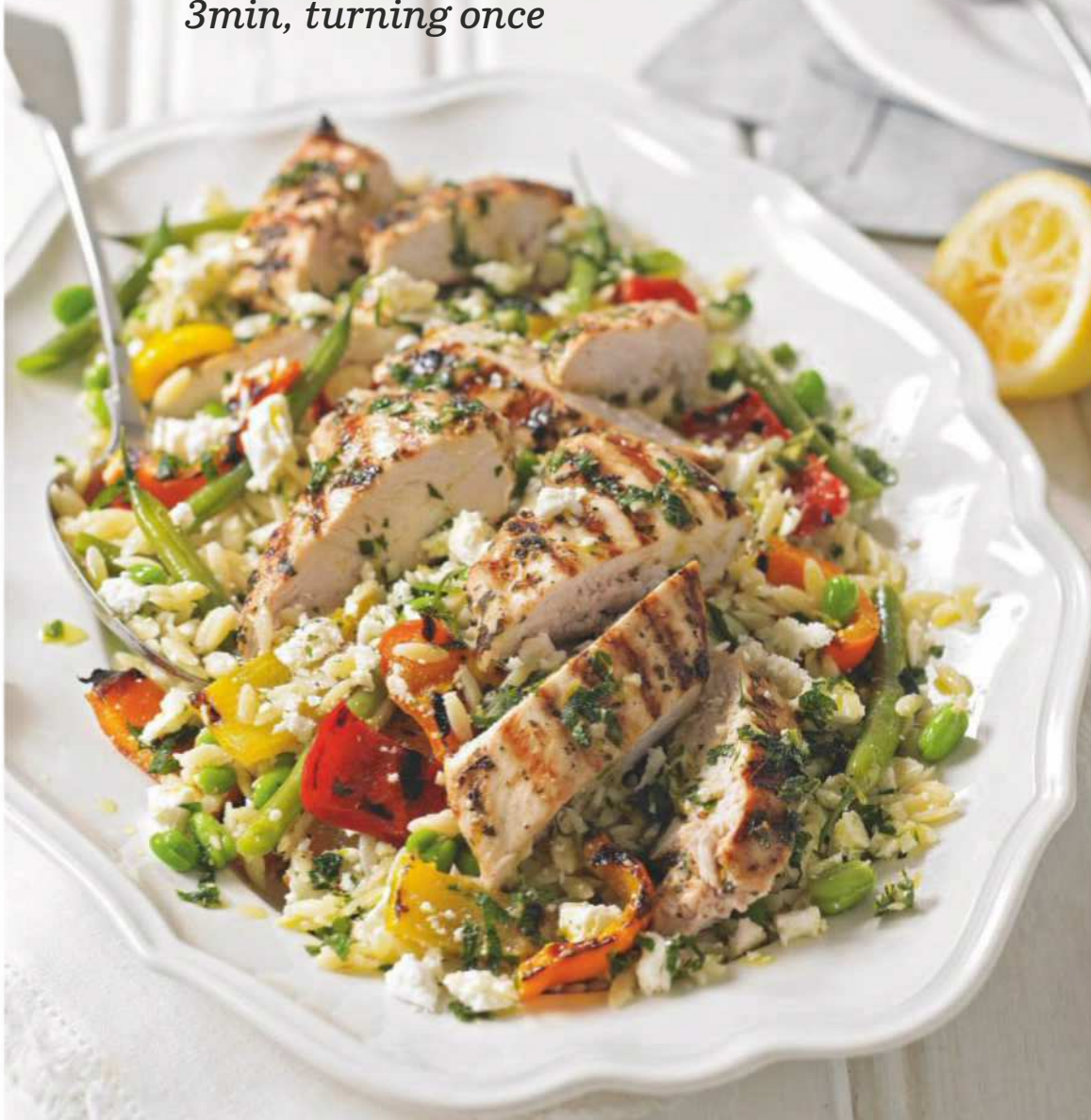
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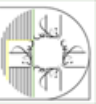
**IDEAL HOME TIP**

*For a veggie version, swap the chicken for 2 x 225g sliced blocks of halloumi, marinated overnight and grilled on a barbecue for 3min, turning once*



**Grilled chicken  
& summery veg  
pasta salad**

See page 157 for recipe





## Chargrilled sardines

See page 157 for recipe



### IDEAL HOME LOVES...

## Rosé wines



**BLUSH  
BEAUTY**  
Côtes de  
Provence Rosé,  
£6.69, Aldi

**ROSE GOLD**  
Chapel Down  
Sparkling Rosé,  
£24.99, Wine



**PRETTY IN  
PINK**  
The Best Pinot  
Grigio Rosé, £7,  
Morrisons





## IDEAL HOME TIP

*Bulk this salad out to make it a main course by adding rocket leaves, chargrilled chicken and pan-fried pancetta pieces*

**Summer herb salad with  
buttermilk dressing**

See page 157 for recipe



## Plum, basil & black pepper cooler

**Takes** 1hr **Makes** a large jug

**INGREDIENTS** • 20 ripe (but firm) plums • 450g unrefined caster sugar • 1½tbsp whole black peppercorns • 2 large handfuls fresh basil leaves • 1 handful edible flowers, to serve (optional) • 2 handfuls ice cubes • Chilled sparkling water, to top up • Gin or vodka (optional)

**1** Halve, stone and roughly chop 10 plums and put them in a saucepan with the sugar, peppercorns and 500ml water. Slowly bring to the boil, stirring frequently, then simmer

for 10min. Remove from heat, stir in a handful of the basil leaves.

**2** Set aside to steep for 30min, then strain through a fine sieve, draining thoroughly.

**3** To serve, halve, stone and slice the remaining 10 plums and layer in a large glass jug with the remaining basil leaves, edible flowers, if using, and ice. Add plum syrup and either top up with chilled sparkling water for an elegant mocktail or mix with gin or vodka for an alcoholic tittle.







## Pulled pork buns & tangy slaw

**Takes** 4hr 35min plus marinating & resting

**Makes** 12

### INGREDIENTS FOR THE SPICE RUB

• 1tbsp brown sugar • 1tbsp sweet smoked paprika • 1tsp cayenne pepper • 1tsp allspice • 1tbsp ground black pepper • 1tbsp salt

**FOR PORK BUNS** • 2kg boneless pork shoulder, rind and fat removed • 4tbsp oil • 2tbsp American mustard • 2 onions, sliced • 200ml cider vinegar • 200ml apple juice • 12 soft white buns  
**FOR THE SLAW** • Zest and juice 2 limes • 2tsp caster sugar • 1tbsp tomato purée • Few drops of Tabasco • 2tbsp barbecue sauce • 3tbsp mayonnaise • ½ red cabbage, shredded • ½ white cabbage, shredded • 1 red onion, sliced • 2 carrots, grated • Bunch of coriander, chopped • Barbecue sauce, to serve

**1** Mix ingredients for spice rub. Cut into pork sides so it opens out flat like a book, with a similar thickness all along. Rub with 2tbsp oil and the mustard, massage in spice rub. Chill overnight.

**2** Heat remaining oil in a frying pan and brown meat on all sides or cook over a hot barbecue until charred.

**3** Put sliced onion in a large



roasting tin lined with baking paper, sit pork on top. Pour over vinegar and apple juice. Cover with parchment, wrap in foil and slow roast on the barbecue for 3-4hr until tender. Once cooked, rest for 1hr.

**4** Strain pork juices into a jug, skimming off fat. Shred pork with two forks and spread in the tin. Drizzle with ½ the juices and return to the oven for 15min.

**5** To make the slaw, whisk together lime zest, juice and caster sugar. Add tomato purée, Tabasco, barbecue sauce and mayonnaise, and mix until combined. In a large bowl, combine prepared vegetables and pour over dressing, tossing to coat evenly. Chill.

**6** Serve pork in buns with chilled slaw and barbecue sauce on the side.

## Grilled chicken & summery veg pasta salad

**Takes** 45mins, plus marinating **Serves** 6

**INGREDIENTS** • 4 skinless chicken breasts • few sprigs oregano, chopped • 3 garlic cloves, crushed • zest and juice 2 lemons • 3 peppers, quartered and deseeded • 250g orzo • 250g broad beans • 200g green beans, trimmed, halved • 150g feta



• 4tbsp extra virgin olive oil • ½ bunch parsley, chopped • handful mint leaves, torn

**1** Put chicken in a food bag with the oregano, 2 garlic cloves, and zest and juice of 1 lemon. Season, seal the bag, massage the marinade into chicken. Chill overnight.

**2** Remove chicken from the fridge 30min before cooking. Heat barbecue or grill to medium. Cook chicken for 10-12min until cooked through, then cut into chunks. Add peppers to grill for around 10min until charred. Remove and chop.

**3** Cook pasta, adding beans for the last 3min. Drain and cool pasta and beans under cold running water. Tip into a bowl, crumble over feta, add chicken and peppers.

**4** Mix remaining garlic, lemon zest, juice, oil, parsley and mint. Season, add to salad, toss, then serve.

## Chargrilled sardines

**Takes** 20min **Serves** 4

**INGREDIENTS** • 16 sardines • oil, to coat • lemon wedges, to serve

**1** Remove large fish scales by scraping a blade of a knife against the grain of the scales. Snip fins off with scissors, cut fish open along



the belly, from head to tail. Under running water, dig your thumb into belly by the tail end, scoop out the guts from tail to head. Bin guts, gently rinse and dry fish.

**2** Toss each fish in olive oil. Put them on an oiled grill, season with salt, then grill for 1-2min on each side. Serve with lemon wedges.

## Summer herb salad with buttermilk dressing

**Takes** 5min **Serves** 8 (as a side)

**INGREDIENTS** • 120g wild rocket leaves • Handful of mixed herbs, like fennel tops, parsley, chives or basil • 5 fat asparagus stalks, trimmed and shaved into long strips • 50g pumpkin seeds, toasted • Handful edible flowers (optional)  
**FOR THE BUTTERMILK DRESSING** • 200ml buttermilk • 100ml extra virgin olive oil • 1tsp Dijon mustard • 1tsp caster sugar • Juice of ½ lemon • 3tbsp finely chopped chives

**1** Toss all the salad ingredients together.

**2** To make the dressing, whisk all the ingredients together with a tablespoon of water and season to taste. Spoon the dressing over the salad to serve.



# Make it work for you

## FOOD WITH FRIENDS: BARBECUE PARTY

Load up the barbie with your favourite grills and set the table with salads, sauces and this summer-ready selection



Dinnerware, table linen and homeware, all from a selection, House of Fraser

FEATURE STEPHANIE DURRANT

### WHERE TO BUY

#### 1. NAPKINS

Lucien linen napkins, £32 for six, Neptune

#### 2. BOWL

Denby Studio Blue large ridged bowl, £25, John Lewis

#### 3. CARAFE

Jug with silver base, £25.99, Zara Home

#### 4. SALAD SERVERS

Pure salad servers, £11.99, Maisons du Monde

#### 5. TUMBLERS

Royal Doulton Pacific

melamine tumblers, £14 for four, House of Fraser

#### 6. PLATTER

Bwari marble platter in white, from £34.95, Nkuku

#### 7. CANDLE

Charcoal citronella candle, £17.50, White Stuff

#### 8. SKEWERS

Sommar stainless steel skewers, £2 for six, Ikea

#### 9. SERVING SET

Naturals dishes, £14.99 for three, Lakeland





# Don't Miss Out... 'Tricolour' Oleander Your 3 Favourite Colours In One Pot!

**GREAT VALUE!**  
Only **£14.99** Each +P&I  
**YOU SAVE £5**

— LIMITED STOCK —

## FRAGRANT OLEANDER

Add a Mediterranean feel to your patio or balcony this summer with this stunning Tricoloured Oleander! Our experts have skilfully merged three plants – pink, cream and red – in a single pot, giving you 3 times the flower power!

Oleanders love hot dry weather, yet they are also happy in conditions down to -5°C! Low-maintenance and compact, these evergreen plants become smothered in bloom from May to September, for impact all summer long.

This is a unique opportunity to buy something truly special... These plants are a genuine rarity – **get yours now as stock is extremely limited!**

- 3-times the flower power from a single pot
- Flowers May-Sept in pink, creamy-white and red!
- Perfect for pots on your patio or balcony!
- Low maintenance, easy to grow and winter hardy to -5°C!

### Fragrant Oleander Tricolour

Three colours in one 19cm Pot

**25% OFF NOW £14.99 SAVE £5!**

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**"Our 'Mediterranean Secret' ... add something special to your patio or balcony and give your garden a real point of difference. A genuine rarity!"**



**Lifetime guarantee on all hardy plants**

Clay pot for illustrative purposes only

**IMPORTANT:** Contact with oleander foliage and its sap may irritate the skin. All parts of the Oleander plant are toxic if ingested.



### 3 EASY WAYS TO ORDER NOW!

1 Visit [YouGarden.com/TIME107](http://YouGarden.com/TIME107)

2 Phone 0844 6 569 569 USE CODE TIME107  
Calls cost 5p per min plus your network's access charge.

3 By post using coupon below

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#### YOUR ORDER DETAILS

Item	Description	Price	Qty	Subtotal
680077	Oleander Tricolour Plant in 19cm Pot Was £19.99 <b>SAVE £5.00</b>	£14.99		
<b>These special offers go perfectly with your 'Tricolour' Oleander</b>				
200024	Yes, I have ordered a Tricolour Oleander and would love to add 50 Mixed Fragrant Freesias bulbs, size 4/5, in a mix of at least 6 colours and shades	£1.99		
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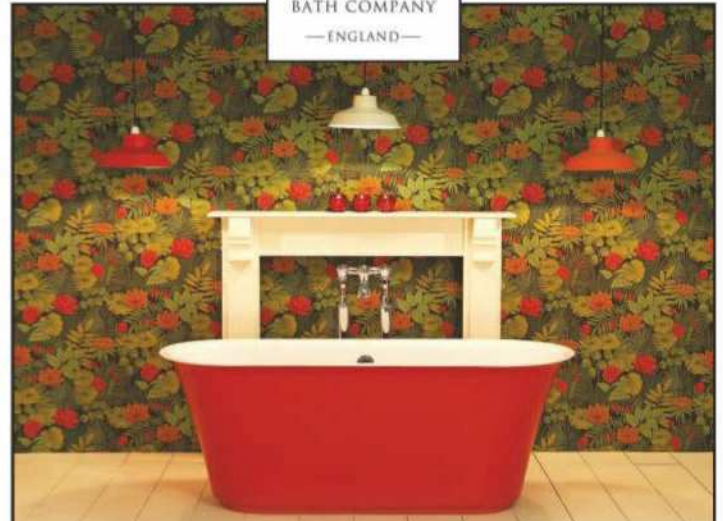
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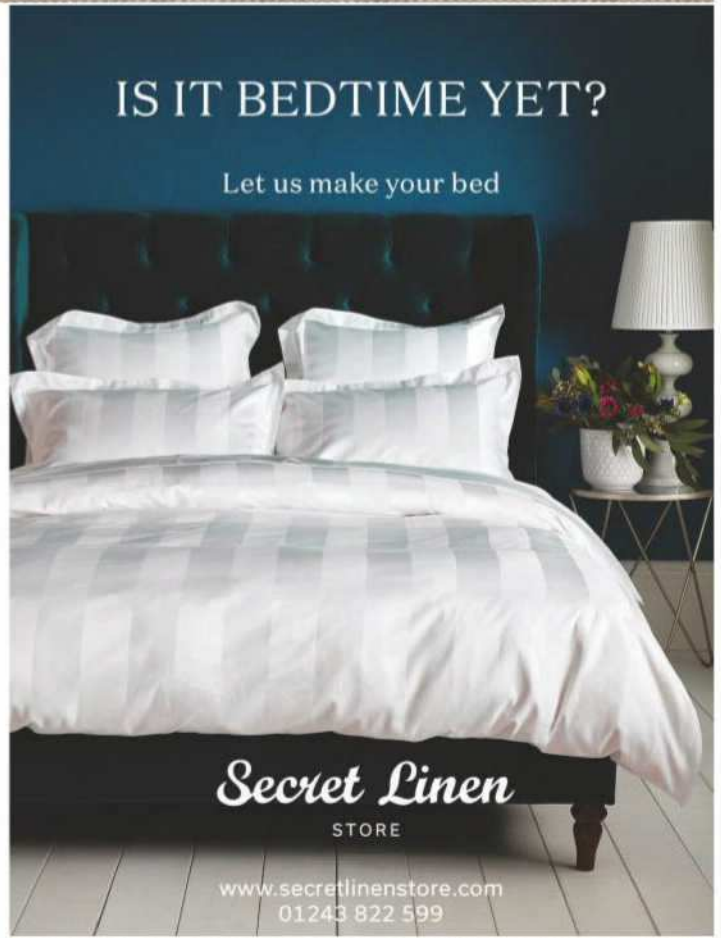


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