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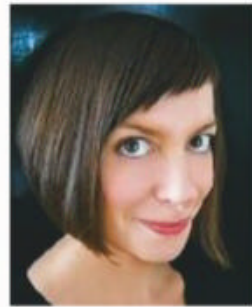
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Hi there!



Yay, spring! Much as I love the **winter snuggle**, it always feels positive to **shake it off** and get busy with whatever the new season demands.

From **redecorating projects**, new products in store and simple-but-**delicious recipes**, you'll find this issue packed with **fresh ideas** to try out in your home, but before you get stuck in, turn to p57 and take a few minutes to fill in our survey and tell us what you really think about the contents of this magazine. It'll help us make it even better and you could **win £250!** And if you're looking for practical ways to make your home and lifestyle **more sustainable** these days, look out for our new sister title, **Green Living**, which is on sale now. It's full of easy ways to help save the planet, as well as your hard-earned cash.

Vanessa

Vanessa Richmond, Editor

SEND US YOUR STYLING SNAPS ON
INSTAGRAM #SAHSTYLISTS –
WE LOVE TO SEE YOUR FAB IDEAS!

ABOVE: Tour Rebecca's idyllic farmhouse, p44

LEFT: Kate's terrace is full of character-adding ideas, p16

BELOW: Make a beautiful spring wreath, p77

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Creative use of colour has updated Kate's home

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Tweet us your comments at [@styleathomemag](https://twitter.com/styleathomemag) – we'd love to hear what you think of your fave mag!



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Freshen up your furniture



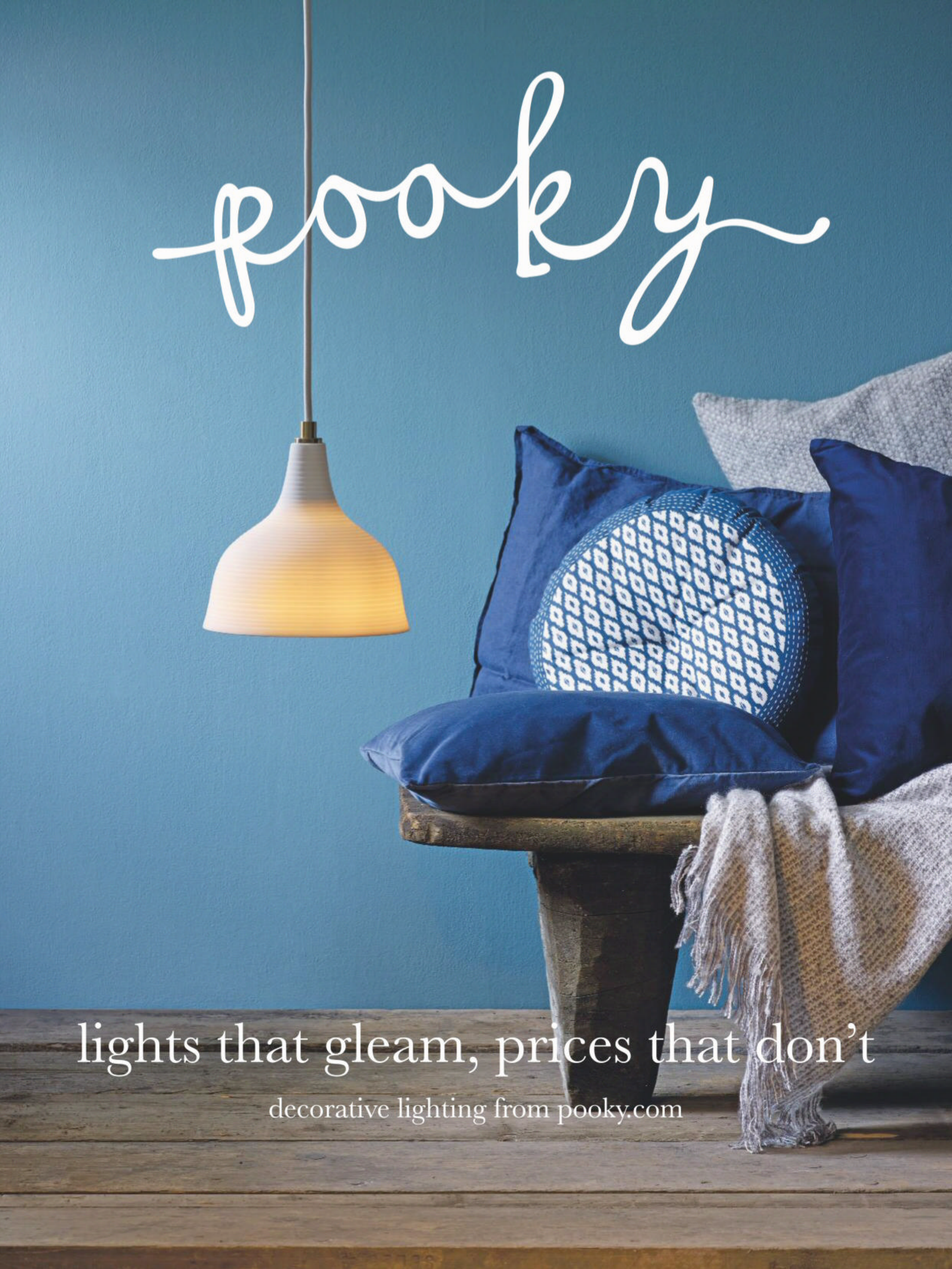
110

End your Easter feast with a sweet treat



SPRING MUST-HAVES
Page 15





pooky

lights that gleam, prices that don't

decorative lighting from pooky.com

THIS MONTH'S *Love it!*

Welcome the arrival of spring with a show-stopping floral display that no one need know is actually faux! Gisela Graham's gorgeous range of artificial stems, sprigs and blooms work perfectly with the collection of glass vases for a pretty, seasonal display.

Mix floral arrangements of varying heights and add a few real flowers for a seasonal scent

Assorted vases, from £7.50 each; faux stems, from £1.50 each, all Gisela Graham



3 of the best... PLANT ACCESSORIES

Shop this feature with Ownable



Cat's whiskers plant mister, £11, Red Candy



Wilderness plant stand, £32, Sainsbury's Home



Mini ceramic watering can, £19.50, Oliver Bonas

Best IN STORE

Refresh your room schemes for the new season with
our pick of the latest high-street trends



SAINSBURY'S HOME

Scandi mono

Collate artisan ceramics in black and white for modern Nordic style



Acacia and wood circular board, £18.50

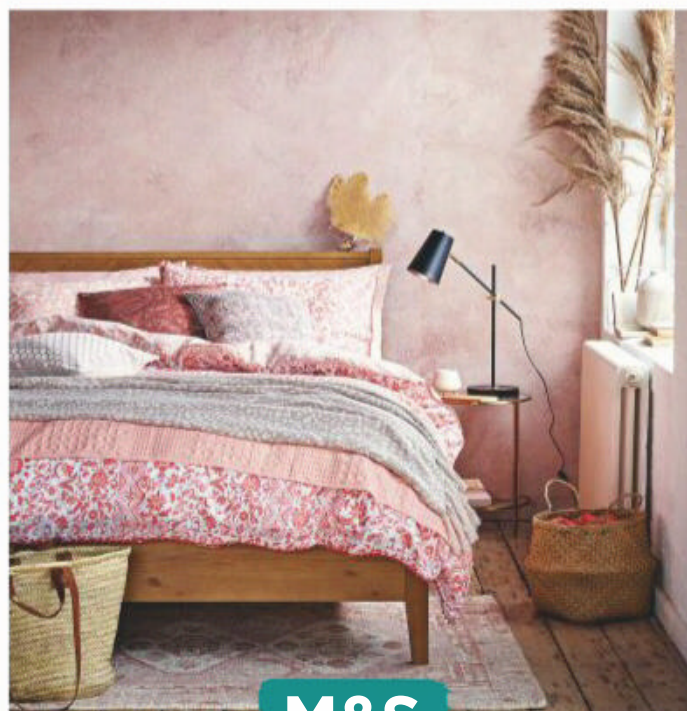
Double oven glove, £5.50

Spot reactive glaze mug, £3.50

Measuring cups, £10

Runner, £12

Grater with bottom, £12



M&S

Natural fusion

Be inspired by global block prints in plaster pink and terracotta



Faye cushion in Pink Mix, £25

Skylar cushion, £15

Brass and glass side table, £199 for set of two

Floral pom-pom bedding, £29.50 for a double set

Belly basket, from £12.50

Beatrix rug in Terracotta Mix, from £169



NEXT HOME

Pretty vintage

Create a nostalgic feel using delicate pastels and ditsy floral prints

Three light floor lamp, £140

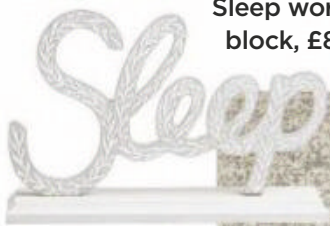


Vintage effect hooks, £28

Ordelia embroidery floral cushion, £18



Sleep word block, £8



Floral vases, £16 for set of three



Rug, from £75



Hampton photo frame, from £5



Adelaide side table, £199



GEORGE HOME

Urban nature

Update botanical style with geo prints and black accents

Velvet fringe shade, £20



Plant prints, £18 for set of three

Velvet geo cushion, £7



Bee cushion, £5

Tea light holder, £3



Sunflower vase, £10



Artificial rubber tree, £30



Woven basket, £10



Sleep More Sustainably pillowcases in Grey, £8 for two; Pink floral design duvet set, £23 for a double; fitted sheet in Blush, £12 for a double, all Sainsbury's Home



Wilderness dressing table, £130, Argos



Cupcake footstool, £65, Argos

SAINSBURY'S PLASTIC BOTTLE BEDDING

Soft to the touch (we've felt it!), you'd never know the new Sleep More Sustainably bed linen was made from recycled plastic bottles, with each double duvet cover having saved 48 bottles from landfill. Available in a range of colours and styles.

High-street NEWS

What's new, what's hot now... you heard it here first!

It could be designer!

There's a new wave of modern dressing tables that are perfect if the trad or romantic French designs aren't up your street. The skinny legs and compact size mean you won't need a separate dressing room to squeeze one in either. Style it with the Cupcake footstool (oh, and don't miss the secret drawer!).

They're everywhere! GIRAFFES

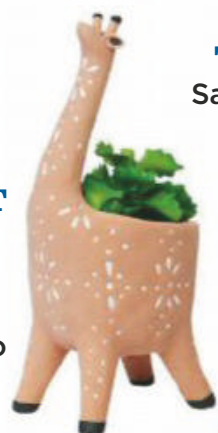
STAND TALL

Woven-effect giraffe, £4, George Home



PERKY LITTLE POT

Giraffe succulent plant pot, £12.99, M&Co



TIDY UP TIME

Safari storage bag, £21, Kidly



HEY GOOD LOOKIN'

Giraffe mug, £14, Yvonne Ellen



Dinnerware, from £3.50; tumblers, £3.50 each; Kintsugi mug, £3.50, all Matalan

MATALAN CHANNELS JAPANDI

Yup, we thought this was a designer Scandi brand, too, when we first saw it. The mix-and-match Exhale collection brings drama to the table with the inky blue and graphite palette, while rustic details – such as the frayed-edge linens and imperfect lines – tap into the relaxed wabi-sabi way of life.

WONDER WALL

Round gold mirror, £79.99, Zara Home

HANG OUT

Palm fan coat hook, £6, Oliver Bonas

BRIGHT LIGHT

Large gold arc floor lamp, £120, Argos

SHINE ON

Gold ginkgo leaf lamp, £24.99, Homesense

FRINGE BENEFITS

Grandma Harvest Gold stool, £115, Beaumonde

BIRD OF PARADISE

Flamingo trinket box, £24, Very

MULTI-TASKER

Gold wire shelf, £18, George Home

LUXE LEDGE

Leopard towels, from £10 each; deco charm mirror, £10; snake tray, £8; snake tumbler, £4; snake dispenser, £6, all Dunelm

ON POINT

Gold pyramid terrarium, £32.95, Melody Maison

PALM PERFECTION

Gold spice spoon, £8, Curious Egg

BUG'S LIFE

Gold small wall beetle, £42, Audenza

Shop this feature with Ownable

TOP TABLE

Gold palm leaf table, £55, Sainsbury's Home

Trend spotting GOLD DUST

Go gold or go home with this season's most extra colour

Fancy a little more glamour in your life? It doesn't get much more glam than this decadent trend. It's all about excess, so think exotic animals, palm prints, metallic finishes and gold on gold on gold! If you're still struggling to envisage this metallic mirage, channel a bit of your inner diva and make like Midas, turning everything you touch to gold. Or, if that's a bit much, try introducing a few accessories or some wall decor in this shimmering shade.

Add life with **LEAFY GREENS**

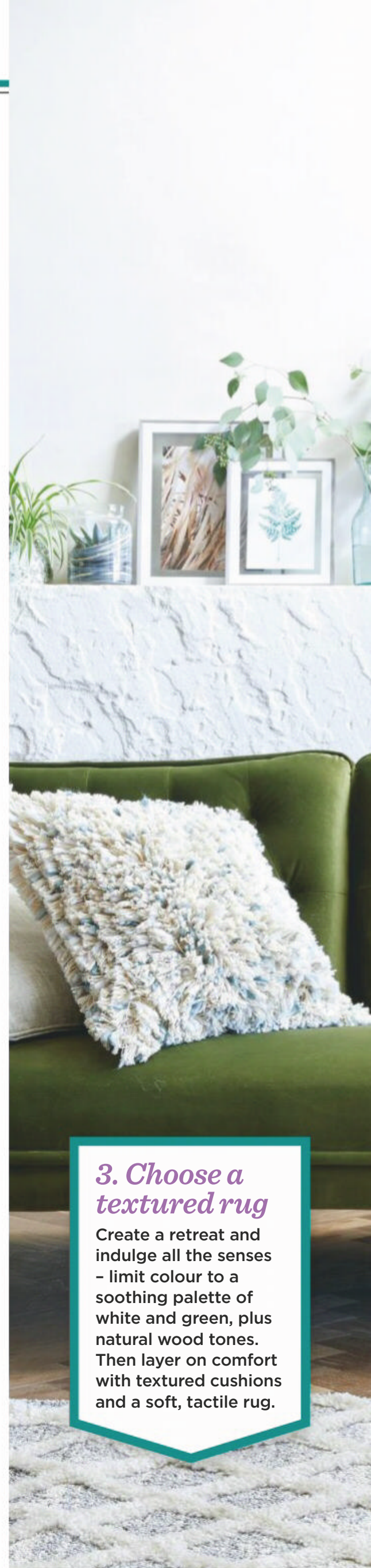
Give a backdrop of clean white a lift with flashes of grounding green and natural materials



1. Display greenery

Go au naturel with a lush line-up of plants. Different sizes and shapes add interest, from trailing Devil's Ivy to textured ferns. Mix in faux plants for longevity.

Fiddlehead fern plant in white pot, £25; fern in concrete pot, £8, both Dunelm



3. Choose a textured rug

Create a retreat and indulge all the senses – limit colour to a soothing palette of white and green, plus natural wood tones. Then layer on comfort with textured cushions and a soft, tactile rug.

2. Swap to sustainable rattan

Look out for lighting, furniture, rugs and pouffes in wicker, jute, rattan and bamboo. The natural finishes create pattern, and the lightweight materials are renewable and biodegradable.



TOTAL
£258

TROPICAL BREEZE

Farra cushion, £15, M&S

MINIMAL ART

Framed prints, £18 each, Gisela Graham

WARM RUSTIC

Side table, £139, Very

Boho botanical GET THE LOOK

Connect with nature by adding greens and naturals

4. Bring in botanical prints

Not green-fingered? Choose nature-inspired artwork and textiles – go for tropical leaf shapes or more traditional plant prints in large-scale designs.

Elodie sofa bed, £299; Ava pebble cushion, £18; Sanctuary cheese plant cushion, £22; Taza rug, from £55; Lari wicker weave easy-fit pendant, £29; pampas grass spray, £5.50 a stem, all Dunelm

FEATURE MICHELA COLLING

NEW LOOK

Buy it



EVERLASTING BLOOMS

Wildflower green bouquet, £16, Sainsbury's Home

TWO TONE

Conscious jacquard weave wool blend rug, £39.99, H&M Home



WEAVE SOME MAGIC

Wicker magazine rack, £30, Amara

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**CREATE
A BUZZ**

Wood bee
and buttercup
garland, £7.50,
Gisela Graham

EGG-CELLENT GIFT

Bunny egg cups,
£7.50 each,
Gisela Graham

**PRETTY
WILD**

LOVELY LAMB

Easter sheep
mallow soft toy, £10,
Sainsbury's Home

**SPRING
BLOOMS**

Faux wild
flowers in
churn, £10,
Tesco

10 UNDER £10

Celebrate Easter
with these spring-
themed treats

QUEEN BEE

Insulated bottle,
£10, Tesco

Shop this
feature with
Ownable

**COUNTING
SHEEP**

Easter side
plates, £10 for
four, Dunelm

ON THE HOP

Bonnie the
Bunny A5 lined
notebook, £2.95,
Rex London

HONEYBUNNY

Papier mache Easter bunny
decoration, £5, White Stuff

**SWEET
TREATS**

Honeycomb
Easter egg
tube, £10,
National
Trust Shop

**IN A
WORD**

Easter sign,
£1, George
Home



'We styled up a



SHELF LIFE

'We've learnt a few DIY skills along the way, like fitting these MDF shelves, which nearly caused a divorce!'

COME ON IN!



ABOUT ME I'm Kate Skivington, 33, a culture and trends strategist, and I live here with my husband James, 33, a solicitor, and our two cats.

OUR HOME We live in a three-bed Victorian mid-terraced house in Sale, Manchester. We moved here in December 2014.

WHEN WE MOVED IN It was rocking the beige trend from about 10 years ago, and had way too many spotlights in the ceiling downstairs.

AND NOW It's been given a fresh look with textures and colour. I'm most proud of the bathroom, which was revamped for around £500.

STYLE TIP When you jump into your first house you're keen to slap paint on the walls, but it's better to live in the space for a while before you spend your time and money.



IDEA TO STEAL

'Create artwork on a budget by framing postcards'

Buy it

Get Kate's fresh mid-century look

PAGE 26

BLANK CANVAS'

NEUTRAL BASE

'Our grey M&S sofa provides a great starting point for adding colourful cushions, like the yellow tassel one from Home of Boho'

First-time buyer Kate has used her creativity to bring her characterless and dated house to life with pops of vibrant colour

Having rented a series of generic newbuild flats in Manchester city centre, James and I were itching to buy a Victorian terrace,' says Kate. 'South Manchester seemed ideal as it's an easy commute by tram for our jobs in the city, and lots of our friends live there. As we were priced out of popular Chorlton and were struggling to find anything within budget, it made sense to look slightly further out, in Sale. This house seemed like a bit of a gem as it had a third bedroom – something we didn't expect for the money – and we were seduced by the extra storage space.'

Our vision

As the owners wanted a quick sale, our offer under the asking price was accepted. I think other potential buyers had been put off by the lack of original features. It was certainly a bit beige and boring, but we saw it as a blank canvas and decided to use its flaws to our advantage. We spotted the positives of not having to work around any tricky features, and decided to make it bright and colourful. I've always loved interiors – my mum used to have a curtain-making business, so as a child I was always getting dragged around fabric shops and posh houses. Even in our rental homes I did whatever I could to make it homely, like placing artwork on cupboards or bringing in nice rugs and changing up the cushions. Now we had our own place though, I was itching to paint.

Finding our style

It was just before Christmas when we moved in, so understandably I wanted it to look nice for people coming round >>



VACATION VIBE

'This Argos sideboard makes a great drinks cabinet. I've dressed it with artwork that reminds me of holidays'



'FOR A COHESIVE LOOK, USE AN EASY-TO-LIVE-WITH SHADE SUCH AS GREY THAT WORKS IN ALL ROOMS'

» to visit. After scouring magazines for inspiration, we felt a neutral palette of greys would work well to begin with, then we could gradually introduce colour and new trends through artwork, cushions and accessories. I'm very inspired by my travels, and nature in particular, so a lot of the yellows, blues and turquoise shades that I chose were influenced by growing up on the north-west coast.

Shopping around comes naturally to me as I'm a researcher in my job and I love bargain hunting around vintage fairs. I've saved quite a bit of money by making blinds and cushion covers with my mum, and you don't need to spend much on prints either. Mine are from Junique, Etsy or just cool postcards from local craft shops that I've framed.

Hard graft

The kitchen and bathroom were the rooms that needed most attention. I hated the horrible shiny black kitchen worktops teamed with matt black tiles, and the bathroom wasn't ideal, with its pale green walls and a yellow bath »

BARGAIN BUY

'Our vintage Ercol table was too small, so I found this second-hand Made dining table on Gumtree for half its original price'



IDEA TO STEAL

Use a rug to help zone a dining area so it doesn't just feel like a space to walk through'



Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'Kate's choice of artwork is a great starting point for the room's accent colours – warm yellow and bright turquoise.'

DECORATING
EDITOR
Nicky Phillips

Do it!

SPRAY PAINT A LAMP SHADE

- 1 Give an inexpensive drum lampshade or pendant a glamorous upgrade by adding metallic to the inside of it using silver, gold or copper paint. It's best to use spray paint for this job. Try Rust-Oleum Metallic, £10 for 400ml, B&Q.
- 2 Working in a well-ventilated area, mask the bottom edge of the shade and protect the outside of it from any spray paint.
- 3 For even coverage, build up the paint gradually, letting it dry thoroughly between each layer to prevent any bubbling.



FEEL-GOOD ITEM

'My favourite thing in the house is this poster. It reminds me of holidays in the South of France as a kid'



DIY JOB

'We re-tiled the splashback ourselves with sage green metro tiles from Walls & Floors'



» panel. While I would have loved a side return extension and a completely new kitchen and bathroom, we just didn't have the money to rip everything out. Instead we got new sage green splashback tiles, added wooden worktops and replaced the wall cupboards by the sink with shelves to bring more light in – all of which has made a huge difference to the kitchen. Our last job, which I roped my mum and dad into, was laying decking in the gravelled back yard, painting the fence grey and adding bamboo screening for a bit more privacy. It may not have the bi-fold doors I've always dreamt of, but it's lovely to have this space as it's like an extra room in summer.

The bathroom has been our biggest DIY transformation to date. We originally painted the laminate floor white but it got really grubby, so we went for a dark grey floor paint instead. The bath panel was replaced with MDF and covered with patterned tiles, which we also used »

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'Sage green can have a country-classic feel, but Kate's given it a modern twist by combining it with smart shades of grey.'

FEATURES EDITOR
Holly Walsh



IDEA TO STEAL

'Copper brackets add a smart, contemporary edge to shelving'



BUDGET MAKEOVER

'To keep costs down, we changed the worktops and splashback, then added stools from Lakeland Furniture'



CHILL-OUT ZONE

'I love spending time on the decking in my egg chair from Homebase'

'DRESS UP BARE DECKING WITH AN ALL-WEATHER RUG AND BRIGHT ACCESSORIES'



OPEN FEEL

'Replacing the wall cupboards with wooden open shelves has made a huge difference'

RELAXING RETREAT

'Getting a new print from Junique changed the vibe in here and led to new cushions from H&M and Homesense'

IDEA TO STEAL

'Make a simple statement wall by painting it in three complementary shades'



'SHADES OF GREY AND WHITE PROVIDE A CALM, NEUTRAL BACKDROP – PERFECT IF YOU LOVE CHANGING UP ACCESSORIES OFTEN'

3 of the best TRAVEL POSTERS

Satisfy your wanderlust with globe-trotting artwork



COLOUR POP
Japan2 30x45cm poster
by Robert Livingston,
£14.95, Junique



CITY SLICKER
Oslo skyline
30x40cm poster,
£16.95, Desenio



THROW-BACK STYLE
La Savoie A3 framed
vintage travel wall art,
£45, Made

» behind the new vanity unit. Painting the walls and using a grout pen on the metro tiles has added that modern touch of grey that really pulls it together, while a new copper wall light and black mirror has finished it off nicely.

Bedroom bliss

We're lucky to have a lovely big bedroom at the front, which has been given a calm and minimalist makeover. The brown carpet and swamp green walls weren't the best combination, but a lick of paint, new grey carpet and fitted wardrobes has made the world of difference. It's nice having two spare bedrooms as well. We tend to put guests on the top floor as it's more cosy, while the other bedroom on the first floor is more of an office with a double bed if we have extra overnight guests. At one point I considered having the top floor room as a zen-like space »

*Do it!***REVAMP YOUR BATHROOM FOR LESS THAN £500**

★ Retiling can soon add up, so try tile stickers (Amazon has lots of patterned Moroccan styles or visit [Etsy.com/uk/market/bleucoin](https://www.etsy.com/uk/market/bleucoin)).

Alternatively, use a specialist paint like Ronseal One Coat tile paint.

★ Paint dated laminate flooring.

First, sand the surface with 180 grit sandpaper, clean with sugar soap, then apply two coats of paint with a foam roller. Try V33 Renovation Satin Floor & Stairs Paint from B&Q. White is ideal for a fresh Scandinavian vibe or go for soft grey for an urban industrial look.

★ Spraying a radiator with matt black radiator paint adds instant impact. Tape paper behind to protect the wall and use Hammerite High Heat Matt Black Spray Paint.

★ Go to town with an abundance of plants and check out Dunelm, H&M or Asda for low-cost bath mats and towels to add instant colour.

**LOW SPEND**

'I love this room as we did it on such a tight budget. I get lots of comments on my Instagram page @copper.and.me'

HOME OFFICE

'This is where I work from home one day a week. My Tesco desk and Ikea chair also make a good spot to do some sewing'

**Why it works****STYLE AT HOME SAYS...**

'Kate has shown how creative you can be with grey, layering shades and patterns to create interest.'

HOUSES EDITOR
Ruth Corbett

DISPLAY SPACE

'This cute little shelf from Maisons du Monde is great for perfumes'



Where to buy Kate's style

- * **OKLAHOMA** Bright, fun and quirky homeware in Manchester's Northern Quarter.
- * **H&M HOME** Great for basics like table runners, cushions and duvet covers. Look out for the Conscious range of environmentally sustainable products made from 50% recycled materials.
- * **MADE** A must for mid-range contemporary furniture with fresh designs. Look out for regular flash sales on the website.
- * **JUNIQUE** Best known for its affordable on-trend art prints by independent artists, this Berlin-based website also has branched out into selling cushion covers, shower curtains and bedlinen.
- * **ICONIC LIGHTS** One of the largest online retailers of affordable lighting, you'll find over 4,000 products listed.

COSY ROOM

'We decorated the guest bedroom after we'd got married in the Lake District, so the travel poster from eBay set the tone; it goes well with the walls, which are painted in Dulux Atlantic Blue'



COLOUR CONTRAST

'The yellow floor lamp from Iconic Lights really pops against the navy walls and works well with the rattan elements'



Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'The dark feature wall creates a focal point in the attic bedroom.'

STYLE EDITOR
Michela Colling

» for yoga, mindfulness and meditation, but it didn't happen as we already had the two spare beds to accommodate.

The end result

Looking back, grey was a safe, neutral choice, but we've since done the hall and office in dusky pink, so if I was starting again I'd probably introduce more modern neutrals. We've loved doing up our first home though. Looking ahead, we'd love a 1930s house with a garden for the next phase of our lives.'



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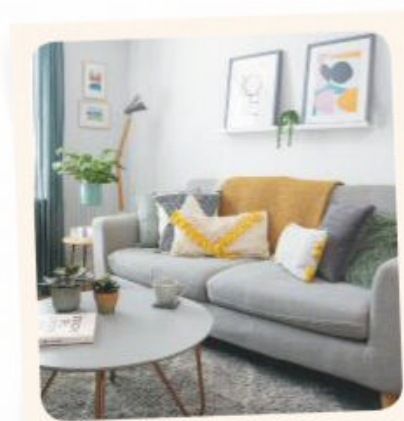
£3.50
Match your mug
to your decor.
Glazed Blush mug,
SAINSBURY'S
HOME

£85
Hang a statement pendant
over the dining table.
East Grey and Copper
metal ceiling light,
HABITAT

HINT OF
GLAM

Buy Kate's style... FRESH MID-CENTURY

Combine retro shapes with uplifting shades
and a few subtle metallic accents



Kate has used pale grey as a neutral backdrop
for brighter accent colours, including pops
of mint and mustard.

Furnishings in simple mid-century shapes
lend a laid-back feel, while natural weaves, tassels and
pom-pom embellishments add texture and interest to
the scheme. Abstract artwork and copper lighting
and accessories lift the look.

PUT
YOUR
FEET
UP



£35
A natural weave
footstool doubles
as a coffee table.
Wicker pouffe,
SAINSBURY'S HOME



£45
Mix and match
dining chairs in
pastel shades.
Charlie Mint and
Grey chair, ARGOS



£45
Always keep a
blanket close by.
Paloma Saffron
throw, HABITAT

£315

Stick to simple wooden furniture. Vox nature sideboard in White and oak effect, CUCKOOLAND

Shop this feature with Ownable

£14

Pop a bunch of spring blooms in this sunny jug. Zalato jug, LA REDOUTE

£89

Lamps with an exposed bulb offer industrial flair. Indra floor lamp in Copper, CULT FURNITURE

£1,295

Invest in a quality sofa in a timeless shade. Strudel sofa in Coccle House fabric, LOAF

£100

Polished metallic accessories have a glam feel. The Chrysler wall clock, NEWGATE

GET COMFY

£14

Brighten a room with a few potted plants. Planter and stand, DUNELM

£89

Treat toes to a cosy pile rug. Berber shaggy rug in Grey, DUNELM

THIS MONTH'S *Do it*

Delight guests with sweet spring-themed place settings. Loosely roll linen napkins and wrap around boiled eggs. Secure at the top with twine to look like bunny ears and tuck in a sprig of foliage. Place a napkin-wrapped egg on top of each plate.

Keep boiled
eggs warm

Daffodil sprays, £18.90 for 12; napkins, £7.50 for four; Easter side plates, £10 for four; woven place mats, £4.25 for four; Gold cutlery, £25 for a 16-piece set, all Dunelm

Get crafting **FOR EASTER**

Hobbycraft has everything you need to make beautiful decorations for a personalised spring celebration

The Easter holidays are the perfect time for family fun – and what better way to get the kids involved than by making your own colourful Easter decorations? Thanks to Hobbycraft, the possibilities are endless.

Egg-cellent ideas

Whatever you love to make, getting creative has never been easier as Hobbycraft has all you need for an extra-special Easter celebration. Look online or head in store to discover plenty of creative inspiration and great-value craft supplies. You'll find unique ideas for seasonal wreaths, such as rattan and wire wreath frames to suit your personal style, or try making delicate blooms from pretty pastel papers using a Cricut machine. Or why not entertain kids of all ages with a lively Easter egg hunt? Give participants a helping hand by hiding clever clues around the house and garden, then reward everyone with personalised treat boxes full of chocolate eggs or other homemade goodies. Hobbycraft has a fantastic range of baking supplies, too, so whipping up delicious seasonal treats is fun and easy. Then decorate your bakes with colourful icing and embellishments – if you can manage not to eat them first, of course!

Create a pretty display out of your handmade creations. White Wooden Fence Crate, £5; Natural Wood Wool, £2, both Hobbycraft. All other items featured were made using a Cricut machine



Follow our online tips to make a cute carrot fault line cake. Ingredients, all Hobbycraft



Get crafty and make a paper seasonal wreath. Created with a Cricut machine, using Cricut cardstock in Sorbet, all Hobbycraft

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Stuck for inspiration? Head in store or online at hobbycraft.co.uk/easter. For more showstopping Easter projects for every skill level go to hobbycraft.co.uk/ideas

hobbycraft



FEATHERED FRIEND

'My centrepiece swan came from The Burford Garden Company. I couldn't resist its regal look'

COME ON IN!



ABOUT ME I'm Claire Maundrell, 52, and I work with my cousin on her interiors business. I also renovate and sell painted furniture. I have two children, Jacob, 22 and Octavia, 20. My dogs, Delilah and Albert, are constant companions.

MY HOME A three-bedroom semi-detached 1960s house in West Oxfordshire, which I bought as an investment property in July 2011.

WHEN I MOVED IN The house was tired and dated with swirly patterned ceilings, dado rails, floral wallpaper and coloured carpets. The kitchen had wood-effect laminate with coloured tiles.

AND NOW The budget was tight, but I painted walls to lighten each room and combined modern pieces with painted, vintage furniture.

STYLE TIP Lighting is so important. I like table lamps for a softer feel and candles add an ambient glow.



Buy it
Inspired by
Claire's style?
Shop the look
PAGE 40

THRIFTY IDEAS'

STYLISH SANCTUARY

'My idea for the sitting room was a soft colour palette with a touch of black to add weight to the scheme'

IDEA TO STEAL

'Group a theme of pictures together for a cohesive display'



Claire combined her passion for interior design and restored vintage furniture with flair and imagination to update her home on a tight budget

Before the move to this house we lived in a large five-bedroom Georgian home, with real fires, original wood floors and open spaces, filled with natural light,' says Claire. 'So a 1960s-built property was a big change.

But I believe any interior space, no matter the location or age of the house, can be made beautiful – a sanctuary and a real home. The children and I wanted to stay in this area, which is surrounded by beautiful countryside, and is close to our family and friends, so we feel very lucky to have landed here. The move has been a great success, and we love our new home.

Lifestyle changes

Life circumstances meant I had to sell my previous home and move into what had been my investment property, which I had bought in 2011. Although it has been a huge lifestyle change, I feel very happy in the new house. I've always enjoyed the creative process of designing the interiors of the homes I've lived in, and often advise friends and family on colour schemes and items of furniture, so it was a really satisfying challenge.

My style is a combination of modern, painted vintage and upcycled pieces, and I love nothing more than scouring the local charity and vintage shops for furniture and homeware to snap up. I'm fortunate living in this area of Oxfordshire as we have plenty of good places to search for that special something.

Changing the look

I moved into the house in December 2017. It had been rented out for several years »



TOASTY WARM

'I removed an old electric fire to create an open fire, fitting a reclaimed piece of wood to make a mantelpiece. Nothing beats a real fire, it's so cosy!'

'SEARCH OUT OLD PIECES OF GOOD QUALITY FURNITURE FROM CHARITY SHOPS AND UPDATE THEM TO FIT IN WITH YOUR SCHEME'

» and it was in need of some love and attention. I worked my way through it systematically, with the help of builders where necessary. It's not the most beautiful building from the outside – the 1960s isn't my favourite period for house building – so I challenged myself to change the whole feel and look of the interior on a small budget.

Vintage pieces of furniture are usually very well made; they often just need a little care to bring them up to date, and

they can look really smart again. Mixed with modern, high-street furniture and some great online buys, I have transformed the interior. Fortunately, I am fairly practical, and I'm happy to do as much of the work as possible myself.

Getting started

All the ceilings were plastered to hide the existing swirled pattern finish, dado rails were removed, and dated wallpaper was stripped and made ready for painting. I »

3 of the best ANIMAL CANDLESTICKS

Dress the mantel with quirky candleholders

BRIGHT LIGHT

Dove Symbol of Peace candleholder, £28, Rockett St George



TROPICAL CHIC

Leopard candlestick, £20, Artisaniti



TALKING POINT

Gold octopus candle centrepiece, £33.50, Audenza

ATTENTION TO DETAIL

'The napkin rings from Betty's Barn Interiors are perfect with my Scandinavian-style cutlery'



IDEA TO STEAL

'Add texture to the walls with 3D display pieces'

**SOCIAL SPACE**

'The dining area looks out to the conservatory and garden, so it's a lovely spot to sit. I bought the benches from a charity shop'

Do it! REVAMP TILES

* **REPAINT TILES** After carefully prepping the surface, apply a specific tile paint. Alternatively, use a primer followed by either chalk paint, water- or oil-based gloss or eggshell for a hard-wearing, water-resistant finish. A coat of clear water-based sealant will protect the surface.

* **REGROUT TILES** Chip or wipe out any dirty or crumbling grout before applying new grout. Look for any

problems that may have caused it to go mouldy or crumble. If it's in good condition, a grout tile pen, in either the same or a new colour, will help revive the finish.

* **APPLY A STENCIL** Do a trial run of your layout and colour combinations on paper first. To paint your design, use either an acrylic-based paint or chalk paint with a sponge, stippling paintbrush or mini roller.

LIGHT AND SHADE

'The conservatory has really worked! I painted the existing green floor tiles and made my own stencil. Hanging linen across the glass has softened the light'

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'Claire has opted for a neutral backdrop throughout the house, which means she can easily switch up the look with colourful accessories and soft furnishings when she fancies a change.'

SENIOR FEATURES EDITOR

Stephanie Durrant

CLEVER UPDATE

'I used a vinyl plastic to cover the worktop; I'm pleased with the effect'



IDEA TO STEAL

'Give units a smart refresh with a dark paint and retro-style handles'

'BUY SOME INEXPENSIVE FLOWERS AND MIX THEM WITH FOLIAGE FROM THE GARDEN – POP INTO VINTAGE JUGS AND JARS FOR A PRETTY DISPLAY'



HALL OF MIRRORS

'The reflective light from the mirror gives a feeling of extra space in the hall. The table has been painted many colours over the years'

» kept the existing upstairs carpets, as they were in good condition and just needed cleaning, and I fitted wood-effect flooring throughout downstairs. I've always loved a real fire so I decided to remove the electric fire in the living room and have a real one. I found a reclaimed piece of wood to use as a mantel, which I painted with a lime-washed finish.

The doors were also replaced in each room, and modern handles were fitted. It's amazing what a difference that

has made. But probably the biggest transformation was in the kitchen. Although I spent very little on it, the change is quite dramatic.

The existing cabinets were a pale wood finish, and the worktops had a grey speckled pattern. I'd gone for a light feel on the walls throughout the house, but I thought it would be nice to introduce some strong colour in the kitchen for contrast. I removed the wall units and replaced them with open shelving and »

*Do it!***WALLPAPER-BACKED SHELVING**

1 If shelves are easy to remove, unscrew any fittings and take them out. If they are permanent, you can work around them.

2 Measure the area and draw out the measurements on the back of your chosen wallpaper, then cut out the piece or pieces, ensuring they match up with the measured areas.

3 Apply an adhesive, such as wallpaper paste or PVA glue, with a brush, or try a spray adhesive. Line up the wallpaper and apply, carefully smoothing out air bubbles with a brush or smoothing tool.

4 Neaten any untidy edges with a Stanley knife and refit any shelves that have been removed.

‘ADD PLENTY OF GREENERY (BOTH REAL AND FAUX) TO YOUR HOME FOR INSTANT COLOUR THAT SOFTENS RATHER THAN OVERWHELMS YOUR SCHEME’

**FEATURE WALL**

‘It’s always daunting going for a dark colour, but sticking to just one wall makes it less scary and is still effective’



» then painted the base units in Railings by Farrow & Ball. I also tried my hand at covering the worktops with an adhesive vinyl covering, which is not an easy process. But I took my time, and using an old bank card as a squeegee I was able to stick it down without any bubbles. Retro-style new handles completed the look, and I’m delighted with the result!

Making the difference

Several years ago I started painting old pieces of furniture I had bought over the years, as well as some I’ve had since childhood. Some of these pieces have now been painted numerous times. I’ve been so pleased with the difference that a coat of paint or a new handle can make, and how much money I’ve saved. I buy new items such as throws and cushions from shops like Dunelm, Ikea and

IDEA TO STEAL

'Add impact and colour with motif wallpaper to enliven furniture or a feature wall'



BOTANICAL INFLUENCE

'The vintage bed needed a refresh, so I painted the fabric headboard and footboard in Pure Chalk Paint by Annie Sloan, perfect with the green leafy theme'

Homesense, and inexpensive fresh flowers. Some of my favourites are peonies and roses from the supermarket, which I mix with foliage from the garden. I'm always seduced by seasonal colour changes and often pick up a cushion or accessory to create a new look or feel.

My fabulous grandma, Nanny Betty, is a big inspiration. She had great style, was funny and nurturing, and she still influences my sense of style today. She is also the influence behind working with my cousin, Charlotte, who runs interiors store Betty's Barn Interiors. We have great fun sourcing fabulous new items, and, of course, I sometimes have to buy an item or two to take home.

Space update

The summerhouse is my workspace, where I paint furniture before selling >>

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'Play with scale – such as an oversized mirror – to give rooms a sense of flair.'

HOUSES EDITOR
Ruth Corbett

PALM DELIGHT

'I love this corner, the jungle theme ties together so well with the wall hanging, the plant and cushion'



Where to buy her style

* BETTY'S BARN INTERIORS

Check out the fabulous selection of furniture and accessories on offer from nature-inspired designs to handmade pieces that enliven an interior or add style to an outside space.

* THE OLD PILL FACTORY

A vintage shop offering an inspiring selection of furniture homeware, lighting and clothing, all well-presented, pre-loved items.

* **IKEA** Scandinavian design at affordable prices – perfect to mix modern style with vintage pieces.

* **VANILLA** A destination for beautiful fashion and lifestyle that's colourful and inspirational.

* **SOBELL HOUSE HOSPICE CHARITY** For a variety of good-quality, keenly priced, donated furniture, clothing and homeware.

A SPLASH OF COLOUR

'The metal frame bed was an eBay purchase. I love the bright Frida Kahlo-style tapestry – it was the inspiration for the room'



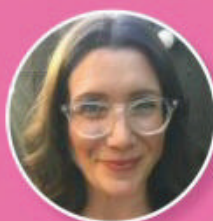
MUTED TONES

'Making the most of the bathroom space was my aim. I used a streamlined, contemporary scheme and pale colour palette'



'SOURCE A TOWEL RADIATOR IN A FINISH THAT BLENDS INTO YOUR SCHEME TO KEEP THE OVERALL LOOK CALM'

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'Sheer blinds or curtains allow light to flood into the room, but also tick the privacy box.'

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Heather Young

» it on. Previously, it was just an ugly concrete double garage, so I decided to have the exterior covered in tongue-and-groove timber and then painted it in Anthracite by Farrow & Ball. I replaced the metal up and over the garage door with barn doors painted white. I also painted the concrete beige paving to create a slate-tile effect, which has lasted remarkably well in all weathers.

The house is now complete, although I am thinking about stripping back the floorboards upstairs having just realised that they are in such good condition. But for now I plan to simply relax and enjoy my new home.'



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CRUISE THE ADRIATIC COAST

by Yacht

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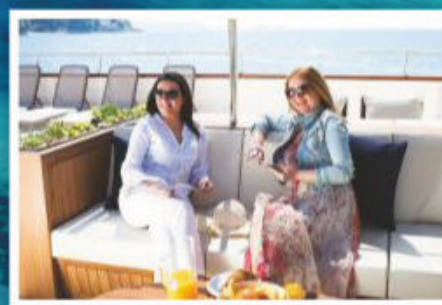


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£95

A boho alternative to a fireside classic. Buskbo armchair, £95, IKEA



£16

Black updates vintage blooms. Aria floral print cushion, NEXT HOME

LITTLE EXTRAS



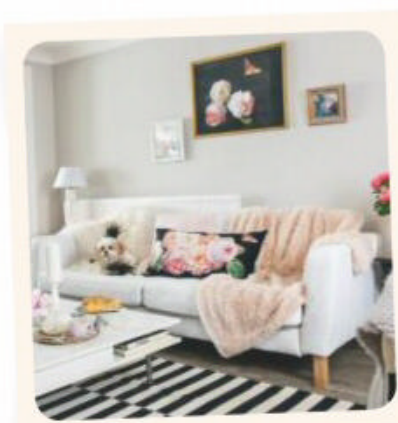
£4.95

Finish the table setting with treasures. Napkin rings, HOMESENSE

Buy Claire's style...

FRENCH BOHO CHIC

Fuse elegant furniture and decorative accents with relaxed styling and unique accessories



**£8.99
for two**

Bring some luxury to the table. Linen napkins, H&M HOME



Soft grey walls throughout the house create a serene backdrop, allowing Claire's treasured finds space to shine without feeling cluttered. The charcoal feature walls in the living, dining and main bedroom are a clever, but simple, way to create a dramatic focal point in each room.

Claire has combined relaxed, bohemian elements – such as rattan, vintage florals, curios and collectibles – with gold finishes, mercury glass, curve-framed furniture, decorative chandeliers and mirrors to inject some Gallic glamour.

£29

Create a coffee table display for your trinkets. Moroccan tray, IDYLL HOME



£16

Add a little polish to a dinner party. Brushed gold-effect cutlery set, GEORGE HOME





£195

Add some vintage sparkle to the room. Shamley antique-effect chandelier, LAURA ASHLEY



From £98

White adds a chic flourish. Moroccan leather pouffe, BOHEMIA



£89 for two

Gold gives a glam twist on rattan. Mirabelle side tables, SIMPLY BE



£48

Bring on the magic. Majesty swan head, GRAHAM AND GREEN



£199

Combine display and storage in one. Bramante extending coffee table, MADE

£129

You can't go wrong with edgy monochrome. Stockholm rug, IKEA



SWAN SONG

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Vanessa Richmond, Editor

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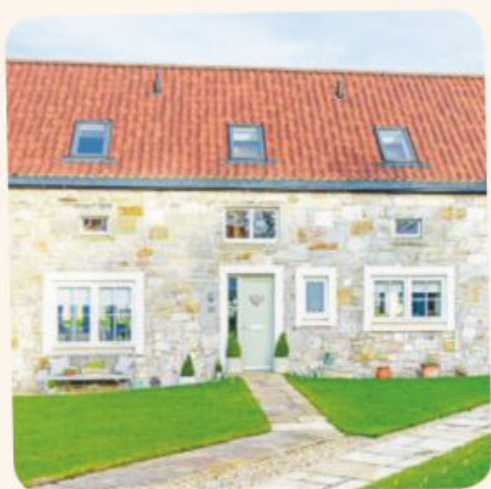


NATURAL COLOURING

'The pale green door tones beautifully with the local stone'

'We've made it

COME ON IN!



ABOUT ME I'm Rebecca Checkley-Mills, 45, and I work as a guide at Scone Palace in Perthshire. I live here with my husband Alan, 48, a pilot, our daughter Eliza, 18, and our cocker spaniel, Sizzles.

OUR HOME A converted Victorian farmhouse with three bedrooms, near Loch Leven in Kinross. We moved here in 2013.

WHEN WE MOVED IN It was a ruined farmhouse and uninhabitable. Alongside the developer, we slowly transformed it into a livable home.

AND NOW It's been completely renovated, but we were keen not to lose its original charm, so have used authentic fixtures where we could, and worked in plenty of Scottish touches here and there.

STYLE TIP Neutrals make an easy-to-live-with backdrop, then add character with a mix of textiles, finishes, patterns and accessories.



COUNTRY CLASSICS

'Traditional stone flags give the kitchen an authentic farmhouse feel. This is my favourite room'

SUPER-HOMELY'

When work offered her the chance to relocate, Rebecca struck lucky, finding this old farmhouse in an idyllic location

Scotland has always felt like home and I'd always wanted to live here,' says Rebecca. 'My grandfather was Scottish, so my roots are here, and we visited as a family for summer holidays – it has lots of happy memories for me.'

'The possibility of relocation came about when Alan, who had been in the RAF in Oxfordshire, decided he wanted to work for a commercial airline based in Edinburgh. So when he asked if I wanted to move here, I was overjoyed.'

Looking for a property, our search was dictated by the radius to the airport as we needed to be within an hour's drive of Edinburgh. We decided to rent a property just outside Perth while we waited for the right house to come up, which took a year.

Buying on instinct

I found the details of a ruined farm steading close to Loch Leven, in Kinross, that was being converted. I liked the look of it and phoned the estate agent straight away. I knew the area as I walked our dog around the loch. The agent introduced me to the developer, Peter Giacomazzi, that afternoon. We looked at some renovations he'd completed and then we looked at the ruin, which had amazing views of the loch. I put an offer in then and there. Peter said to me, "Don't you want your husband to see it?" and I said, "He doesn't need to see it. This is what I want!" I told my husband I'd bought a house that evening. He trusted me, as he knew I would buy what was right, within budget and within the radius of the airport.

Trusting the experts

The work to the property took around six months to complete and I had input on everything. We had a budget for »

IDEA TO STEAL

'Easy-clean oilcloth is practical for a kitchen table'

Buy it
Shop her
classic
country style
PAGE 54



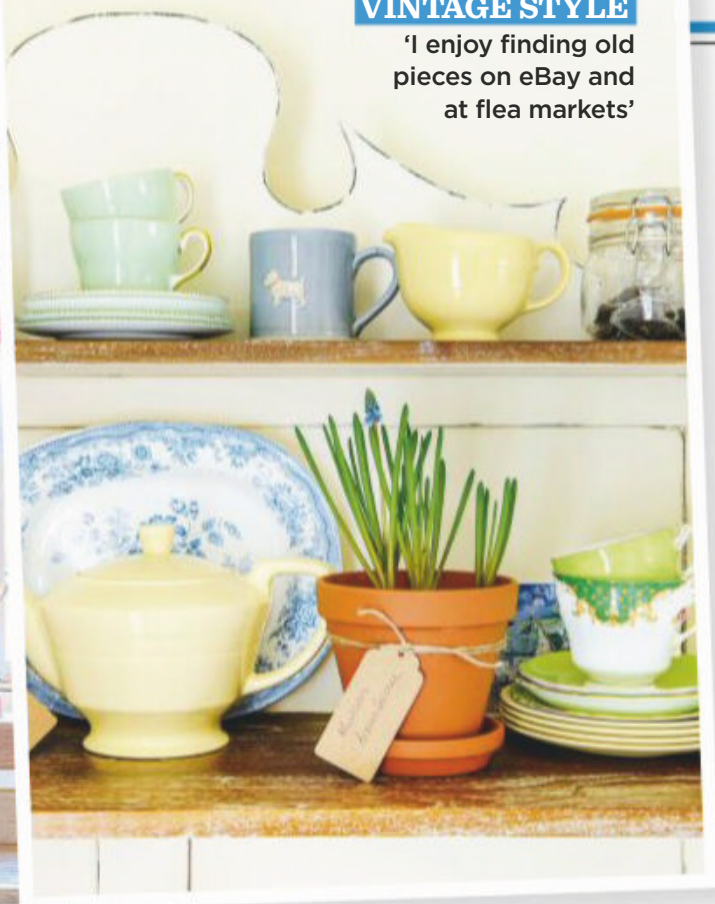
MIX AND MATCH

'We left some wooden cabinets with a natural finish and painted others in a soft duck egg blue'

'STAY ORGANISED BY USING CHEAP AND CHEERFUL KILNER JARS TO STORE EVERYDAY ESSENTIALS'

VINTAGE STYLE

'I enjoy finding old pieces on eBay and at flea markets'



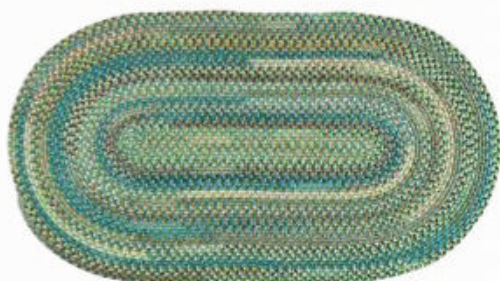
» features and fittings, and we could add to it, too. The developer had good tradesmen and he really went above and beyond – I knew what I wanted, but didn't know where to get things from – so he did the research and found me traditional latch doors and stone flooring, as well as the bathroom suite and taps.

Traditional design

The layout is typical for a converted farmhouse, in that it has the two main reception rooms either side of a central hallway, reminiscent of a Scottish but and ben. For anyone not in the know, a but and ben is a traditional two-roomed cottage consisting of an outer room or »

3 of the best BRAIDED RUGS

Brighten up an area of heavy traffic with a hard-wearing rug



GO GREEN

Pine Forest oval rug, from £65, The Braided Rug Company



NATURAL FINISH

Chandra jute rug in Silver, £129, Cult Furniture



RAINBOW BRIGHTS

Christie hand-braided cotton rug, £55.99, Wayfair

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'Choosing units in a variety of colours and finishes is perfect for a friendly feel.'

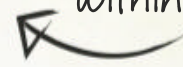
STYLE EDITOR
Michela Colling

CENTREPIECE

'The Aga is the heart of the kitchen and takes pride of place'

IDEA TO STEAL

'Fix a shelf and rail above the cooker to keep utensils within easy reach'



GOLDEN TOUCH

'A soft creamy yellow makes the hallway feel warm and welcoming'



Make it! BUNTING

- 1 Gather fabric scraps in different colours and patterns.
- 2 Cut out a triangle template on stiff card, including a seam allowance (around 1-2cm) on each side. Use the template to cut out two fabric triangles per flag.
- 3 Place two triangles of fabric together, right sides facing, and sew along the seam allowance, leaving the top edge open.
- 4 Snip the excess fabric across the pointed end of the triangle, just below the stitches. This creates a sharper point. Turn right side out, using a pencil to push the point fully out.
- 5 Pin the triangles evenly onto bias tape and sew along the bottom of the tape to secure.

HOT SPOT

'We all love the Aga Little Wenlock wood burner, including our dog Sizzles!'



IDEA TO STEAL

'Group artwork in a block arrangement to fill wall space above a sofa'

BLANK CANVAS

'I like to have a neutral backdrop and bring in colour with fabrics, cushions and accessories'

**BLUE BLEND**

'Mismatched florals and country checks in similar shades work well together'

'UPCYCLE A DRESSER BY PAINTING IT A SHADE THAT MATCHES THE REST OF YOUR SCHEME'

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'The blue tones are a great choice to complement the farmhouse's loch-side spot.'

HOUSES EDITOR
Ruth Corbett

» kitchen (the but) and an inner room (the ben). The house is very warm as a result of this design, because at one end of the building we have the wood stove and at the other end we have the Aga in the kitchen. The upstairs rooms run along one side with the sloping ceilings as a feature throughout.

Introducing texture

I was keen to put period character back into the house, but to keep it super-homely too I wanted an informal feel, so I introduced lots of fabrics and texture. We kept the walls neutral and brought in colour through a combination of checked and tartan fabrics to incorporate Scottish influences, and combined them with florals. I've always loved blues and greens and soft yellow, and I prefer a neutral backdrop, introducing brighter touches »

**SUNNY
OUTLOOK**

'Yellow is a favourite shade of mine – it looks fresh and cheery in our bedroom'



Do it!

REVAMP A CHAIR

- 1** Start by making sure your chair is clean and grease-free, by giving it a quick wipe-over with a damp cloth.
- 2** Having selected your shade of chalk paint, use a narrow brush to apply the paint straight to the furniture, painting in every direction to cover the whole chair.
- 3** Wait for the first coat to be touch-dry (approx 1-3 hours), then apply a second coat.

- 4** Leave overnight. When completely dry, apply a coat of chalk paint wax (from £4.95 for 120ml, Annie Sloan) to seal and protect the paint finish. Use a brush to apply the wax in all directions, working section by section.
- 5** Once applied, use a lint-free cloth to remove any excess wax or buff to achieve a high sheen, then leave to harden.



» with accessories. Handmade ceramics play a big part in my schemes, too. I love work by Katrin Moye, Emma Bridgewater, Hogben and Emma Clegg.

Dream come true

My favourite room has to be the kitchen, with its traditional stone flags that give the space an authentic farmhouse feel. Taking pride of place is the lovely Aga, which is very special to me. We'd lived in RAF accommodation on and off for years, and on our honeymoon I said to Alan that one day I'd like a cottage in the country with an Aga. When we were talking to the developer about our kitchen plans for the property, Alan said, "Don't forget to put in the Aga", and »

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'Using pattern on the beds, but leaving the walls and floors plain, creates balance.'

DECORATING EDITOR

Nicky Phillips



IDEA TO STEAL

'Switch wall art for a rustic wicker wreath above a bed'



HOME COMFORTS

'The traditional metal bedstead makes a lovely focal point in the guest bedroom'

'ADD SIMPLE TAILORED BLINDS TO A DORMER WINDOW TO AVOID BLOCKING THE VIEW'

PERIOD STYLE

'A classic roll-top bath seemed fitting for the bathroom and makes a great talking point'

IDEA TO STEAL

'Top a tiled splashback with a wooden ledge to provide extra storage'



FLORAL FLOOR

'The Cath Kidston Rose Sprig White vinyl flooring was from Harvey Maria'

'WHERE SPACE IS TIGHT, A FOLDAWAY CHAIR IS A PRACTICAL CHOICE – SIMPLY TUCK IT OUT OF THE WAY WHEN NOT IN USE'

» I cried. He had remembered. To me, it symbolises a promise and it means home.

New beginnings

When we lived in Oxfordshire, that was what I thought life should be like. Now I feel I'm where I'm supposed to be. I love living by the loch and I run a blog, homebytheloch.com, and Instagram account @homebytheloch. We can see the weather coming in over the Lomond Hills – the light is always changing. I've found contentment living here.'



Find more clever ways to style up your home by going to [pinterest.com/styleathomemag](https://www.pinterest.com/styleathomemag)

Where to buy Rebecca's style

- * **LAURA ASHLEY** Classic furniture with a country twist and co-ordinated soft furnishings.
- * **IKEA** Simple Scandi style at an affordable price, great for basics.
- * **FARROW & BALL** Heritage paint colours and authentic finishes, in keeping with older properties.
- * **VANESSA ARBUTHNOTT** Organic cotton fabrics in muted rustic tones or bright cheery colour combinations.

BUY ONE
GET ONE
FREE
& FREE WINE*

2021 Cruises

New season just released!

Norwegian Fjords | British Isles | Baltic Cities | Worldwide

Book your summer season cruise today! We're offering tremendous value Buy-One-Get-One-Free* savings on our newly launched sailings, for a limited time only. These savings are available on board a choice of four elegant cruise ships and include newly launched itineraries on departures throughout 2021. These great value prices make it so much easier to join us for the cruise you've always wanted to take, enjoy a longer voyage south to the sun, or treat yourself to a higher category cabin, or of course, use the saving to spend on board or ashore!

Sailing from Tilbury

Sails	Days	Cruise Title	Ship	1st person from	2nd person
28 May 2021	4	Weekend Whitsun Bank Holiday	Amy Johnson	£459	FREE
31 May 2021	14	Iceland & Faroes	Amy Johnson	£2,099	FREE
13 Jun 2021	8	South Norway Discovery & Viking Experience	Amy Johnson	£1,139	FREE
20 Jun 2021	23	Arctic Voyage Greenland & Iceland Experience	Amy Johnson	£3,559	FREE
22 Jul 2021	17	North Cape, Spitzbergen & Land of the Midnight Sun	Amy Johnson	£2,589	FREE
12 Jul 2021	11	Grand British Isles Discovery	Amy Johnson	£1,689	FREE
4 Sep 2021	36	Grand Canada, Greenland, Iceland & Northern Lights	Amy Johnson	£5,159	FREE
9 Oct 2021	33	Grand Black Sea & Mediterranean [^]	Amy Johnson	£4,479	FREE
10 Nov 2021	37	Best of the West Indies Winter Escape [^]	Amy Johnson	£4,389	FREE
29 Jun 2021	27	Iceland & Baltic Cities & St Petersburg Experience	Columbus	£3,949	FREE
29 May 2021	8	Majestic Fjordland	Columbus	£1,139	FREE
5 Jun 2021	15	Baltic Cities & St Petersburg	Columbus	£2,269	FREE
5 Jun 2021	37	Grand Baltic, Round Britain & Iceland Experience	Columbus	£5,369	FREE
29 Jun 2021	13	Iceland & Northern Isles	Columbus	£2,029	FREE
30 Sep 2021	8	Autumn Fjordland	Columbus	£1,119	FREE
7 Oct 2021	16	Canary Islands & Madeira	Columbus	£2,269	FREE
22 Oct 2021	15	Norway - Land of the Northern Lights	Columbus	£2,219	FREE
1 Apr 2021	8	Springtime Gardens & Charms [^]	Magellan	£1,119	FREE
1 Apr 2021	11	British Isles Cruise & Aintree Grand National [^]	Magellan	£1,449	FREE
1 Apr 2021	8	British Isles Horse Racing Theme [^]	Magellan	£1,119	FREE

Sailing from Bristol

Sails	Days	Cruise Title	Ship	1st person from	2nd person
5 Jan 2021	43	Amazon, Cape Verde, West Indies & Azores	Marco Polo	£5,999	FREE
19 Aug 2021	7	River Seine & Bournemouth Air Show [^]	Marco Polo	£969	FREE
3 Oct 2021	14	Spain, Portugal & Morocco	Magellan	£1,969	FREE
18 Sep 2021	16	Azores, Madeira & Portuguese Highlights	Magellan	£2,269	FREE
16 Oct 2021	13	Iceland & Land of the Northern Lights	Magellan	£1,899	FREE
26 Jul 2021	9	Faroes & Scottish Isles	Marco Polo	£1,299	FREE
3 Aug 2021	10	Fjordland	Marco Polo	£1,529	FREE
3 Aug 2021	17	Fjordland & Round Ireland	Marco Polo	£179	FREE
12 Aug 2021	8	Round Ireland	Marco Polo	£1,189	FREE

Sailing from Liverpool

Sails	Days	Cruise Title	Ship	1st person from	2nd person
25 Jul 2021	12	Iceland & Faroes	Magellan	£1,869	FREE
5 Aug 2021	12	Spain, Portugal & Morocco	Magellan	£1,789	FREE
16 Aug 2021	9	Summertime Fjordland	Magellan	£1,299	FREE
24 Aug 2021	9	River Seine & Rotterdam Experience	Magellan	£1,359	FREE
1 Sep 2021	16	Canary Islands & Madeira	Magellan	£2,529	FREE

Sailing from Hull

Sails	Days	Cruise Title	Ship	1st person from	2nd person
2 May 2021	7	Southern Norway & Oslo	Marco Polo	£969	FREE
8 May 2021	15	Baltic Treasures & St Petersburg	Marco Polo	£2,269	FREE

Visit slh.newmarketholidays.co.uk or call **0330 160 7886** quoting code **SLH**

Prices above are per person sharing the lowest twin cabin available. A selection of cabin types is available at ranging prices. All prices and cabins are extremely limited & may be withdrawn without notice, please call us or see our website for latest availability and pricing. Single supplements apply. Standard phone charge apply. Fares exclude gratuities. On board prices in sterling. Payment of on board accounts by card only. Offers operated by Newmarket Holidays Ltd ABTA V7812, a company wholly independent of Style at Home published by TI Media Limited. *Book by 31/3/2020. Subject to availability & may be withdrawn any time. 1st person pays the price shown, 2nd person travels free. Promo code: LAUNCHWINE. Visit newmarketholidays.co.uk/offer-terms for full terms. ^Returns to a different port. Travel back to original port available for a supplement.



£95

Ideal for a kitchen table.
Talia dining chair, HABITAT

DINING
STAPLE



£7.50

Perfect for the spring season.
Faux daffodil in glass jar, GISELA GRAHAM



£189.99

The perfect fit for a guest bedroom. Oslo bedside table, OAK FURNITURELAND

£35.99

Warm up floors with a little pattern. County Gingham Duck Egg runner, CARPETRIGHT

Buy Rebecca's style... COUNTRY CHARM

Fresh, light colours, classically shaped furniture and rustic accessories cosy up this home



Rebecca's house has a warm and inviting feel and a homely, pastoral style with an elegant twist that reflects its countryside setting. By mixing up her use of patterns, such as layering stripes with chintz, she's made the space feel fresh and light.

Elsewhere, open storage and shelving in the kitchen display mismatched crockery and glassware for a relaxed feel. A combination of accessories made from natural materials and textiles in muted shades – such as duck egg blue, buttercream yellow and sage – complete the look.



£99

Keep cosy on chilly evenings.
Wool throw in Cornish Blue, TOLLY MCRAE



£80

Add some soft lighting to your room.
Emilie French table lamp, THE FRENCH BEDROOM COMPANY



£12

Hang a little love from the mantelpiece.
Large willow heart, THE CONTEMPORARY HOME

£15

Stack a few next to the bed. Mini metal trunk, NEXT HOME

**£19.99**

Store logs or magazines inside. Kubu basket, THE GARDEN FURNITURE CENTRE

**£8.50**

Decorations to leave up all year round. Paper bunting, TALKING TABLES



Shop this feature with Ownable

**£599**

Sit back and relax on this country classic. Victoria three-seater sofa, VERY

**£11.95**

Almost too pretty to use! Rabbit and cabbage tea towel, Thornback & Peel at ANNABEL JAMES

CHECK IT OUT**£45**

Classic colours to match any room. Checked cushion, JOHN LEWIS & PARTNERS

**£299**

Put your feet up in style. The Rebel footstool in Teal, SNUG SHACK



THIS MONTH'S *Do it*

Sand and paint the top, middle and bottom drawer fronts in different shades of blue. Cut squares of decoupage paper and stick them to the other drawers using decoupage glue. Once dry, seal with several more coats.

Similar decoupage paper, from £3 for three sheets, Hobbycraft

Add fun button-shaped knobs



Style at Home READER SURVEY 2020

Complete our quick survey by 22 March 2020 and we'll use your feedback to improve what we do. You could win £250 or one of 10 runner-up prizes of £25 as a 'thank you'

PS You can take part online by going to idealhome.co.uk/StyleatHomereadersurvey2020



A. YOU & YOUR HOME

1. How old is your current home?

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Modern/new build/
less than 10 years old (2010s) | ☐ 1 | Early 20th-century/Edwardian
(1900s/1910s/1920s/1930s) | ☐ 4 |
| Between 10 and 30 years old
(1980s/1990s/2000s) | ☐ 2 | Victorian (1800s) | ☐ 5 |
| Around mid-century
(1940s/1950s/1960s/1970s) | ☐ 3 | Georgian (1700s) | ☐ 6 |
| | | Earlier than Georgian
(pre-1700s) | ☐ 7 |
| | | Don't know | ☐ 8 |

2. Is your home:

- Rented ☐ 1
Owned with a mortgage ☐ 2
Owned outright ☐ 3

3. How many homes have you owned so far?

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| None | ☐ 1 | 4-5 | ☐ 4 |
| 1 only (this is my first home) | ☐ 2 | 6 or more | ☐ 5 |
| 2-3 | ☐ 3 | | |

4. In the past five years have you undertaken any of the following major projects?

5. Do you intend to carry out any of the following projects in the next two years?

- | | Q4. Carried out
in past 5 years | Q5. Planned
for next 2 years |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Installed a new kitchen | ☐ 1 | ☐ 1 |
| Had an extension built | ☐ 2 | ☐ 2 |
| Had a loft conversion | ☐ 3 | ☐ 3 |
| Had a new garden landscaped | ☐ 4 | ☐ 4 |
| Installed a new bathroom | ☐ 5 | ☐ 5 |
| House purchase/move | ☐ 6 | ☐ 6 |

6. Aside from these major projects how many rooms have you redecorated in the last year or so?

7. And how many rooms do you plan to redecorate in the next year or so?

- | | Q6. Number
of rooms
redecorated | Q7. Number planned
to redecorate in
next year or so |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|---|
| None | ☐ 1 | ☐ 1 |
| 1 | ☐ 2 | ☐ 2 |
| 2-3 | ☐ 3 | ☐ 3 |
| 4-5 | ☐ 4 | ☐ 4 |
| 6 or more | ☐ 5 | ☐ 5 |

8. Please read the following statements carefully and tick the one that best describes you:

- I don't really think too much about the decoration in my home – I buy things I need for the house without worrying how it will look. ☐ 1
- I really struggle decorating my home. I'm just not that confident in how to put things together nicely or how I'd like them. I often need a lot of help and advice to reassure me that I am doing the right things. ☐ 2
- I have some of my own ideas when it comes to decorating my home. However, I often need quite a bit of reassurance that my ideas are on trend and that I am doing things correctly. ☐ 3
- I have lots of my own ideas about how to decorate my home however I'm not always happy with them. I often like to have some reassurance that what I am doing looks good and is on trend. ☐ 4
- I have loads of ideas about how to decorate my home and am quite confident putting things together by myself. Occasionally I will need some advice or help to get a look or trend exactly as I want it. ☐ 5
- I don't follow trends at all and come up with my own ideas when it comes to decorating my home. I don't need any help and just do what I like. ☐ 6

9. Which of the following best describes your decor taste?

Choose as many as apply and feel free to add more, if you feel we haven't captured your look.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Contemporary | ☐ 1 | Eclectic | ☐ 6 |
| Country/rustic | ☐ 2 | Other (please specify) | ☐ 7 |
| Traditional | ☐ 3 | | |
| Retro/mid-century | ☐ 4 | | |
| Vintage | ☐ 5 | | |

B. SOURCES OF HOME INSPIRATION & INFORMATION

10. How important are each of the following sources to you, when it comes to improving your home?

- | | Essential
1 | Very
important
2 | Nice
to have
3 | Could do
without
4 |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Pinterest | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Facebook | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Instagram | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| YouTube | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Other social media | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Home interest magazines | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Friends and family | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| TV programmes | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Bloggers/vloggers/influencers | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Websites | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Shops | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Shows/exhibitions | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Books | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

11. To what extent is your purchase of home magazines influenced by whether you have a project on the go?

- I **only** buy home magazines if I'm involved in a project ☐ 1
- I **mainly** buy home magazines if I'm involved in a project ☐ 2
- I buy home magazines **regardless** of whether I'm involved in a project or not ☐ 3

12. Are you currently involved in/planning any home improvement or decorating projects?

- Yes, planning a project ☐ 1
- Yes, just started work on a project ☐ 2
- Yes, in the middle of a project ☐ 3
- Not involved in any projects at the moment ☐ 4 Skip to question 14

13. And how many home magazines have you bought so far in connection with this project?

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| This is my first purchase | ☐ 1 | 4-5 | ☐ 3 |
| 2-3 | ☐ 2 | 6 or more | ☐ 4 |

14. How often do you buy Style at Home?

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Always – I am a subscriber | ☐ 1 | 3-4 times a year | ☐ 4 |
| Every issue but don't subscribe | ☐ 2 | Less than 3 times a year | ☐ 5 |
| 6 times a year | ☐ 3 | This is my first copy | ☐ 6 |

15. And would you describe Style at Home as:

- Your favourite home magazine ☐ 1
- One of your favourites ☐ 2
- Not usually one of your first choices ☐ 3

16. So, which is your favourite home magazine?



17. Do you follow *Style at Home* on any of the following social media channels?

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Instagram | ☐ 1 | Twitter | ☐ 4 |
| Facebook | ☐ 2 | I don't follow <i>Style at Home</i> | |
| Pinterest | ☐ 3 | on any social media channel | ☐ 5 |

C. ATTITUDES TO STYLE AT HOME**18. What are your three main reasons for buying *Style at Home*?** Tick 3 only

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| For decorating inspiration | ☐ 1 |
| To dream/escape | ☐ 2 |
| To keep up to date with trends | ☐ 3 |
| To look at other people's homes | ☐ 4 |
| To find practical advice | ☐ 5 |
| To be informed | ☐ 6 |
| To be entertained | ☐ 7 |

19. In your opinion, how well does *Style at Home* satisfy each of these needs?

- | | Very well
1 | Quite well
2 | Room for improvement
3 | No opinion
4 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| For decorating inspiration | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| To dream/escape | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| To keep up to date with trends | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| To look at other people's homes | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| To find practical advice | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| To be informed | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| To be entertained | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

20. Listed below, in page order, are all the articles which appear in this issue of *Style at Home*. For each item please tick the column which comes closest to your opinion.

- | Page No | Did not read
1 | Very interesting
2 | Quite interesting
3 | Not very interesting
4 | Not at all interesting
5 |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3 Editor's letter | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7 This month's love it: Faux flowers | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 8 Best in store | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 10 High-street news | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 11 Trend spotting: Gold dust | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 12 Add life with leafy greens | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 15 10 under £10 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 16 'We styled up a blank canvas' (Real home) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 28 This month's do it: Easter place setting | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 30 'Now, it's full of thrifty ideas' (Real home) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 44 'We've made it super-homely' (Real home) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 56 This month's do it: Decoupage drawers | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 59 The Style Book: Scandi schemes | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 77 This month's make it: Spring floral wreath | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 78 Try a speedy style update | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 86 'It's our space to hang out' (Kitchen project) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 92 'We wanted a fresh feel' (Bathroom project) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 99 Time at home: Chocolate Easter cake | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 100 Find a smart solution | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 102 The 10-minute declutter | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 103 Do it yourself | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 104 Upcycle rain guttering into a herb planter | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 105 Make it yourself | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 106 Make it, love it! Easter crafts | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 109 This month's make it: Cloud pinboard | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 110 Wow guests with an Easter feast | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 116 Supermarket news | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 122 This month we're loving #SAHstylists | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

21. How satisfied are you with the amount of coverage of each of the following subjects in *Style at Home*?

- | | Would like more
1 | About right
2 | Would like less
3 |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| News/shopping | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Decorating ideas | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Real homes | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Trends | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Outdoor living/gardening | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Food | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Practical advice | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Reader offers | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Before and after makeovers | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

22. Have you noticed any changes to *Style at Home* in the last year or so?

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Has improved considerably | ☐ 1 |
| Has improved a little | ☐ 2 |
| I have noticed some changes but preferred it the way it was | ☐ 3 |
| I haven't noticed any changes | ☐ 4 |

23. Please tell us what changes you have noticed:

24. How much did you enjoy this issue of *Style at Home*?

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| Very much | ☐ 1 | Not very much | ☐ 3 |
| Quite a lot | ☐ 2 | Not at all | ☐ 4 |

D. ABOUT YOU

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 25. Are you: | Female ☐ 1 | Prefer not to say ☐ 3 |
| | Male ☐ 2 | |

26. Which age group are you in?

- | | | | |
|----------|----------------------------|-------|----------------------------|
| Under 25 | ☐ 1 | 56-65 | ☐ 5 |
| 26-35 | ☐ 2 | 66-75 | ☐ 6 |
| 36-45 | ☐ 3 | 75+ | ☐ 7 |
| 46-55 | ☐ 4 | | |

27. Do you live:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| On your own | ☐ 1 | With children only | |
| With partner only (no children) | ☐ 2 | (no partner) | ☐ 4 |
| With partner and children | ☐ 3 | Other | ☐ 5 |

28. What is your working status?

- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| Employed full-time | ☐ 1 | Not working | ☐ 4 |
| Employed part-time | ☐ 2 | Retired | ☐ 5 |
| Self-employed | ☐ 3 | | |

29. How would you describe your financial status? Please be honest

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Very comfortable | ☐ 1 | Struggling a bit | ☐ 4 |
| Comfortable | ☐ 2 | Struggling a lot | ☐ 5 |
| Managing | ☐ 3 | Not sure | ☐ 6 |

30. What is your combined household income?

- | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Under £30,000 | ☐ 1 | £100,000-£149,999 | ☐ 5 |
| £30,000-£49,999 | ☐ 2 | £150,000-£199,999 | ☐ 6 |
| £50,000-£74,999 | ☐ 3 | £200,000+ | ☐ 7 |
| £75,000-£99,999 | ☐ 4 | Prefer not to say | ☐ 8 |

31. Do you live in the UK? Yes ☐ 1 No ☐ 2**32. How would you describe the area you live in?**

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| Countryside | ☐ 1 | Suburban | ☐ 3 |
| Village | ☐ 2 | Urban | ☐ 4 |

33. Please write in your postcode **THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!**

If you wish to be entered into our free prize draw, please fill in your name, email address (or your phone number if you don't have email) below. This contact data will only be used for the administration of the prize draw.

Name: Email address: Phone number:

Please place your completed questionnaire in an envelope, affix the correct postage and return to us by 22 March 2020 to:

Style at Home Reader Survey, Box 113, 20 Winchcombe Street, Cheltenham, GL52 2LY



*Pull
out
and
keep!*

THE STYLE BOOK

SCANDI SCHEMES

Be inspired by laid-back
Nordic interiors that offer
up smart yet practical
design and decor ideas



Bring it up-to-date with design-led lighting, including an angular task lamp and a statement pendant



Upcycle offcuts of wood to make wall art



the STYLE RULES

CREATE A COSY CABIN VIBE

Hang wood panel-effect wallpaper in washed grey for a coastal cabin feel. Lift the look and warm up the scheme by painting the chimney breast in a chalky plaster-pink hue.

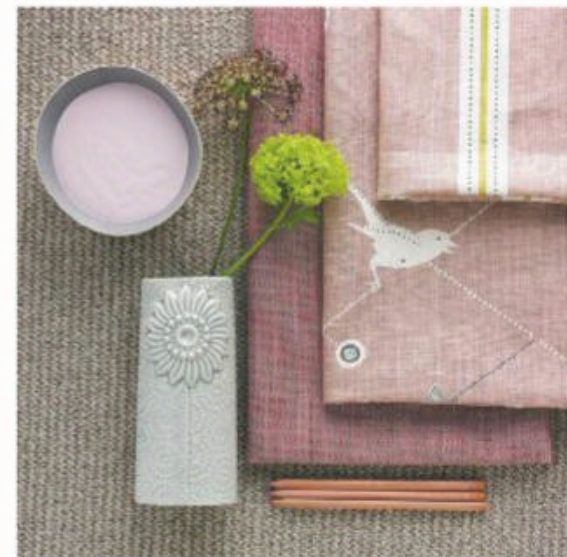
EMBRACE WOOD FINISHES

Pick furniture with clean lines in a mix of both dark and light woods. Tripod side tables with smooth, tapered legs are versatile and elegant additions. Legs or

hardware in metal look modern and stop the scheme becoming too timber-heavy.

GO FOR AN ARTISAN FEEL

Introduce accessories in natural fibres, like woven rattan and glazed handmade ceramics. Add some depth with textured grey upholstery and natural linen cushions in pale pink and grey plains, or simple patterns such as narrow stripes.



Danish **COASTAL**

Combine natural materials
with soft shades



THE FABRIC

Pretty Maids in
Dusky Pink/Winter,
£54m, Vanessa
Arbuthnott

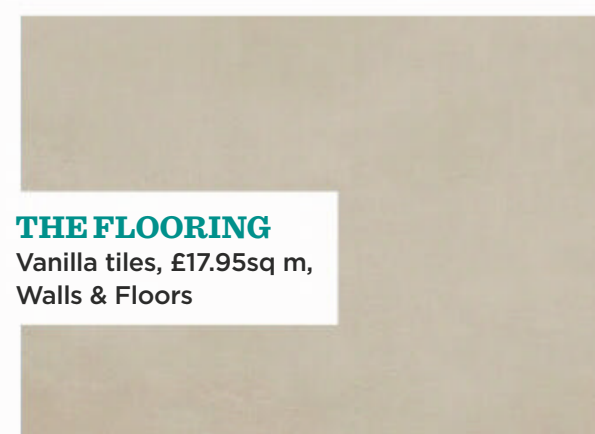
THE WALLPAPER

Fresco wood panel
neutral wallpaper,
£9 a roll, Wilko



THE PAINT

Muted Blush durable
matt emulsion,
£38 for 2.5ltr,
Graham & Brown



THE FLOORING

Vanilla tiles, £17.95sq m,
Walls & Floors



Organic NEUTRALS

Be inspired by natural
forms and textures



THE FABRIC

Elderberry
Praline, £34.80m,
Prestigious Textiles

THE WALLPAPER

Epsilon wallpaper in
Dove, £39 a roll, Scion
at Wallpaperdirect



THE PAINT

Dulux Light and
Space absolute white
matt emulsion, £26
for 2.5ltr, Homebase

THE FLOORING

Planet II 694 Puno
vinyl, £22.99sq m,
Carpetrigh

Ana blue
stoneware
stool, £159,
Beaumonde





Bloomingville
rattan dom chair,
£289, Cuckooland

the STYLE RULES

LET THERE BE LIGHT

Paint the walls white for a bright and contemporary backdrop, then create a gallery wall, using framed abstract line drawings.

USE A PALETTE OF NEUTRALS

Pick sleek Scandi furniture in natural oak, introducing some woven rattan pieces such as a statement chair or pendant light. Black or inky blue accent pieces add depth and drama.

INTRODUCE ORGANIC TEXTURES

Accessorise with tactile fabrics such as faux fur or chunky knitted throws. Earthy toned ceramics featuring reactive glazes also add to the laid-back feel.

CONTRAST WITH COOL, INDUSTRIAL FLOORS

To create visual interest underfoot, think about flooring with a raw, unpolished factory feel, such as a concrete-effect vinyl.

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'Furniture with clean lines is key to the look, as it creates a strong contrast with rough floors.'

EDITORIAL
DIRECTOR

Vanessa
Richmond

A combination of pale yellow and grey tones with simply crafted Scandi shapes creates an uplifting country vibe



the STYLE RULES

TONE DOWN COLOURS

A palette of lemon yellow and pale grey is a softer alternative to the more on-trend, punchy combination of mustard and charcoal. It has a calming, country feel, made fresh with the addition of brilliant white accents.

CHOOSE COHESION

White wood laminate flooring with a statement geometric rug balances the yellow-painted

walls. For added detail, go for a vertical panelled effect.

EMBRACE CLASSIC PIECES

To evoke a Nordic country scheme, introduce details such as a wooden mid-century chair, woven baskets and a curvy woodburner.

MIX NEW AND OLD PRINTS

Combine subtle striped textiles in co-ordinating shades with Scandi-inspired florals. Add interest with a textured-facade cabinet.





Add traditional
Dala horse
figures



Scandi COUNTRY

Create an uplifting,
yellow-toned rustic scheme



THE FABRIC

Laurier in
Mustard/Linen,
£48m, Harlequin
at Style Library

THE WALLPAPER

Graham & Brown
Superfresco Flower
Sketch in Grey and
Yellow, £12 a roll, B&Q



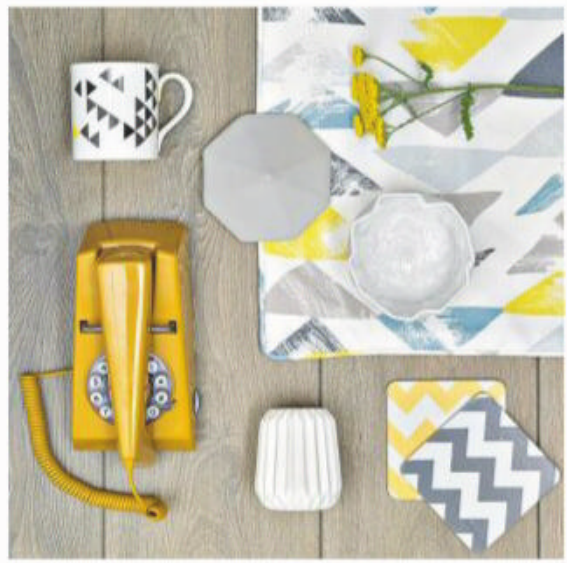
THE PAINT

Chickadee durable
matt emulsion,
£38 for 2.5ltr,
Graham & Brown



THE FLOORING

House by John Lewis
check grid rug in
Mustard, £45, John
Lewis & Partners



Abstract SHAPES

Shake it up with geo paint effects



THE FABRIC

Clio in Charcoal, £15m, Studio G at Jane Clayton & Company

THE WALLPAPER

Mountains Sunrise wallpaper, £74 a roll, MissPrint



THE PAINT

Breatheasy Mustard Jar coloured emulsion, £18 for 2.5ltr, Crown



THE FLOORING

Perfection 537 Sintra vinyl, £18.99sq m, Carpetright

Be playful with light – combine faceted geo pendants with a hanging exposed bulb light with a stand-out neon flex.

Bring a touch of fun with this mountain effect





Add a splash of colour to a child's bedroom or nursery with painted geometric shapes



PHOTOGRAPH CROWN

the STYLE RULES

GO GEO ON WALLS

Swap wallpaper murals for paint effects such as abstract shapes and simplified landscapes. All you need to start is your imagination and a roll of masking tape!

KEEP FURNITURE SIMPLE AND PRACTICAL

Dining benches are ideal for busy families. Build removable drawers into banquette seating for extra hidden storage. Combine with

design-led furniture, like a classic Eames-style chair.

CELEBRATE COLOUR

Match dove grey or mono features with pops of mustard, orange and mint – ideal for creating gender-neutral children's room schemes.

BE CREATIVE WITH FLOORING

For a laid-back feel, embrace exposed floorboards. Instead of a rug, try painting a geometric floor mural in vibrant shades.

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'Balance the colour on the wall with crisp, brilliant white to emphasise the lines of your design'

FEATURES EDITOR
Holly Walsh



the STYLE RULES

ADD STATEMENT WALLPAPER

Go for bold floral wallpaper with a stylised Scandi feel. A palette of punchy coral and teal has a retro vibe. Paint the remaining walls off-white for balance.

LAYER SCANDI FURNITURE

Co-ordinate wallpaper with brightly upholstered chairs in textured green fabric and colour-block cushions. Pick light wood furniture featuring

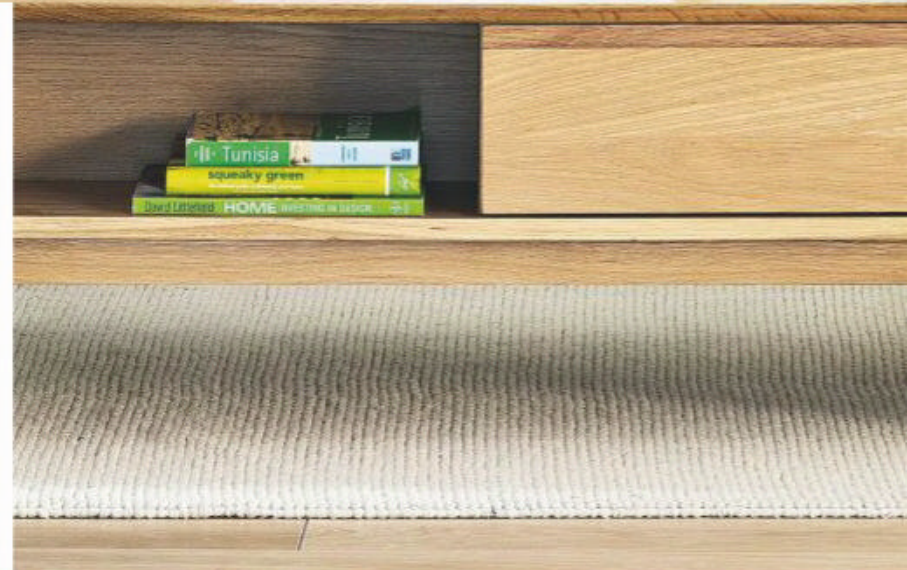
simple Nordic lines, such as an elegant tripod lamp and coffee table with hidden storage.

GET CREATIVE

Pile an unused fireplace high with logs. Paint the opening in a deep green to make the natural wood stand out from the backdrop.

DEFINE THE AREAS

Select a light wood laminate or vinyl floor and zone a seating area with a soft textured cream rug.



An upbeat colour scheme ties this Scandi-inspired interior together



Hang co-ordinating geometric artwork



Retro PATTERNS

Mix playful Scandi prints and bold shades



THE FABRIC

Berry Tree in Emerald, Lime and Chalk, £30m, Scion at Style Library

THE WALLPAPER

Komovi wallpaper in Azalea/Gliver, £49 a roll, Harlequin at Style Library



THE PAINT

Yeabridge Green estate emulsion, £47.95 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball



THE FLOORING

Bobble rug in Putty, £295, Loaf



Smart STOCKHOLM

Style a sophisticated
Swedish apartment look



THE FABRIC
Otomis in Mist,
£45m, Harlequin
at Style Library

THE WALLPAPER
Colours White brick-
effect wallpaper,
£14 a roll, B&Q



THE PAINT
Make A Mint
supreme matt
emulsion, £49.99
for 2.5ltr, Dowsing
and Reynolds



THE FLOORING
Snuggle shaggy rug in
Dove Grey, £40, Argos

Flynn leather three-seater sofa
in Grey, £600; Flynn armchair
in Duck Egg, £380; Global
diamond cushion in Grey, £12;
metal shades in Dove Grey,
£10 each; Copenhagen display
cabinet, £200, all Argos





Layer rugs in different shapes for a laid-back feel



Walnut veneer dining table, £150; Charlie chairs in Mint and Grey, £45 each, all Argos

the STYLE RULES

EXPLORE COLOUR BLOCKING

A stripe of on-trend neo mint on white walls adds a frame of colour and breaks up high ceilings. Alternatively, get an apartment feel with white brick-effect walls.

STYLE A SERENE SPACE

Team curvy sofas and chairs in pale grey and duck egg with simple yet smart light oak and white storage furniture. Keep pattern to a minimum.

GO FOR A MODERN APARTMENT LOOK

Hang metal pendant lamps that have an industrial vibe with succulents in concrete planters and contemporary white ceramics.

GO NEUTRAL ON FLOORS

For a comfortable living space, lay a sophisticated, neutral carpet, but protect the more high-traffic areas with layers of plush pile rugs in a dove grey shade.

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'The soft pastel shades are given a modern twist when teamed with the cool pop of mint'

DECORATING EDITOR

Nicky Phillips

Style a relaxing bedroom scheme by combining smooth shapes with dusky shades



the STYLE RULES

CREATE A FOCAL POINT

Make an elegant Scandi-style bed with a grey upholstered headboard the main focus of the room. Layer with beautiful bedlinen in contrasting dusky pink and inky blue.

PICK SERENE SHADES

Paint walls in plaster pink for a soothing vibe or pick co-ordinating wallpaper with a slight texture. For a cohesive

feel, choose a carpet in the same hue, plus matching Roman blinds.

GO FOR DARK WOOD

Select mango wood or walnut furniture with smooth curves and a prominent grain. If space allows, add a luxe pink velvet armchair.

KEEP THE LOOK MODERN

Accessorise with elegant glazed ceramics, black angled task lamps and a round-framed mirror with a handy shelf above the bed.





Save space on a
bedside table with
wall-mounted lamps



Soft PASTELS

Set the mood for
calming slumber

THE FABRIC

Ambience linen
in Cambridge
Blue, £52.56m,
Prestigious Textiles

THE WALLPAPER

Skandinavia 2 SK21125
wallpaper, £42.95 a roll,
Galerie Wallcoverings



THE PAINT

Confetti absolute
matt emulsion,
£45 for 2.5ltr,
Little Greene

THE FLOORING

Axminster Devonia
twist carpet in Soft
Blush, £45, John
Lewis & Partners



Nordic NOIR

Work a modern
mono kitchen-diner



THE FABRIC

Linoso II in Charcoal,
£13.50m, Clarke
& Clarke at Jane
Clayton & Company

THE WALLPAPER

Squares wallpaper in
Black/White, £69 a roll,
Erica Wakerly at Jane
Clayton & Company



THE PAINT

Lamp Black
absolute matt
emulsion, £45 for
2.5ltr, Little Greene



THE FLOORING

Aqualock farmhouse
oak laminate
flooring, £28sq m,
UK Flooring Direct



This kitchen scheme
epitomises the ethos of Nordic
style, with a minimal mono
palette and practical details



Bring a busy family together at mealtimes with a DIY wooden breakfast bar and pair of sleek stools

Go for a black feature wall to add drama

the STYLE RULES

USE TILES FOR GEO LINES

Create a simple geometric splashback using white square tiles and contrasting dark grout to complement simple white gloss kitchen base units.

KEEP STORAGE SIMPLE

Swap wall-mounted cabinets for open shelving in oak. Fix up a metal pole underneath the bottom shelf and hang smart mono mugs from S hooks.

PICK CLASSIC ACCESSORIES

Style shelves with Scandi-style monochrome kitchen accessories such as glass storage jars and wooden chopping boards.

ZONE OPEN-PLAN AREAS

Design a seating area with a contrasting dark wall and create a bespoke breakfast bar, using a length of wood worktop. Finish with linear black bar stools and faux-fur seat pads.

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'The black and white colour scheme has graphic punch, but the wood tones add warmth.'

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Heather Young

COMING NEXT MONTH...

Nature trail

Celebrate the wild outdoors with nature-inspired colour palettes, organic materials and botanical motifs



Looking for more decor ideas? Visit us online at idealhome.co.uk/style-at-home for more design inspiration and expert style tips to make your home more beautiful

THIS MONTH'S *Make it*

Brighten your spring decor with a floral wreath. Use florist's wire to fix artificial blooms to the lower edge of a wooden embroidery hoop. Start with larger flowers, then add smaller blooms and foliage. Attach a ribbon at the top to hang.

Gift to
a friend



Wooden embroidery hoop, from £2; floral bouquet, £10; artificial eucalyptus, £2; antique rose bundle, £6, all Dunelm

Try a speedy STYLE UPDATE

Have fun with these simple but creative ideas that'll ring the changes in your home without turning into a full room redo

1 *Decorate with a coral shade*

This earthy, faded-terracotta tone will give your room a natural glow that will come alive in summer, but lend gentle warmth in winter. Try this colour if your furniture is simple and modern. It can look too sugary with traditional cottage-style or shabby-chic pieces.



2 MAKE A DISPLAY ON OPEN WALL SHELVES

Open shelving in a kitchen is a great place to display quirky accessories and jars. If you have any offcuts from your worktop, use these to make shelves.



3 Paint a headboard

Keep things simple with a panel of colour you can easily change, move or erase, for a cheaper and less bulky alternative to an upholstered headboard. Position a wall light onto the coloured panel as if it were attached to a headboard.



Ceramic bunnies, £3 each; moss bunnies, £3 each; hanging bunnies, £1 each; hanging eggs, £1.50 each; moss eggs, £3 each; tea light holders, £3 each; egg cups, £2 each, all Hobbycraft

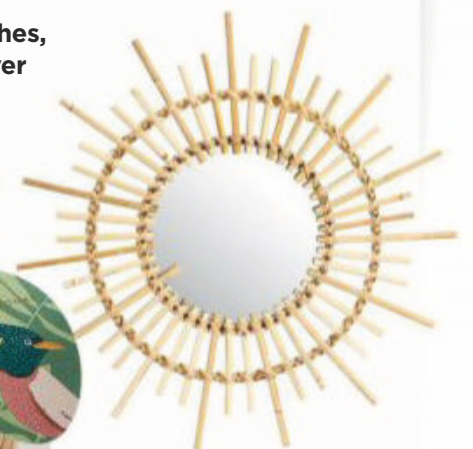
4 LAY A SEASONAL EASTER TABLE

Gather friends and family for an Easter lunch or afternoon tea and decorate the table with whimsical mossy rabbits, pastel eggs and pretty flowers in glass jars. A roll of patterned wrapping paper makes a great table runner, too.

TOP BUYS

For updating your home

Bird matches, £12, Oliver Bonas



Rattan starburst mirror, £27, Very

Artisan floral mug, £2.50, Wilko



Slogan cushion, £10, Argos

Shop this feature with Ownable



5 *Highlight great features*

A painted border will draw attention to period door frames and deep skirting boards. Measure a border 8-10cm from the edge of the door and skirting and use masking tape to create a straight line. If your wall is coloured, do the border in a deeper shade.



Tile print cushion, £10; lemons cushion, £8; yellow tassel cushion, £8, all Wilko

6 **SWITCH UP YOUR CUSHIONS**

New decorative pillows on your bed or sofa will give your space an instant seasonal refresh, plus they don't need to cost the earth.

PERFECT PICKS

For a new look

Faux succulents, £16.95 for five, Melody Maison

Teal velvet cushion, £25, Mint & May

Teacup oven gloves, £20, Elite Gift Boxes

Shop this feature with Ownable

Cactus pots, £10 each, Dobbies



7 **UPCYCLE LAMINATE DRAWERS**

Lightly sand the drawers and apply a primer. Once dry, apply a coat of paint, then draw a pattern ensuring it lines up, paint the design and finish with a top coat of clear sealant or wax.

The yellow stairs are the focus here, so keep the walls a calm, neutral shade of grey



8 *Paint an ombre stairway*

Start by painting the treads to match your other woodwork, then choose a paint chart in a colour you love and buy tester pots in as many shades as you have stairs. Start by painting the bottom riser in the darkest shade you have, then work your way up getting lighter every time.



Make more of a favourite print by painting a border around the frame



9 Go for a two-tone wall

This trick is an alternative to a feature wall if you want to use colour but are worried about it looking too much. Use a roller to paint the bottom half of the walls in the darker colour, finishing the top edge with rough upward strokes of a paintbrush.



For similar accessories, try Victorian Plumbing

10 REFRESH WITH MATT BLACK

A new bathroom suite can be a pricey shell out, so for a more budget-friendly update, swap out rusty, limescale-covered taps and radiators with some smart matt black options.



11 Give your shelves a makeover

Simply made from a MDF circle and planks (you can get these cut to size at DIY stores), this is a pretty (and cheap) way to create a display. Use tester pots to paint the shelves in graduating shades.



Floral prints, from £6.95 each, Desenio

12 GIVE YOUR GALLERY WALL A THEME

Choose a collection of co-ordinating prints, then accessorise the rest of the room with products that reflect the theme – floral is a great choice for spring.

MUST-HAVES

You won't want to miss



Embroidered fern cushion, £14.99, M&Co

Celestial moon hanging planter, £12, Red Candy

Shop this feature with Ownable

Belly baskets, £19 for two, JD Williams

Nymans foliage mug, £10, National Trust Shop



13 *Update your bedding for spring*

Give your bedroom a seasonal refresh with some new bed linen in a lush leafy pattern. Or buy two complementary sets and have fun mixing and matching the designs. Accessorise with accent cushions.

Palm print duvet cover, £18 for a double set, Matalan



Geo print bath towel, £7; leaf print bath towel, £7; matt black dispenser, £5; matt black tumbler, £3, all George Home.

14 **REFRESH YOUR BATHROOM TOWELS**

Grubby, threadbare towels can ruin a serene and spa-like bathroom, so reserve those ones for muddy dogs and treat yourself to a new set of plush patterned ones.

UNIQUE PIECES

To glam up your scheme

Zebra head planter, £14, Sainsbury's Home



Silver and gold table, £29.99, British Heart Foundation Shop



Artificial ranunculus in bottle, £20, Next Home



Shop this feature with Ownable



Tribal bath mat, £9, George Home



15 **PICK A PUNCHY PAPER**

Instead of painting a feature wall, try using a show-stopping wallpaper to add personality to your scheme. This leaf print will draw the eye up to make your room seem taller.

Fix pegs to the wall within the painted area to hang plants, keys or storage baskets



16 *Paint a blackboard*

Mark out a simple rectangle to the same length as your dining table to make a feature that's part memo board, part wall art. Use masking tape to clearly define the edges, then fill the shape with a couple of coats of blackboard paint.

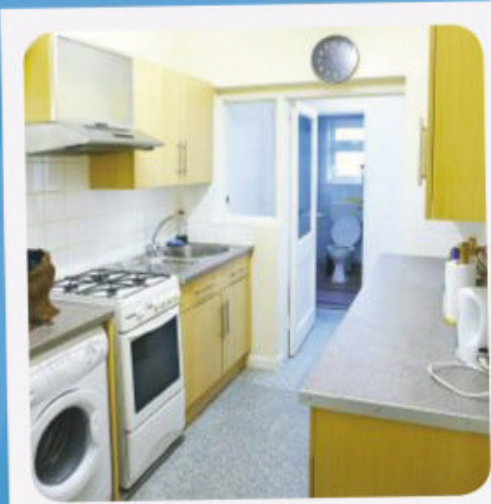
'It's our space



HANDMADE HELPER

'I made the pipe shelf myself, having taken the idea from Pinterest. It's stylish and practical'

COME ON IN!



ABOUT ME 'I'm Sarah Giubilini, 37, a theatre costume maker. I live with my two children, Freda, nine, and Ethan, six, in a 1927 three-bed, mid-terrace house in southeast London. I moved here in 2012.'

THE CHALLENGE 'Downstairs was a warren of dark, small rooms. The bathroom and kitchen were tiny and the dining room and living room both felt like tunnels with only one light source in each.'

MY WISH LIST 'I wanted to open up the whole of our ground floor and create an open living space, giving it a better flow from room to room to eat, socialise and relax.'

OPEN-PLAN LIVING

'Since creating the space at the back of the house, we spend much more time together as a family'



TO HANG OUT'

IDEA TO STEAL

'Using white paint throughout the downstairs adds to the spacious feel'

Buy it

Recreate Sarah's look in your home
PAGE 91

Sarah got the layout of her kitchen-diner just right and on budget by choosing simple, streamlined cabinetry, neat furniture and quirky junk shop finds

My house required a lot of changes to suit what we needed as a family,' says Sarah. 'It was a warren of small, dark rooms and we all longed for a bit of space and light! I'd lived there for two years with my children, Freda and Ethan, so I had a good idea of what I wanted – it just needed careful planning.

I had to remortgage to release the funds to enable me to go ahead, but once I had freed up the money, the work could start. This is our first home, so it was really exciting to finally be able to create something for the three of us.

Starting point

I had some plans drawn up and then hired a team of builders to do the work. To open up the rooms on the ground floor, we removed a bathroom next to the original kitchen, and took down the wall between the kitchen and dining room. A steel girder was fitted to support the opening leading to the dining area. Then the electrics and plumbing were updated and the walls replastered. I spent money upfront on the essential planning and building work, then budgeted for everything else, trying to buy products that were on sale or in bulk.

I decided on an electric underfloor heating system, which means there are no bulky radiators taking up valuable space. Concrete was then laid, with a top layer of polished Marmorino plaster. Originally I'd wanted polished concrete, but it was too expensive and this was cheaper. The bifold doors that lead to the garden were fitted halfway through the build, before the kitchen was finished, »

TOTAL
£8,978

TURN OVER FOR
MY SHOPPING
LIST

Do it! PLANT AN OPEN TERRARIUM

1 Fill the base of the terrarium with a layer of sand, around 3-5cm. If you have some, add a layer of charcoal. Alternatively, you can sprinkle over a layer of soil formulated for cacti and succulents.

2 Arrange your plants, with any trailing varieties near the front. Leave sufficient space around each one to allow for growth.

3 Scoop out soil using your finger and gently

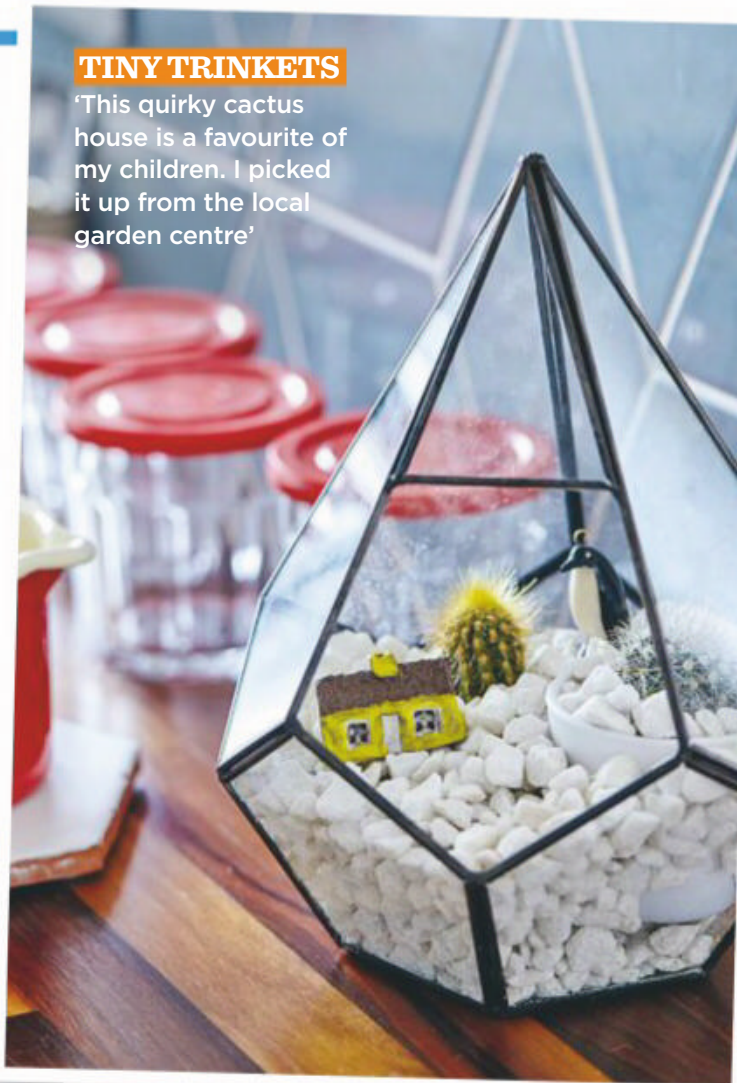
push each plant in place. Next, use a small tool or spoon to carefully add another layer of compost around your plants.

4 Add a splash of water to each plant and finish with a layer of fine gravel to help with drainage.

5 Gently remove any excess soil from the plant leaves or terrarium with a small paintbrush.

TINY TRINKETS

'This quirky cactus house is a favourite of my children. I picked it up from the local garden centre'



RETRO TOUCHES

'I've added lots of enamelware and original 1960s and 1970s china for a splash of colour and pattern'



» and so was the wraparound corner window at the back to create more light.

Choosing the style

I chose solid, wood units in white, which are minimal and functional, and offer plenty of storage, and a natural stained walnut worktop to break up the white. I went for plain white walls and added splashes of colour with accessories. The white walls feature throughout the kitchen and dining area, and even extend outside to the white exterior walls, to maintain a sense of flow. I kept the original wooden floor in the dining area.

Finishing touches

I love combining old and new to create something original. The hints of industrial style in window frames, lighting and the bar stools have been mixed with vintage items I've collected. Where possible, I've customised or made things, especially curtains. It's these little personal touches that make a house into a real home.

The children and I are really pleased with what I've achieved. I've worked with the house and kept its old features where possible. I had to compromise due to budget, but I got most of what I wanted. The corner window in the kitchen and the bifold doors were an extra cost, but they have made a big difference to the light. The transformation has turned somewhere dark and dingy into a sociable space where we all spend time together eating, playing and chatting.'

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'Sarah has kept the walls free of cupboards in the smallest area of the kitchen in order to keep the space feeling as open as possible.'

HOUSES EDITOR
Ruth Corbett

CLEAN LINES

'The white cabinets from Wren are handle-free to keep the look streamlined'



IDEA TO STEAL

'Underfloor heating was added to keep the ground floor rooms streamlined with good overall warmth'

'EXTEND THE WORKTOP OUT AND AROUND THE WALL TO CREATE A HANDY BREAKFAST BAR FOR THE MORNINGS'



BOLD CHINA

'I love buying things for the house when I travel. I came across these bowls and plates in a vintage store in Brittany'



VINTAGE PRINT

'The bold printed pantry curtain was a real find in a retro shop in Amsterdam'

Where to buy Sarah's style

Walls in Loft White intelligent matt emulsion, £50 for 2.5ltr, Little Greene. **Units**, £3,744.93; **worktops**, £2,246.99; **butler sink and taps**, £189, all Wren Kitchens. **Cooker**, £1,100; **fridge**, £1,200, both Fisher & Paykel. Creative Geometrics **tiles** in Ash Blue, £78sq m, The Baked Tile Company. Raskog **bar stools**, £22 each; Bekvam step **stool**, £20, both Ikea. Similar pipe **storage shelf**, £100, Moa Design at Notonthehighstreet.com. Blue enamel **teapot**, £58; small enamel **jug**, £18; large enamel **jug**, £26; French **jam jars**, £2 each; enamel **roasting dish**, £42, all Labour and Wait. Similar vintage enamel red **bread bin**, from £19; similar vintage **coffee grinders**, **coffee pots** and **tea pots**, from a selection, all eBay. Similar French vintage **plates** and **bowls**, from £6 each; similar vintage pantry **curtain**, from £10; similar red enamel **coffee pots**, from £25, all Etsy

Sarah's choice: CONCRETE FLOORING

Lusting after the modern industrial look of Sarah's concrete flooring? Get the lowdown with our how-to guide...

Durable, easy to clean and heat-retaining, there's a lot to love about concrete flooring in the home. Perfect for nailing the urban trend, it works best in modern spaces, but can also be mixed with vintage furniture for striking results.

What are the common concrete options?

Solid concrete floors are made from poured concrete, in its natural colour or with added pigment, which is then polished and sealed to achieve a hard-wearing surface. Micro concrete/ cement goes on top of a solid concrete floor (usually existing) and is given a plastered finish that is built up in 1-3mm layers. Both processes are labour-intensive and costs vary, from as little as £80sq m if you attempt a DIY project, up to £500sq m for professional installation.

BEST FOR...

REFRESHING CONCRETE

Even old concrete you may previously have carpeted over will benefit. Concrete Polishing can repair cracks and change the colour of your floor.

EASY ACCESS

The Resin Floor Co specialises in MicroCrete, a hand-applied cement-based finish that's less messy than poured concrete and requires no machinery – great for homes with restricted access. Added resin reduces cracks.

LOW STRESS

At DirectStone a dedicated project manager will keep your installation project on track and help with aftercare. Ask for a no-obligation quote.

Does it crack?

Left to its own devices, a solid concrete floor naturally shrinks as it dries and will crack. Cutting expansion cracks into the concrete will encourage shrinkage to follow in straight lines. They are then filled with an expandable, colour-matched sealant to make them less noticeable. Micro concrete includes flexible additives, so is less likely to crack.

Are there other issues?

Installing any concrete-based flooring is not a fast process. Depending on the size and temperature of the room, plus the installation methods chosen, it can take seven to 10 days before the floor is usable. It also needs to be resealed or waxed every two or three years to keep it stain and water resistant.

Can I get a similar look?

Check out concrete-look porcelain and ceramic tiles, which are available in really convincing designs. The larger the tile size, and fewer grout lines, the more credible the effect. Ditto luxury vinyl tiles – try Harvey Maria's Organics range. If your room is 4m wide or less, rolled vinyl in a concrete design will offer joint-free flooring.

'CONCRETE FLOORING – REAL OR REPLICA – IS CHIC YET UTILITARIAN WITH AN INDUSTRIAL CHARM THAT'LL STAND THE TEST OF TIME'

SCOTT ROBSON, SENIOR DESIGNER,
ORIGINAL STYLE



3 of the best CONCRETE-EFFECT TILES



FINE LINES

Rectified edges for barely-there grout gaps. District Light Grey porcelain, 80x40cm, £25.50sq m, Mandarin Stone

REAL LOOK

Matt finish for extra authenticity. Peggy Grigio porcelain, 60x60cm, £34.96sq m, Original Style



IN AND OUT

Multi-use, this can go from kitchen to patio. Tekno Grey porcelain, 60x30cm, £39.89sq m, Topps Tiles

Buy Sarah's style RETRO REBOOT

Create character with a mix of colourful vintage and modern looks



Line windowsills with herbs in pretty planters. Agave ceramic footed plant pot, £7.50, Oliver Bonas



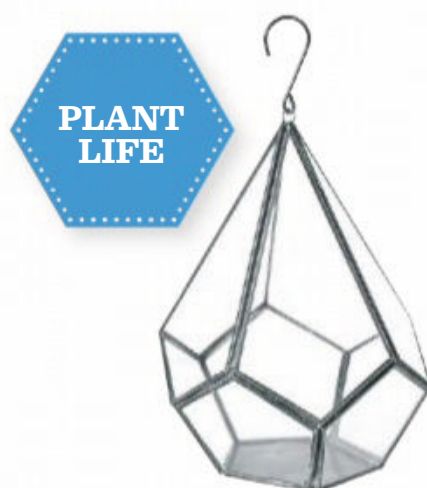
Lend some charm and cheer to the tea table. Enamel teapot, £28, Falcon Enamelware



Hang a trio of these to illuminate the room. Yellow large balloon light bulb cage, £27.72, Urban Cottage Industries



Bring a splash of bright and sunny yellow to the dining table. Sophie chair, £85, Habitat



Create a mini garden with succulents suspended from the ceiling. Hanging teardrop terrarium, £35, National Trust Shop



Mix and match colours to design your own pattern. Creative Geometrics wall tiles in Ash Blue, £78sq m, The Baked Tile Company



Try a playful take on wall storage with this fun doll's-house-style shelving. Flisat wall shelf, £25, Ikea



Invest in some handy food storage for pantry essentials. French glass jar with lid, £2.50, Black Bough



Shop this feature with Ownable

Keep it streamlined and simple when it comes to your breakfast bar seating. Raskog bar stool, £22, Ikea

WHITE ON

'I deliberately picked ceramic handles rather than chrome for a more period look and to soften the scheme'



'We wanted a



COME ON IN!



ABOUT ME I'm Jules Haines, 37, owner of eco fabric company @hainescollection, and I live with my husband Oliver, 40, a business development manager, and our children, Edward, five, and three-year-old Gemima, in a four-bedroom Victorian terraced house in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. We moved here in 2017.

THE CHALLENGE Finding a way of fitting in a separate shower and getting rid of all the boxing in and rotting wood to create more space and a better layout.

MY WISH LIST A separate shower, plus a roll-top bath, practical flooring, some lovely tongue and groove halfway up the wall, and injecting colour with wallpaper.

SPRING GREEN

'We've gone for a fun take on a bathroom that suits the Victorian history of the house, as well as adding in quirky wallpaper and touches of marble'



IDEA TO STEAL

'For a bathroom-friendly wood alternative, go for on-trend wood-effect tiles'



FRESH FEEL!

Buy it
Shop Jules' modern classic look
PAGE 97

Extending a cramped bathroom to fit in a separate shower inspired Jules to let loose with colour and pattern

Two years ago, we decided to move from London to Kent because you get so much more for your money there,' says Jules. 'Finding this Victorian house, within budget, was a gift. The kids could each have a bedroom, and we'd have a spare bedroom for guests, and a garden.

I'm a real one for reusing and upcycling, and my business saves designer fabrics that would otherwise go to landfill, but it was obvious that we'd need to totally replace the family bathroom as it was all failing. There was a big issue with space, too – everything felt crammed in.

Making plans

We found local builders, and the first thing we looked at was whether we could fit a shower into the room. Thankfully, the house has a large, wide landing, which made it possible to bring the bathroom door further back into the landing, and free up enough room to fit in a separate shower. We spent lots of time replanning the space, drawing it out on paper.

I'd always wanted a roll-top bath, and there was enough space to slot one in under the window. We decided to reposition the toilet from the left to the right side to make it less prominent, which gave me the opportunity to have a vanity unit there instead. It's a much nicer sight than seeing the loo when you look in! We realised that a curved shower enclosure would take up less space on the other side of the new door than a square one, so we started looking.

Style choices

I wanted quality finishes that would last, as we don't plan to do this again in a hurry. I'd describe my style as contemporary heritage – I love the look of pieces that wouldn't look out of place when the »

TOTAL
£4,837
TURN OVER FOR
MY SHOPPING
LIST



NEAT AND TIDY

'We didn't want a wall-mounted cupboard to spoil the lines, so a large vanity unit with lots of storage was a better bet'

Why it works



STYLE AT HOME SAYS...

'The vertical wallpaper pattern gives the room a feeling of extra height.'

FEATURES EDITOR
Holly Walsh



UPCYCLED STYLE

'This little step, which has been saved from the dump and painted, gives the children a little more height to get to the basin'

'IF YOU GO BIG AND BOLD WITH WALLPAPER, CHOOSE ACCESSORIES IN A MATCHING SHADE TO TIE THE LOOK TOGETHER'

Do it!

WALLPAPER A FAMILY BATHROOM

★ If you have a well-ventilated bathroom with a window and extractor fan, there's no need to shy away from wallpaper. However, avoid wallpapering an area that is in constant contact with water.

★ Generally vinyl wallpapers will be most suited to high-moisture rooms such as bathrooms or kitchens; look for heavyweight vinyl or vinyl-coated – they may be labelled as scrubbable, highly wash-resistant or extra washable.

★ If you have fallen for a design that is only labelled as spongeable or not washable, you can boost its resilience by using Polyvine Decorators Varnish. The Dead Flat version won't alter the paper's colour, but apply a patch test first and, once dry, check that it's colour-fast when damp.



TRAD FEEL

'The vanity unit appealed as it's got that classic Victorian look I love'

**SPACE SAVER**

'We were desperate to fit in a shower, and a curved enclosure takes up a lot less room, so we've slotted it in'

IDEA TO STEAL

'If wall space is limited, add a hanging ladder behind the door for towels'

» house was originally built, but I like to inject colour and an individual feel, too. I'd seen the wallpaper ages ago; it wasn't cheap, but it's like a piece of art. I drafted in stylist Danecia Scheepers of @upliftyourhome, who has the same ethos as me when it comes to sustainability. She helped me pick out the wallpaper colour. I love timber panelling and had a green shade specially mixed to match.

Material decisions

I liked the idea of a wooden floor, but with two small children who are in and out of the bath, I knew it would be hard to maintain. Instead, I chose wood-effect tiles in exactly the right grey to match the wallpaper. It's far more practical. I like supporting small Instagram companies like the one that made the bath mat – it's made of recycled plastic bottles.

Natural materials always appeal to me, so I chose a vanity unit from Hudson Reed with a marble countertop. Danecia suggested using large format marble tiles inside the shower, as it brings the marble in at the other end of the room.

Final touches

Lovely hammam towels and accessories in grey and white were high on my list and I chose a simple striped fabric for the blind, which makes a lovely finishing touch.

Where to buy Jules' style

Kingsbury freestanding **bath** with Pride legs, £922; deck-mounted **taps**, £510; Timeless Sand Old London **vanity unit**, £599.95; Traditional thermostatic valve **shower**, £747; **WC** with Timeless Sand seat, £305; Harrow **radiator**, £505, all Hudson Reed. Haven quadrant **shower enclosure and tray**, £456, Roman Showers. Secret Garden **wallpaper** in Dark Green, £85 a roll, Cole and Son at Wallpaper Direct. Tabula Fog floor **tiles**, £36.50sq m; Albus marble wall **tiles**, £42sq m, both Topps Tiles. **Mirror**, £19.99, The Range. Dove Grey Oslo **mat**, £20, Wildflora@One. Hammam **towels**, £20 each, Homesense. **Towel holder**, £25, Shabby Chic and Vintage. **Panelling**, £5.27 a pack, B&Q. **Paint** on panelling, specially mixed, £25ltr, Valspar. Wooden **step**, £18, Uplift Your Home. Designer blind **fabric**, £18m, Haines Collection.



Join in and share your home revamps with Style at Home on Instagram @styleathomemag

Jules' choice: FAUX WOOD FLOORING

Impressed by the natural look of Jules' flooring? It's easy to fake it in style with faux timber underfoot

Natural wood flooring is undeniably beautiful, but it's not budget-friendly, nor 100% practical for every room. If you're concerned about maintenance or price, it could be time to go faux.

What are my options?

The main choices are vinyl (Luxury Vinyl Tiles are more convincing than cheaper rolled vinyl), laminate flooring and porcelain tiles. The good news is, thanks to advances in photographic quality and colour printing, they all have really realistic wood effects. Look for products with a textural finish – essentially a raised grain effect – to really fool the senses.

Can I make it more 'real'?

Wood is naturally warm and the shock of a cold tile underfoot can be disconcerting,

so install underfloor heating, if budget allows. Vinyl floors absorb ambient heat, so if you don't have underfloor heating, it will still be warmer than porcelain tiles.

Have you got any tips on installation?

The beauty of natural wood lies in its unique grain pattern and many faux flooring manufacturers achieve this by offering four or five different plank designs per pack. When installing, sort planks by pattern and then mix them up randomly as you lay to disguise repetition.

Is it waterproof?

Most laminate and vinyl flooring can handle splashes, but don't fare well under direct contact with water – such as inside a shower. Porcelain wood-look tiles are the most durable option, perfect in a wet room or walk-in situation.

What about cleaning it?

Unlike solid wood floors, it is less likely to move or warp and many come with built-in resistance to sun bleaching, too. Do make sure the grout is sealed after application to help reduce staining, or go for a dark grout that won't show dirt.

'BOOST THE DESIGN DYNAMIC BY LAYING WOOD-EFFECT FLOORING IN A HERRINGBONE FORMATION TO MIMIC THE NEW TREND FOR PARQUET'

HAMISH SMITH,
CREATIVE DIRECTOR, CA' PIETRA



3 of the best WOOD-EFFECT TILES

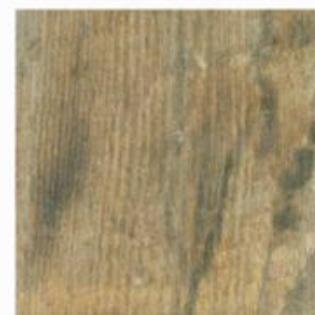


LUXURY LOOK

Lay these in a fancy parquet style. Chevron wood walnut porcelain tile, £43.49sq m, Tons of Tiles

TEXTURED TREAT

Pick a finish that mimics real wood grain. Nordic wood dark brown porcelain tile, £19.99sq m, Tile Mountain



SHINE-FREE

A matt finish to the surface keeps it convincing. Cotage wood grey matt porcelain tile, £20sq m, B&Q

BEST FOR...

FUSS-FREE VINYL

The Solid Wood Flooring Company isn't just focused on real wood. Check out its Impervia wood-look luxury rigid plank flooring range that's super-easy to fit (no adhesive or underlay). A waterproof backing makes it suitable for bathrooms.

LOADS OF LAMINATE

Carpetright stocks no less than 81 wood-look laminate floors, from striking rustic designs to grandiose parquet, with prices starting at £9.99sq m. Use the online visualiser to help you.

THE REAL DEAL

UK Flooring Direct has some of the best prices for solid and engineered natural wood floors, but if you find the same for cheaper they'll match it.

Buy Jules' style...

MODERN CLASSIC

Botanicals and trad hardware have a timeless, yet up-to-date, feel



Choose traditional lighting in a brushed finish, such as this silver bathroom wall light, £42.48, Ocean Lighting



Reflect natural light around the room with this small, pale wood mirror, £18, Maisons du Monde



Bring some pattern into your bathroom with a print – try the *Eucalyptus Botanique* artwork, £20 unframed, Lola Design



Save space with a hanging wooden ladder in place of a standard towel rail, £20.95, Melody Maison



Add low-maintenance greenery to your bathroom with this faux sedum succulent plant, £9, The Contemporary Home



Introduce a little subtle pattern and texture with a hammam towel, £36, Bohemia Design



Pick washing essentials in neutral tones, such as this bamboo cotton body sponge, £2.99, Homesense



Work in a serene shade of green with the Provence chalk paint, £19.95 for 1ltr, Annie Sloan



Enjoy traditional detailing and a lifetime guarantee with Holborn lever basin taps, £75, Frontline Bathrooms

Inspired by Style at Home? Shop with Ownable.

12:08

ownable

Oliver Bonas
Gold Glass Decanter & Tumbler
£45.00

Named 'Nomu', the word for 'drink' in Japanese, this collection of glassware has a vintage-inspired look, cut with crystal-style detailing.

Buy Fast Track

Style at Home - Jan 2020 - Page 113

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Style at Home 323 FAB BUYS INSIDE! ONLY £1.99

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Time *at Home*

INSIDE GREAT STUFF TO
EAT, TRY & DO!

ORGANISATION TIPS * DIY KNOW-HOW * MAKE A PLANTER

CHOCOLATE EASTER CAKE

TAKES 1 HR 35 MINS SERVES 10-12

* 175g good-quality dark chocolate, melted * 175g unsalted butter * 175g caster sugar, plus 1tbsp * 4 large eggs, separated * 150g ground almonds * 85g plain flour, sifted with ½tsp baking powder * crystallised violets and chocolate eggs, to decorate
FOR THE GANACHE: * 200ml half-fat double cream * 250g good-quality dark chocolate, broken * 50g unsalted butter, cut into cubes **YOU WILL NEED:** * 3 x 18cm sandwich tins, greased and the bases lined with baking parchment

1 Preheat the oven to 180C/Gas 4. Melt the chocolate in a heatproof bowl over a pan of simmering water, then set aside. Cream the butter and sugar, then beat in the egg yolks one at a time. In a separate bowl, beat the egg whites with a pinch of salt until stiff, add 1tbsp sugar and whisk to stiff peaks.

2 Fold the chocolate into the butter mixture, then fold in the almonds. Add the egg white mixture and flour, a quarter at a time, until all is mixed in. Divide between the tins and bake for 20-25 mins or until an inserted skewer comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack.

3 For the ganache, heat the cream in a heavy-based pan. Place the chocolate and butter in a large bowl; pour over the hot cream and mix to combine. Use the ganache to sandwich together the sponges. Cover the top with the remaining ganache and decorate with violets and choc eggs.



**CHOC
DELIGHT**

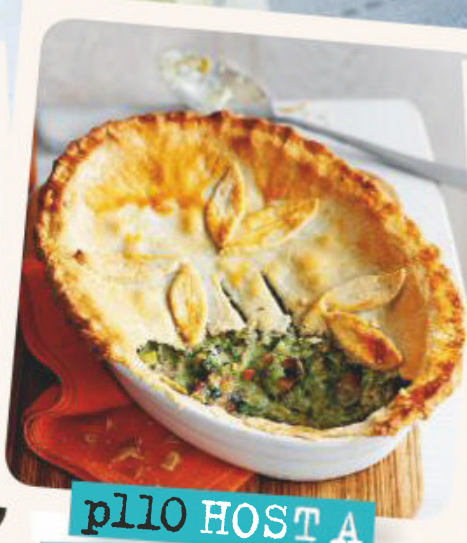
**p100 SIMPLE
SOLUTIONS**



**p106 EASTER
CRAFTING**



**p110 HOST A
SPECIAL LUNCH**



Find a smart SOLUTION

Genius ways to make everyday cooking, cleaning and organising both easier and greener...

A space-saving headboard for neat dreams

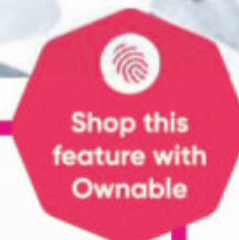
What's not to love about the new Jakob bed from Argos? This contemporary, Nordic-style upholstered bed frame comes in a choice of double or king-size, while the soft, padded headboard opens up to reveal super-handly shelving for books, bedside must-haves and even extra bedding – perfect if your bedroom is a bit on the poky side. **Jakob Skandi storage bed frame, £359 for a double, Argos**



Addis Pick Your Own Veg bags, £3.99 for three, Sainsbury's

DITCH SINGLE-USE SUPERMARKET PLASTIC

Exclusive to Sainsbury's, here's a brilliant alternative to those thin, easily ripped, single-use bags you get in the supermarket for fruit and veg. Made by Addis, they come in a colour-coded pack of three.



3 of the best COUNTERTOP DUOS

Complete your kitchen with a co-ordinated set



WHITE GOODS
Breville New York 1.7ltr kettle, £89.99; New York four-slice toaster, £84, both Amazon



BLUSH BEAUTY
Vintage Rose 1.7ltr traditional kettle, £65; Vintage Rose four-slice toaster, £80, both Cuisinart



SCANDI NOIR
Salter Skandi 1.7ltr kettle, £34.99; Skandi two-slice toaster, £29.99, both Robert Dyas

USE A SCOOP (£9.99, AMAZON) TO STIR CAFETIERE COFFEE WHEN YOU ADD HOT WATER TO MAX THE FLAVOUR, THEN USE AGAIN TO WHIP OUT THE USED GROUNDS

Choose everlasting candles

Tired of buying candles that burn too quickly, or just need a safer alternative? Developed in-house by the Lights4Fun design team, TruGlow combines a battery-powered LED flickering candle light with an ivory wax outer shell, to make it look authentic. Unlike the real thing, this candle 'burns' for around 200 hours, before you need to replace the batteries. Available in a whole host of shapes and sizes, from taper candles and votives to tea lights and pillar candles. Genius.

TruGlow pillar candle, £12.99, Lights4Fun

3 of the best SUPER-HANDY MIRROR SHELVES

Hang a clever multitasker



HANG OUT
Helpful hooks are perfect to store jewellery. Mirror shelf with hooks, £19.99, Sue Ryder



FACE ON
Pop everyday make up on this beauty, ready to apply. Hildia Gold mirror with shelf, £95, Rose & Grey



INDUSTRIAL STYLE
This sturdy number would work well in a cloakroom. Black wall mirror with shelf, £38.95, Melody Maison

STOP PAN FIRES IN A FLASH

Firexo sachets are a neat alternative to a fiddly fire blanket. Simply throw a sachet on top of the fire – the packaging then burns away to release the fire-quenching fluid within. Panic over. Firexo sachet, £9.99 each, Maplin



MAGCHALK (£144 A ROLL, MAGSCAPES.COM) IS MAGNETIC WALLPAPER THAT YOU CAN DRAW ON WITH CHALK, MAKING IT AN INSTANT NOTICEBOARD

HANDS-FREE TV

If your remote control always goes astray, it may be worth adding a Fire TV Cube to your entertainment system. Thanks to built-in Alexa, it allows you to watch TV, stream your fave movie or box set and even adjust the volume, just by asking. Fire TV Cube, £109.99, Amazon



CHOOSE REUSABLE, REFILLABLE BOTTLES

If you're sick of plastic waste, consider swapping regular toiletries like shampoo and conditioner for bulk sizes that you can refill. Big Green Smile sells 5ltr of shampoo, conditioner and more, from £50, while Wearth London (above) sells a host of refillable bottles made from glass or PET plastic, with or without labels, from just £4 each.

Give your puss or pooch the cosiest bed

Want to keep the cat off the sofa or your dog off your favourite armchair? Then check out Silentnight's new Airmax pet bed. Machine washable, it comes in three sizes to suit all four-legged friends, and it features a cosy fleece lining, so they're bound to want to curl up in it.

Silentnight Airmax pet bed, from £28, QVCUK.com



The 10-minute DECLUTTER

Get the place tidy in a flash with these speedy tips and handy buys



DESK TIDY

Squeeze a neat home office spot into the smallest of spaces. Copenhagen standing desk, £150, Argos



SMART SHELF

The ideal place for shop-bought herb pots, most-used condiments... and all the rest. Cook House utensils rail shelf, £65, Nest



FLASH STASH

This soft trunk boasts oodles of space for extra bedding. Ponting fabric under-bed storage trunk in Mint, £15, Made



TOP POT

Keep your must-have utensils close to hand. Portland pot in White powder-coated steel and bamboo, £10, Garden Trading

Ready, steady, sort!

* REORGANISE THE LOFT

Now that the weather's milder, it's the perfect time to head up to the attic and clear out anything you don't need.

* GATHER UP THE SHOE PILE

If your kids kick off their shoes the second they arrive indoors, introduce a storage bench or a few baskets.

* CLEAR THE GARDEN

Winter is bound to have taken its toll on your garden or patio, so clear away any dead leaves and debris.



IN THAT CASE

Squirrel away all your bits and bobs in these slick steel helpers. Cream storage trunks, £69.99 for two, Beautify



KIDS' CORNER

The perfect storage solution if your living room unintentionally doubles as a playroom. Harri storage box, £249, Swoon



ALL SEEING

Choose storage baskets with an open weave, so you won't lose stuff you've tidied away. Rattan-style baskets, £32 for two, Very



OPEN WIDE

Need a wardrobe for your spare room? This version adds storage without overcrowding. Lynton open wardrobe, £129, Dunelm



Eclipse 575 Eleanor vinyl, £22.99sq m, Carpetright

Bring Moroccan charm to your floor

When living space is at a premium, multifunctional areas demand good, hard-wearing flooring that doesn't compromise on style. Carpetright's statement vinyl designs are not only affordable, but are guaranteed to stand the test of time in busy areas of the home. Why not invite a touch of sunny Mediterranean style into your space with this Moroccan tile design in cool blue?

3 of the best... WIRELESS DOORBELLS



BEST VALUE
Never miss a caller, with a bell that can be moved around or wall-mounted. Uni-Com Premium portable door chime, £19.99, Robert Dyas

ANSWER BACK

Respond to visitors with notifications straight to your mobile. Audio doorbell, £79.99, Arlo



Shop this feature with Ownable

SPY CAM

See, hear and speak to visitors from anywhere through an app. Video doorbell, £89, Ring



DO IT yourself

The latest need-to-knows to help you improve your home



Osternas leather handles, from £10 for two, Ikea

Update tired kitchen doors

If your kitchen cabinets need some TLC, but a complete refit is out of budget, updating door and drawer handles is a low-cost solution. Ikea's tanned leather and stainless steel handles are soft to touch and bring an effortless natural element to your decor. There are two designs to choose from, so you can mix and match to suit your style.

PRETTIFY YOUR BATHTUB

A freestanding bath can set you back a pretty penny or two, especially if you're after a bespoke shade to match your decor. But you can spruce up your existing tub, like designer Sofie Hepworth (@threeboysandapinkbath) has. Just give the surface a light sanding, before applying three coats of super hard-wearing Rust-Oleum satin furniture paint.

Rust-Oleum satin finish furniture paint in Pink Champagne, £15 for 750ml, Homebase



STOP THIEVES 'FISHING' FOR YOUR KEYS BY INSTALLING A LETTER BOX GUARD (£8.99, FRUUGO) INSIDE YOUR FRONT DOOR

Upcycle rain guttering into A HERB PLANTER

Create a fragrant and practical garden with quirky material for a plant trough

Space for planting can be limited in small gardens, but that doesn't mean you have to compromise on greenery. Vertical planters are an ideal way to add scent and colour without taking up floor space. For a thrifty alternative to shop-bought containers, try upcycling lengths of plastic guttering to make a scented herb garden – perfect for adding to your favourite recipes.

YOU WILL NEED

* Rain guttering * Hacksaw * Combi drill * Gorilla Glue * Spirit level * Clamps or duct tape * Potting soil * Variety of herbs * Trowel

1 CLEAN THE SURFACE

Thoroughly clean the area of fence or bench you'll be attaching your planter to and remove any dirt or stains. If using Gorilla Glue, there's no need to let the surface dry as it cures with moisture.

2 MEASURE AND CUT GUTTERING

Cut a piece of black squareline guttering (available from DIY stores) into 30cm lengths using a small hacksaw. Drill a few drainage holes in the bottom.

3 GLUE YOUR PLANTERS

If dry, lightly dampen the fence or bench (the glue is activated by moisture), then spread a thin layer of glue on the back of the planter. Press into place, making sure it's level.

4 ALLOW TO CURE

Use a clamp or duct tape to hold the planter in place for 1-2 hours while the glue cures (the glue will expand). Once dry, remove the clamps/tape. Glue stop-ends to each end of the gutter. Leave to cure.

5 PLANT YOUR HERB GARDEN

Fill the planters with potting soil, then add your chosen plants. Try a selection of fresh herbs, salad leaves or lavender. Leave plenty of room between each one for them to grow and flourish.

Simple and effective, your plants will thrive in their new home

Perfect for a small garden space



'REMEMBER TO USE A SPIRIT LEVEL TO ENSURE YOUR PLANTERS ARE PUT UP STRAIGHT SO THE WATER DOESN'T GATHER IN ONE END'



'Place your planters close to the back door and fill with the herbs or salad leaves you use most often so they're easy to reach.'

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Heather Young

3 of the best COMBI DRILLS



LONG LIFE
Erbauer cordless 18V combi drill, £100, B&Q



HANDY KIT
Mac Allister 18V cordless combi drill, £49.99, Screwfix



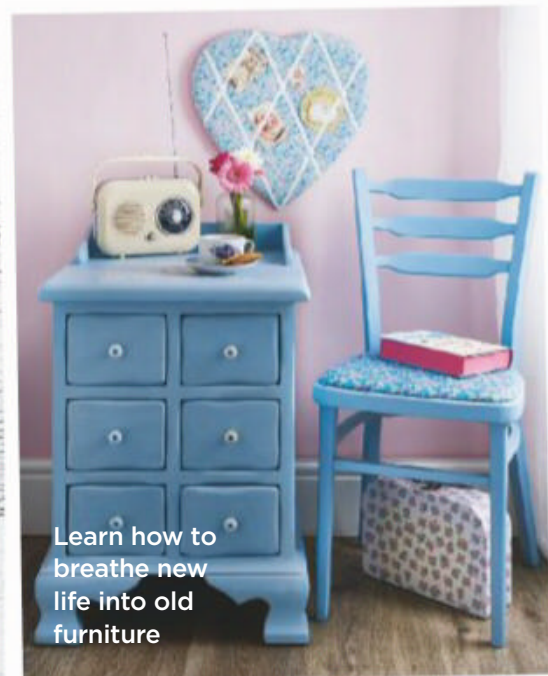
BIG TORQUE
Black & Decker cordless 18V combi drill, £50, Argos

Patchwork party

If you're looking to build your sewing skills, *Playing with Patchwork and Sewing* by Nicole Calver (£22.99, C&T Publishing) is full of fun projects to try. Starting with simple blocks and moving on to more challenging patchwork designs, each one offers three beautiful homeware projects ranging from beginner to advanced, so there's something for every skill level. This pocket place mat is the ideal make for bringing colour to an Easter table.



Refresh your dining table with a fun sewing project



Learn how to breathe new life into old furniture

MAKE IT yourself

Check out the latest workshops, books and making must-haves

JAZZ UP FURNITURE

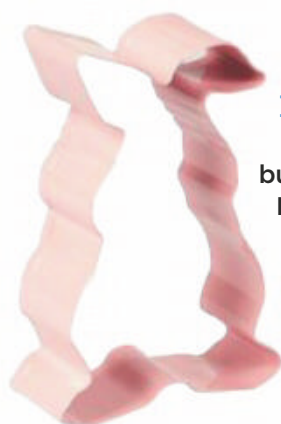
Learn how to revamp your furniture with Frenchic Furniture Paints. Take a trip to Joanne's Tea Rooms in Doncaster on 26 April to take part in a fun-filled workshop, where you'll be taught everything from prep and cleaning to painting and distressing a piece of furniture. Priced at £85, including all materials, you'll be able to take home the skills you need to revamp your own items. What's more, you'll also be treated to afternoon tea. For more Frenchic workshops, visit frenchicpaint.co.uk



HOPPY EASTER

Easter fabric shapes, £2 for 14, The Works

3 of the best BUNNY BUYS



BAKE OFF

Pink Easter bunny cutter, £2, National Trust Shop

GRASS ROOTS

Green moss bunny, £3, Hobbycraft



TRY YOUR HAND AT... NEEDLE PUNCHING

Punch needle is the latest craze in embroidery as it creates beautiful textural designs and is super easy to master. You can punch any design you like; simply sketch it out in reverse onto weaver's cloth, as the loop side will be on the back (large blocks of colour work best). Place the fabric in an embroidery hoop so it's taut and thread your punch needle with embroidery thread. Set the loop length using the slider on the needle and punch through the fabric so the depth gauge touches the surface. Start by punching the outline then fill in the design row by row. When finished, turn your piece into a tactile cushion or even wall art.



Punch needle beginners kit, £40, Wholepunching at Etsy

Shop this feature with Ownable

NEEDLE PUNCHING IS MUCH EASIER TO LEARN AND QUICKER THAN NORMAL EMBROIDERY – WINNING!

Make it, love it! EASTER CRAFTS

Hop into spring with these fun, Easter-inspired makes – you don't need to be an eggs-pert crafter to make them!

APPLIQUE NAPKIN

YOU WILL NEED

✦ Scissors ✦ 1m square yellow cotton
✦ Sewing thread and pins ✦ Sewing machine ✦ Pencil ✦ Piece of card
✦ Paper-backed fusible webbing
✦ Speckled turquoise, lavender and pink cotton fabric ✦ Iron

1 Cut four 46cm squares from the yellow fabric. Turn the edges under by 1.5cm and then another 1.5cm to make a double hem. Pin and topstitch 1cm from the edge all the way round to secure in place. Remove pins.

2 Draw egg shapes onto card and cut out. Use the templates to trace three eggs on to the paper side of fusible webbing. Cut around each egg, leaving a 1cm border.

3 Match the middle egg with the turquoise fabric and the two side eggs with the lavender and pink. Using a hot iron on a non-steam setting, fuse the non-paper side of the webbing to the wrong side of the fabric. Carefully cut out the fabric eggs following the pencil lines you have drawn on the paper.

4 Peel off the paper backing and position the eggs in the corner of the napkin. Then, once you're happy with the visual arrangement, use a hot iron to carefully fix the eggs in place.

5 Blanket or zigzag stitch the raw edges of the appliqué design using white thread. Start with the two side eggs and finish with the middle egg. Repeat until all four napkins have been appliquéd.

Use leftover fabric scraps to create appliqué table settings



Find more craft ideas and styling tips, visit idealhome.co.uk

BUNNY CARD

YOU WILL NEED

- ★ Pencil and scissors
- ★ Green, orange and white paper
- ★ Craft knife and cutting mat
- ★ Brown kraft card
- ★ A6 white card blanks
- ★ PVA glue
- ★ Green twine
- ★ Hot-glue gun

1 Draw a bunny shape onto green paper and cut out using a craft knife and cutting mat. In the same way, draw and cut out a carrot shape from orange paper and a small circle of white paper for the bunny's bobtail.

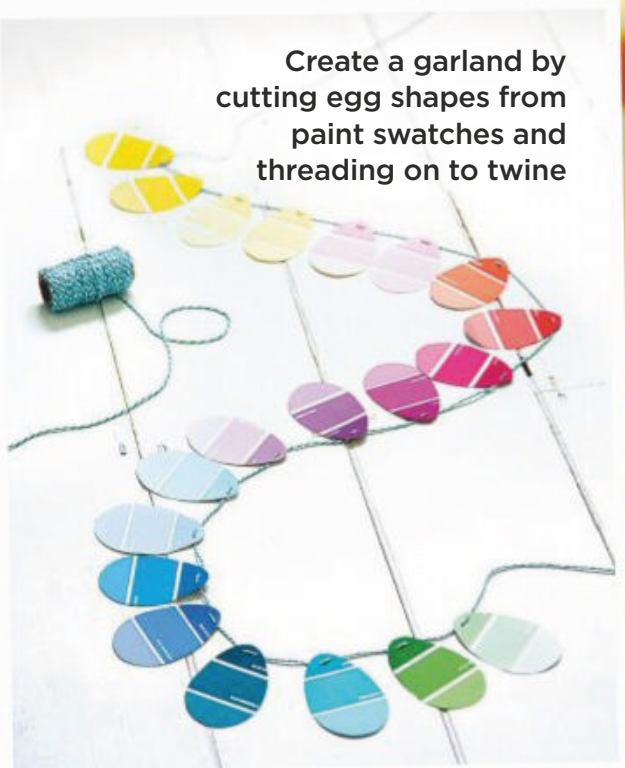
2 Cut an 11x15cm rectangle of brown kraft card to fit an A6 white card blank. Use PVA glue to stick the kraft card to the card blank, then the orange carrot, green bunny and white bobtail.

3 Cut a short length of green twine and tie it into a neat bow. Use a hot-glue gun to stick down the bow on the bunny. Allow to dry completely.

Why not add a tiny pom-pom as the tail?



Check online for free Easter templates to download or trace



Create a garland by cutting egg shapes from paint swatches and threading on to twine



TREAT BOXES

YOU WILL NEED

- ★ Template card gift box
- ★ Pastel card
- ★ Pencil
- ★ Metal ruler
- ★ Craft knife and cutting mat
- ★ Scissors
- ★ Acetate
- ★ Double-sided tape
- ★ Screw hole punch
- ★ Twine
- ★ Yarn (for tassels and pom-poms)

1 Use an existing cardboard treat box as a template. Unfold and draw around the shape onto pastel coloured card. Use a metal ruler, craft knife and cutting matt to cut out the box template and carefully score the fold lines.

2 To create the aperture, draw an Easter-themed shape such as an

egg, bunny or spring flowers on one of the side panels of the box template. Cut out using a craft knife and cutting matt.

3 Cut a piece of acetate to fit over the aperture. Use the tape to attach it on the inside of the template, avoiding covering the score lines. Assemble the box, using double-sided tape to secure.

4 Use a screw hole punch to create two holes along the top section of the box, ensuring the holes go through all the layers of card. Fill your carton, then thread a length of twine through the holes and secure with a bow. Decorate with tassels and pom-poms.

Try using a Cricut Maker or other cutting machine to create Easter-themed shapes in a flash





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THIS MONTH'S *Make it*

Brighten your craft room or home office with a cloud pinboard. Draw the shape on a sheet of cork and cut out. Decorate with painted raindrops (you could try freehand or use a stencil). Leave to dry, then hang your finished board above a desk.

Use adhesive strips to fix to the wall



Darice cork sheet roll, £6 for 30.5x61cm, Hobbycraft

Wow guests with an EASTER FEAST

Make the most of delicious seasonal veg
in this magnificent Easter spread

EASTER
SPECIAL

ITALIAN-STYLE RACK OF LAMB **TAKES APPROX 30 MINS SERVES 6**

★ 3 racks of lamb ★ 6tbsp redcurrant jelly ★ 50g unsalted butter ★ 75g sun-dried tomato paste ★ Focaccia made into breadcrumbs ★ 3 garlic cloves, peeled and crushed ★ 3 sprigs rosemary, broken into small pieces

1 Preheat the oven to 220C/Gas 7. Trim the excess fat from the racks

of lamb and use a sharp knife to lightly score the meat.

2 Melt the redcurrant jelly by gently warming, brush the meat with half. Melt the butter in a frying pan. Fry the meat until browned on all sides, then arrange the racks in a roasting tin.

3 In a small bowl, mix together the sun-dried tomato paste, focaccia

breadcrumbs, garlic and rosemary. Brush the lamb with the remaining redcurrant jelly, then gently press down the breadcrumb mixture onto the lamb until the top is covered.

4 Roast the lamb for 20 mins for rare, 25 mins for medium or 35 mins if you prefer your meat well done. Slice and serve 3-4 cutlets per person.

RAINBOW CARROTS WITH ROASTED CARAWAY SEEDS

TAKES 45 MINS SERVES 6

* 500g baby rainbow carrots, topped and cleaned * 1tbsp olive oil * 1tsp caraway seeds * Pinch of ground coriander * ½tsp honey * 1tsp lemon juice * Fresh micro herbs or coriander, to dress

1 Preheat the oven to 180C/Gas 4. Toss the carrots into a mixing bowl with the oil, caraway seeds and ground coriander, and mix well. Roast on a baking tray for 30 mins or until golden.

2 Season, then drizzle over the honey and lemon juice, give it all a shake and pop back in the oven for 5 mins to heat through. Sprinkle over the herbs before serving.

EASY
PEASY

THE JELLY KEEPS FOR UP TO 6 MONTHS, SO WHY NOT MAKE AHEAD AND GIVE AS EASTER GIFTS TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY

APPLE AND MINT JELLY

TAKES 1 HR 10 MINS, PLUS STRAINING
MAKES 1KG

* 1kg cooking apples * 3 sprigs of mint * 600ml cider vinegar * Approx 600-650g granulated sugar * 4tbsp chopped fresh mint **YOU WILL NEED** * Jelly bag or muslin cloth * 4-5 small jars, sterilised * Waxed discs and cellophane discs

1 Chop the apples (don't peel or core them, but remove any bruised flesh). Put them in a preserving pan with 600ml water and the mint sprigs. Bring to the boil, then simmer gently for 30 mins or until soft and pulpy, stirring occasionally. Add the cider vinegar and boil for 5 mins.

2 Spoon the apple pulp into a jelly bag or muslin cloth. Leave to strain into a bowl for a few hours or overnight.

3 Throw away the pulp. Measure the juice and pour it into the pan with 500g sugar per 600ml of juice. (You should get 700-800ml juice, so that means 600-650g sugar.)

4 Heat gently, stirring until the sugar has dissolved. Boil rapidly for about 10 mins until it reaches setting point.

5 Remove any scum with a metal spoon, then stir in the chopped mint. Leave for 10 mins to cool. Stir well, pour to the top of the jars, put a waxed disc on top, and cover with a cellophane disc. Label.

EDIBLE
GIFT

CHICKEN AND BARLEY SOUP

TAKES 45 MINS SERVES 4 AS A MAIN OR 6 AS A STARTER

* 1tbsp oil * 1 onion, peeled and finely chopped * 1 carrot, peeled and diced * 1 garlic clove, crushed * 1 reduced-salt chicken stock cube * 4 boneless, skinless chicken thighs * 1 sprig of rosemary * 1 bay leaf * 3tbsp barley grains * Crusty bread, to serve

1 Heat the oil in a medium saucepan, add the onion and carrot, cover with a lid and sweat gently for 10 mins until the vegetables are softened. Add the garlic and cook for a further min. Dissolve the stock cube in 750ml of boiling water and pour into the pan, stirring to mix.

2 Add the chicken thighs to the pan along with the rosemary and bay leaf, and stir in the barley grains. Bring to the boil, then simmer for 20-30 mins until the grains are softened.

3 Carefully remove the chicken from the pot, set it aside to cool for about 15 mins. Once cool enough to handle shred the meat into bite-size pieces – you can do this with your fingers or pull it apart using two forks. Return the chicken to the pan and warm the soup through. Serve with crusty bread.



GREAT STARTER

SO SIMPLE TO MAKE, THESE RADISHES CAN BE BAKED ALONE OR POPPED IN WITH THE CARROTS AFTER 5 MINS OF COOKING

PRETTY SIDE



GARLIC-ROASTED RADISHES

TAKES 30 MINS SERVES 6

* 600g radishes * 2tbsp olive oil * 2 large garlic cloves, crushed

1 Preheat the oven to 180C/Gas 4. Trim the radishes and toss in the olive oil to coat thoroughly. Spread out on a baking tray and toss over a little salt and pepper to season them. Cook for 20 mins; halfway through cooking give the tray a quick shake to ensure the radishes cook evenly.

2 Remove from the oven and stir through the crushed garlic. Return to the oven to cook for a further 5 mins until fragrant. Tip into a serving dish. If you fancy, before serving drizzle over a little good-quality olive oil as a simple dressing.

SAUCY VEG, SPINACH AND CHEESE PIE TAKES 45 MINS SERVES 6

* 25g unsalted butter * 250g frozen diced vegetables * 200g frozen sliced mushrooms * 2tbsp plain flour * 400g frozen whole-leaf spinach * 1tbsp Dijon mustard * Grating of fresh nutmeg * 350g pot fresh cheese sauce * 100g mature cheese, cubed * 1 free-range egg, beaten * 250g frozen shortcrust pastry, defrosted

1 Preheat oven to 190C/Gas 5. Lightly oil a large ovenproof pie dish. Melt the butter in a pan, add the diced veg and mushrooms, and cook for 3-4 mins. Add the flour and cook for 1 min, stirring. Season well, add the spinach, mustard and nutmeg, to taste, then add the cheese sauce and cubed cheese, and heat gently until the mixture has thickened. Pour into the pie dish.

2 Brush the rim of the dish with egg. Roll out the pastry. Lay over the pie dish and press the pastry around the rim of the dish. Trim off the excess. Brush with more egg, then cut pastry trimmings into leaves or other decorations if you like, put on top and brush with more egg. Cut two slits in the top for steam to escape, and bake for 25-30 mins until golden and crisp.



MEAT
FREE

NEW POTATO AND ASPARAGUS SALAD

TAKES 25 MINS SERVES 4 AS A MAIN OR 6 AS A SIDE

* 300g Jersey Royal potatoes or new potatoes, washed * 600ml hot vegetable stock * 200g fresh asparagus tips, trimmed * 150g fresh or frozen broad beans * 100g goat's cheese * Approx 12 small, fresh mint leaves **FOR THE DRESSING** * 2tbsp olive oil * 4 spring onions, trimmed and sliced

1 Halve or slice the potatoes, put in a large saucepan with the hot stock and simmer, uncovered, for 9-10 mins. Add the asparagus and broad beans, and cook for 3-4 mins, until the potatoes are tender and the stock has reduced to a glaze. Drain the vegetables carefully into a serving bowl.

2 To make the dressing, warm the olive oil in a small pan, add the spring onions and cook for about 1 min, until just beginning to wilt.

3 Pour the dressing into the bowl with the vegetables and use your hands to coat them in oil. Dot small pieces of goat's cheese on top of the salad, along with the mint leaves, then serve.



**IN
SEASON**

EASTER
TREATWHITE CHOCOLATE
HOT CROSS
BUN PUDDINGTAKES 1 HR, PLUS SOAKING
SERVES 8

* 50g unsalted butter, softened
 * 6 hot cross buns, split * 125g white chocolate, chopped * Zest of 1 orange, plus a few strips of zest
 * ½tsp ground mixed spice
 * 300ml double cream * 300ml milk * 2tsp vanilla extract * 4 eggs * 175g golden caster sugar, plus extra for sprinkling

1 Butter the buns and put the bases into a deep 2ltr ovenproof dish. Sprinkle over half the chocolate, zest and mixed spice.

2 Cover with the bun tops and sprinkle over the remaining chocolate, zest and spice.

3 Mix together the cream, milk, vanilla, eggs and sugar in a jug. Pour the mixture over the buns and leave to soak for 15 mins. Heat the oven to 180C/Gas 4.

4 Put the dish into a roasting tin and pour boiling water halfway up the sides of the dish. Bake for 20 mins, cover with foil and bake for 25 mins. Leave to stand for 10 mins and dust with sugar before serving.

ADD A LITTLE VA-VA-VOOM
BY CRUMBLING MADEIRA CAKE
INTO THE GLASSES AND
DRIZZLE WITH LIMONCELLO

LEMON CURD
SYLLABUBSTAKES 10 MINS, PLUS CHILLING
SERVES 4-6

* 6 heaped tbsp lemon curd * 250g pack meringue nests, broken into pieces
 * 300ml whipping cream, lightly whipped

1 To assemble the syllabubs, spoon a little of the lemon curd into the bottom of each small serving glass.

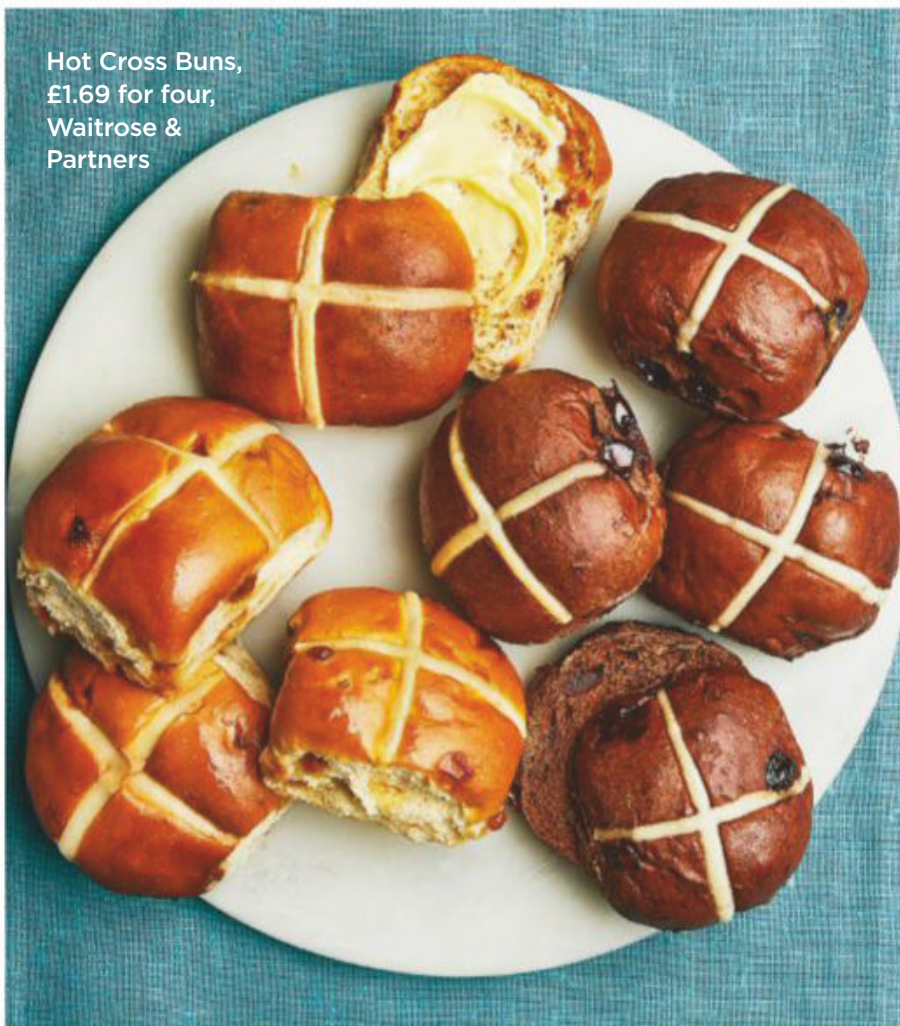
2 Fold the meringue into the whipped cream and layer the mixture, alternating with lemon curd, until the glasses are full. Chill and serve.

SIMPLE
PUD

Hot cross buns, but better!

Traditionally baked by monks to mark Good Friday, these classic buns were due a revamp. This year Waitrose & Partners is treating us to two new fantastic flavour combos. We love the Sticky & Rich Toffee Hot Cross Buns as well as the dreamy combination of Sweet & Indulgent Chocolate & Cherry. Serve toasted with oodles of melted butter for the perfect Easter treat, afternoon pick-me-up or fun breakfast, or use them to jazz up a hot cross bun bread pudding.

Hot Cross Buns, £1.69 for four, Waitrose & Partners



Supermarket NEWS

Fill your trolley with these delights and let's do Easter in style!



ADD A LITTLE SPARKLE

If you are looking for an extra-special tippie for your Easter table this year, we recommend this fizzy English beauty. Made from the Bacchus grape variety grown in the Kent countryside, this wine has a distinctly tropical, floral flavour. Chapel Down Sparkling Bacchus, £18 for 75cl, Waitrose & Partners



CHOC CY DOZEN

Tony's Chocolonely Great Big Chocolate Eggs, £4.49 for 155g, Sainsbury's

3 of the best... EGG-CELLENT EGGS

MOVIE NIGHT

Salted Caramel Chocolate Popcorn Mini Eggs, £3 for 63g, Ocado



BITTER SWEET

Cox & Co Raw Cacao Nibs Dark Chocolate Easter Egg, £10 for 170g, Ocado



The prettiest cupcakes

These adorable floral cupcakes are new for spring at Co-op. Pretty pastel-coloured icing and dainty flowers top a mix of vanilla and chocolate sponges ensuring there is a flavour to please everyone. An ideal addition to your Easter spread, we also think they'd make a great teatime treat all season long. Time to put the kettle on! Spring Cupcakes, £6 for 12, Co-op



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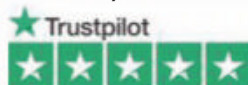
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Green is our current favourite colour. Room inspo from @retwiggd



We're crushing on the pink accents in @house_on_the_crescent's kitchen



A French bulldog and spring blooms prove a winning combo for @last_stop_no41

This month we're loving #SAHSTYLISTS

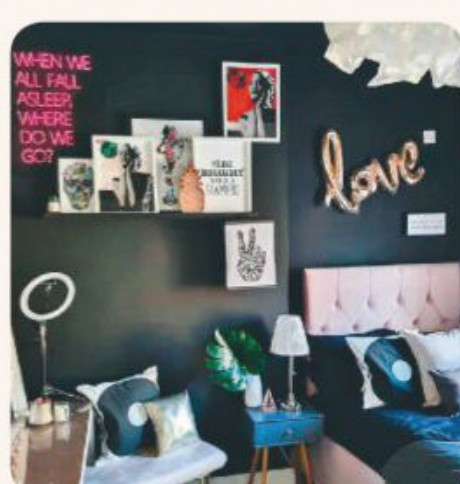
In need of some interiors inspo? Check out our Instagram hashtag – share your pics and tag @styleathomemag to join in



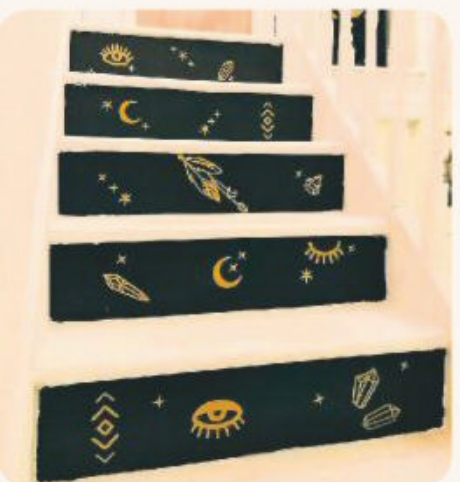
What a fab (and easy) way to bring some character to a utility room @homebypolly



What a beautifully styled area in @faffingat34's daughter's bedroom



Coollest. Kid's. Room. Ever. You win hands down @inside_11_clifton



@happybohemianhome has given her stair risers an update with cool decals



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