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PRODUCTION MANAGER	Brian Martin 020 3148 5442
ADVERTISEMENT COPY & MAKE-UP	Nicholas Liermann 020 3148 3719

EDITORIAL ENQUIRIES

Blue Fin Building, 110 Southwark Street, London SE1 0SU
hgcontactus@timeinc.com

HOUSES & GARDENS 020 3148 7306
DECORATING 020 3148 7304
GENERAL 020 3148 7311

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PUBLISHER Belinda Cooper **020 3148 7666**
GROUP MANAGING DIRECTOR, LIFESTYLE Fiona Dent **020 3148 5650**
PA TO GROUP MANAGING DIRECTOR, LIFESTYLE Donna McConnell **020 3148 5651**
CEO, TIME INC (UK) LTD Marcus Rich **020 3148 5102**

MARKETING

MARKETING MANAGER Amélie Srikumar **020 3148 7683**

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Image shows: Hoxton furniture with London basin, London bath & Waterloo brassware

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WELCOME



WITH THE GLORY DAYS OF SUMMER now upon us, we couldn't resist celebrating the beauty of the great outdoors in this month's special garden issue. Although my own garden is relatively small, we do have a number of different places to sit, from a small table tucked under a tree outside my husband's office, where he takes his work on sunny days, to a larger table for family meals. Our garden furniture has been collected over a number of years and sometimes I think I would like it all to match, but it's in good condition and each piece suits its individual spot well. That hasn't, however, stopped me from perusing our round-up of **garden furniture** (page 53) and **fire pits** (page 58) to see if there is anything I could add to our collection.

As for the gardens themselves, we have three very different but uplifting spaces from a small **urban scheme with textural planting** (page 116) to two designs in the country, one of which is the most **inspiring inn garden** (page 121) I have ever seen. Elsewhere, Arabella St John Parker, our houses & gardens editor, has been out visiting some of **Capability Brown's most renowned landscapes** (page 70) on the 300th anniversary of his birth. The breadth of his work is truly astonishing, considering it's estimated he worked on over 250 parks and gardens across Britain.

Of course, many classic British interiors have a reference to nature at their heart. Our lovely **dining room schemes** (page 143) reflect this, featuring walls and windows graced with botanical prints, while in another decorating story, we have used mismatched patterns and natural materials to evoke **the feel of a cottage garden** (page 61). I hope this issue will provide all the inspiration you need to enjoy your home and garden, whether you're inside or out this summer.

Deborah

DEBORAH BARKER, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE...



HOUSES Commissioned pieces and mid-century finds make an enviable mix in this characterful LA family home (page 42).



GARDENS Incorporating a terrace, dining area and office space, this small town garden is a masterclass in clever design (page 116).



DECORATING Room schemes full of fresh ideas for country-style dining rooms in a palette of bright summery greens (page 143).

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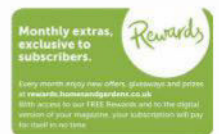
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H&G EDIT JULY

The *people*, *products* and *places* creating a buzz this month



Marthe Armitage is truly special in the world of wallpaper. More artist than designer, she's hand-blocked her botanical wallpapers on the same press since the Fifties. Paired with a painted bench, her Flora print brings the spirit of the summer garden inside.

Flora wallpaper in Verditer, £246 a roll, Marthe Armitage at Hamilton Weston. Antique painted garden bench, H84xW350xD45cm, £850, Bazar Antiques. Bench cushion in Kinevine Embroidery in Aqua, cotton mix, £176m, Brunswick & Fils at GP&J Baker. Trimmed in Fleurs de Lin looped fringe, linen mix, £16m, Houllès. Green metal drum, £45, Petersham

Nurseries. Green leather-topped cane, £375; Ivory fretted cane, £850; Parrot handled cane, £495; Silver-topped cane, £275; all Michael German Antiques. Provencal basket, £26, The French House. Fringed cotton blanket, 122x178cm, £300, Nina Campbell. Acorn pendant light, H34xdiam48cm, £320, The White Company. **WHERE TO BUY, PAGE 177**

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WILD BUNCH

Capturing the delicate colours and pretty motifs of meadow flowers

- 1| Artistic mix of pressed flowers and cut-out images.**
3D flower construction, H50xW40xD5.5cm, £1,100, Anne Ten Donkelaar at The Cold Press, 01263 711145, thecoldpress.com.
- 2| Perfect for a modern country bedroom scheme.**
Mae headboard, H125xW137cm, £1,300 plus 3m of fabric; shown in Forest Spring, linen, £138m, Virginia White; made to order, Ensemblier, 020 7352 8975, ensemblerton.com.
- 3| Archival print featuring British wild flowers.**
Charlotte wallpaper in Catherine Cream, £115 a roll, Liberty Art Fabrics, 020 7734 1234, liberty.co.uk.
- 4| A pretty way to keep favourite recipes in order.**
Herb Garden recipe box, H12xW16xD11cm, £30.30, Rifle Paper Co at Northlight, 01235 848192, northlighthomestore.com.
- 5| Charming illustrative style with a vintage feel.**
Pasture Dawn cushion, 45cm sq, £80, Louise Wilkinson, louisewilkinson.co.uk.
- 6| Impressionistic pattern for a chic focal point.**
Grove chair in Betsy Print, H93xW86xD92cm, £699, Marks & Spencer, 0333 014 8555, marksandspencer.com.
- 7| From a collection of matching handmade pieces.**
Pressed Flower bowl, H10xdiam24cm, £175, Petersham Nurseries, 020 8940 5230, petershamnurseries.com.
- 8| Canvas and leather bag, ideal for weekend jaunts.**
Prairie backpack, H35xW27xD10cm, £98, Modernaked, modernaked.com.
- 9| A beautiful choice for any special occasion.**
Wild Flowers and Butterflies greetings card, 15x20cm, £2.75, Su Blackwell, 07765 165601, sublackwell.co.uk.

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IN SUSPENSE

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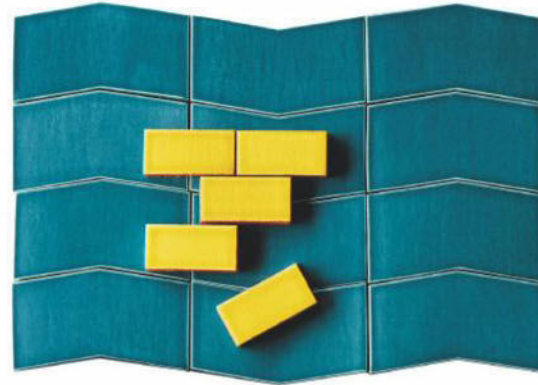
WEAVE A STORY

Emphasising its dedication to craftsmanship, Sheridan's latest collection, Beadmore, is made with its most complex weave to date. The hand-drawn design, inspired by Tasmanian flora, is woven at its Portuguese textile mill. From £69 for two pillowcases. Contact 01925 453410, sheridanaustralia.co.uk.



MAKING A SPLASH

Two new offerings from Waterworks have us hankering after upgraded bathrooms. The Isla collection, influenced by the beauty of rock and stone, is a collaboration with New York jewellery designer and sculptor Jill Platner. Prices start at £516 for an chrome Metal Geode tap handle (left). Also dazzling us, the Architectonics tile collection (right) is a feast for the eyes, coming in a whopping 123 colour options. From £277.61sq m for a 3x6in field tile. Contact 020 7384 4000, uk.waterworks.com.



3 OF THE BEST DUAL-PURPOSE PLANTERS

1| Room for two.

This twin planter doubles as a seat. **Romeo & Juliet bench, £3,190**, Naken Interiors, 01502 715064, naken.co.uk.



2| On reflection.

A great way to add another dimension to the garden, increasing the sense of space. **Metal window mirror with planter, £260**, Cox & Cox, 0844 858 0744, coxandcox.co.uk.



3| Shaping up.

Show plants off to their best advantage in this stylish pendant with chic modern looks. **Geometric metal hanging planter, £69**, West Elm, 0800 404 9780, westelm.co.uk.





SHOP TALK

KILVER COURT GARDEN NURSERY

Roger Saul, co-founder of Mulberry, has recently opened a treasure trove of specialist plants, garden tools and antiques at his Kilver Court Designer Village in Somerset. We went to meet him and take a look around



How did the idea for a garden nursery come about?

Quite simply, I love plants. I have a list of every single one in the garden here at Kilver Court and I've been itching to be able to offer our visitors the kind of specialist plants, seeds and one-off garden accessories that my wife, Monty, and I love finding for ourselves.

So you are a keen gardener yourself?

Yes, indeed. Although the boating lake and the rock garden are much as they were when they were created in the late 19th century and early Sixties, Monty and I designed and installed the parterre and herbaceous borders when we bought Kilver Court. I love buying and trying out new plants.

What will we find in the nursery?

There will be plants that feature in Kilver Court gardens – alpiners, conifers, ferns, hardy geraniums, dianthus, and primulas – but there will be more unusual varieties, too. To complement this, Monty has sourced garden antiques and reclamation finds, furniture, stylish tools, pots and climbing frames, which we sell from the Wiggly Shed shop. There will also be seeds, including a Heritage range created especially for us.

Can you tell us more about the design of the Wiggly Shed?

The shed was built from reclaimed materials. We found the beautiful arched windows at a reclamation yard, and the walls are deliberately mismatched inside. We chose the name because of the corrugated iron roof, which is our homage to a red-and-yellow version, which we absolutely love, on a building near our home, Sharpham Park, where we have our organic farm.

Designer village, organic farm and now a garden nursery. What next?

Well, there is still plenty to be done in the gardens; I gave Monty three flamingos for her birthday – Kilver's one-time owners, the Showering family, of Babycham fame, also had flamingos – so we're bedding them in, and I need to deal with the box blight affecting the parterre. The herbaceous border needs to be replanted, and I'm thinking of putting in a wild meadow border to draw the eye to the Charlton Viaduct and the fields beyond. I also have a dream of developing a plant-swap community here. We already have our Friends of Kilver Court scheme, and this would be the perfect extension.

Kilver Court Garden Nursery, Kilver Street, Shepton Mallet BA4 5NF, 01749 340410, kilvercourt.com.



Near the Charlton Viaduct (above), Kilver Court Garden Nursery sells a range of plants, with the Wiggly Shed (top left) offering garden tools and antiques.



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ROUND TRIP

Palm & Peach's new beach towels are reason enough to book a holiday. Available in three tropical designs, the 150cm round towels, £69, have terry cloth fabric on one side and soft velour for extra comfort on the other. Visit palmandpeach.com.



WALL FLOWERS

Sandberg has introduced Flora Sandbergica, a collection of exquisite botanical wallcoverings with the aim of bringing nature into our homes. We're particularly taken with the swoon-worthy Faded Passion Beige (shown left), £290 a roll, featuring almost ghostly passion flowers for a romantic look that's perfectly in keeping with the spirit of our garden issue. Contact 0800 731 9622, sandbergwallpaper.com.

RELAXED & RETRO

Reflecting Paolo Moschino for Nicholas Haslam's sophisticated yet eclectic style, the new Woodside lounge chair, H87xW80xD77cm, £3,700, has been created to give interiors a laid-back Seventies vibe. Wrapped in abacá rope, it comes in cream leather upholstery as standard, but can be made using any chosen fabric. Contact 020 7730 8623, nicholashaslam.com.



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4 OF THE BEST SUMMER GARDEN BOOKS

Pages full of inspiration for and in celebration of the garden at the height of its beauty

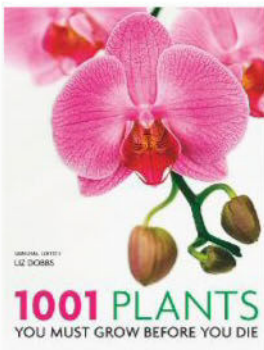


◀ **BIRDTOPIA**, Daisy Fletcher, £12.95, Laurence King.

The craze for adult colouring books has caused a global pencil shortage – and no wonder if this pictorial paradise of birds, insects and flowers is anything to go by. The perfect pastime for a lazy afternoon in the garden.

▷ **1001 PLANTS YOU MUST GROW BEFORE YOU DIE**, Liz Dobbs, £20, Cassell.

An indispensable guide for enthusiastic beginner gardeners, this charts plant varieties with lush photography and advice on the optimum growing conditions for everything from decorative borders to the vegetable patch.



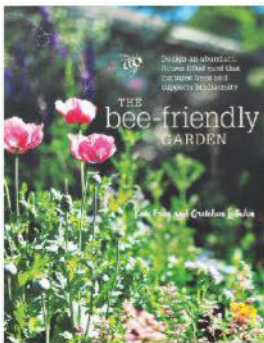
◀ **THE ROSE**, Brent Elliott, £35, Carlton Books.

A must-read for rose fans, Elliott's tome, published in association with the Royal Horticultural Society, traces the history of Britain's best-loved flower. Packaged in a collector's box, the book includes 40 charming reproduction prints of a variety of roses.



▷ **THE BEE-FRIENDLY GARDEN**, Kate Frey and Gretchen LeBuhn, £14.99, Random House.

Lavishly illustrated, this handy guide will help you create a garden that will encourage nature's most prolific pollinator to flourish. In turn, you will reap the rewards of an impressive increase in plant yields.



THE PERFECT COMPLEMENT

Sofa.com's Design Lab works on collaborative initiatives with up-and-coming designers twice year. Its latest collection comprises two lively prints, Paradise (on sofa) and Raindance (on chair), by Anna Glover, which are designed to sit in harmony with each other. From £690 for an armchair. Contact 0345 400 2222, sofa.com.



DESIGN FOR LIFE

Set to become a fixture in chic households everywhere, the hardy new Delta chair, H80xW59xD50cm, €89, from Vondom, vondom.com, is stackable and water resistant, making it equally suited to indoors and out. Designed by Jorge Pensi, it's available in seven colourways.



HANG ON

We love these stylish glass hanging vases, H21cm, £16 each, from The Conran Shop, 0844 848 4000, conranshop.co.uk. Using the glass hook on the base, you can suspend several in succession or adorn them with other decorative objects.



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FABRICS (From far left) Long Island

in Grey on Oyster, linen, £197m,

Bennison Fabrics. **Jardin Floral** in

Summer Canvas, linen mix, £215m,

Ralph Lauren Home. **Bowood** in

Red/Blue, cotton, £79m, Colefax

and Fowler. **Rose & Fern** in Blue,

cotton, £250m, Jean Monro at Turnell

& Gigon. **York** in Faded Blue, linen,

£77m, Mark Alexander. **Grace** in

Original, hemp, £207.60m, Jasper

Fabrics by Michael S Smith at Jamb.

Cushions in (from top) Cecile Rose

in Ivory/Silver, linen mix, £59m,

Sanderson. **Tulips & Roses** in Blue,

linen, £65m, **Cabbages & Roses.**

Couture Rose in Graphite, linen,

£75m, Designers Guild.

FURNITURE Painted English

rush seat chair, £1,500,

Josephine Ryan Antiques.

ACCESSORIES Classic curtain pole

in Beeswax, 20mm, 17p per cm;

Button finials, 20mm, £7.70 each;

Standard Chapel brackets, 20mm,

£6.90 each; Standard twist rings,

£1.05 each; all Jim Lawrence.

WHERE TO BUY, PAGE 177



SLEEK STYLE

With its striking interplay between angular and round forms, the Coco collection takes the trend for furniture in the bathroom to chic new heights. Featuring black metal legs and mineral cast basins, the range is available in a choice of finishes including matt lacquer and wood veneer, and starts at £252 for a towel rack. Available from Ripples, 0800 107 0700, ripples.ltd.uk.

Live-smart.co is a new website that aims to demystify and make life easier with **smart technology**. It is full of useful ideas, affordable solutions and buying advice for wearable tech, the smart home and the connected car.



ON THE BUTTON With straight arms and a neat shape, Tetrad's new Battersea sofa is a modern take on the classic chesterfield. Made in Lancashire, it is available in numerous fabric options and four sizes, from £2,598 for a chair. Contact 01772 792936, tetrad.co.uk.



LOG ON

We're impressed by the hardy good looks of this 1/2 stool by Witamina D, a new brand from Poland that focuses on working with local producers and craftsmen in wood. Combining FSC-certified oak and matt black powder-coated steel, each stool, which measures H42xW35xD35cm and costs £161, is made to order with a lead time of two to three weeks. Available from Craftsberg, craftsberg.com.



BEE GOOD

Made from essential oils and citronella to keep insects at bay, this zesty fragranced, limited-edition candle, £24, by Beefayre, beefayre.com, has a burning time of 65 hours and comes with a packet of British wild flower seeds so you can plant a habitat for bees.

READER EVENT

DAY OF INSPIRATION

FARROW & BALL AT HIGHGROVE

H&G has teamed up with paint and wallpaper specialist Farrow & Ball to invite readers to an exclusive event on 21 June in the spectacular setting of Highgrove in Gloucestershire. After a tour of the gardens followed by a champagne tea, F&B's international colour consultant, Joa Studholme, will introduce the company's latest colours and illustrate simple ways of creating individual looks for the home. For further details about Farrow & Ball, visit farrow-ball.com.

WHEN Tuesday 21 June, 2.45-6.15pm.

WHERE The Royal Gardens at Highgrove, Tetbury, Gloucestershire.

TICKETS £75 per person, including a tour of the gardens and a champagne afternoon tea. To book, call 0333 222 4555 or visit highgroveshop.com/farrowball.



HIGHGROVE

FARROW & BALL
CRAFTSMEN IN PAINT AND PAPER

PARADISE FOUND

The exotic new Garden of Eden fabrics from Étoile Home feature botanicals, forbidden fruit and whimsical patterns, and are available as cushions, from £35, table linens, tea towels and bags. Contact 07961 392399, etoile-home.com.



TUSCAN TREASURE

This rustic Vitondo pot, H47x diam50cm, £400, is part of a range of architectural vessels and vases handmade in Italy by terracotta specialist Poggi Ugo. The pieces are available from The Chelsea Gardener, 020 7352 5656, chelseagardener.com.

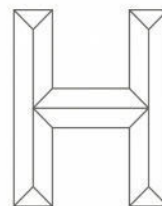


Tickets for the first **RHS Chatsworth Flower Show** go on sale on 7 June 2016, a year in advance of the gates opening on 7-11 June 2017. Buy them now, from rhs.org.uk/flowershows, as this spectacle within the stunning parkland of the Chatsworth Estate is sure to be essential viewing.



PALE & INTERESTING

Atkin and Thyme has come up trumps again – this time the Chevron sideboard, H78xW141xD39cm, £689, has caught our eye. Made from eco-friendly bleached mango wood offset by antique brass, the collection includes a shelving unit, dining table and benches. Contact 0844 409 9834, atkinandthyme.co.uk.



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CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT Sam's Cloudy Bay Garden for Chelsea 2016; showing off the beauty of raw materials; feathery grasses in Sam's winning garden at Tatton Park in 2014; exploring new ways of using garden space at Tatton Park.

ONE TO WATCH

SAM OVENS

Already an RHS Gold medallist and Chelsea Main Avenue débutante, this young Cornishman is taking the gardening world by storm



What inspired you to become a gardener?

I grew up on a working farm and was always fascinated by the plants and wildlife around me, but it was during a six-month spell in hospital when I was seventeen that I really began to appreciate the value of landscapes and gardens. I remember looking out of the window and realising how it helped to lift my spirits. Our garden on the farm was a bit of a wilderness, but I was given free rein to do whatever I wanted. I always had a project on the go – digging ponds, building dry stone walls, or trying to grow exotics like the ones I had seen elsewhere in Cornwall.

Why train as a garden designer, and not a plant specialist or a landscape architect?

By the time I was twenty, I knew I really wanted to be either a landscape designer or a landscape architect, as my passion was for design, closely followed by a love of nature. I studied product design for two years, but while it was brilliant on the design side of things, it lacked the nature element and I wanted both, which is how I finally ended up doing Garden Design at Falmouth University.

How would you describe your style?

Simple, minimalist and functional. I believe that, above all else, a garden should be a small landscape; a place to escape to for reflection

and for creativity. I try to make spaces that are deeply personal to the individual. I love loose, naturalistic planting juxtaposed with clean, contemporary built elements, and I prefer to use raw materials to create interesting yet unfussy details. That said, I feel that my style is constantly evolving; I am influenced by almost everything I come into contact with.

Do you think gardens are affected by trends and, if so, do you follow them?

Gardens are very much affected by trends, but as a designer I think it's important not to be led by them too much, as they only ever work in the short term. I want to create timeless places that respond to their environment and to the individual needs of their owners and users; gardens that will still be appreciated in years to come.

How and when did you get your big break?

Being named the RHS Young Designer of the Year at the RHS Tatton Park Flower Show in 2014 was a big one for me as it gave me the confidence I needed to start up on my own, and helped me secure my first real commissions. It also led to me being invited by the New Zealand winery Cloudy Bay to design its garden at this year's RHS Chelsea Flower Show. Building a scheme on Main Avenue has been a dream of mine ever since I started studying, so to be given the opportunity at the age of twenty-seven was incredible.



Is there a difference between designing show gardens and ones for real spaces?

Definitely. A show garden is a snapshot in time that has to be absolutely perfect for just a few days, whereas real gardens have to look good and function every day of the year.

Where do you find your inspiration?

Wild landscapes – that sense of being at one with nature – and seeing how plants colonise an area fascinate me. These themes were the driving forces behind my use of heathers and wild grasses for the Cloudy Bay Garden.

What are you working on at the moment?

I have a range of projects on the go, including a small city garden in Manchester, a nature-based play space for a school, and the redesign of a large country estate.

Finally, in the tercentenary of his birth, how important is Capability Brown to you?

His work is a great source of inspiration. Like the great man, I try to create spaces which mimic the experience of being in a pristine yet curated patch of nature. If one of my designs was still being appreciated in three hundred years' time, that would be wonderful.

To find out more, visit samovens.co.uk.

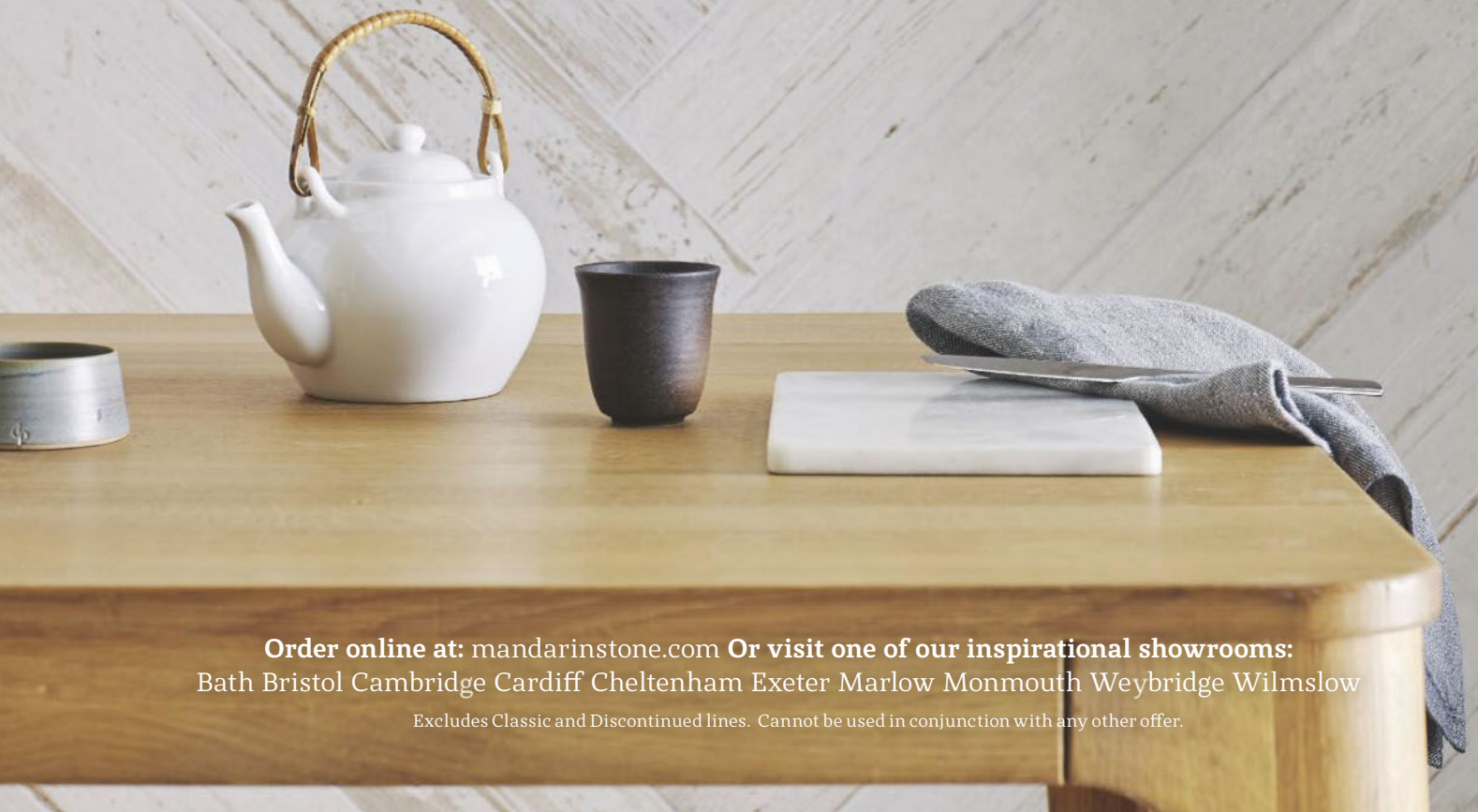
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 - 2| Vase 1000 Flowers Green, £550; both I&JL Brown.
 - 3| Trophy vase, £75, William Yeoward.
 - 4| Honeycomb vase, £24, West Elm at John Lewis.
 - 5| Finn vase, £75, Abigail Ahern.
 - 6| Deedy vase, £25, Habitat.
 - 7| Bulb vase, £118, Jonathan Adler.
 - 8| Indigo Striped Nuuk vase, £95, Holly's House.
 - 9| Connaught vase, £45, Heal's.
 - 10| Vase oval large, £127, Mud Australia.
- Flowers, Scarlet & Violet. Gold-plated dressmaking scissors, £85, The New Craftsmen. Linen hemstitch tablecloths in Dove Grey and Parisian Blue, from £80, The Linen Works. Walls in Duck Egg Blue, Wall Paint, £39.95 for 2.5 litres, Annie Sloan.**

WHERE TO BUY, PAGE 177



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AMAZING GRACE

This three-seater Tango sofa, H94xW190x D99cm, £2,556, by Dedon, has a swan-like elegance with a curved back sweeping into sculptural twisted armrests. Plump cushions nestle in the herringbone weave, which comes in Bronze or Basalto colourways. Contact Leisure Plan, 01279 816001, leisureplan.co.uk.

Famous for its orangeries and conservatories, **David Salisbury** has arrived in London in time for summer. Based in the leafy grounds of The Chelsea Gardener, the orangery-style **showroom** doubles as a venue for garden parties. Contact 01278 764444, davidsalisbury.com.



DEEPLY DESIRABLE

The ultimate bathroom style statement, Laura Ashley's new Opus freestanding bath, H60xL170xW67cm, £1,750, is generously proportioned for a luxurious soak. Its good looks are backed up by thoughtful design, with great thermal properties thanks to its composition of smooth double-skinned acrylic resin. Contact 01225 303929, lauraashleybathroomcollection.com.

DESIGN EYE

BARBARA CHANDLER



H&G's design correspondent uncovers the craft background of the latest National Trust gift shop offerings

Next time you visit a National Trust property, look out for a special selection of British crafts in its shop (or online at shop.nationaltrust.org.uk). Genevieve Sioka, the National Trust's buyer for artisan and craft, has put together a beautiful range handmade by new and established potters, ceramicists, weavers and sculptors from all over the UK. "Our aim was to promote heritage craft skills," she says. Makers take their inspiration from the National Trust's properties and landscapes. For example, potter Paul Jessop throws traditional tableware (shown below) in a barn at Barrington Court, the first country house to come to the National Trust in 1907, with prices from £5 to £60.

Other ceramics include blue-and-white porcelain by Janine Roper, from £28; luminous bone china by Sasha Wardell, from £50; and adorable stoneware birds, £25, crafted by Elissa Palser using a technique she learned from her mother. London wood artist Eleanor Lakelin makes vessels, from £245, using a cedar tree planted at Kingston Lacy in Dorset by the Duke of Wellington in 1827.

The newest contributor was selected by an open call to UK makers last year. Mary Kaun-English creates a unique mottled finish for each of her pieces (right) using an ancient process called pit firing, through which smoke is absorbed unevenly by the porous clay. Prices range from £15 for a pair of coasters to £200 for a handsome sculpture. This year's open call is in progress, with a deadline of 29 August 2016.





WILDLY DIFFERENT

Full of joyful exuberance and featuring African-inspired art, this Bird Crossing cushion, 40cm sq, £80, from luxury African brand Halsted, is not to be missed. Bold colour and playful animals are also hallmarks of the wider Qalakabusha range, which comprises furniture, fabrics and table linens. Available at Colony, 020 7351 3232, colonyfabrics.com/en/.

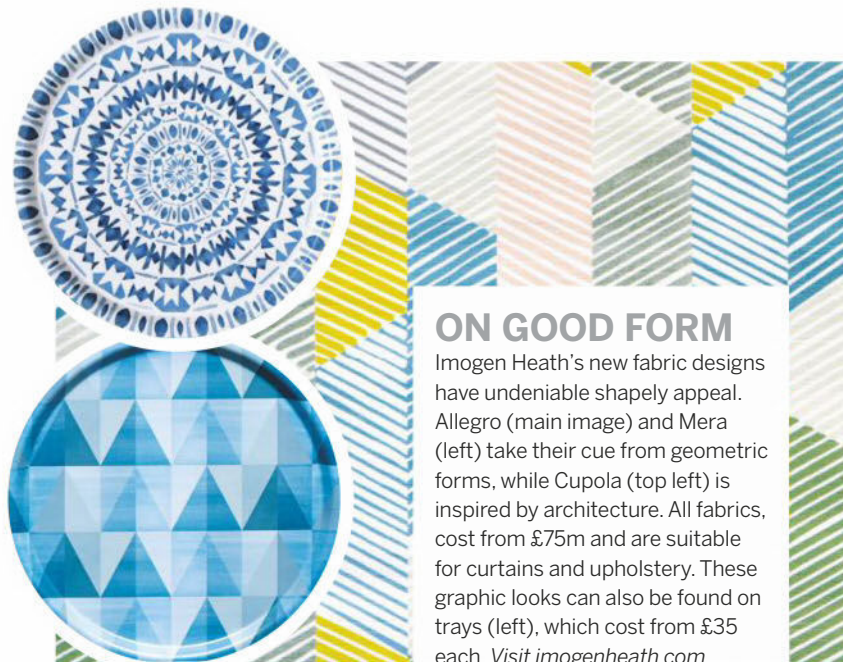
Whether travelling on a long journey or unwinding by the pool, enjoy *Homes & Gardens* wherever you are. Simply **download the latest issue of H&G** for tablet or smartphone at housetohome.co.uk/digital-editions/homesandgardens.



FLEUR DE FORCE Jean Paul Gaultier's latest fabric collection, *Nature et Decouverte* for Lelièvre, is inspired by the designer's very unique – and multifaceted – take on nature. The varied designs, which include *Botanique in Pollen*, £96m (shown above as a curtain), go from exuberant rococo florals to turbulent waves and vivid mosaics transplanted onto jacquards and velvet. Contact 020 7352 4798, lelievre.eu.

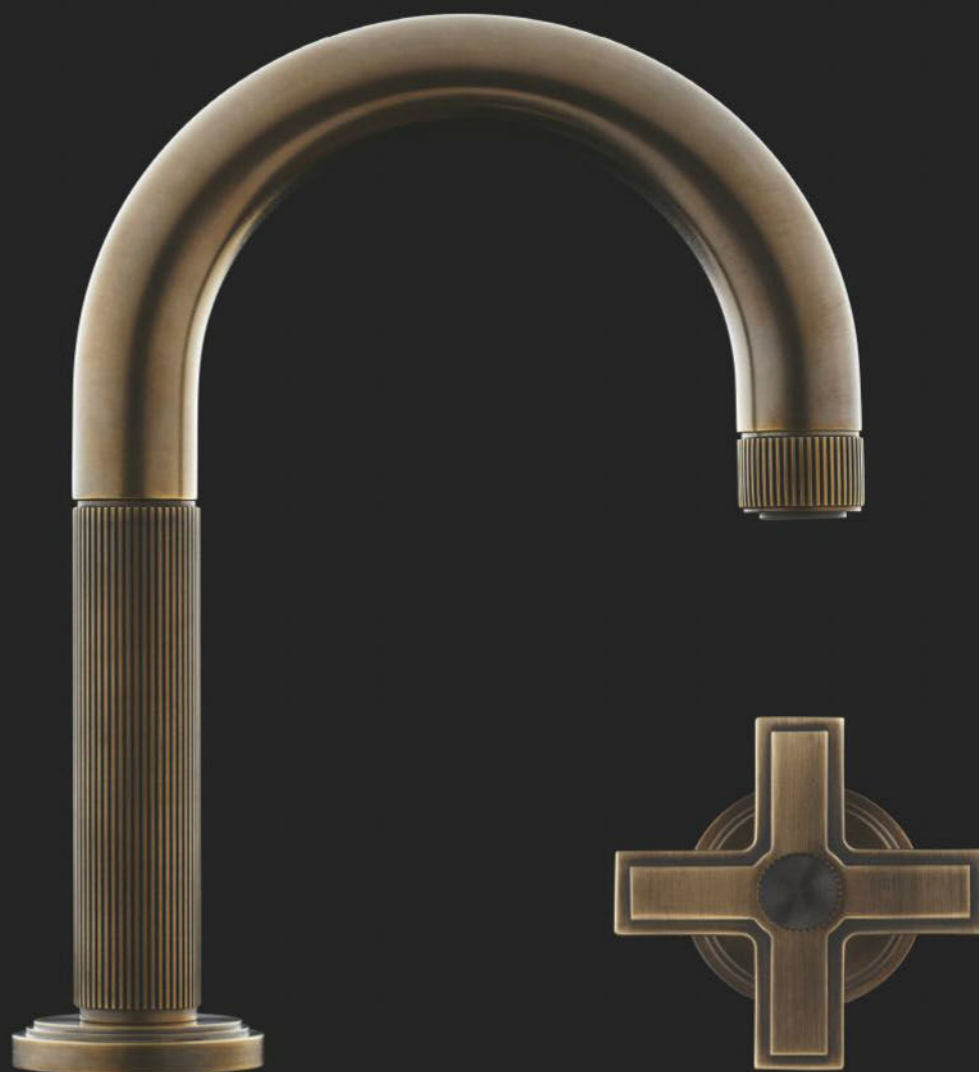


PRINTS CHARMING Now is your chance to snap up one of these *Musa* (left) and *Fern* (right) botanical art prints, from £34 for 40x50cm, while you can. Each design has a limited-edition of 500, all signed by the Dutch artist Maaïke Koster. Contact Ross & Brown, 0345 600 3315, rossandbrownhome.co.uk.



ON GOOD FORM

Imogen Heath's new fabric designs have undeniable shapely appeal. *Allegro* (main image) and *Mera* (left) take their cue from geometric forms, while *Cupola* (top left) is inspired by architecture. All fabrics, cost from £75m and are suitable for curtains and upholstery. These graphic looks can also be found on trays (left), which cost from £35 each. Visit imogenheath.com.



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TERRACE

Long, warm evenings are spent outside drinking wine and talking to friends by the light of Moroccan lanterns strung from the trees.

SITTING ROOM

The couple's travels have been the source of many decorative pieces, including these rugs (right), while the curtains are made from silk that Walton brought back from Delhi, following a six-week solo journey through rural India.

CALIFORNIAN HOME



Agreeing to view just one more house was only the beginning for Hollywood actor Walton Goggins, who discovered a hidden gem and a happy ending

WORDS JENNIFER GOULDING PHOTOGRAPHS MARTIN LOF

LA STORY



Award-winning American actor Walton Goggins is known for his charismatic performances in television series such as *The Shield* and *Justified*, and films including Steven Spielberg's *Lincoln*, and *The Hateful Eight*, directed by Quentin Tarantino. Less well-known is his enthusiasm for design, which is abundantly evident in his LA house and garden, where he enjoys an enviable outdoorsy lifestyle with his wife, filmmaker Nadia Conners, and their young son, Augustus.

Had you been looking for a new home for long?

WG: "Although we had been searching for a few years, the urgency increased once Nadia was pregnant with Augustus. We were on the precipice of great change, but we still couldn't find anything. Eventually I said: 'OK, I'll look at one more place.' The house was not officially on the market, and I was the first to view, but it was destiny."

Why? What made this property so special?

WG: "We wanted a house with a connection to history. A lot of houses in LA are jaw-droppingly beautiful on the outside, but the interiors have a bad, homogenised twenty-first century aesthetic. This house was built in 1922, by one of the biggest lumber dealers in LA, and it had not been touched since. It was not grandiose or gaudy, but had a certain distinction."

What about the garden?

NC: "There was no garden, just a dirt patch and a few fruit trees, which we managed to save. We created the whole thing

“

The original owner had used beautiful and sometimes rare timber for the floors, doors and exposed beams, so we had them restored.”



FORMAL DINING ROOM

Walton and Nadia enjoy mixing pieces from different eras. In this space (far left), classic mid-century designs – the Series 7 chairs and Fun 4DM light – are paired with an antique farmhouse table.

SITTING ROOM

Walton reads to his son, Augustus (above, far left), on a sofa designed by Nadia. “It’s a copy of one I had seen in a magazine,” she says. “I’ve carried a box of tear sheets from home to home for twenty-five years. This sofa was on one of them, and

this house finally had the space for it.” She also commissioned the mirror (above left), which was inspired by one the couple had seen in The Bowery Hotel: “Our favourite place to stay in New York.” Behind one of two matching blue velvet sofas (above), a drinks trolley displays a collection of Walton’s beloved finds.

HALLWAY

Walton loves hats, for both sartorial and decorative purposes. Two of his favourite LA hatters are Gunner Foxx and Nick Fouquet.



“

Often, Walton comes home with a piece of furniture strapped to his old Range Rover like a hunter with a prize stag.”



KITCHEN

“It took us a long time to find a chandelier for the kitchen (above), as it was a key piece in establishing the vibe for the house,” says Nadia. “As shorthand, we referred to the look we were after as “Titanic era.”

INFORMAL DINING ROOM

A charming built-in dresser (right) adds to the homely feel of this room, which is used for family meals.

STUDY

Among family photos and travel mementoes (far right) is Walton’s Academy Award for *The Accountant*, a short film by a company that he co-founded. The cork board (far right, above) is used by Walton and Nadia “for inspiration”.





from scratch. In LA, we have a true indoor-outdoor lifestyle so that space was important, especially now we have Augustus.”

Is it a place for family and friends or is it your retreat?

WG: “We entertain a lot. Maybe three times a week, we have a small group of friends over to drink wine and talk about politics, culture, art and society. It is like a salon, but instead of being inside, we sit out on the patio or on one of the terraces.”

Was the interior of the house in poor condition?

WG: “The bones were there, but we had to replace all the cloth wiring, install heating and redo the inside of the chimney, which had fallen down in an earthquake.”

NC: “In the attic, there was an enormous bees’ nest – the biggest that has ever been found in LA. The walls were literally dripping with honey. We had the bees relocated; I think of it as a sort of blessing on the house.”

Were the original features still intact?

NC: “Yes, the original owner had used beautiful and sometimes rare timber for the floors, doors and exposed beams, so we had them restored. The staircase and fireplace are also original.”

WG: “We also restored the steel-case windows. The idea was to honour the house and to preserve its integrity.”

What sort of space did you want to design?

WG: “We saw it as a chance to create something that reflects our identity. Guests can see that our home is extension of us, but the building has also given our style the opportunity to evolve.”



LANDING

The faded vintage Moroccan runner (above left) turns this landing into a decorative space without overwhelming its modest proportions.

ENTRANCE HALL & STAIRCASE

The front door (above) is a fine example of the special pieces of timber used by the lumber dealer who built this house in 1922. Terracotta floor tiles in the entrance hall bring out the subtle red tones of the wood in the original staircase.

AUGUSTUS'S ROOM

This scheme (right) successfully combines a sense of style and fun. “Although it is meant for playing,” says Nadia, “for a while Augustus would only nap in the tent.”





NC: "We have grown into this house. It is the realisation of a stylistic dream: bookish, bohemian and a little bit punk rock."

Vintage pieces clearly appeal – can you tell us why?

NC: "Walton and I are instinctive buyers, not collectors. We have the same ability to fall passionately for anything, from a tiny box for the mantelpiece to a coffee table, because it gives us a feeling of excitement. It's all about the heart, not the head."

Where did you find your furniture and accessories?

NC: "Many pieces are from our travels, but some come from a handful of Walton's favourite dealers in L.A. He has much more patience than me and will spend hours looking for that perfect something. Often, he comes home with a piece of furniture strapped to his old Range Rover like a hunter with a prize stag."

Have you always been interested in interior design?

WG: "I come from a poor family but when I was in high school, my mother said: 'Okay buddy, you've got ninety-nine bucks to decorate your room however you like.' So I bought the lumber and built my bed, got some cool, industrial-style carpet and painted the walls in different styles. I've always believed your home is your castle."

As a celebrity, is it hard to get involved in the community?

WG: "I really don't see my job like that. We have lots of friends in the neighbourhood, and just the other day I had a yard sale. I was out there with my hat and my change purse and my son. We raised a good lot of money for charity."





“

We have grown into this house. It is the realisation of a stylistic dream: bookish, bohemian and a little bit punk rock.”

GUEST BEDROOM

Walton and Nadia have used a neutral paint colour in nearly every room. This unifies the different areas of the house and, as shown in this scheme (above far left), is an ideal backdrop for their characterful furniture and accessories.

ADJOINING BATHROOM

The bold deep blue of the walls in the guest bathroom (far left) is a smart contrast to the crisp white metro tiles and adds dramatic impact to the space.

MAIN BEDROOM

In the corner by the bed (above left), framed natural objects, including pressed flowers,

together with strands of jewellery make an unusual but effective display. White walls and bedlinen create a restful atmosphere and bring these ornamental items into relief.

THE FAMILY

Nadia, Walton and their son, Augustus (above), love to spend time outside. The couple has created a garden from what had been “a dirt patch and a few fruit trees”.

PATIO

This exotic-looking yet cosy space was designed in homage to the patios that Walton and Nadia have enjoyed on frequent trips to Morocco.





Clara chandelier, H55xdiam70cm, **£149**, Marks & Spencer, 0333 014 8000, marksandspencer.com.



Denny small sofa in Stirling in Cornflower, H92xW168xD95cm, **£970**, Arlo & Jacob, 0333 122 5387, arloandjacob.com.



Berkeley tiles in Slate Blue, **£67.56sq m**, Topps Tiles, 0800 783 6262, toppstiles.co.uk.



Border panel mirror, **£780sq m**, Looking Glass of Bath, 01225 461969, lookingglassofbath.co.uk.

CALIFORNIAN HOME

BE INSPIRED

Beautiful pieces that emulate the easy West Coast style of Walton Goggins' family house

Vintage leather Brooklyn armchair, H76xW73xD77cm, **£795**, Rose & Grey, 0161 926 8763, roseandgrey.co.uk.



Velvet Ikat cushion, 63x35cm, **£174**, Irving & Morrison, 020 7384 2975, irvingandmorrison.com.



Brass ball lamp, H33xdiam29cm, **£95**, Lombok, 020 7736 5171, lombok.co.uk.



Chopper coffee table, H46x W137xD76cm, **£295**, Loaf, 0845 468 0697, loaf.com.



San Marco, **£1,782sq m**, Luke Irwin, 020 7730 6070, lukeirwin.com.

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Edinburgh Martin & Frost • **Elgin** Anderson & England • **Falmouth** Richard Cook • **Fulham, London** Darlings of Chelsea • **Gateshead** Barker &
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Prestige Furniture • **Norwich** Jarrolds • **Nottingham** Barker & Stonehouse • **Perth** Gillies • **Rainham** G Lukehurst • **Ringwood** Furlong Furniture •
Salisbury Mylor & Mawes • **Sheffield** Ponsford • **Sherborne** Dodge Interiors • **Shrewsbury** Alan Ward • **Solihull** Whartons • **St Albans** Darlings of
Chelsea • **Stamford** Stamford Garden Centre • **Streatham, London** E & A Wates • **Teeside** Barker & Stonehouse • **Tillicoultry** Sterling Furniture •
Tunbridge Wells Darlings of Chelsea • **Tunbridge Wells** Hoopers • **Waltham Cross** Fishpools • **Westerham** The Old Bakery • **Windsor** WJ Daniels •
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TACTILE WOOD

1| Mikado, H72xW136xD69cm, £1,300 set with table and two carver chairs, *Debenhams*. **2|** Amaze, H77xW145xD82cm, £1,624, *Cane-line at Aram*. **3|** Provence in Dove Grey, H89xW126xD50cm, £275, *Cox & Cox*. **4|** Saltram, H120xW180xD58.5cm, £3,360, *Jamb*. **5|** Salcombe, H90xW140xD63.5cm, £157, *B&Q*. **6|** Hatfield, H92xW158xD63cm, £995, *Neptune*. **7|** Windsor curved three seater, H88xW150xD76cm, £549, *BrackenStyle at Wayfair*.



STYLISH METAL

1 | Shine, H71xW147xD65cm, £595, *Emu at Chaplins*. **2** | Distressed Black, H91xW110xD45.5cm, £425, *Rockett St George*.
3 | Cassandra Cross Back, H90xW162xD58cm, £202, *Sweetpea & Willow*. **4** | Rosedale, H97.5xW105.5xD55cm, £149, *Marks & Spencer*.
5 | Monceau in Rosemary, H85xW111xD64.5cm, £252, *Fermob at Barbed*. **6** | Naomi with rising table, H100xW152xD45cm, £235,
Out There Interiors. **7** | Nizza, H88xW120xD59cm, £1,056, *Fischer Möbel at Leisure Plan*. **WHERE TO BUY, PAGE 177**

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From rockers to armchairs, we select the best outdoor designs for comfort and style



1| Contour Garden Club chair, H76xW79xD77cm, £1,400, Tribù at Go Modern. **2|** Traveler Européen armchair with hood, H145xW128xD125cm, £2,010, Roche Bobois. **3|** Avia tall rattan chair, H125xW89xD74cm, £250, Habitat. **4|** Marquesas armchair, H87xW85xD85cm, £695, Oka. **5|** Roll Club chair in Fog, H78xW64xD64cm, £1,584, Patricia Urquiola at Kettal. **6|** MBrace rocking chair in Pepper, H97xW107xD89cm, £1,434, Dedon at Leisure Plan. **7|** Monterey deep seating armchair (reclining), H106.5xW77.5xD101.5cm, £820, Barlow Tyrie. **8|** Pimlico two-seat bench in Taupe, H79xW129xD76cm, £945, Indian Ocean. **9|** Harrington sofa armchair, H84xW90xD77cm, £520, Neptune. **10|** Bay lounge chair in Dove, H72xW86xD94cm, £1,148, Gloster. **WHERE TO BUY, PAGE 177**

FIRE PITS

Perfect for the garden, beach or camping trip, our favourite designs will extend summer evenings long into the night



1| Fire pit, H62xdiam55cm, £292.95, *All Things Brighton Beautiful*. **2|** Colachi, H23xdiam56cm, £89.99, *Primrose*. **3|** Caldera Corten, H30.5xW114.5xD114.5cm, £4,320, *Paloform at Urban Fires*. **4|** La Hacienda small Pittsburgh, H30xdiam60cm, £79.99, *John Lewis*. **5|** Cube, H56.5xdiam63cm, £216, *Arpe Studio at Etsy*. **6|** Ignis, H32xdiam45cm, £259, *Morsø*. **7|** Mangiafuoco, H45xdiam80cm, from £2,150, *AK47 Design at Houseology*. **8|** Tecton collapsible, H30xW52.5xD52.5cm, £220, *Magma Firepits*. **WHERE TO BUY, PAGE 177**



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FURNITURE Percy chair, H89xW75xD96.5cm, from £885; Scroll-back chair, H91.5xW74xD83cm, from £894; both Pimpernel & Partners. White marble side table, H70xdiam38cm, £320, Petersham Nurseries.

Block stool, H40x W29xD29cm, £195, Jan Kurtz at SCP.

FABRICS Percy chair in Hortensia 23, cotton, £41.50m, Swaffer. Scroll-back chair in Poulton Stripe L-261, cotton, £96m, Fermoie. Cushions in Woodperry in Khaki (left),

linen, £156m, Veere Grenney Associates; Amelie Lettuce (right), cotton, £138m, Fleurons d'Hélène; both at Tissus d'Hélène.

FLOORING Grey Terracotta rectangle tiles, £89.82sq m, Fired Earth.

ACCESSORIES Whitestone Rose pots, £15.60 each; saucers, £5.50 each; all Grand Illusions. Kontextür X3 watering can, £70, The Garden Edit. Kiskey pruning shears, £70; Pruning sheath, £20; both Petersham Nurseries. Ceret lamp, £110, The French House.

THE LOOK

The GARDENER'S cottage

Simple utility is given a light and pretty dimension with horticulturally themed decorative flourishes and happily mismatched pattern in schemes that embody relaxed charm

STYLING EMMA THOMAS, ALI BROWN AND LAURA VINDEN PHOTOGRAPHS EMMA LEE



A pretty wallpaper with a botanical theme helps to evoke the sense of a verdant garden year round. To enhance the indoor outdoor mood, a soft linen curtain with a lower panel in a complementary tone allows light through while also offering privacy.

FURNITURE Witham oak dining table, H76xW180xD90cm, **£882**;

Witham Oak trestle bench, H46xW170xD28cm, **£366**; both Rowen & Wren. CH22 chair in oak, H72.5xW69.5xD61.5cm, **£1,878**, Carl Hansen & Son.

FABRICS Curtains in Washed linen in Green (top panel) and Khaki (bottom panel), both **£26m**, The Hackney Draper.

WALLS Secret Garden wallpaper 103/9030, **£78 a roll**, Cole & Son.

ACCESSORIES Brooklyn vintage giant bowl metal lampshade, **£119**; Black round fabric flex, **£4m**; both Industville. Philip Smeale Wadsworth ceramic vase (on floor), **£750**, Wilson Stephens & Jones. Linen napkins in Yellow, **£27 a pair**, Once Milano.

(On table) Fairlight bowl in Ash, from **£145**, Bird & Branch at SCP. White Celadon porcelain vase with Marigolds design, **£300**;

Stoneware plate with Carnation design, **£80**; both Lucy Augé & Jacob Bodilly in Collaboration. Large Bulging pot, **£55**, French Connection. 20mm Classic curtain pole in Beeswax, **17p per cm**; Standard 20mm Chapel brackets, **£6.90 each**; 20mm button finials, **£7.70 each**; all

Jim Lawrence. Syrlig black curtain clips, **£4 for ten**, Ikea. Drift runner, 80x400cm, **£245**, Northwood. Flowers with thanks to Scarlet & Violet.

Against the textural look of a hessian wallcovering, an understated wooden plate rack is ideal for showing off the whimsical beauty of cabbage ware. Adding subtle hand-thrown ceramics to the display prevents the effect from becoming overwhelming.

FURNITURE Witham oak plate rack, H100xW80xD11cm, **£168**, Rowen & Wren. Solcada side table, H76xW116xD58cm, **£585**, Oka. English painted rush-seated chair, **£1,500**, Josephine Ryan Antiques.

WALL Hessian 51 wallcovering in Dark Natural, **£26.25m**, Muraspec.

ACCESSORIES (Top shelf, from left) Cabbage White side plate, **£36 set of four**, Oka. Cabbage Leaf plate, **£25**, SCP. Vintage pewter cream jug, from **£10**, Alfies Antique Market. Terracotta seedling pot, **£4**, Petersham Nurseries. (Middle shelf, from left)

Botanical postcard, 80p, Lucy Augé. Cabbage Leaf plate, **£19.99**, SCP. Pickle dish in Wasabi, **£14**, Mud Australia. Round platter, **£20**; (bottom shelf, from left) Tea mug in Speckle Grey, **£12**; hand-moulded coffee cups, **£15 each**; all Nôm Living. Lane & Parkwood Pottery Speckled White mug, **£16**, Lane. Cabbage Leaf pitcher, **£29.99**, SCP. (On table) Black plant pot, **£12.50**, The Chelsea Gardener. Simple round platter **£10**, Nôm Living. Clorofilla Fennel canister, **£30**, Virginia Casa at Kensington Design. Cabbage Leaf tureen, **£59.50**; Cabbage Leaf cheese dome, **£58**; both SCP.





An otherwise unused alcove in a bay window, with its view out to the garden, is a delightful location for a study area. Opting for a pared-back desk and simple seating means that the work space won't intrude on the rest of the room. The neat blinds screen out bright sunlight, while a clamped lamp is a versatile choice.

FURNITURE Desk *Three*, white oiled beech, H72xW140xD50cm, **£880**, *Another Country*. *Petite industrial chair*, H78xW32xD40cm, **£380**, *Puckhaber*. *Milking stool*, H43xdiam30cm, **£185**, *Cassandra Ellis*.

FABRIC Blinds in Irish Beetled linen in Mint, **£102m**, *Howe at 36 Bourne Street*. *Trimmed in curtain braid in Citrus ZTMG03015*, **£20m**, *Zoffany*.

ACCESSORIES Vintage wire basket, **£55**, *Ines Cole*. *Coir twine*, **£24**, *Niwaki*. *Beldi shopping basket*, from **£14**,

Bohemia. (On desk, from left) *Chartwell desk lamp* in Matt Black, **£147**, *Jim Lawrence*. *Felt pot* in Yellow, from **£20**, *Northwood*. *Wirkala bottle*, **£189**, *SCP*. *Similar ceramic pots*, vintage French jam pot, **£8.50**, *Labour and Wait*. *Black Jute twine*, **£5.50** a spool. *Neon twine ball* in Yellow, **£3**, both *Nutscene*. *Similar botanical pictures*, **£90**, *Petersham Nurseries*. *Tea mug* in Speckle Grey, **£12**, *Nóm Living*. *Enamel speckle mug* in Yellow, **£4**, *Utility*. *Nest hemp rug*, 90x180cm, **£200**, *SCP*.

For a fresh take on tongue-and-groove panelling, painted wood strips of varying widths can be attached to the wall using battens, while mismatched fabrics from the same colour palette are a pretty way to hide under-sink storage.

FURNITURE Milking stool, H43x diam30cm, £185, Cassandra Ellis.

FABRICS Sorbus in Saffron (left), cotton mix, £39m, Nile & York at Redloh House Fabrics. Three Lines in Yellow (right), linen, £98m, Virginia White.

WALL Mint Street, Marble Matt Emulsion, £40 for 2.5 litres, Mylands.

ACCESSORIES 500 Flower Series A4 paintings, £80 each, Lucy Augé. Black metal and rubber band frames, £35 each, The Conran Shop. Terracotta

seedling pots, £4 each; baskets and terracotta pots (under counter); all Petersham Nurseries. Eve teapot, £65, Sparrow & Co. Lane & Parkwood Pottery mug in Speckled White, £16, Lane. Vintage shallow basin, £270, Lassco. Wall-mounted basin taps with dial, £765.60, Studio Ore. Stanley Premium leather yellow gloves, £14.99, Screwfix. Black curtain pole with recess brackets, from £195 for 120cm pole set, Walcot House. Traditional watering can, £48, Rockett St George.





Yellow is a wonderful colour for the bedroom, making the start of every day feel like a sunny one. The simplicity of this scheme is embellished by a floral curtain on the bed frame, hung using brass eyelets and leather thonging for contemporary country style.

FURNITURE Gjöra double bed, H175xW153xD203cm, **£195**;

Hovag double mattress, L190x W135cm, **£200**; both *Ikea*. Lily side table in Yellow, H47x W46xD40cm, **£190**, *SCP*.

FABRICS Blind in Etienne in Citrine, linen, **£84m**, *Lewis & Wood*. Bed curtain in Lady Kristina in Classic, **£110m**, *Liberty*. Bedspread in Maddox Leaf, linen mix, 292cm wide, **£77m**; lined in Ramsey in Ivory, linen, **£66**; both *Colefax and Fowler*. Cushion on bed in Eloise Eau de Nil in Bronze, cotton, **£138m**, *Fleurons d'Hélène at Tissus d'Hélène*.

ACCESSORIES (On shelf) Flared bowl in Yellow, **£25**, *Mud Australia*.

Hand-moulded coffee cups, **£15** each, *Nôm Living*. Fig Leaves print in vintage frame, **£340**;

Philip Smeale Wadsworth vase, **£750**; both *Wilson Stephens & Jones*. Stanley pendant lamp shade in Military Green, **£45**, *Pooky*. Citrine Stone Washed standard pillowcase, **£24.99**;

Herringbone double duvet cover in Citrine, **£139.99**; both *Linen Me*.

Ochre Vice Versa linen throw, 140x250cm, **£260**; Block Kelim Green rug, 280x216cm, **£895**; both *The Conran Shop*. Leather curtain loops in 2mm tan leather thong, **£2.50m**, *Kleins*.

Sill length curtains hint at a 1930s cottage feel in this inviting window seat, where a bold approach to mixing pattern has been taken. The idea is that anything goes, so combine florals, checks and plains without fear – the only rule is to use what you love within a key colour scheme. Here yellows, chalky neutrals, and mint and khaki, with a touch of pink, ensure the look is playful yet sophisticated.

FABRICS Curtain in Plaid, linen, **£110m**, *Commune for Christopher Farr Cloth*. Window seat cushion in Cloud Garden in Smoke, linen, **£120m**, *Rapture & Wright*. Bolster cushion in Long Island in Original on Oyster, linen, **£197m**, *Bennison Fabrics*; Maddox Leaf, linen mix,

292cm wide, **£77m**, *Colefax and Fowler*.

ACCESSORIES Cinnamon cushion cover, **£29**, *Oka*. African Bogolan cushion, **£65**; Everyday jug, **£50**; both *Cassandra Ellis*. Marigolds stoneware beaker, **£40**, *Lucy Augé & Jacob Bodilly in Collaboration*.





As with a home's interiors, a garden's style can develop and grow over time, and mixing eras makes for an informal, welcoming space. Here, an old, much-loved outdoor dining table is paired with reissued Thonet modern classics and, although these pieces have very different looks, they are united by the curves of their metal frames and relatively simple forms.

FURNITURE Vintage mesh top table, H67xW120xD70cm, £795, *Puckhaber*. Thonet All Seasons S33 chairs, H84xW50xD64cm, from £495 each, *Thonet at Chaplins*.
FABRIC Curtain in Cyan in Anis, linen, 298cm wide, £103.20m, *Casamance*.

ACCESSORIES Truella hand trowel, £34.50, *Grafa at The Garden Edit*. Everyday tray, £70, *Cassandra Ellis*. Brown vintage jug, £35, *SCP*. Small green glass tumblers, £5 each, *Designers Guild*. Drift rug, 90x180cm, £245, *Northwood*. Antique French olive pot, £350, *Puckhaber*. **WHERE TO BUY, PAGE 177**

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The genius of CAPABILITY BROWN



Today, it would be almost inconceivable, but there was a time during the 18th century when a gardener held the power to shape all of England firmly in his hands.

That gardener was Lancelot “Capability” Brown and his strength lay in his ideas about nature and the landscape, its effect on man and man’s effect on it. He created small worlds of comfort and elegance, where everything worked as it should. In the course of his lifetime, Brown made woodlands and parklands, gardens and buildings for a clientele that included the King, six prime ministers and half the House of Lords, and he set in train a way

of gardening and living with nature that is still influential today: he established productive and income-earning plantations as well as ornamental ones, used site-specific native trees and plants, and attended to every detail, from drainage systems to the position of buildings or even windows, creating practical environments of uplifting beauty.

While the results of Brown’s labours are still evident, we know surprisingly little about the man himself. He was baptised on 30 August 1716 at St Wilfrid’s Church in Kirkharle, Northumberland, and lived and worked as a gardener there until 1739. By 1741, he was working as an architect and landscaper for Lord Cobham at Stowe,

We celebrate the 300th anniversary of the birth of the man who moved earth, water and stone to create landscapes that have defined the world view of the English countryside WORDS ARABELLA ST JOHN PARKER



Buckinghamshire, and from 1764 until his sudden death on 6 February 1783, he was Royal Gardener at Hampton Court and St James's Palace. He was buried in Fenstanton, Cambridgeshire, which is also the only place where Brown is known to have owned property.

As our brief review of some of Brown's designs reveals, he was landscape architect, designer and water engineer, a draughtsman, surveyor and architect. Almost everything he did was on a monumental scale and he worked on more than 250 sites in England and Wales. *For details of events in the year-long Capability Brown Festival 2016, visit capabilitybrown.org and visitengland.com.*

RAGLEY HALL

One of Brown's less well-known parklands, created for the 1st Earl of Hertford in the mid 18th century, this landscape is particularly remarkable for its dramatic view (above). With a portfolio of excellence already under his belt, Brown was judged somewhat harshly for his work at Ragdale by Horace Walpole, who recorded in 1757: "Browne has improved both the ground and the water, though not quite to perfection." This state of affairs could be explained by the fact that this was an extraordinarily busy time for Brown. He was working on Croome in Worcestershire and at Petworth, Sussex. He had just begun work at Burghley in Lincolnshire and by 1757, he was also involved in Longleat and Wrest Park, while in 1760, he started on the gardens at Chatsworth. Thanks to a government grant, Ragley is now being replanted with a mix of 4,000 oak and broadleaf trees, and the lake cascade and around 3,000 feet of paling fencing are being restored, to return the landscape to its original design.

Must see

The walk that leads from the south-west-facing terraced garden at the back of the hall, through the deer park, with its typically Brown clumps of deciduous trees, and up along a horse chestnut-lined avenue cut through Pearson's Wood.

Dates for the diary

■ 29-31 July, The Game Fair 2016 – a Great British countryside fair held within the Brown parkland.
Ragley Hall, Alcester, Warwickshire, 01789 762090, ragley.co.uk.

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COMPTON VERNEY

Commissioned by John Peyton Verney, 14th Baron Willoughby de Broke, in 1769 to transform the Georgian mansion's formal gardens into the naturalistic landscape for which Brown was by then renowned. Brown's nickname came from one of his rare recorded remarks about landscapes having "great capabilities", but the "natural" appearance of his designs in fact frequently involved him and the landowner taking some quite radical decisions; decisions that today, given our sensitivities and technical skills, might be regarded as unnecessary or even unacceptable. Among the features Brown removed at Compton Verney were formal gardens that included a canal and two grand avenues; he also demolished the medieval church of Compton Murdak to create the uninterrupted view of the lake (above) from the house. Into their place went vast plantings of grasslands and

native forest trees, including 2,200 oak and ash saplings, and the picturesque framing tree, the cedar of Lebanon (above), another key design element for which Brown's landscapes are famous.

Must see

The rare 1776 Brown-designed and built Grade I-listed chapel, which is being restored with the help of a £2.5m Heritage Lottery Fund grant. Also see the Ice House, a highly fashionable but rare commodity of the time, which Brown designed and built in 1772.

Dates for the diary

- First Thursday of every month, Capability Brown Tour.
 - 21 June to 16 July, Park in Focus – a daily talk about the landscape.
- Compton Verney Art Gallery & Park, near Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, 01926 645500, comptonverney.org.uk.*

BURGHLEY

Burghley was a 25-year-long project for Brown – Brownlowe Cecil, 9th Earl of Exeter, even set aside a room for him – and the landscape is one of the few of his designs to survive almost completely intact. Commissioned in 1754, Brown replaced George London and Moses Cook's formal gardens with parkland that includes a four-acre pond and 28-acre meandering lake with boathouse and temple (designed by Brown but built after his death), a ha-ha (below) and a sophisticated drainage system that is currently being restored. He also designed and supervised the building of stables, an orangery and major alterations to the house. In one of the few surviving records of thoughts about his own work, Brown said he had had "twenty-five years of pleasure restoring the monument of a great minister (William Cecil, 1st Lord Burghley) to a great Queen (Elizabeth I)".

Must see

In the Pagoda Room, a portrait of Brown by Sir Nathaniel Dance, one of two known portraits of him in the world. Also, the Gothic-windowed orangery, and the view from Capabilities Cutting of the house seen across the 28-acre lake and its Lion Bridge.

Dates for the diary

- Throughout 2016, groups of 20 or more can book Brown-themed tours of the house, gardens and parkland.
 - 1-4 September, Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials; many of the jumps are built to take full advantage of iconic Capability Brown elements, including the water jump at Lion Bridge.
- Burghley House & Gardens, Stamford, Lincolnshire, 01780 752451, burghley.co.uk.*





WALLINGTON

In the late 1760s, Brown created a pleasure ground for Wallington's country sports-loving owner, Sir Walter Calverley Blackett. Comprising a huge fishing lake (above right), physically divided in two but artfully arranged by Brown to appear as one whole, a mock cascade and surrounding plantings of native forest trees, Rothley Lake is believed to have been part of a larger plan to create the ultimate picturesque landscape for Calverley Blackett to show off to his guests. A Gothic-style castle and a fort overlook the water, but Brown's design for a Gothick Banqueting House appears not to have been built. He may, however, have had a hand in the Owl House (above left), a banqueting house that holds sway over Wallington's walled garden and the surrounding countryside. The

National Trust is still researching this but what a perfect conceit it would be – the man who created the English landscape as we know it, building a viewing room to enjoy nature's own work.

Must see

Owl House and Rothley Lake; walk across the mock cascade for breathtaking views.

Dates for the diary

■ 10 July, National Gardens Scheme Open Day – In the Footsteps of Capability Brown.

■ 16-17 July, Guided Walk: The Perfect View – discover the estate as Brown could have seen it.

■ 13 September, Ranger Walk: Rothley Lake – Capability Brown's Grand Design? *Wallington, near Morpeth, Northumberland, nationaltrust.org.uk/wallington.*

HAREWOOD HOUSE

This picturesque parkland and naturalistic lake (below right) was commissioned by Edwin Lascelles, Lord Harewood, in 1758 to replace the 1,000-plus acres of fields and farmland, an ornamental canal and fish pond. Brown spent nine years working on the estate, where hundreds of convalescing soldiers were co-opted to carry out the massive earthworks needed to create the undulating hills and valleys. Oak saplings were interplanted with quick-growing pines, which nursed the oaks into tall, straight trees and also provided the Lascelles with a cash crop of timber.

Must see

In the Spanish Library, the portrait of the 7th Earl of Harewood (1923-2011), painted in his apartment at the top of the house, with a view of the Brown landscape through the window behind him. Look through the library's window to see the real landscape, then head out to enjoy the full view from the Italianate Terrace (left), a very fashionable feature built for Louisa, 3rd Countess of Harewood, in 1845 as a transition between the House and the naturalistic landscape.

Dates for the diary

■ Until 30 October, Art of Landscape – an exhibition of paintings of Harewood by some of the greatest landscape artists of the day. *Harewood House, Leeds, West Yorkshire, 0113 218 1010, harewood.org.*



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THIS MONTH, be swept away by a **former sea captain's home** in Connecticut (*page 78*) and take in the views of a **chic Singapore apartment** filled with art and designer pieces (*page 88*). Relaxed, contemporary decoration brings a **Georgian house in London** up to date (*page 96*), while two architect owners show off their new-build **dream property in Miami** (*page 102*). Explore a **country garden** in the Cotswolds (*page 110*), a **modern design** perfectly suited to a compact outdoor space (*page 116*) and discover the **magical outdoor space** created for a rural inn in East Sussex (*page 121*).



EXTERIOR

Robert and Steven simplified the architecture of the house, removing Victorian embellishments to create a more elegant effect.

GARDEN

Original bricks from the paths between the house and the road have been repurposed to create a large patio. "I was amazed at how much we salvaged," says Robert.

Similar table Gloster Square XL, £2,086, Harrogate Interiors, harrogateinteriors.co.uk. **Similar chairs**, Barlow Tyrie Savannah outdoor dining armchair, £320, John Lewis, johnlewis.com.



CONNECTICUT RETREAT

Safe *haven*

A close encounter with Hurricane Sandy led a pair of interior designers to an old sea captain's home set close to the water's edge yet reassuringly out of harm's way

WORDS JENNIFER GOULDING PHOTOGRAPHS STACY BASS





ENTRANCE HALL

Blue-and-white antique Chinese and reproduction pots (opposite page, top left) stand in striking contrast to the dark wood floor.

Interior design, Cobble Court Interiors, cobblecourt.com. **For artwork by Jasmina Danowski,** try Heather Gaudio Fine Art, heathergaudiofineart.com.

BAR AREA

"We called the house Lady Bell after the original owner, Andrew Bell, and had a sign made for the bar," says Robert, of this space (opposite page, top right). **Similar wallpaper.** Chevron Chic, from £94m, Phillip Jeffries, phillipjeffries.com.

GARDEN

In warm weather, this area (left) acts as an outdoor sitting room, coming into its own when the couple hosts frequent summer soirées.

SITTING ROOM

Eye-catching pieces, such as a sculpture and over-scaled Ralph Lauren lamp, bring a touch of drama to the relaxed beach-inspired colour scheme (above and right). **Saturn acrylic chair,** £1,795, Andrew Martin, andrewmartin.co.uk. **For Roger Mudre artwork,** try Heather Gaudio Fine Art, heathergaudiofineart.com.





KITCHEN

A striped rug, upholstered stools and bespoke cupboard handles covered in leather (above) all echo the blue of the snowberries in the pretty Marimekko wallpaper, which is also used in the seating area (right). Here, kitchen suppers are enjoyed in comfort thanks to chunky weave Ralph Lauren barrel chairs, which offset the sleek metal and stone table. **Lumimarja wallpaper** in Blue, £56.95 a roll, Marimekko at John Lewis, johnlewis.com. **Malibu rug** in Sky, £207.06sq m, Crescent Carpet Importers at Tim Page Carpets.

The weekend has arrived and, as usual, Robert Rizzo and Steven March, the couple behind Cobble Court Interiors, have a house full of guests. Such are the perils of being consummate hosts and the owners of a warm, welcoming and expertly decorated six-bedroom house in a pretty village on America's east coast. That's exactly the way they like it, however. "A couple of years ago, I said, 'I want our place to be the party house' and now, our summers are crazy," says Robert with a laugh. "I guess sometimes when you say things out loud, they come true."

The pair never meant to become interior designers, but when they set up a shop selling home accessories in "a cute little coach house" in Connecticut, they found themselves being drawn, quite naturally, into their customers' design projects. Fourteen years on and the shop has been superseded by showrooms in Connecticut and Florida, and they work on a wide range of residential and commercial commissions in America and abroad, with Robert taking the creative lead and Steven the project management.

As if their professional responsibilities and sociable summers were not enough, Robert and Steven also have a policy of changing their house every five years – and when they say change, they mean a complete change. "It's what we do," says Robert. "We find a town then we find a house and then we transform it."

In 2012, Hurricane Sandy gave them the perfect excuse to relocate. "We were living in East Norwalk at the time, just ten feet from the sea and the water was lashing against the back door. We like being near the beach, but that was too close."

Soon after, the nearby town of Rowayton caught their eye. "It's a tiny picture-postcard-pretty place, just a market, two restaurants, an art gallery and lots of beautiful waterside houses," says Robert. A safe block away from the sea,







they found a three-storey house built in 1822 by a sea captain. Something of a local landmark, the large building was in a state of disrepair and Robert and Steven were taken with the idea of restoring it to its former glory. Further investigation revealed the structure was in such poor condition that there was a case to be made for pulling it down. They were undeterred, however, and in 2013 began an intense restoration project that would take an entire year.

The exterior of the house had the potential to be handsome, but featured a mix of architecture. "It had a bit of everything: Victorian, Italianate and Federal. It needed simplifying, so we stripped away a lot of the Victorian embellishments," says Robert. The changes to the interior were more comprehensive. "There were lots of small rooms, so we opened the space up, enlarged the doorways and raised the ceilings." They also converted the adjoining garage to create a living room on the ground floor with a bedroom, bathroom and dressing room above.

While the overhaul was radical in many ways, Robert and Steven have kept the original feel and look of the house by, among other things, preserving the grand staircase and, wherever possible, the original wood floors.

The decorating scheme was inspired by the beachside location. "I've given it an airy feel with blue, white, grey and lavender," explains Robert. "I wanted it to be sophisticated, but comfortable and fun." It also has flashes of glamour and humour and, as a whole, it is perfectly pulled together, with not a single detail overlooked.

While Robert and Steven get a great deal of pleasure from their home, they know it will not be forever. In a few years, they plan to sell the house, possibly furnished, as they have done with others on previous occasions. "There are some items with which we will never part, but selling everything else gives us freedom to go with our current mood, to take chances with the decoration and be creative."

LIVING ROOM

Located in the converted garage, this room offers additional space for entertaining. It has been given a warmer feel than the more formal sitting room, with dark wood and flashes of hot pink (above left). Neutral wallpaper (opposite page) is an excellent foil for the ornate, gilded picture frame, with additional shine coming from an array of burnished objects on the shelving.

Primitive table lamp K0022, £2,268, Boyd Lighting at Robert Spurway, robertspurway.com. **Sofa** in Delano AT8008, £115m, Loro Piana, loropiana.com.

Cushion in Java in Indigo, £206m, John Robshaw Textiles at Tissus D'Hélène, tissushelene.co.uk.

DINING ROOM

Wood-grain effect wallpaper (above) has been hung vertically and horizontally enhancing its tactile appeal. For a sense of cohesion, the fabric on the chairs echoes the stripes of the wallpaper in the hall.

Chene wallpaper PBS31, £49m, Nobilis, nobilis.fr.

Sunburst flush ceiling light, £648, Vaughan, vaughandesigns.com.



MAIN BEDROOM

A contemporary four-poster bed with a sumptuous blue headboard (left) is both opulent yet unfussy, with richly patterned cushions completing the look.

Cushions in Mitra in Teal/Plum/Brick, £358m, Stark, starkcarpet.com. **Evans swing arm sconce**, Polished Nickel, £475, Ralph Lauren Home, ralphlauren.co.uk.

MAIN BATHROOM

Mirrored cabinets, silvery wallpaper and marble surfaces (opposite page, below) bring a sense of glamour to this bright space.

Moire wallpaper in Flax, £209 a roll, Scalamandré, scalamandre.com. **Similar wall light** Fulton sconce in Polished Nickel, £925, Ralph Lauren Home, ralphlauren.co.uk.

GUEST BATHROOM

A large mirror in this compact space (right) gives the striking wallpaper double the impact. **Great Wave Frontier wallpaper**, £72 a roll, Cole & Son, cole-and-son.com.

GUEST BEDROOM

Strong shapes, from the curvaceous headboard to the large bolster, focus attention on the bed (below), which is dressed with plump cushions for a smart finish.

Bench in Villette in Gris, £95m, Marvic Textiles, marvictextiles.co.uk.



SINGAPORE APARTMENT

COOL & COLLECTED

Exquisite artworks, elegant, contemporary furniture and a sophisticated palette of gentle greens and blues make this city home an appropriate match for its striking location

WORDS JESSICA DOYLE PHOTOGRAPHS MICHAEL PAUL



TERRACE

White marble and glass composite tiles (below left) run from the terrace through to the living area, seamlessly linking inside and out.

For a similar giant bonsai tree, try Herons Bonsai, herons.co.uk. Similar planter, Black Polystone trough planter, £99.99, Primrose, primrose.co.uk.

SITTING ROOM

Florence's enviable collection of furniture reflects her international taste; here, an Yves Klein coffee table is teamed with a Federico Munari sofa found at the Marché aux Puces in Paris and a Barnaby Barford mirror.

Yves Klein coffee table, £23,400; similar Barnaby Barford mirror, from £43,200; both David Gill Gallery, davidgillgallery.com.





The Arcadia building is a lush green oasis in the heart of Singapore. An innovative Eighties condominium with vertical landscaping inspired by the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the building cascades with planting from each of the wide terraces that line its exterior, reflecting its tropical location. In the case of this apartment – the home of lifestyle-boutique owner Florence Lim – this connection with nature informs not only the outside space, but also the interior style.

ROOM WITH A VIEW

The terrace and the view were two features that first attracted Florence to the apartment; the panorama of the Central Business District is particularly eye-catching. “It gets very hot in Singapore, but it does cool down in the evenings,” says Florence. “We often have friends over for dinner, so we’ll have drinks outside, looking out to that lovely view.”

The lush planting on the terrace is Florence’s brainchild. Raffia palms line the outside edge, while

a large bonsai tree in a black stone planter strikes a sculptural note at one end. Bifold doors extend across the width of the living space, and a continuous floor of composite white marble and glass tiles ensures a seamless flow between inside and out.

GLOBAL INFLUENCES

The wider outside world also contributes to Florence’s interiors style, so the multicultural make-up of Singapore is a good fit for her; a globetrotter with an international outlook. Born in Manila, Florence grew up in Toronto but after graduation she moved to Hong Kong to work in banking before relocating to London to study art history at Christie’s, which has since led to a career in interior design. In 2009, having married and lived in Britain for 16 years, she and her husband, Gianpaolo Arrigoni, and their two sons, Gianluca, now aged 15, and Gianandrea, 13, moved to Singapore, where Florence has since opened Edit Lifestyle, a fashion and interiors boutique.

These days, she travels the world to source new pieces for the boutique and, unsurprisingly, this



DINING AREA

A vivid red artwork by Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama helps to define the dining area (above, far left) within the open-plan space.

Alma chairs, £567 each, B&B Italia at Chaplins, chaplins.co.uk.

Blossom chandelier, from £6,324, Studio Tord Boontje, tordboontje.com. **For Yayoi Kusama artwork**, try Victoria Miro, victoria-miro.com.

ENTRANCE HALL

Beneath a seascape by photographic artist David Parker, a bronze banquette (above left) with green-black kidassia goatskin upholstery strikes a glamorous note.

Anita banquette, £9,000, Francis Sultana, francissultana.com.

For David Parker artwork, try Michael Hoppen Gallery, michaelhoppengallery.com.

LIVING AREA

The panoramic view of the Singapore skyline (above) was one of the features that attracted Florence to the apartment.

The green tones of an abstract triptych (right), by American artist Anne Appleby, and a mirror framed with porcelain flowers, are a clear reference to nature, bringing a sense of calm to the room.

For a Federico Munari sofa, try 1stdibs, 1stdibs.com.

Anne Appleby artwork, Appleby Studios, applebystudios.com.

Belgravia lamps, £7,800 each, Garouste & Bonetti at David Gill Gallery, davidgillgallery.com.





constant exposure to international style – she travels for up to seven months every year – is clearly evident in the family home, as well as her work: accessories picked up on a trip to South Africa set a safari-style tone in the entrance hall, while elsewhere a mix of sleek Italian furniture, design-art pieces sourced from galleries in London, and objects found at Parisian flea markets combine to create effortless glamour.

A COLLECTOR'S EYE

The pared-back palette of the terrace is echoed inside, where Florence has matched the white floor with crisp white walls, to act as a backdrop against which the view and furniture can stand out. The theme of the furniture and art is a soft, nature-inspired scheme of pale turquoise, green and gold tones, the only deviation being a bright red abstract artwork by Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama, which serves to define the dining area within the large, open-plan living space.

A passionate collector, Florence has amassed an impressive array of paintings, sculpture and contemporary art, with work by the likes of Tracey Emin

and Anish Kapoor. When it comes to devising an interior, however, the furniture comes first. “The placement of things has to be right,” she says. “I plot out where everything will go before I start, then I place the art around it.” Key pieces in Florence’s apartment include a Jean-Michel Frank sofa, an Yves Klein coffee table and a pair of Garouste & Bonetti chairs, covered in celadon and blue velvet. “I like to recycle things, and colour is one way of updating them,” she says.

BEAUTY AND COMFORT

The combination of an all-white canvas with her covetable collection of art and furniture could easily have resulted in a cold, gallery-like space, but comfort is key to Florence’s aesthetic. The mix of sumptuous textures, together with her exacting placement of furniture and accessories, helps to create warmth and liveliness. “The showroom feel was exactly what I didn’t want,” she says. “As I am very aesthetically driven, things have to look beautiful to me but, on the other hand, the space also has to appear comfortable. First and foremost, this is a home.”

CORRIDOR

"I had wanted an Anish Kapoor sculpture for a very long time and this one was the perfect size," says Florence of the stainless-steel artwork on the wall (far left).

Anish Kapoor is represented by Lisson Gallery, lissongallery.com.

Similar rug, Chequerboard in Black, £179, Roger Oates, rogeroates.com.

MAIN BEDROOM

Florence bought the Molteni & C chest of drawers (left) several years ago and had it re-covered in a soft leather to match the palette of the sumptuous textiles, such as velvet, linen and the Indian silk covering the panelled walls (this page).

A collection of ceramics by Japanese artist Taizo Kuroda and a portrait in words by French artists M/M (Paris) complete the serene look.

Similar rug, Bamboo Silk Silver, £405sq m, The Rug Company, therugcompany.com.





BATHROOM

The bathroom fittings (above) are by Japanese brand Toto, with a bespoke limed-oak clad vanity unit adding warmth to the all-white space.

For Toto bathroom fittings, try CP Hart, cphart.co.uk.

ENTRANCE HALL

African accessories and an earthy colour palette give this area (right) a safari-style feel, with Fifties Italian chairs adding to the retro mood.

Similar faux zebra hide, Printed zebra design on full cowhide, £380, The Interior Co, theinteriorco.co.uk.

“

I am aesthetically driven, so things have to look beautiful, but also comfortable. First and foremost, this is a home.”





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FAMILY ROOM

"We spend the majority of our time in here, which is exactly what I had envisioned," says Jane. "The colours and textures work well, and it's all very practical with a stone floor and rugs, no carpets."

Lancaster Kitchen
Downlight, £915, Vaughan,
vaughandesigns.com.





UPDATED GEORGIAN HOME

Contemporary CALM

Soft heather hues and shades of grey enlivened with dashes of blue and chic botanicals make this London home the epitome of modern city living

WORDS ANDRÉE FRIEZE PHOTOGRAPHS BRENT DARBY



As families grow and change, homes that once suited everyone's needs fail to fit the new requirements. This was the situation Mark and Jane Bennett, their 16-year-old twins and 11-year-old son found themselves in two years ago. "We moved from New York to north-west London in 2003 and fell in love with this Georgian house because of its pretty exterior. Having lived in a modern apartment block overseas, we wanted a period property," Jane says.

Despite its age, the building was in sound shape. Other than dealing with damp and replacing the electrics, all the Bennetts did was redecorate throughout. "The bare bones were good, but we couldn't live with the interior style," recalls Jane.

Fast forward ten years and the Bennetts' three children had outgrown certain spaces in the home. Yet the reasons why the property had first appealed – proximity to extended family, London's leafy parks and the countryside, but just ten minutes from the West End – still applied. "Our children go to schools in the city, so we decided to stay here and make the house right for them now they are older."

To assist with the renovations, the couple called on interior designer Emma Sims Hilditch. "She had helped us with our country home and we were delighted with the result," says Jane. "I really appreciate having someone who understands my style. Emma used cool colours and neutral shades in our country home and I wanted the same palette here, but with a more contemporary feel." Without further ado, Emma redecorated the whole house, refurbishing the children's rooms with fitted joinery and furniture, replacing the bathrooms and updating Jane and Mark's walk-in dressing room.

The main focus of the alterations was the basement, the catalyst being Jane's desire for a more casual, open-plan space for family living and entertaining. "It used to have a separate kitchen, dining room, playroom, utility and cloakroom, all off a corridor," says Jane. "Emma got rid of these poky spaces and created one large area with a dining table at the centre, the kitchen to one side and living space to the other. The old formal

SITTING ROOM

A large bespoke ottoman (above left) is the centrepiece of this scheme, where a fussy Victorian fireplace was replaced with a simpler Georgian-style design for a streamlined look. **Inca armchairs**, from £855 each, Robert Langford, robertlangford.co.uk. **Armchairs** in bespoke Sims Hilditch fabric, Sims Hilditch, simshilditch.com. **Charles large sofa** in cotton velvet, from £2,350, Neptune, neptune.com.

KITCHEN

This basement space (left) is flooded with light thanks to bifold doors located at the

opposite end of the Neptune kitchen. Neat floating shelves and a glass splashback (above right) add a clean, modern edge. **Joe counter stools**, £349 each, Vincent Sheppard, vincentseppard.com. **Silestone worksurface** in Kensho, from £400sq m, Silestone, silestone.co.uk.

STUDY AREA

A geometric rug defines Mark's study space (right) in a corner of the sitting room. "I loved the pattern from the moment Emma suggested it," says Jane. **Kensington rug** in Steel Mid Grey, from £103sq m, Axminster Carpets, axminster-carpet.co.uk.







“

Emma redecorated the whole house using a palette of cool colours and neutral shades with a contemporary feel.”

dining room became a TV room for the children, separated by pocket doors so it's not completely open plan.”

One particular challenge was how to bring more light into the basement, which was achieved by extending at the rear and installing bifold doors and a rooflight. “We're in a conservation area and our garden is small, so we could only extend so far,” says Jane. “We had to underpin the basement and drop the floor by two feet, but it was worth the effort; the higher ceiling makes it so much more spacious, while the glass doors and lantern ensure it feels light and airy.

“Reworking the basement has changed the way we live,” she continues. “We now spend almost all of our family time together here and it is such a pleasure. The living area really comes into its own during the summer when we can throw back the doors and bring the outside in.”

CLOAKROOM

“I love line drawings and this wallpaper (opposite page, top left) depicts Hampstead, one of our favourite London locations, in the Fifties,” Jane says. Hampstead wallpaper in Cool Grey, £61 a roll, Little Greene, littlegreene.com. Duravit Ketho vanity unit with Duravit Vero wash basin, from £474, Aqva Bathrooms, aqva.co.uk.

MAIN BEDROOM

This tranquil room (opposite page, below left) is a serene retreat from the bustle of family life. “The wallpaper offers texture and depth – it's very soothing,” says Jane. Ikebana wallpaper in Sepia, £146 a roll, Knowles & Christou, knowles-christou.com.

ADJOINING BATHROOM

The sense of calm flows into this light, luxurious space (opposite page, top right), featuring a walk-in shower and double wash basins. Graceline mirror cabinet, from £831, Schneider, schneider-cabinets.co.uk.

DRESSING ROOM

Bespoke wardrobes with full height pull-down hanging rails offer ample storage (opposite page, far left), while the wallpaper matches that of the bedroom for continuity. Baby Library wall light base, £284; shade, £59; both Porta Romana, portaromana.co.uk.

ELIZABETH'S ROOM

To make best use of the space in this room under the eaves (above), Emma designed a built-in desk for the alcove. The botanical print adds youthful vibrancy to the calming grey shades. Headboard in Astasia Sky, £45.83m, William Yeoward, williamyeoward.com. Neu 13 chair, from £159, Twentytwentyone, twentytwentyone.com. Task short wall light, £186, Original BTC, originalbtc.com.

FLORIDA NEW-BUILD

MADE TO



measure

Slotted into a long, narrow plot in the centre of Miami is Melissa and Jacob Brillhart's neat, timber-clad house, surrounded by lush tropical planting

WORDS SARAH FARLEY PHOTOGRAPHS BRUCE BUCK



BACK PORCH

The single-storey property, which is elevated five feet off the ground, features a back porch (opposite page), sheltered by shutters at either end and sliding glazed doors that permit an uninterrupted view of the garden.

SITTING AREA

Light and proximity to the surrounding tropical greenery were Jacob and Melissa's priorities when designing their home, which has been furnished with select pieces, including Jacob's fascinatingly articulated Vertebrae chair (above). Brillhart Architecture, brillhartarchitecture.com.

SITTING AREA

A leather sofa (below) acts as a room divider between the sitting and dining areas. The long trestle table is used for both work and entertaining and the wall of shelves provides continuity across the whole space.

Similar leather sofa, Kentville Modern three-seater sofa, £1,709, Lee Longlands, leelonglands.co.uk.



As architects living and working in Miami, designing and constructing buildings is a way of life for Melissa and Jacob Brillhart. So what was it like building a home for themselves?

When did you decide to build your own home?

“The process began in 2011, with the purchase of a slice of land measuring 66 by 330 feet – as long as an American football field. It’s a hidden gem in downtown Miami.”

What inspired your design ideas for the house?

“This is the second-oldest platted area of Miami – platted is

FRONT PORCH

Western red cedar shutters, which provide shade and allow breezes to filter through, enclose the porch on the front of the property (below), making it a much used part of the house, no matter how hot the sun.

Geometric indoor-outdoor rugs CY6937-23, around £220 each, Safavieh, safavieh.com.



a local term that means mapped or laid out. It has nine distinct styles of house, any one of which we could have reproduced, but instead we decided to create a building that would be complementary yet entirely individual.

“We live in a tropical zone here so, as architects, it would be impossible to ignore the Tropical Modernist architecture movement, a mid-20th-century interpretation of International Style, which takes the local landscape, climate and materials as its cues. We also wanted our home to include elements of the ‘dogtrot’ houses that are found in the scorching hot south-eastern states. These comprise two cabins (one for eating, one for sleeping) separated by a corridor (the

KITCHEN

The couple bought the vintage chairs (below) for \$5 each at a sale following the closure of the Saxony Hotel on Miami Beach. “We wish we had bought more,” says Melissa.

Saarinen coffee table, from £1,560, Aram, aram.co.uk.



breezeway or dogtrot), which is left open to the elements at each end. Although we enclosed the central area of our design so we could use it as part of the kitchen, the traditional footprint of a dogtrot house is still evident.”

How is the house constructed?

“To keep things simple, and to reduce the time it would take to build, we used a steel frame with a substructure of dimensional lumber – the standard planks available from any timber yard. The frame is clad in plywood, and layered on top of that on the east- and west-facing walls, where there are no windows, is the Brazilian hardwood, ipe. It is a very heavy,

ENTRANCE HALL

The property is divided by a central corridor (below left), which is traditionally left open to the elements in “dogtrot” houses commonly found in the southern United States. The Brillharts, however, enclosed the far end to accommodate the kitchen. To the left hangs a Le Corbusier lithograph titled *Les dés sont jetés*.

FRONT PORCH

Influenced by Tropical Modernist architecture, Jacob and Melissa’s design is sensitive to the surrounding environment and climate. Sliding doors both front and back allow the property to be entirely open when desired, while the shutters will eventually weather to a soft silvery grey.



solid wood, so the columns, stairs and fascia are also all ipe. We incorporated porches on the north and south sides of the house, with glazed doors that open right back and Western red cedar shutters. The wood will eventually weather to a silvery grey – the steps have started to do so already – which will look wonderful against the leafy surroundings.”

Why did you position the house in the middle of the site?

“We could have built a much larger house here – we certainly have the space – but it is in an old part of the city, so we decided to design something in keeping with the neighbouring houses and the beautiful old trees that frame them. When we looked

MAIN BEDROOM

Simply furnished with wood pieces that echo materials used in the property's construction, the bedroom (below) is not overlooked so window dressings were deemed unnecessary, enhancing the connection between inside and out.

Similar bed. Nevada, £560 for a double, Natural Bed Company, naturalbedcompany.co.uk.



at the site, we realised that by setting the building about a hundred feet back from the street, and at an angle, the trees would help make it virtually invisible to passers-by.”

Have you done much work to the garden?

“We took advantage of the building work to do a significant amount of planting. We added fifty trees at the front, to screen the property from the street, putting a number of them especially close to the house to create the feeling of being surrounded by greenery. We took care to choose native varieties, such as *Eugenia foetida* (Spanish stopper) and *Pimenta racemosa* (bay rum tree), as well as *Cocos nucifera* (coconut) and *Citrus x*

BATHROOM

Adjoining the bedroom, this space (below left) features American cherrywood, which was bought by Jacob's father from local auctions and stored in a barn in New Hampshire for 30 years.

FRONT PORCH

The Brillharts planted 50 native trees, shrubs and palmettos, including fast-growing saw palmetto and *Philodendron* 'Rojo Congo', which now surround their own-designed house (below) in the heart of downtown Miami.



paradisi (grapefruit) trees and *Dypsis cabadae* (Cabada palms). We also planted a couple of *Serenoa repens* (saw palmetto) and *Philodendron* 'Rojo Congo', as they grow incredibly quickly and create a wonderfully lush look.”

Now the house is finished, what is it like living there?

“We wanted it to feel as if we were part of the landscape, and that is exactly how it is. We are entirely surrounded by greenery, and we can move between house and garden easily, although you will generally find us on one of the porches. The house is in the centre of the garden and we are right in the heart of the city.”



PLANTSMAN'S PARADISE

Spirit of ROMANCE

From a meandering river of lavender to fragrant roses and a formal yew walk, this Cotswold garden embodies the beauty of English country style

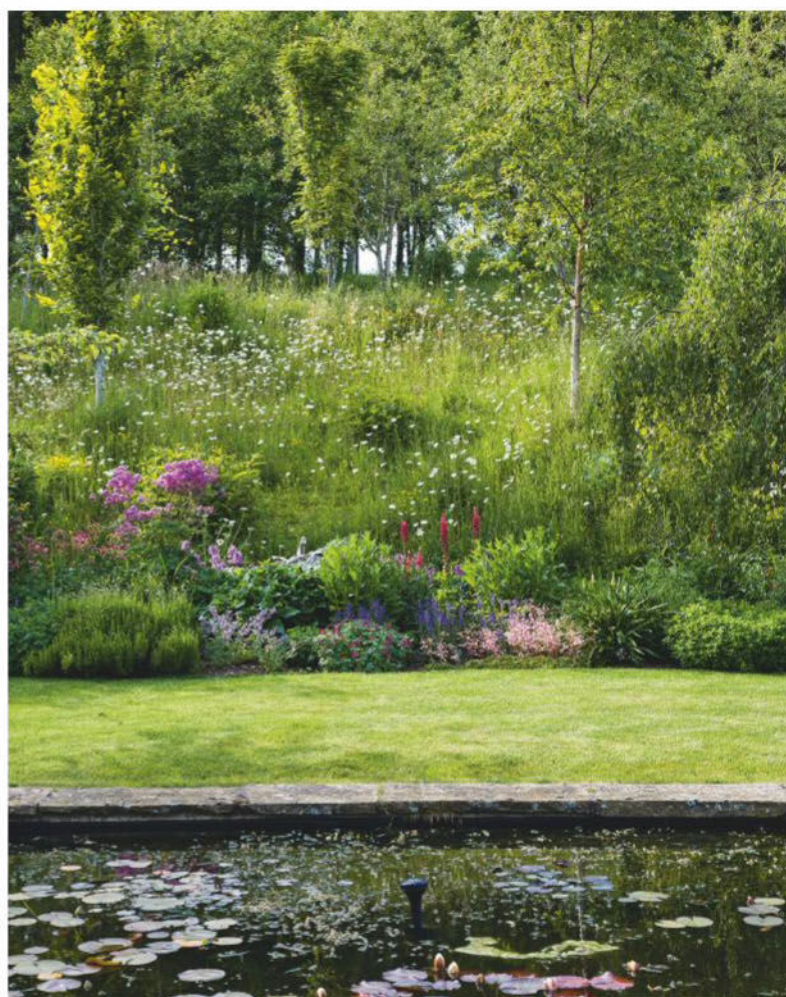
WORDS VANESSA BERRIDGE PHOTOGRAPHS MARK BOLTON

THIS PICTURE Portugal laurels, clipped into mopheads, provide structure in the lower half of the yew walk above bright flashes of *Rosa* 'De Resht', spires of lavender, dense mounds of blue and white geraniums and purple spikes of *Salvia nemorosa* 'Caradonna'.

TOP RIGHT The oldest part of the property is covered with climbing *Rosa* 'Bobbie James'; while beds of *Lavandula angustifolia* 'Hidcote' flank the steps up to the house backed by low box hedging.

BOTTOM RIGHT The view to the upper part of the yew walk.





ABOVE Branches of crab apple arch over the upper yew walk, which was designed by John Hill of Sherborne Gardens, 01451 844522, and is edged with box balls and the brilliant white flowers of 'Frost and Flame' irises.

ABOVE RIGHT The new lawn, featuring a lily pond and a long border of perennials including 'Gallery Pink' lupins, frothy *Thalictrum aquilegifolium* and dark purple agastache, with a wild flower meadow beyond, was created by Jane Fearnley-Whittingstall. janefearnley-whittingstall.co.uk.

BELOW The delicately marked *Iris sibirica* 'Papillon' (left) and *Astrantia* 'Roma' (right) are among the colourful flowers that thrive in the borders.



Tucked away in the Cotswold Hills, off a lane that winds its way 800 feet above sea level, lies the hamlet of Hawling. At the far end, you will find Littlefield, a garden of rare beauty, which has gradually been developed by Federica Wilk since she and her husband, George, bought the 1750s stone house in 1999. Converted from two cottages, the property is just as you would hope it would be: smothered by roses, with dry stone walls framing the garden on two sides and open areas running almost unchecked into sheep-grazed fields.

When she thinks about it, Italian-born Federica says her greatest wish was to have "an English garden and, secondly, to have a few outdoor rooms". Pressed a little further, she adds that she wanted "a small degree of formality, then let the flowers mingle with exuberance". Who better to help her achieve her dream then, than long-time Gloucestershire resident and country garden designer Jane Fearnley-Whittingstall?

At Jane's direction, two lawns were created, set at right angles to one another and divided by a wisteria-covered pergola, a rose garden and a corridor of yew. In the dappled shade of three hawthorns and a venerable walnut tree, beds of alliums, hostas, *Brunnera*, geraniums, aquilegia and *Stachys* were planted to hug two sides of the south-facing "old" lawn (as the Wilk family calls it). In the middle of the new lawn, which spreads out to farmland at the back of the house, a lily pond was made, flanked by five *Malus* 'Evereste' (crab apples).

"Jane must have taken into account my Italian roots," says Federica of the thick-cut yew hedges, the pergola and the travertine fountain in the rose garden. This is planted with David Austin varieties in numerous shades of pink – 'Brother Cadfael', 'Sir John Betjeman', 'Scepter'd Isle' and 'The Mayflower' – neatly encircled by *Teucrium*.

This acre of garden is not all that can be seen here, though. The Wilks own 14 acres of the surrounding land and visitors are encouraged to walk out along paths that, in summer, are mown through the meadows leading



ABOVE The rose garden, backlit by early morning sun, features *Rosa* 'Scepter'd Isle' and the taller 'The Mayflower' (left), with 'Brother Cadfael' and 'Sir John Betjeman' (right), edged with *Teucrium*. **THIS PICTURE** Two *Pyrus salicifolia* 'Pendula' (weeping silver pear) frame a pairing of yellow alstroemerias and blue aquilegias in a terraced bed near the house.



to a pond overhung by willows. This herbaceous landscape does not stop at the garden boundary, either. Inside the formal space, a border that runs along the new lawn merges into a wild flower meadow above, where ox-eye daisies, clover, campions and yellow rattle grow beneath birches, beech, elder, *Cornus* and a Mount Fuji cherry.

The most formal part of the garden is the yew walk, with planting designed by John Hill of Sherborne Gardens. A bench at the end makes the most of the vista down a Cotswold stone path edged with roundels of box, white 'Frost and Flame' irises and regal lilies beneath arches of *Malus* 'Coccinella'. As you wander along, stop halfway to enjoy a view down to the rose garden, and up across the lawn and lily pond to the herbaceous border and wild flower meadow beyond.

The planting changes here. A gravel path snakes beneath mopheads of *Prunus lusitanica* (Portugal laurel) through lavender, blue and white geraniums, dark salvias and *Rosa* 'De Rescht', punctuated by loose roundels of *Hebe subalpina*. There is subtle variation – dark blue *Lavandula angustifolia* 'Hidcote' edges one side of the path, the darker purple 'Imperial Gem' the other – and to encourage ebullience and informality, Federica divides perennials and scatters allium seeds, like natural confetti.

Another trick is the use of repetition to link the different garden rooms. *Malus*, for instance, is used in the yew walk and on the lawn, while irises appear in various shades in beds near the house, through the herbaceous border and down the yew walk, alongside *Salvia nemorosa* 'Caradonna' and blue *Geranium* Rozanne.

It is details such as these that make Littlefield a delight, but Federica and Jane are not done yet. Even as the summer growth hits its peak, they are making plans to create a new feature, a formal herb garden in what is currently a wild flower meadow, with four laburnums. "I want something that will evoke a sense of Hawling's medieval past," says Federica, tantalisingly, as we leave. This garden may look timeless but clearly it does not stand still.

ABOVE LEFT Beeches, elder and birch form an impressive backdrop to the long border, which is filled with a combination of poppies, *Geranium* Rozanne, irises and delphiniums in a palette of pink and blue.

ABOVE The south-west facing terrace beneath the wisteria-covered pergola is a wonderful spot in which to enjoy the late-afternoon sun.



GARDEN GUIDE

Orientation The old lawn faces south; the new lawn faces east.

Soil Cotswold brash over limestone; borders are enriched annually with mushroom compost and fertilised with organic chicken manure.

Special features Yew hedging dividing the garden into formal rooms; rose garden; yew walk; wild flower bank; lily pond; countryside views.

Visit Littlefield, Hawling, Gloucestershire, will be open on 3 and 17 July 2016 under the National Gardens Scheme, ngs.org.uk.



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From the upper terrace, horizontal fence panels draw the eye down the garden, past lush planting in a muted palette of purples, white and greens, with grass eschewed in favour of pale grey stone.



A photograph of a modern garden. In the foreground, there's a grey granite paved area with a rectangular dining table and six matching chairs. The table has a blue vase with flowers on it. To the left, there's a raised garden bed with yellow flowers. In the background, there's a modern house with large windows and a red roof. The garden is surrounded by lush greenery and trees.

OXFORD GARDEN

On modern **LINES**

This inspiring scheme of crisp grey granite, textural planting and hidden surprises belies the small size and stark beginnings of the ingeniously transformed space

WORDS **CAROLINE BECK** PHOTOGRAPHS **LYNN KEDDIE**



ABOVE On the lower terrace, the secluded dining area is shaded by a multi-stemmed plum tree. The bronze spiral in front of the office is one of many sculptures found throughout the scheme.

ABOVE RIGHT Globe-headed *Allium hollandicum* 'Purple Sensation' and spires of *Salvia nemorosa* 'Caradonna' flank the built-in granite bench outside the house.

RIGHT Contrasting foliage of heart-shaped *Epimedium* x *versicolor* 'Sulphureum' and *Polystichum setiferum* add texture and interest.



Small gardens can be a source of frustration. Too restricted for doing anything fancy, these precious outdoor spaces can easily become overlooked. Henk and Dieuwke van Es, originally from the Netherlands, retired from the Middle East to Oxford three years ago, to be nearer to their grown-up children. They redesigned their new home with detailed care, but were less sure about how to approach the small stretch of land that leads from the house to a home office.

The garden, such as it was, had been almost razed to the ground during the renovation work. All that was left were a few mature plum trees and a rowan. The space seemed to lack promise and although Henk, a civil engineer, was sceptical that it could ever be more than a corridor to the office, he and Dieuwke were determined to try to make it special.

With this in mind, in 2013 they contacted designer Sarah Naybour, who had recently returned from a successful Chelsea Flower Show, and who was not at all daunted by the small, split-level space. "The van Eses had designed their house in a Minimalist fashion and I knew the garden should mirror its geometric proportions," she says. Her plan was to distract the eye from its rectangular shape by breaking it up with strong horizontal lines and, while mulling over ways to achieve this, she hit upon the idea of linking the inside and outside stylistically. She paved the terrace immediately outside the glazed doors with pale granite slabs cut to exactly the same width as the interior grey floorboards, so that now the garden flows almost seamlessly from the heart of the house.

For the rest of the garden, Dieuwke and Henk had two clear stipulations. Firstly, they did not want a lawn: "We're not good at looking after grass"; and secondly, while they knew very



little about plants, Dieuwke wanted a subtle scheme with “no yellow or red flowers”. Otherwise, Sarah had a free hand.

“The garden needed to have a strong structure all year round, so I went for the clean lines of clipped box and repeats of plants with interesting, long-lasting foliage,” Sarah says. Textural varieties include the soft shield fern, *Polystichum setiferum*, for its delicate fronds, *Sedum spectabile* ‘Autumn Joy’, with fleshy leaves and seedheads that stand all winter, and the elegant grey-leaved *Anaphalis triplinervis* ‘Summer Snow’. The colour palette is muted, restricted to purples of alliums, *Agastache* ‘Blackadder’ and *Salvia nemorosa* ‘Caradonna’, with white verbascum, *Viola cornuta* ‘Alba’ and lime-green *Alchemilla mollis* to lighten the effect. Among all of this is that useful self-seeder, the tiny daisy-like *Erigeron karvinskianus*, while a single multi-stemmed plum tree stands over the dining area, giving welcome shade in summer.

The hard landscaping is similarly subtle, with the grey granite highlighted by white render on the upper terrace and pale wooden fencing set horizontally to lead the eye along the length of the space. “It was all about the detail,” says Sarah, “and it was so good to have clients who really care about this.”

In spite of its small size, the garden has become a place that invites exploration, as well as offering opportunities for personal touches: tucked into spaces beneath the tree and within the box hedging are sculptures that Dieuwke and Henk have chosen. The space has also become a favourite with their grandchildren, who dart around stone paths and weave between the borders. “We never realised how much we would use it, but every day the garden shows us something different, which gives us enormous pleasure,” says Henk. “Everyone who comes here says it is wonderful.”

ABOVE LEFT Henk van Es in the kitchen; the granite slabs of the terrace were cut to match the width of interior floorboards to create a sense of flow from inside to out.

ABOVE Repeat planting includes purple-flowering salvia and alliums, daisy-like *Erigeron karvinskianus*, lime-green *Alchemilla mollis* and grey-leaved *Anaphalis triplinervis* ‘Summer Snow’.

GARDEN GUIDE

Orientation Small south-facing town garden in north Oxford, measuring 29x65ft.

Soil type The land was an orchard on clay during the 1930s; when the garden was designed in 2013, new soil was brought in.

Special features Granite terracing; lush textural planting; hidden sculptures.

Garden design Sarah Naybour, sarahnaybour.co.uk.



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CONTEMPORARY DESIGN

In the ROUND

With colourful perennial planting and a convivial fire pit at its heart, the garden at the Bell Inn in East Sussex offers a sociable ambience in a magical setting

WORDS JODIE JONES PHOTOGRAPHS RACHAEL WARNE





The Bell is no ordinary inn. In the low-beamed dining room of the 16th-century coach house, a stack of books appears to be holding up the ceiling and one ancient brick wall is adorned with a vivid pink neon sign. In the garden, sunken paths meander between olive trees and little Hobbit-style houses, their wonky doorways glimpsed through nodding dahlias and a swaying curtain of feathery grass.

The effect is like stepping through the looking glass into Alice's wonderland, and that is exactly what owner Richard Upton hoped to achieve. "We wanted to make a magical retreat that would tap into that primeval instinct for a community to gather together around a fire in a clearing in the woods."

The design began with the construction of four small guest lodges, slightly sunken so as not to dominate the skyline in the modest space. Today, their shingled roofs jut out at quirky angles, capped with tufts of sprouting grass, reminiscent of illustrations in a children's story book, but when garden designer Jo Thompson arrived two years ago, they were still on the drawing board.

The garden had been a conventional affair, with a patch of lawn and the odd flower bed, but these had already been swept away. "There were mounds of soil everywhere and diggers were just starting to excavate," Jo recalls. The spoil was banked up and retained by gabions, which have been filled with stacked rocks and inn bric-a-brac, including a broken teapot and a ship in a bottle, to create numerous walls and an elevated seating area.

To introduce a sense of enclosure on what was essentially an exposed

CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT Olive trees, jewel-coloured dahlias and ornamental grasses provide a textural contrast to the 400-year-old inn; plumes of *Calamagrostis x acutiflora* 'Karl Foerster' form hazy screens that subtly divide one area from the next; gabion walls are softened with mounds

of tiny daisy-like *Erigeron karvinskianus* and azure blue *Geranium Rozanne* ('Gerwat'); the clever combination of raised beds and sunken paths clearly illustrates how changes in level can make a small garden feel larger; woven hazel fences complement the rustic surroundings.



platform, Jo designed a circular palisade of weathered timber sleepers and high-backed benches around a central fire pit. “Not only were the sleepers economical, they also suited the rustic aesthetic. It was important to me that this garden sat well within the wider landscape.”

The surrounding borders are woven through with ribbons of the ornamental grass *Calamagrostis* × *acutiflora* ‘Karl Foerster’. “People think you should only put such tall plants at the back of a border, but here at the front they act like veils, increasing the illusion of depth in quite narrow beds and gently dividing the space into different zones,” says Jo.

“All of the planting had to be low maintenance and happy in the free-draining conditions, so I went for a limited palette of really reliable options,” she adds. *Verbena bonariensis* and *V. hastata*, ox-eye daisies and the tiny Mexican fleabane, *Erigeron karvinskianus*, are already seeding with such gay abandon that it is hard to believe the garden is just entering its second summer.

Spring bulbs and late-summer dahlias introduce seasonal colour to the permanent planting, but other elements will take time to mature. “Currently, the garden is enclosed by hazel hurdles,” says Jo, “but behind these is an edible hedge packed with elder, quince and hazel, and some more unusual options such as Szechuan pepper and *Amelanchier lamarckii*. In a year or two, we will be able to take away the fences and the garden should knit into the surrounding landscape.” It is a neat metaphor for an inn garden that lies at the heart of a village and its community, just as Richard intended.

GARDEN GUIDE

Orientation Offset from the inn, the garden is open on all sides.

Soil type Imported top soil.

Special features Guest lodges; raised seating area with central fire pit.

Garden design Jo Thompson, 01580 201179, jonthompson-garden-design.co.uk.

Location The Bell Inn, Ticehurst, East Sussex, 01580 200234, thebellinticehurst.com.





IN SEASON

SCENT *of* SUMMER

Romantic, frothy and fragrant, rambling and climbing roses are a must for every garden in June

WORDS VANESSA BERRIDGE PHOTOGRAPHS ANNAÏCK GUITTENY

Nothing captures the essence of an English summer more perfectly than the sight of a rambling or climbing rose scrambling over a pergola, fence or tree. Highly scented, ramblers were especially popular during the 19th century, when French growers produced many new varieties, including 'Félicité-Perpétue', 'Adélaïde d'Orléans', and 'Albéric Barbier'. Several other ramblers are of unknown lineage, such as 'Rambling Rector', which was probably a cross propagated by bees from the large pollen-bearing hips characteristic of ramblers. The 20th century, however, saw a swing towards repeat-flowering

climbers, as ramblers tend to flower just once in June.

Ramblers and climbers are often confused but, in general, ramblers are more vigorous, producing a profusion of small flowers, but most do not repeat flower, while climbers have larger, if fewer, blooms, stiffer growth and summer-long flowering. Exceptions include 'The Lady of the Lake', a repeat-flowering rambler introduced at the 2015 RHS Chelsea Flower Show by David Austin Roses. A favourite of Michael Marriott, chief rosarian at David Austin, is the blush pink rambler 'Paul's Himalayan Musk', attractive to bees with a strong fragrance that carries on the summer air.



CHOOSING THE RIGHT RAMBLER OR CLIMBER

Rambling roses are very vigorous and best for larger gardens. Here is a selection of climbers and ramblers for smaller spaces:

- 'Paul's Himalayan Musk' is an exuberant rambler with musk-scented, blush pink blooms. Plant in a wild flower garden, through trees or with a honeysuckle on a high wall.
- 'Climbing Cécile Brünner' has pale shell-pink blooms, which open from tightly scolded buds. It looks lovely winding through the dark leaves of *Prunus cerasifera* 'Nigra'. Little pruning required.
- 'Francis E. Lester' is less rampant than some ramblers, with a copper tinge to its foliage. Shade tolerant, it can be planted up a pergola to take over from an early *Clematis montana*.
- Rambler 'Veilchenblau' has almost blue, strongly scented flowers in mid-summer and is a good backdrop to a bed of lavender and nepeta.
- Climber 'Alister Stella Gray' has a robust, arching habit, ideal for sheltered walls, pergolas or growing through trees.
- Mix a salmon-pink, full sun-loving climber such as 'Compassion' with the similarly coloured rambler 'Phyllis Bide' for blooms all summer.

QUICK GUIDE TO PRUNING

- Climbers and ramblers flower well for years simply with regular pruning of dead, diseased or weak growth.
- As ramblers produce more growth from the base than climbers, these shoots need pruning immediately after flowering.
- Begin training and pruning climbers regularly in the third year, in autumn.
- Prune climbers by two-thirds and ramblers by a third.
- Bend rambler shoots down to encourage flower growth.
- Cut off sideshoots so roses spread out.



ABOVE, FAR LEFT Bred in England in 1894, 'Alister Stella Gray' is a Victorian climber with fully double yellow flowers that fade to creamy white.

ABOVE LEFT The double-flowered climber 'Chaplin's Pink Companion' flowers throughout summer and needs firm support.

LEFT 'Compassion' is a free-flowering climbing hybrid tea rose with salmon-pink blooms and dark foliage.

ABOVE TOP The pure white 'Climbing Iceberg' has thornless stems and flowers from summer through to autumn.

ABOVE Tolerating shade, the rambler 'Francis E. Lester' has long-stemmed, highly scented single flowers and small orange hips in autumn.

RIGHT 'Paul Transon', holder of the RHS Award of Garden Merit, is a medium-sized rambler for smaller gardens with double flowers and glossy foliage.



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DREAM ROOMS Hear from the designers behind our **five elegant schemes**, including a chic, modern terrace with arresting sea views (page 138), an inviting living room with a relaxed Gustavian flavour (page 134) and a beautiful bathroom that's a lesson in restrained luxury (page 136).
INTERIORS A palette of green brings a natural touch to two light and airy **country-style dining rooms** (page 143).
IDEAS Clever ways to **create shade in the garden** for those long, lazy days of summer (page 153).
ADVICE H&G regular Celia Rufey answers your **design queries** (page 165).

BOX OF TRICKS

Neatly encapsulated in a striking glass extension, this contemporary kitchen bridges the divide between a cosy cottage interior and sunny spaces outside







DESIGNER Alex Saint, design manager, Kitchen Architecture, 01625 544890, kitchenarchitecture.co.uk.

Can you tell us about the design?

This quaint thatched cottage in Cheshire is Grade II listed, so to satisfy the planners and create something striking, the owners, David Capper and Ally Wilson, wanted an extension that would not damage the integrity of the old and also celebrate the new. They opted for a modern glass box, with large sliding doors, which would make it feel like they were cooking in the garden.

How did you plan the layout?

The extension's size was restricted by the outside space – the couple didn't want to build on their entire garden – plus it had to work in proportion to the house. This left us with a fairly small footprint of 4.7x2.7m. The layout we chose focuses on giving the chef good sight lines out to the garden and into the house. It provides the ergonomic efficiency of a galley but with lots more storage and appliance potential in the tall units behind.

What inspired the overall look?

David runs an interior fit-out company and has been a long-time supporter of Kitchen Architecture's Bulthaup B3 range, which was perfect for the clean, linear look he wanted to match the extension. The cabinetry lines up precisely with the steel and the installation had to be millimetre perfect so that we could frame the window above the sink and make sure the island was central. I added a thick chunk of oak to the island to create a breakfast bar, which also links to the natural materials inside the cottage. To keep surfaces clutter-free, there is a boiling water tap and one of the tall cabinets houses an appliance cupboard. The flagstone flooring flows out onto the patio, connecting the kitchen and garden spaces.

Any little tricks for making life easier?

Small details, such as raising the dishwasher so it's easy to unload and locating the bins under the worktops so that waste can be scooped straight in, make a big difference. The island has a flush-fitted induction hob over which chopping boards can be placed to create extra prep space when it's not in use. In the sink area, the tap has a pull-out spout and the bowl is big enough for oven trays.

Did the predominance of glass affect the design?

David and Ally never raised any concerns about the brightness or heat levels a glazed structure can create. The glass has a solar coating to reduce glare, but their attitude is that they can get plenty of shade in the rest of the house. If it feels too hot, they push open the doors or the pivoted window above the sink.

Was the kitchen difficult to light?

As we were restricted by the extensive use of glass, we opted to attach spotlights to the steel beams and angled them to key working points. Choosing lights in the same colour as the beams provided a discreet solution. Ambient lighting has been set into the floor on a separate circuit.

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ABOVE A structure like this can cause difficulties when it comes to lighting. The discreet solution here was to install directional spotlights on the steel beams in the same colour. **BELOW** An oak breakfast bar (left) softens the look of the white cabinetry; the tall appliance unit right of the sink helps to keep the look clutter-free.



WHERE TO BUY

ARCHITECTURE Reform, re-form.org.uk. Build and decoration, MIC, mic.uk.com.
CABINETY Bulthaup B3 range, from £35,000;
SURFACES Kaolin laminate worktops, from £500sq m; both Kitchen Architecture, kitchenarchitecture.co.uk.
FLOORING Riven York flagstone flooring, from £55sq m, North West Stone Supplies, stoneymark.co.uk.
APPLIANCES Gaggenau 200 Series BOP 220 single oven,

£2,020; Gaggenau 200 Series WSP warming drawer, £910; Gaggenau 200 Series BSP 250 combi-steam oven, £2,800; Quooker Basic Pro3-VAQ boiling water tap, £850; Liebherr integrated fridge, £1,100; Miele integrated dishwasher, £1,200; all Kitchen Architecture, kitchenarchitecture.co.uk.
FINISHING TOUCHES Carl Hansen CH58 bar stools, from £568 each, Atomic Interiors, atomicinteriors.co.uk.

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MEET QUIQUE DACOSTA



Spain's most famous Michelin-starred chef, Quique Dacosta, tells us about his new kitchen design for Porcelanosa.

HOW DID THE PROJECT BEGIN?

Quique Dacosta Restaurante has a Food Design Lab, manned by creative people working in architecture, design, crafts and technology. We asked Porcelanosa to work with us on an ambitious professional kitchen for my restaurant and the idea for a domestic design was born from this. **WHAT WAS THE INSPIRATION?** It has everything I like in a professional kitchen: design, functionality and innovation, but this time, it's in my house, where I cook for my children. The idea was to take it beyond functional elements to make a domestic space for creativity.

WHY DOES IT WORK? We chose Krypton solid surfaces for simplicity, with natural wood elements for warmth. Lighting plays a big role in the design, as do the rounded edges, which give personality and mimic the architecture of my restaurant.

WHAT ABOUT THE LAYOUT? There are distinct spaces for the equipment typically found in a restaurant kitchen – induction cooktops, grills, precision ovens, wine cellars – and each is of a professional specification, without being a professional product. It is designed for everyday use, but also so that home cooks can reach the next level. Above all, it is made to come into its own when entertaining.



The Porcelanosa Kitchen by Quique Dacosta starts at £120,000. Contact 01923 815200, porcelanosa.com.

THE SHARP END

Microplane has put its brilliant super-sharp blades to the task of effortlessly chopping herbs. The new 2-in-1 Herb Mill, £19.95 from Steamer Trading 01273 483300, steamer.co.uk, also features a pull-through stripper to speedily remove leaves from tougher stemmed varieties such as rosemary and thyme.



ALL TOGETHER NOW

A first in the world of appliance collections, Franke has created Frames, a range that, alongside ovens, hoods and hobs, includes sinks and taps. All share a low-profile, streamlined design for a beautifully cohesive kitchen scheme. Prices start at £283 for a lever tap. Contact Franke, 0161 436 6280, franke.co.uk.

KITCHEN UPDATE

The latest product and style news for the heart of the home

GOT IT IN ONE

Offering both mood and task lighting, Nolte's new Emotion Light can be dimmed and changed from warm to cool white. The LED system is shown here in the Artwood kitchen, from £12,000. Contact 01707 290444, nolte-kitchens.com.



HIT THE FLOOR

Artist Dee Hardwicke has created a vinyl floor tile design for Harvey Maria's Signature Collection. Lattice, from £42.95/sq m, is inspired by nature and comes in six colours, including this Pebble Grey.

Contact 0845 680 1231, harveymaria.co.uk.



3 OF THE BEST 4-IN-1 TAPS

Multifunctional designs for boiling, hot, cold and filtered water



1| Safety first.
A special key for boiling water stops children from being scalded. **Pronteau**, from £1,249. Abode, 01226 283434, abodedesigns.co.uk.



2| Hi-tech design.
Use the touch screen to dispense water. **Quatreau**, from £2,999. Quatreau, 01483 617000, quatreau.com.



3| Choice of finishes.
Available in gloss or matt black, as well as bright or brushed chrome. **Celsius Cube**, from £1,399. Zip, 0845 600 5005, zipwater.co.uk.

CHECK MATE

With a nod to Gustavian style, this light, uplifting scheme is perfect for its country setting



DESIGNER Alidad,
Studio Alidad,
020 7384 0121,
studioalidad.com.

Can you tell us about the project?

This large 19th-century cottage is in lovely rural surroundings and, the moment I saw it, I knew it had great potential. I'd also designed the clients' London home, which features very grand schemes; this cottage has a much more relaxed style that is sympathetic to the architecture. It was also one of the first projects carried out by Studio Alidad, which I recently set up in order to provide a younger, simpler and more contemporary version of our aesthetic.

How did you devise the layout?

I always carefully consider how the space will be lived in, based on discussions with the owners. If the details are not thought through, from plug sockets to handy places to set down drinks, the room will not be user friendly. I like multifunctional spaces, so if a room is large enough I will devise two seating areas. Here, there is a sociable arrangement centred on the fireplace while behind this, next to the bookshelves, a comfortable armchair creates a tranquil reading area. The blue lamp is positioned behind the sofa on a table that also doubles as a writing desk.

How would you describe the aesthetic?

I love Gustavian style, it is very smart yet calm and peaceful, and I suppose you could call this the Studio Alidad version. We started with two blue-and-white patterned fabrics – a small print for the walls and a check for the coffee table and cushions – and then introduced textural neutrals, such as a soft cotton for the sofas and a velvet for the armchairs. The floral cushions came last: I tend to bring in extra interest with cushions, the final embellishment.

Did you custom design any pieces for the room?

I designed the bookcase to run the full height of the wall to draw the eye upwards and make the ceiling appear higher. I also created the coffee table. I find that ottomans and footstools make a room feel much more comfortable but I needed to be practical, hence the idea of an upholstered piece with a glass surface. The checked fabric continues beneath the glass.

What about the windows?

Flanking the French doors at the centre of the room are two windows with deep sills, which I dressed with cushions to provide extra seating. Shutters do wonders for smaller windows; the trick is to opt for wider slats, which creates the illusion that the window is larger than it really is.

How is the room lit at night?

Ceiling lights can be harsh and are really not appropriate for a cottage like this, so instead I chose wall lights and table and reading lamps to illuminate the space. The back wall is the darkest part of the room, so I incorporated swing-arm lights into the bookcase to discreetly brighten this area.

FIND MORE LIVING ROOM IDEAS AT [HOUSETOHOME.CO.UK/LIVING-ROOM](http://housetohome.co.uk/living-room)



FEATURE RACHEL LEEDHAM PHOTOGRAPH JAMES McDONALD

WHERE TO BUY

FURNITURE Stratford three-seat sofas, £4,200 plus 17.5m of fabric each; **Polyanna** armchairs, £2,000 plus 6m of fabric each; all Kingcome Sofas, kingcomesofas.co.uk.

Bespoke bookshelves and coffee table, Studio Alidad, studioalidad.com.

FABRICS For similar checked fabrics, try Ian Mankin, ianmankin.co.uk.

ACCESSORIES Nimes beaded wall lights, £702 each, Vaughan, vaughandesigns.com.

Similar table lamp, Grace in Peacock Blue, £582, Porta Romana, portaromana.co.uk.

Stockholm Sprig cushions, £213 each, Chelsea Textiles, chelseatextiles.com. **Similar shutters**, hardwood shutters, £240sq m, Plantation Shutters, plantation-shutters.co.uk.



SOFT TOUCH

Combining delicate hand-painting and exotic marble with lustrous crystal and gold, this elegant scheme perfectly demonstrates the fine art of restrained luxury



DESIGNER Joanna Wood,
director, Joanna Trading,
020 7730 0693, joannatrading.com.

Can you describe the space?

The house, in west London, is just 20 years old and was modern but rather dull, so the owners asked me to bring it to life. This space is a part of a new suite, which also includes a bedroom and dressing room, created by reconfiguring the internal walls.

How did you plan the layout?

The area shown is reached by a small corridor with a generous shower/steam room on the left and a WC and bidet on the right, all neatly contained behind glass doors. Separating the space in this way helps with privacy and prevents the bathroom feeling as big as a ballroom. Expansive, showcase bathrooms are okay in fine hotels but not terribly cosy for every day – you can feel cold and exposed. Double doors lead into this light-filled room, with the bath centred between two windows.

What influenced the style of the scheme?

The owner is very feminine and beautiful, with a natural French style, and I wanted to create an elegant space that reflects all of this. It started with the bath, which I saw at a show and kept the brochure in a box called “things I like”. It’s possibly the prettiest bath I’ve ever seen and, for this client, it’s perfect.

Where did you source the taps and flooring?

For brassware, I headed to Bathrooms International, because it stocks breathtaking fittings and is an expert in the finer points of plumbing. I chose taps in gold plate and crystal. They are glitzy, but I believe that if you use this level of luxury in a restrained way it looks fabulous. The flooring, from Mander & Germain, is Italian Calacatta Gold marble, which is book-matched at the centre of the bath to create a striking butterfly effect. Its rich umber tones influenced the paint colours on the bespoke vanity unit.

Can you tell us about the feature wall?

This is a bespoke plaster panel, by The Finished Effect, inspired by one of my toile wallpapers at Lewis & Wood. The company had asked to use the design to create panels for its stand at Decorex, and gave me this sample as a gift. I knew it would be perfect above the bath. The design has been extended in plaster across the whole wall and painted to match the colour scheme, with extra butterflies and flowers added at the client’s request. The image is also 3D, which never fails to impress.

What makes this bathroom so special?

While it’s true we had the freedom to select the finest fittings and finishes, there are lots of good ideas here. Often it takes just one wonderful fitting to make a bathroom sing, and the rest can be quite ordinary. This scheme has a practical side, too. There’s abundant storage, and we used affordable sheers at the windows, which I always advise for properties in traffic-heavy locations. Better to replace a synthetic white fabric every few years than go for an expensive silk that will inevitably turn grey.

FIND MORE BEAUTIFUL BATHROOMS AT HOUSETOHOME.CO.UK/BATHROOM



ABOVE The bespoke double vanity bears the lightness and elegance of French furniture, with mother-of-pearl handles adding a further opulent note. **RIGHT** A hand-painted trailing foliage backdrop, richly veined marble and lavish sheer curtains create a theatrical effect around the scalloped bath.

WHERE TO BUY

FURNITURE Bespoke double vanity unit, around £9,450, NEJ Stevenson, nejstevenson.co.uk. Bespoke mirror cabinets, DG Glass Designs, dgglassdesigns.co.uk.

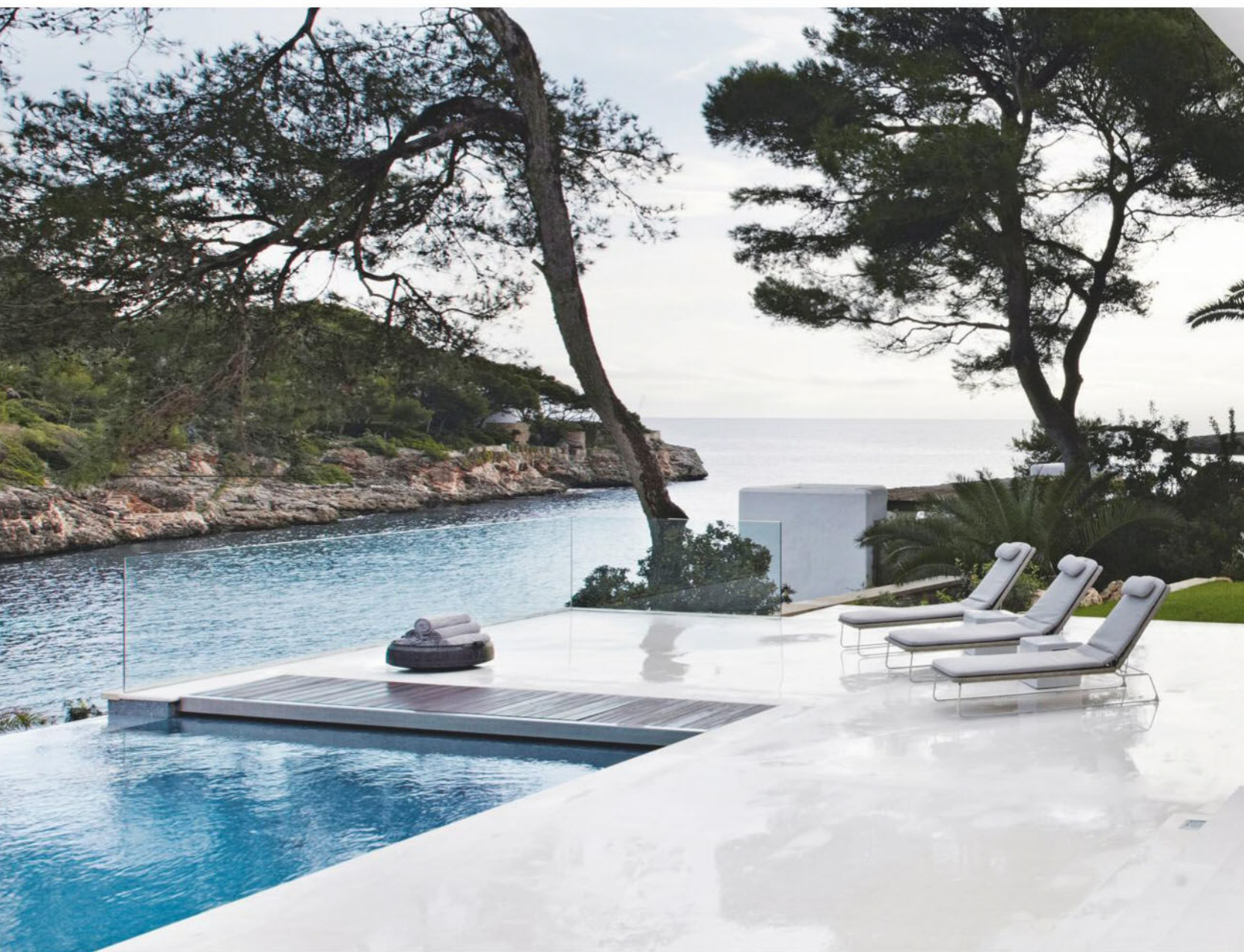
FITTINGS Paradise bath, £4,260, BC Designs, bcdesigns.co.uk. Baccarat U6E mixer with handshower, £4,678; Baccarat U6E bath tap controls, £2,896 each; Baccarat U6E three-hole basin mixers with pop up waste, £7,650 each; all THG Paris; A38 Niagara waterfall bath spout, £2,484; all Bathrooms International, bathroomsint.com.

WALL AND FLOORING Bespoke hand-painted plaster panel, £1,500sq m, The Finished Effect, thefinishedeffect.co.uk. Italian Calacatta Gold marble, £1,400sq m including installation, Mander & Germain, manderandgermain.co.uk.

ACCESSORIES Sheers in Nelson in col 173, polyester, £73.95m, JAB Anstoetz, jab-uk.co.uk. T21 Shepherd’s Hook antiqued brass curtain tiebacks, £422.40 a pair, McKinney & Co, mckinney.co.uk. Bespoke Petal mother-of-pearl cabinet knobs, from £182 each, Phillips & Wood, phillipsandwood.co.uk. Mother-of-pearl bathroom accessories, from £150 each; glass vases, from £55; all Joanna Wood, joannawood.co.uk.

WORDS LINDA CLAYTON PHOTOGRAPHS TIM BEDDOW





CLUB TROPICANA

Textural pieces complement the modern architecture of an island beach house with breathtaking sea views



DESIGNER Fiona Barratt-Campbell, Fiona Barratt Interiors, 020 3262 0320, fionabarrattinteriors.com.

Can you describe the project?

This is a beach house in the Balearic Islands that was built for my clients. We worked with a local architect on the project, which includes a huge terrace that spans the width of the property and leads down to the pool. The large overhang not only provides shade for the outdoor seating areas, but also creates terraces for the four bedrooms on the floor above.

Which architectural materials were used?

We chose smooth white limestone for the floor and a white render for the walls of the building. The pale palette serves to reflect the light and

keep the terrace cool, while also creating a beautifully crisp, clean-lined effect.

Any tips for choosing outdoor furniture?

My most important piece of advice is that it has to be fit for purpose. If the weather conditions mean the furniture will have to be stored away over winter, make sure that it is light enough to move and, crucially, that you have somewhere to keep it. If the furniture is to remain outside all year, opt for designs that will survive the elements. The salty air here meant that outdoor furniture with chrome was out of the question; we could



only use pieces with stainless steel and couldn't even have chrome taps in the bathrooms.

What influenced your choice of pieces?

I created a dining area at one end of the terrace and two identical seating arrangements, one of which is positioned out of shot. As the sofas sit in front of the glazing, they had to be low so as not to obstruct the view of the sea from the living spaces. I didn't use armchairs, as these would face back towards the house and hinder movement along the terrace; instead, I introduced pouffes and ceramic side tables for a relaxed, versatile grouping. I am not one for bright colours so the palette is neutral, but it is infused with a variety of textures, such as rope cord on the sofas and high gloss finishes on the ceramic tables, to contrast with the linear feel of the architecture. The teak dining table was

designed by our studio and bleached under sun lamps. We sourced oversized ceramic candelabra to introduce a sculptural element and add height to the table. s

Did you use any clever lighting tricks?

We wanted the lighting to be both soft and atmospheric, hence the groupings of white cane lanterns, which add a decorative element and look fabulous when the candles are lit. The steps to the pool feature recessed lighting, while the pool itself has a triptych of spotlights that illuminate the water with a subtle wash. We also installed lights in the three trees flanking the pool and at the base of the palms dotted around the grounds. These highlight the textural quality of the trees and again serve as a counterpoint to the sleek simplicity of the contemporary architecture.

WHERE TO BUY

FURNITURE Bespoke dining table in bleached teak, Fiona Barratt Interiors, fionabarrattinteriors.com. Mood dining chairs, £520 each; Mood sun loungers, £1,520 each; both Manutti at Go Modern, gomodern.co.uk. Sabi sofa, from £9,222; Play pouffes, £876 each; both F Rota for Paola Lenti at The Modern Garden Company, modern.garden.co.uk. InOut 44 ceramic side tables, £295 each, Paola Navone for Gervasoni at Milk Concept Boutique, milkconceptboutique.co.uk.

SMALL WONDER

Shade-loving plants and sculptural trees have transformed a tiny urban courtyard into a modern outdoor room with a country feel



DESIGNER PROFILE Since forming Garden Makers in 2003, Louise Cummins (far left) and Caroline De Lane Lea have built a reputation for crisp, contemporary design and won a Silver medal at the 2007 RHS Chelsea Flower Show. The garden shown here was shortlisted in the Small Budget Garden category of the 2015 Society of Garden Designers' Awards.

What did the owner want from this small urban space?

Our client had recently opened up the ground floor of his London townhouse, adding a glass wall at the back, so the garden is visible as soon as you walk through the front door. This called for a design that would look strong and characterful without overshadowing the stylish interiors. As a busy entrepreneur with little time for gardening, he wanted an easy-to-maintain space where he could relax and entertain. He also sent us pictures of an established olive tree and a wild country garden and asked for a design that would convey the essence of these images.

Can you tell us about the design challenges you faced?

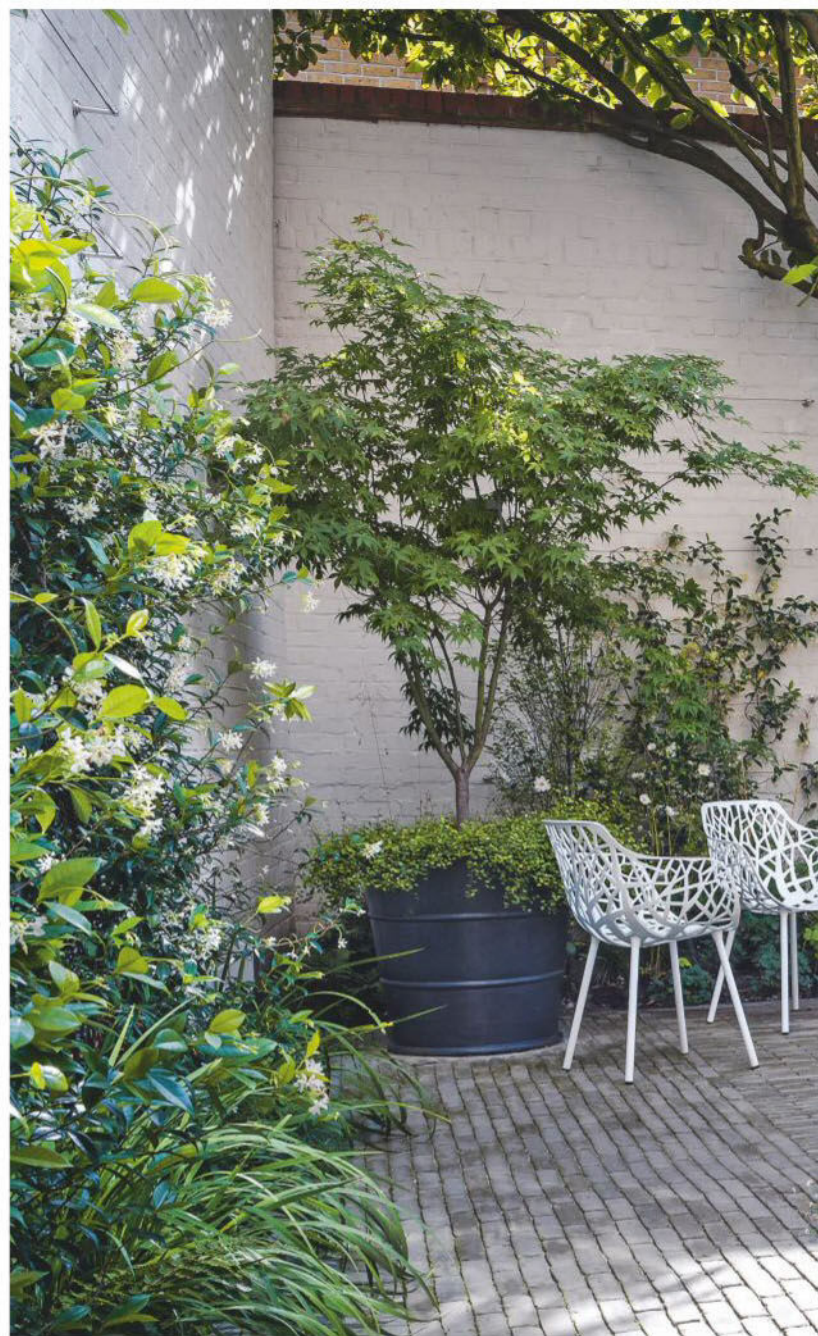
The garden is just 581 square feet and hemmed in at one corner by two walls that are so high, they appear to be leaning inwards. They make the site very dark, but that was surmountable. More challenging was the basement beneath it; it meant we had to plant everything, including the olive tree, in relatively shallow pots set into the ground. As the space can be viewed from a first-floor balcony, it also had to look good from above.

How did you fulfil the brief?

To make the space as light as possible and create a clean backdrop, we painted the walls off-white and put in a white-painted slatted fence along the third boundary. In the middle of the space an L-shaped bed allows the olive tree to be the hero; it gives the garden year-round country style and is a dramatic focal point. Around the edges, borders are filled with delicately leaved climbers and low-growing, spreading plants that trickle over the olive-coloured brick paving. Bricks can look traditional but this geometric pattern is quite modern and appears very textural, particularly from above. The safety screen around the basement steps is made of clear glass, so the whole garden is visible from inside.

Which plants did you decide to use?

The restricted light meant we had to use shade-tolerant planting; the sun-loving olive tree is set in the brightest spot. The leafy woodland species, including euphorbias and ferns, require little maintenance, while aquilegias, geraniums, astrantias and Japanese anemones add flowering highlights. The climbing star jasmine on the walls introduces a delicious scent when it flowers in summer, while Japanese maples, planted in large bronze containers, were chosen for their handsome leaves and autumn colours, and the trailing stems of *Muehlenbeckia complexa* (Australian ivy) for the leafy frill around the edges.



What design tips do you have for small spaces?

In a small space you have to be brave and use large plants and generous borders; masking areas of a tiny garden with trees and shrubs will, in fact, make it appear larger. Trees take the eye up towards the sky and also help to create the illusion of space, while leafy boundaries help to disguise the garden's dimensions. Our planting here is layered, with shrubs, box balls, evergreen perennials and seasonal flowers, to ensure there is something to look at throughout the year.

Does the garden look equally good at night?

Absolutely. For evening entertaining, specially designed spotlights have been set into the paving, to illuminate the large tree containers. Another spotlight focuses on the olive tree, picking out the detail in the bark and leaves. We also incorporated two sculptural lamps, beyond the olive tree, which look like tall elegant vases by day and emit a soft glow at night.



KEY PLANTS

- 1| *Libertia chilensis*.
- 2| *Trachelospermum jasminoides* (star jasmine).
- 3| *Muehlenbeckia complexa* (Australian ivy).
- 4| *Acer palmatum* 'Osakazuki' (Japanese maple).
- 5| *Anemone x hybrida* 'Honorine Jobert' (Japanese anemone).
- 6| *Magnolia*.
- 7| *Olea europaea* (olive tree).
- 8| *Erigeron karvinskianus*.
- 9| *Luzula nivea*.
- 10| *Osteospermum*.
- 11| *Geranium nodosum*.
- 12| *Astrantia major*.
- 13| *Buxus sempervirens* (box).

PLANT SUPPLIERS

Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants, 01256 896533, hardys-plants.co.uk.
Knoll Gardens, 01202 873931, knollgardens.co.uk.
The Palm Centre, 020 8255 6191, palmcentre.co.uk.

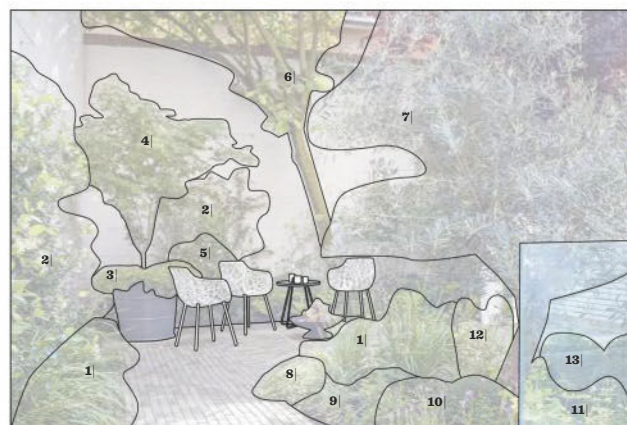
LANDSCAPE SUPPLIERS

The **Belgian clay brick pavers** are from Vande Moortel, 020 3633 2422, vandemoortel.co.uk.
Garden lighting was designed and supplied by Light IQ, 020 8749 1900, lightiq.com, while the **Scarlett outdoor lamps**, **chairs** and **firepit** are from Barbed, 020 8878 1994, barbed.co.uk, and the **large ribbed planter** is from Bronzino, 020 7370 4344, bronzino.co.uk.

GARDEN DESIGN

Garden Makers, Louise Cummins, 07759 916458, Caroline De Lane Lea, 07976 621156, garden-makers.co.uk.

“
Trees take the eye up towards the sky and create the illusion of space, while leafy boundaries help to disguise the garden's small dimensions.”





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STYLING SALLY CONRAN PHOTOGRAPHS CHRIS EVERARD

ACCESSORIES Maxwell Ryan cereal bowls in Grey, £11.25 each; Maxwell Ryan dinner plates, £15 each; all Canvas Home. Puglia napkins, £28 set of four, Anthropologie. Parigi water glasses, £12 each; Tokio clear glass jug, £35; Tourron Jade jug, £45; all

The Conran Shop. Green beakers, £18 each. Irving & Morrison. Orvieto wooden candlesticks, large, £42; small, £29; both Brissi. Cool Aqua pillar candles, £5 each. Nordic House. Linen hemstitch tablecloth in Dove Grey, 160x275cm, £115. The Linen Works.

MIXING PATTERN

Combining small prints and larger motifs in shades of mint, jade, lime and leaf green has an uplifting effect in this sunny space. The painted tongue-and-groove wall panels bring lightness to the scheme and help to balance the generous use of pattern, while vinyl flooring is a practical choice for a room that leads out to the garden. Laying the black and white floor tiles on an angle draws the eye through the space to the view beyond.

FURNITURE Hungerford dining table, H78xW240xD100cm, £2,490; Anders dining chairs, H99xW47xD51cm, £295 each; all India Jane. Toby's sofa in Greyed Oak, H90xW206xD65.5cm, £3,189, William Yeoward.

FABRICS Curtains in Esme in Jade, linen, £50m, Romo. Dark green cushion in (on left) Gem in Nettle, cotton mix, £38m, Nile & York at Redloh House Fabrics. Frilled cushion in Macau Fret in Ming Green, cotton, £126.40m, Clarence House at Turnell & Gigon. Light green cushion in (second right) Cordoba in Peridot, linen, £90m, Rapture & Wright at Redloh House Fabrics. Dark green cushion in (far right) Macita in Racing Green, cotton mix, £39m, Nile & York at Redloh House Fabrics.

WALLS Rousseau wallpaper 99/9040, £125 a roll, Cole & Son. Woodwork in Belgravia, Marble Matt Emulsion, £42 for 2.5 litres, Mylands.

FLOORING Limestone Cool vinyl floor tiles SS5S1561; Monmouth Slate vinyl floor tiles SS5S7501; both £39.50sq m, Amtico.

ACCESSORIES Rococo vintage mirror, £395, Brissi. Pineapple wall sconce, £125, Graham and Green. 25mm Classic curtain pole in Beeswax, 20p per cm; 25mm button finials in Beeswax 601BW, £7.60 each; 25mm Chapel standard brackets in Beeswax 6068BW, £8.90 each; all Jim Lawrence. (On dining table) Waterlily ceramic plate, extra large, £59; extra small, £14; both Rickett St George. Recycled glass bottles, large, £29.95; round, £29.95; small faux bayleaf, £18.50; all Nordic House. Aged stone-effect urn, £45, Cox & Cox. Delicate faux fern stems, £7.50 each, An Angel At My Table. (On window sill, from left) Porcio small vase, £62.50, Canvas Home. Large Ivory Epoch pot, £14, Anthropologie. Fabulous faux fern pot plant, £14, Rickett St George. Medium Retro glass bottle, £28, Nordic House. Delicate faux fern stem, £7.50; faux Bells of Ireland stem, £12 a pair; both An Angel At My Table.





DRESSING THE TABLE

Choosing tableware that complements the wider scheme creates an elegant, unified look. Here, hints of warm copper have been added for a subtle contemporary edge.

FURNITURE Anders dining chairs, H99xW47xD51cm, £295 each, India Jane.

FABRIC Curtain in Esme in Jade, linen, £50m, Romo.

WALLS Rousseau wallpaper 99/9040, £125 a roll, Cole & Son. Woodwork in Belgravia, Marble Matt Emulsion, £42 for 2.5 litres, Mylands.

ACCESSORIES Linen hemstitch tablecloth in Dove Grey, 160x275cm, £115; linen napkins in Duck Egg, £7.50 each; all The Linen Works. Tourron Jade dessert plates, £22 each, The Conran Shop. Old Havana dinner plates in Mint, £16; Amparo flutes, £12 each; Granada juice glasses, £6 each; Primavera pitcher in Sky, £68; Swirled candle holder in Turquoise (used as vase), £10; all Anthropologie. Porcelain spoon with strainer, £15; Porcelain spoon round, £12.50; both Holly's House. Madrid cutlery in Copper, £58.75 for a five-piece set, Canvas Home.





DUAL PURPOSE (above) A sideboard not only provides storage, but acts as a useful serving area when entertaining, while faux plants are a pretty, low-maintenance choice.

FURNITURE Skara sideboard, H96xW150xD50cm, £1,455, Oka.
WALL Rousseau wallpaper 99/9040, £125 a roll, Cole & Son.
ACCESSORIES Green and white ceramic jug, £90, Irving & Morrison. Recycled glass demi john vase, £35, Cox & Cox. Faux Veronica stems,

£4 each, Brissi. Delicate faux fern stem, £7.50, An Angel At My Table. Attingham teacups in Mint, £12 each, Anthropologie. Faux potted rosemary, £70, Cox & Cox. Tall green candlestick lamp base, £235; Green Crisscross shade, £285; both Irving & Morrison.

PRACTICAL WINDOW TREATMENT (above right) When dressing a glazed door, it's worth considering a single curtain, which can be pulled right back when not in use.

FURNITURE Anders dining chair, H99xW47xD51cm, £295, India Jane.
FLOORING Limestone Cool vinyl floor tiles SS5S1561; Monmouth Slate vinyl floor tiles SS5S7501; both £39.50sq m, Amtico.

FABRIC Curtain in Esme in Jade, linen, £50m, Romo.
ACCESSORIES Old Havana bowls in Mint, £12 each; Puglia napkins in Turquoise, £28 set of four; all Anthropologie.

HARMONIOUS TONES (right) It's easier to mix patterns when they are drawn from the same colour palette. Try experimenting with scale, combining florals and geometrics.

FURNITURE Toby's sofa in Greyed Oak, H90xW206xD65.5cm, £3,189, William Yeoward.
WALL Rousseau wallpaper 99/9040, £125 a roll, Cole & Son.
FABRICS Seat cushion in Korman in Celery, cotton mix, £39m; cushions in (from left) Sorbus in Willow, cotton mix, £39m; both Nile & York

at Redloh House Fabrics. Speedwell in Sage, linen, £60m, Inchyra Designs. Laguna in Turquoise, linen, £90m, Christopher Farr Cloth. Waikiki in Green on Oyster, linen mix, £170m, Bennison Fabrics. Double-sided velvet ribbon in Lime 58106880, £5.05m, V V Rouleaux at John Lewis.





TEXTURAL DEPTH

Layering tactile materials, such as warm-toned oak, bamboo and seagrass, with industrial-style zinc creates a relaxed, inviting feel. Keeping walls plain focuses attention on the patterned blinds and chair covers, while a woven statement pendant will cast atmospheric shadows by night.

FURNITURE Zinc top dining table, H80xW210xD100cm, **£1,200**, *Graham and Green*. Harrogate dining chairs in Alpine and Moss, H96xW48xD58cm, **£220 each**, *Neptune*. Alexis étagère, H90xW110xD35cm, **£495**, *India Jane*.

FABRICS Swedish blinds in Retiro in Verde, viscose mix, **£92m**, *Gastón y Daniela*. Blinds backed in Crosby Stripe in Lettuce, cotton mix, **£147.80m**, *Clarence House at Turnell & Gigon*. Blind ties in linen ribbon in Squashed Gooseberry 22912, **£4.30m**, *VV Rouleaux*. Chair covers in Couronne in Fern Green, linen, **£60m**, *Inchyra*. Chair cover ties in velvet ribbon in Forest Green, **£3.25 for 3m**, *John Lewis*.

WALLS Ludgate Circus, Marble Matt Emulsion, **£42 for 2.5 litres**, *Mylands*.

FLOORING Bandsaw oak flooring, **£90sq m**, *Blueridge Flooring*.

ACCESSORIES Zap Bamboo pendant light, **£98.50**, *Holly's House*. Agna small plates, **£7.95 each**, *Graham and Green*. Wobbler cereal bowls in Jade, **£35 set of four**, *Loaf*. Wood cutlery, **£22 set of four pieces**; fringed linen napkins in Grey Blue, **£32 set of four**; all *Oka*. Moroccan tea glasses in Green, **£10 each**, *Canvas Home*. Milk bottle, **£5.50**; stoneware bottle, **£28**; *Baileys*. Flower tea light holder in Aqua, **£10**, *Brissi*. Set of two marble

condiment pots, **£37.50**, *Rockett St George*. Glass bell jar, **£8.50**, *Nordic House*. Potter's bowl, **£7.50**, *An Angel At My Table*. Porcelain angular spoon, **£12.50**, *Holly's House*. Vietnamese straw broom, **£12.50**, *Rockett St George*. Sinnerlig seagrass rug, 200x300cm, **£50**, *Ikea*. (On window sill, from left) Faux potted rosemary, **£70**, *Cox & Cox*. Stoneware bottle, **£28**, *Baileys*. Small faux bayleaf, **£18.50**, *Nordic House*. Porcio small vase, **£10**, *Canvas Home*. Faux small leaf fern, **£27**, *Holly's House*. Large recycled cylinder vase, **£37.50**, *Canvas Home*. Faux Pittosporum flower stem, **£7**, *Oka*. Faux fern in glass pot, **£21.95**, *Graham and Green*. Medium retro glass bottle, **£28**, *Nordic House*. Faux fern in pot, **£11**, *An Angel At My Table*. Fabulous faux succulent pot plant, **£75**, *Rockett St George*. Large retro glass bottle, **£42**, *Nordic House*. Faux lamb's ear leaves, **£5**, *Oka*. Swirled candle holder in Turquoise, **£34**, *Anthropologie*. (On middle shelf of étagère, from left) Old French digoin jar, **£65**, *Baileys*. Cley mugs, **£12.50 pair**; Cley plate, **£12.50**; all *An Angel At My Table*. Maxwell Ryan cereal bowl in Grey, **£11.25**, *Canvas Home*. (Bottom shelf, from left) Wine carafe, **£45 including a water carafe**, *Nordic House*. Moroccan tea glasses in Green, **£10 each**, *Canvas Home*. Flower tea light holder in Aqua, **£10**, *Brissi*.



GARDEN ROOM STYLE (above left) Making a feature of a window sill with delicate faux foliage, potted herbs and green glass will ensure the display lasts through summer and beyond.

FABRICS Swedish blind in Retiro in Verde, viscose mix, **£92m**. Gastón y Daniela. Blind backed in Crosby Stripe in Lettuce, cotton mix, **£147.80m**. Clarence House at Turnell & Gigon.

ACCESSORIES (From left) Faux potted rosemary, **£70**. Cox & Cox. Stoneware bottle, **£28**. Baileys. Small faux bayleaf, **£18.50**. Nordic House. Porcio small

vase, £10, *Canvas Home*. Faux small leaf fern, £27, *Holly's House*. Large recycled cylinder vase, £37.50, *Canvas Home*. Faux *Pittosporum* flower stem, £7, *Oka*. Faux fern in glass pot, £21.95, *Graham and Green*. Retro glass bottles, medium, £28; large, £42; both *Nordic House*. Faux lamb's ear leaves, £5, *Oka*.

ADDITIONAL SEATING (above) By covering cushion pads in a fabric that complements the room scheme, chairs used for extra dinner guests will sit comfortably in an alcove when not in use.

FURNITURE Similar chair, Lauder armchair, H55xW47xD48cm, **£425**, *Clock House Furniture*.

FABRICS Seat cushion in Aluro II in Green, cotton, **£85m**, *Eva Sonaïke*.
Cushion cover in Fern Gully in Cactus on Natural, cotton, **£72.50m**, *Porcupine*

Rocks. Spearmint Neon ribbon, £4.94 for 3m, The Makery at John Lewis.

ACCESSORIES Wood cutlery, £22 set of four pieces; fringed linen napkins in Grey Blue, £32 set of four; all Oka. Marble condiment pot, £37.50 set of two. *Rockett St George.*

NATURAL LOOK (left) A combination of wood, softly toned linen and glazed stoneware are ideal for bringing a relaxed ambience to the dining table.

ACCESSORIES Agna small plates, £7.95 each, *Graham and Green*. Wobbler cereal bowl in Jade, £35 set of four, *Loaf*. Wood cutlery, £22 set of four pieces; fringed linen napkin in Grey

Blue, **£32** set of four; *all Oka*. Moroccan tea glass in Green, **£10**, *Canvas Home*. Milk bottle, **£5.50**, *Baileys Home*. Set of two marble condiment pots, **£37.50**, *Rockett St George*.

OPEN STORAGE

Placing a slimline étagère in the dining room allows the display of much-loved tableware without taking up too much space.

FURNITURE Alexis étagère, H90x W110xD35cm, £495, India Jane.

ACCESSORIES (Top shelf, from left) Large blue grid bottle, £49.95, Holly's House. Faux lamb's ear leaves, £5, Oka. Moroccan tea glasses in Green, £10 each, Canvas Home. Agna mug, £7.95, Graham and Green. Faux small leaf fern, £27, Holly's House. Set of two marble condiment pots, £37.50, Rockett St George. Stoneware bottles, £28 each, Baileys. Small faux bayleaf, £18.50, Nordic House. Emerald industrial angle table lamp in Green, £119, Out There Interiors. (Middle shelf, from left) Wobbler cereal bowls in Jade, £35 set of four, Loaf. Maxwell Ryan side plates in Grey, £11.25 each; French stonewashed linen napkins in Light Grey, £8.75; all Canvas Home. Cley mugs, £12.50 a pair, An Angel At My Table. Old French Digoin jar, £65, Baileys. (Bottom shelf, from left) Water carafe, £45 set including wine carafe; glass bell jar, £8.50; both Nordic House. Potters bowl, £7.50, An Angel At My Table. Wobbler side plates in Jade, £35 set of four, Loaf. Sabadell planters, £18 set of two; Wood knives, forks and spoons, £22 set of four pieces; all Oka.

WHERE TO BUY, PAGE 177



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KEEPING YOUR COOL

Our solutions for creating shade in the garden will make an outdoor dining or seating area a pleasure to use on the bright days of summer

OPEN MINDED A versatile design is always a good option, such as the canvas cover on this pergola by American garden designer Molly Wood, mollywoodgardendesign.com. It not only provides shade, but can be drawn back on overcast days or for star-gazing, too.

LAURE CHAUDANSON,
Helen Green Design,
020 7352 3344,
helengreendesign.com.

■ If there is space, a pergola with climbers is a beautiful way to bring shade to a garden or terrace. It also adds an element of romance, especially if you choose to cover it with scented plants such as roses, jasmine or honeysuckle. A more architectural structure, combined with the right plants, works a treat in contemporary spaces, too.

■ Most of the London properties we design for have limited outdoor space, so flexibility is key. Permanent fixtures, such as a tree or pergola, can rob an interior of light, so parasols, sails and retractable awnings are a better choice.

■ When creating a scheme for a patio or terrace, think of it as you would an interior room. Focus on the context, colour scheme and mood, and develop the look from there. It is important to think of inside and out as connected spaces, particularly if linked by glass doors. The easiest way to do this is to continue a key surface, such as flooring, across the boundary.

■ Temporary structures allow for a bit of fun and the chance to dress up the garden for a particular event. For example, an Indian Summer theme would call for bright colours, metallics and plenty of fringing on parasols.

■ For more permanent features, many fabric houses have good-quality outdoor ranges that are colour fast and durable. We like US-company Perennials, perennialsfabrics.com, which offers an exciting range of fabrics and rugs, woven from solution-dyed acrylic yarns that will resist mildew and fading.

■ When painting a pergola, it's best to choose colours that are sympathetic to the environment. Darker shades of green and grey suit a townhouse setting, while you might want to consider softer greys or blues for a countryside garden.

▷ **NATURALLY BETTER** Materials such as raffia and bamboo are commonly used for shelters in warmer countries. If you want the look in the UK, reed or willow is a wonderfully authentic, home-grown choice. Natural Fencing, naturalfencing.com, is a good source and the company also designs and sells living willow structures.



△ **WELL SUITED** Any garden structure should be considered in relation to the house. That's not to say it needs to match exactly – old meets new is very popular right now – but your choice should be sympathetic. Here, the design of the contemporary pergola complements the run of modern French windows below.

▷ **SHOOTS AND LEAVES** The parasol pruning of plane trees has encouraged a flat but full canopy to provide plenty of shade in this garden by Arne Maynard, arnemaynard.com. Both parasol (single stem) and umbrella (multi-stem) trees will have had the central lateral branches cut back to achieve their shape; the canopy can be trained over a frame for extra support.





danish culture and design

Who doesn't long for lazy, warm summer evenings, a chilled drink and the tempting smell of delicious food sizzling away? The Morsø Living range has everything you need, all making the most of superb Scandinavian design and quality.

SUPPORTING ROLE A dining space close to the house can be covered by a structure attached to an exterior wall. The oak pergola in this garden by Karen Rogers, krgardendesign.com, echoes the beams inside the house, and has a cover of roses and vines that provides colour throughout summer and into autumn.



PHOTOGRAPH: GAP INTERIORS/CAROLINE MARDON



SARAH EBERLE,
Award-winning
landscape and
garden designer,
01256 895754,
saraheberle.com.

EXPERT ADVICE **PRACTICAL ISSUES**

■ Every garden has those places you automatically drift to, as well as natural areas of shade and light. Many houses have an east-west and south-west aspect, and parasols or sails can move with the sun, but you don't want to be always chasing the shade. If you have a big space with a terrace, you will want dappled coverage here for midday.

■ **Climbing plants for pergolas and walkways might seem like a romantic option, but the truth is that many quickly grow out of**

control, damaging supporting structures, so it's important to choose non-vigorous species. Pillar roses work well and so does clematis, but this needs to be paired with something evergreen, such as *Akebia quinata*.

■ For sculptural style, try hanging chairs – you can find designs that provide their own shade or secure them from a tree. They look attractive on their own or grouped together.

■ **Think about a shaded spot as a multisensory experience of sight,**

sound and scent. Trickling water or swaying grass will feel cooling, while foliage is good at absorbing heat. The aim is to create an area to relax in, so avoid busy bright colours and instead focus on texture, using green, white and paler blooms – blues are a great choice and they look wonderful in the early evening light, too.

■ In the Mediterranean they do shade well out of necessity, so look at pictures of gardens there for ideas to suit all sizes and budgets.



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*Post-installation feedback from 1,819 respondents between Jan 2012 and Dec 2015.



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MOVEABLE FEAST A simple fabric canopy creates shade wherever needed, and choosing a bright colour and pattern will make it a feature in a large garden, too. Outdoor fabrics have the benefit of being shower-proof, and stain-, UV- and fade-resistant, but an improvised shade in a sturdy interiors fabric will stand up to occasional use, too.

PHOTOGRAPHS TIMEINCUCCONTENT.COM, ERIC HAUSMAN, PEDRO SILMON GARDEN PHOTOGRAPHY



△ **BARELY THERE** Timber has long been a favoured material for garden structures, but there is plenty of scope beyond the standard summerhouse. This contemporary pergola by Modular, modular.london, offers privacy, yet its simple slatted red cedar framework feels light and airy, so it doesn't encroach on the sense of space.

▽ **SERENE IN GREEN** Enclosing seating with lush planting not only helps to keep the space cool, but envelops it in scent and colour, while the sound of the breeze through the leaves is wonderfully relaxing. This patio was designed by US firm Handman Associates, handmanassociates.com, and includes a Stingray shade by Tuuci, from Global Parasols, globalparasols.com, for the sunniest days.



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GLORIOUS SECLUSION

For a truly idyllic hideaway, a daybed tucked away beneath a scented tree or bush is unbeatable. This bespoke design by Katrin Arens, katrinarens-shop.com, uses recycled timber for a frame that supports a canopy of perfumed jasmine, which is alive with butterflies and the industrious thrum of bees on a warm day.

▽ **SIDE LINES** A retractable awning brings much-needed shade to the interior, as well as to a patio or terrace. Choose from neutrals for a discreet look or add a splash of colourful character with a cheery red and white striped design like the one shown.

PHOTOGRAPHS: JORDI CANOSA, KATRI KAPANEN



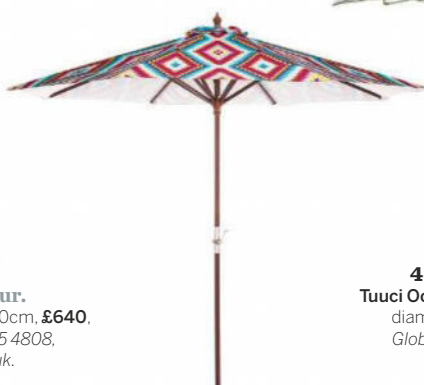
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1| On a roll.
Skyline Antigua
cantilever parasol,
300x250cm, **£2,561**,
Houseology, 0141 280
0498, houseology.com.



2| Italian flavour.
Portofino parasol, diam180cm, **£640**,
Indian Ocean, 020 8675 4808,
indian-ocean.co.uk.

3| Covered in colour.
Peru parasol,
diam260cm, **£129**,
M&S, 0333 014 8000,
marksandspencer.com.



4| Eastern promise.
Tuuci Ocean Master Pagoda parasol,
diam300cm, from **£2,218.80**,
Global Parasols, 01273 497477,
globalparasols.com.

5| Band aid.
Fatboy Stripesol parasol,
diam350cm, **£369.95**,
Outdoor Chic, 0844 335 8854,
outdoorchic.co.uk.





◀ **RAISING THE ROOF** An oak-framed pavilion by Aralia, aralia.org.uk, complete with tiled roof, is a fitting choice for larger period properties. Robust enough for all weathers, grander designs can even house a kitchen for the ultimate in outdoor living.

△ **TWIST AND TURN** Shade sails have a dynamic look and offer ultimate flexibility; they can be tilted to follow the sun or taken down when not needed. As an added bonus, tighter weave fabrics tend to be shower-proof – ideal for unpredictable British weather.



TAKE A STAND

A freestanding parasol is a smart choice that won't encroach on the space or the view. Good-quality shades are built to last, but be sure to store under cover in winter.

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

PARASOLS, SAILS AND GAZEBOS

Cane-line, 0045 6615 4560, cane-line.co.uk.
Chic Teak, 01256 809445, chic-teak.co.uk.
Encompass, 02392 410045, encompassco.com.
Global Parasols, 01273 497477, globalparasols.com.
Go Modern, 020 7731 9540, gomodern.co.uk.
The Modern Garden Company, 01279 653200, moderngardencompany.com.
Naken Interiors, 01502 715064, naken.co.uk.
The Patio Umbrella, 01363 881174, patio-umbrella.co.uk.
Primrose, 0118 903 5210, primrose.co.uk.
Riverside, 01992 514778, riversidegardencentre.co.uk.
The Seaside Company, 01935 813586, theseasidecompany.co.uk.
Sunbeam Jackie, 07590 019835, sunbeamjackie.com.

FABRICS, CANOPIES AND AWNINGS

Broadview, 01202 679012, broadview-blinds.co.uk.

Dickson, 0033 3 20 45 5959, dickson-constant.com.
Markilux, 0049 2572 927333, markilux.com.
Retractable Canopies, 01482 481050, retractablecanopies.co.uk.
Roche, 01691 650600, rochesystems.co.uk.
Sail Shades Direct, 0800 978 8827, sailshadesdirect.co.uk.
Samson Awnings, 0800 328 6250, samsonawnings.co.uk.
Shade Plus, 01786 450083, shadeplus.co.uk.
Shaded Nation, 0845 299 4929, shadednation.com.

GARDEN STRUCTURES

Garden Requisites, 01225 851577, garden-requisites.co.uk.
The Garden Trellis Co, 01255 688361, gardentrellis.co.uk.
Harrod Horticultural, 0333 400 1500, harrodhorticultural.com.
Lugarde, 01386 861961, lugarde-garden-buildings.co.uk.
Prime Oak, 01384 296611, primeoak.co.uk.

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HOUSE CLINIC

Our expert Celia Rufey answers your interior design questions and decorating dilemmas



PROFILE Celia Rufey has been the *Homes & Gardens* decorating expert for more than 30 years. She has a wealth of interiors knowledge and has also designed her own range of fabrics.

CAN THIS FURNITURE BE CLEANED?

As the winter was mild, I left my white polypropylene chairs outside and the backs have developed mould. Is it possible to remove this? **AB, London N2.**

Success will depend on whether the mould has eaten into the surface. Start by cleaning the chairs with HG Powerful Garden Furniture Cleaner; this is available from hardware stores or can be ordered for £3.54 for 500ml, from Homecare Essentials, 01733 241960, homecareessentials.co.uk. Next, use a fungicidal wash to clean the surface mould and kill the spores; Tikkurila Mould Removal Solution, £11.58 a litre, is suitable for polypropylene as well as plastic and painted walls. Apply it diluted with a brush, leave for 15 to 30 minutes, then rinse with water. If mould marks remain, you could paint over them with Otex Adhesion Primer, £20.65 a litre, and a topcoat of Ultra Matt, £24.42 a litre. The three products are available from Holman Specialist Paints, 01793 511537, holmanpaints.co.uk.

INSIDER'S TIP

“As darkness falls in the garden, carefully considered lighting effects can turn functional elements, such as benches, into focal points.”

DEAN STEWART, The Chelsea Gardener, 020 7352 5656, chelseagardener.com.



WHICH WALLPAPERS WILL SUIT OUR PERIOD ROOMS?

Our newly built house has many 18th-century features and we would like to find wallpapers that refer to this era. Where should we look for the best designs? **MC, Hereford.**

If you're thinking of period damasks, start your search at Cole & Son, 020 7376 4628, cole-and-son.com; Zoffany, 0844 543 4748, zoffany.com; and the Royal Collection at Designers Guild, 020 7351 5775, designersguild.com. For toile de Jouy, try Charles Burger at Turnell & Gigon, 020 7259 7280, turnellandgigon.com. Cole & Son also offers some very fine stripes and other designs of the era, such as Hummingbirds, £99 a roll, from a 1770 block print; and Ludlow, £70 a roll. Also at Zoffany, see Nostell Priory (shown above), £75 a roll, from an historical silk wallpaper design; and Kalamkari, 137cm wide, £82m, an interpretation of a classic Indienne. Little Greene, 020 7935 8844, littlegreene.com, gives the date and found location of many of its London Wallpapers, including Cranford, £61 a roll, a floral trellis from around 1765; and Lauderdale, £71 a roll, a leaf stripe, circa 1820, which carries the look of the previous century. Finally, a beautiful offering from Lewis & Wood, 01453 878517, lewisandwood.co.uk, is Muscat Vintage, £83.88 a roll, featuring an 18th-century French textile design.



HOW CAN WE DESIGN A PRACTICAL OUTDOOR KITCHEN? We would like to build some kind of kitchen on the terrace. In view of our weather, how should we approach this? **GN, Steyning, West Sussex.**

Think of the design as an extension of a standard barbecue arrangement to get a good idea of how it will work. The first advice, from Fire Magic, 01732 884030, fire-magic.co.uk, is to site the kitchen to enjoy the sun and garden but be shielded from the wind. The company's designs and builds include barbecues and side burners, sinks, fridges, storage and hidden bins, with fittings fabricated in high-grade stainless steel to withstand the weather year round. Its top tips include using granite for worktops, as it doesn't get too hot in summer, and always covering the barbecue when not in use. Another specialist, Outdoor Kitchens, in London, 020 7030 3357, and Manchester, 0161 979 0369, outdoorkitchensuk.co.uk, advises that the sink is the most convenient feature after the barbecue. For further choice, see the outdoor kitchen modules by Röshults of Sweden, roshults.se, available from Chaplins, 020 8421 1779, chaplins.co.uk.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION

The House Clinic service is free to all *Homes & Gardens* subscribers.

There is a £12 fee per query for non-subscribers, who must send their query and payment by post.

EMAIL Subscribers, send your query, subscriber number and address to hgcontactus@timeinc.com.

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We are unable to answer more than one question per reader each month.

Celia Rufey can also help you create an individual design for any room in your home, with ideas for colours, fabrics, paint, wallcoverings and flooring. For full details, visit housetohome.co.uk/decoratingservice.

WHO MAKES WOVEN TABLE LAMPS? I've acquired a couple of vintage rattan chairs to go with the upholstered furniture in my conservatory. Do you know of any companies that sell table lamps with similar bases?

VK, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

I've found a selection of designs in woven rattan that will complement the style of your chairs. Firstly, the Novella Rattan table lamp (shown below), H48cm, with an off-white fabric shade, costs £45, from Next, 0333 777 8000, next.co.uk. Quirk, 01626 332766, quirkuk.com, is known for its witty lampshades but has some bases, too, such as

the Pyramid, H50cm, £80, in natural rattan with a washed finish. Oka, 0844 815 7380, okadirect.com, offers the handsome Tanjore lamp base finished in soft grey in two sizes: H50xdiam30cm, £245, and H50x

diam38cm, £275. For bravura pieces, woven in England, see the Rattan Vase lamp base, H48cm, and coloured Rattan Jurassic lamp base, H28cm, £900 each; and Bottle lamp base, H46cm, £1,200; all from Soane, 020 7730 6400, soane.co.uk.

WHERE CAN WE FIND A SPACE-CONSCIOUS OCCASIONAL BED?

We have a cottage near the sea and the children's friends often stay for a night or two in the holidays. Space is limited, so can you suggest a foldaway bed that will be as unobtrusive as possible when not required?

EJ, Deal, Kent.



Look for an occasional bed or mattress that emerges from a small, otherwise useful piece of furniture. The Kix single sofa bed (shown above), H41xW61xD41cm, is a good example; with its removable buttoned cover in place, it provides neat additional seating. Available in a choice of six colours, it costs £175; double bed version, £245; from House by John Lewis, 0345 604 9049, johnlewis.com. The Futon Company, 0845 609 4455, futoncompany.co.uk, offers informal beds for occasional sleepovers, including the Bed in a Bag, £59, which rolls out to a futon measuring L190xW69cm; and the Cube Bed with Felt cover, H40xW64xD64cm, in a choice of four colours, at £115. There's the option to add a Cube Bed table top, £29.95, to turn it into a coffee or side table when not in use. The Minnie Bed in a Box is a footstool with an interior mechanism that lifts out a foam mattress on a metal frame, with the box lid providing an upholstered headboard. In a choice of neutral shades, it measures H46xL97xW71cm and costs £559, from Barker & Stonehouse, 0333 355 9402, barkerandstonehouse.co.uk.

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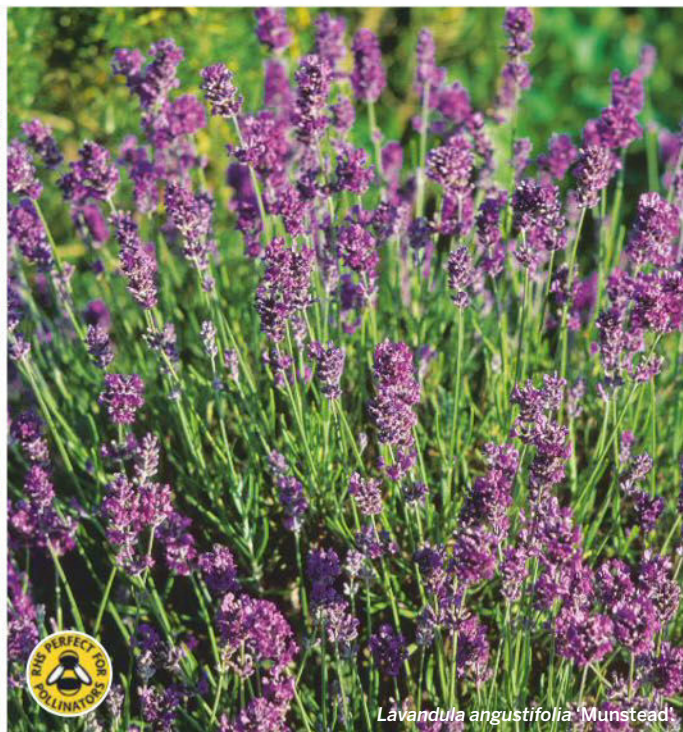
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STYLING **KAREN AKHTAR**
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Pasta, that fail-safe standby when time is short and the cupboard is bare, shouldn't be forgotten during the summer months or when a more celebratory lunch or supper is called for. The recipes here are elegant and, save for the enjoyable work of making your own fresh, herb-filled pasta handkerchiefs, simple to put together. All rely on excellent, seasonal ingredients; many involve a generous hand with good butter or olive oil to add a luxurious touch, elevating them beyond the good and into the realms of the sublime.

**SUMMER HERB
MALFATTI IN
THE MAKING**

MAFALDINE WITH ARTICHOKES, PEAS, CLAMS AND WHITE WINE

Serves 4

Tiny, tender artichokes are a must here; if you can't find them, use best-quality artichoke hearts in oil, drained and tossed through the pasta at the end with the parsley leaves. This can also be made with pappardelle or fettuccine.

1 lemon
400g fresh baby artichokes
1kg fresh clams, scrubbed clean
350g dried mafaldine pasta
5-6 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
4 large garlic cloves, peeled and chopped
Bunch flat-leaf parsley, stalks and leaves chopped
Salt and black pepper
120ml dry white wine
150g peas, fresh or frozen and defrosted

■ Put the juice of the lemon together with the squeezed halves into a bowl of cold water. Peel the artichokes down to their hearts, paring away any tough outer petals, then slice off the tops, leaving only the tender parts (none should be old enough to have formed a hairy choke in the middle). Halve any larger ones. Pop the prepared artichokes into the lemon water.
■ Bring a pan of water to the boil. Drain the artichokes then simmer for 4-6 minutes, until just tender to the point of a knife. Drain well.
■ Sort through the cleaned clams. If there are any that aren't tightly closed, give them a sharp tap; discard any that don't close.
■ Cook the pasta in boiling water with a good pinch of salt according to pack instructions, until al dente, then drain.
■ Meanwhile, put a deep frying pan with

a lid (a flat baking tray can act as a lid) on a high heat and, when hot, add 4 tablespoons of olive oil. Add the artichokes, garlic, parsley stalks and a good pinch of salt and pepper, then stir continuously for 2-3 minutes. Just as the garlic starts to colour, add the clams and white wine.

■ Give the clam pan a shake, add the peas and put on the lid. After 3-4 minutes the clams will start to open; keep shaking the pan for 3-4 minutes more until all of them have opened. Take the pan off the heat and discard any clams that have remained closed.

■ Add the pasta to the pan of clams along with the chopped parsley leaves, a drizzle of olive oil and salt and pepper to taste. Stir or toss for a minute to give the pasta a chance to absorb the sauce slightly before serving.





FIG, PARMA HAM AND GORGONZOLA PAPPARDELLE

Serves 4

This incredibly successful dish relies on the balance between salty cheese, sweet fig, tart lemon and hot chilli. Omit the ham for a vegetarian version, and add cream for a richer sauce, if preferred.

1 tbsp olive oil
10 ripe figs, trimmed and quartered
1 red chilli, deseeded and finely chopped
2 sprigs rosemary, leaves stripped and finely chopped
1 lemon, finely grated zest and juice
2 tbsp single cream (optional)
100g Gorgonzola, chopped
50g walnuts, lightly toasted and roughly crushed
Salt and black pepper
350g dried pappardelle or other long pasta, such as tagliatelle
12 sheets Parma ham, torn (optional)
2 tbsp snipped microherbs, to garnish

■ Put the olive oil in a large, deep frying pan set over a medium heat. Add the figs and chilli and cook, stirring occasionally, for around 3 minutes. Reduce the heat to low and add the rosemary, lemon zest, lemon juice and cream (if using).
■ Warm through for a few seconds then stir in the cheese, most of the walnuts, a tiny bit of salt and plenty of black pepper, being careful not to break up the figs too much. Remove the pan from the heat.
■ Cook the pasta in boiling, salted water, according to pack instructions. Drain, reserving a few tablespoons of the cooking water.
■ Return the pan to the heat. Add the pasta and half the reserved cooking water and mix through carefully. If needed, add a little more water to thin the sauce slightly – it should coat the pasta strands but not be claggy and thick. Add salt and black pepper to taste.
■ Serve straightaway with Parma ham (if using) arranged in and around the pasta, and the reserved crushed walnuts and microherbs scattered over the top.

CAVATELLI SALAD

Serves 4

You can use any short durum wheat pasta in this easy salad, but be careful not to overcook it; an al dente texture will stand up well to both the pesto dressing and being served cool.

100g pine nuts, toasted until golden
2 handfuls fresh soft summer herbs, such as mint, basil, parsley and dill
120ml extra virgin olive oil
2 tbsp lemon juice
Salt and black pepper
1 large fennel bulb, trimmed and very finely sliced (preferably using a mandolin), fronds reserved
350g dried cavatelli or similar shaped pasta
2 courgettes, trimmed and shaved into delicate ribbons using a vegetable peeler
400g tin or jar chickpeas, drained
300g jar tuna in olive oil, drained and flaked

■ To make the pesto, crush or blitz 75g of the pine nuts with the fresh herbs (reserving a few for serving), olive oil, lemon juice and salt and pepper to taste.
■ Put the sliced fennel in a bowl of iced water for 10 minutes to firm up. Drain and pat dry with a tea towel. Meanwhile, cook the pasta in plenty of boiling, salted water, according to pack instructions. Drain and leave to cool.
■ Stir the pesto through the pasta then gently toss with the fennel, courgette ribbons, chickpeas and tuna. Serve topped with the reserved toasted pine nuts, fennel fronds and chopped fresh herbs.





OPEN LASAGNE WITH ROAST MEDITERRANEAN VEGETABLES, FETA AND OREGANO DRESSING

Serves 4

Lasagne, but reinvented for a special summer supper or dinner party, with sweet roasted vegetables and salty feta cheese.

2 red peppers, cut into thick strips
4 small aubergines, halved, or 1 large aubergine, thickly sliced
600g butternut squash or firm pumpkin, peeled, deseeded and cut into wedges
200g red and yellow baby plum tomatoes
6 fresh bay leaves
100ml extra virgin olive oil
1½ tsp coriander seeds, toasted and crushed
1 garlic clove, peeled and crushed
Pinch dried chilli flakes
Small handful fresh oregano, roughly chopped
Large handful Kalamata olives, stoned
2 tbsp best-quality sherry vinegar
12 fresh lasagne sheets
200g feta cheese, sliced

■ Preheat the oven to 200°C, gas mark 6. Divide the peppers, aubergines, squash, tomatoes and bay leaves, well spread out, between two large oven trays. Drizzle with 2 tablespoons of the olive oil. Stir to coat lightly and season well with salt and pepper.

■ Roast the vegetables in the centre of the oven for about 35 minutes, until they are cooked through. Remove from the oven, cover loosely with foil and set aside.

■ Mix the remaining olive oil with the coriander seeds, crushed garlic, chilli, flakes, oregano, olives and vinegar to make a dressing. Season to taste.

■ Cook the lasagne sheets in plenty of salted, boiling water according to pack instructions. Drain well and toss with a little oil to prevent sticking.

■ Artfully drape and layer the pasta on each plate with the roasted vegetables and the feta, then drizzle over the dressing to make open lasagnes.

LOBSTER AND SQUID INK FETTUCCINE

Serves 4 as a starter or light main

I used variegated fresh squid ink pasta to add drama to this dish, but any fresh or dried squid ink or plain pasta can be used.

1 banana or echalion shallot, peeled and finely chopped
120ml dry white wine
100ml best-quality Champagne vinegar or white wine vinegar
250g dried squid ink fettuccine or 500g fresh squid ink fettuccine
Salt and black pepper
120g salted butter, cubed
Bundle chives, finely chopped
1 tsp finely grated lemon zest
100ml fresh lemon juice
4 cooked lobster tails, cracked and roughly chopped, plus claw meat

■ Put the shallot, white wine and vinegar in a large, deep frying pan set over a medium heat. Simmer down until only about 1 tablespoon of liquid remains in the pan.

■ Meanwhile, cook the pasta in plenty of boiling, salted water according to pack instructions, until al dente. Drain, reserving half a mugful of the cooking liquid, and set aside.

■ Reduce the heat under the frying pan to low and add the butter, one cube at a time, whisking constantly until it is incorporated. Turn off the heat and add the chives, lemon zest and lemon juice. Fold in the lobster tails and claw meat and season well.

■ Add the pasta with a few spoonfuls of reserved cooking water, tossing to coat in the sauce, then serve.





SUMMER HERB MALFATTI WITH A HERB-BUTTER SAUCE

Makes 1kg fresh pasta; recipe serves 6-8

Malfatti, meaning “badly made”, are ragged handkerchiefs of pasta. Here they contain delicate herb sprigs, which both adds flavour and looks beautiful. The cooked pasta needs only a simple sauce of nut-brown butter, lemon juice and extra herbs.

550g tipo 00 pasta flour, plus extra for dusting and rolling
6 medium eggs
Salt and black pepper
2 handfuls delicate fresh herb sprigs, such as dill, parsley, coriander and chervil, plus extra sprigs and leaves to serve
100g unsalted butter
Juice of 1 small lemon
60g mature pecorino, finely grated (optional)
Edible flowers, to garnish (optional)

■ To make the dough by hand, tip the flour out in a pile on a work surface and make a hollow in the centre. Crack the eggs into the centre and add a pinch of salt. Beat with a fork, gradually incorporating the flour to form a soft, smooth dough, then knead for 8-10 minutes until smooth and elastic. Alternatively, combine the flour, eggs and a pinch of salt in a food processor fitted with a dough hook. Once combined, knead on a low speed for 5-8 minutes until smooth and elastic. Form into a disc, wrap in cling film and set aside for 30 minutes.

■ **To roll out the dough by hand**, divide into six equal pieces and lightly dust a work surface with flour. Working with two pieces at a time (cover the others with cling film), roll out the dough, rotating each round regularly until each piece forms an even, 2-3mm thick circle (try to mainly flour the underside of the dough, leaving the top tacky). Top one sheet evenly with herb sprigs, cover with the second sheet, floured side up, and continue rolling until the dough is thin enough to just see the herbs through. Lay the finished sheet on a dry tea towel or over a clean broom handle or pasta dryer while rolling the remaining dough and herbs.

■ **To use a pasta machine**, attach it to a work surface and lightly flour the rollers. Divide the dough into six equal pieces. With the rollers on the widest setting, pass one piece of dough through 2-3 times. Fold into thirds, turn 90 degrees and pass through again, then fold

and pass through 8-10 times until the dough is smooth, flouring lightly if it is too sticky. Decrease the roller setting grade by grade with each pass, continuing until the machine is on the thinnest setting. Don't over flour the dough; it needs tackiness for the herbs to stick.

■ Cover the sheet with cling film while you roll a second sheet. Top the first sheet evenly with herb sprigs and cover with the second sheet. Widen the rollers by three settings. Pass the sheet through, then repeat, reducing the setting width one grade at a time, stopping at the second-thinnest setting (any thinner and the pasta may break around the herbs). Lay the finished sheet on a dry tea towel or over a clean broom handle or pasta dryer while rolling the remaining dough and herbs.

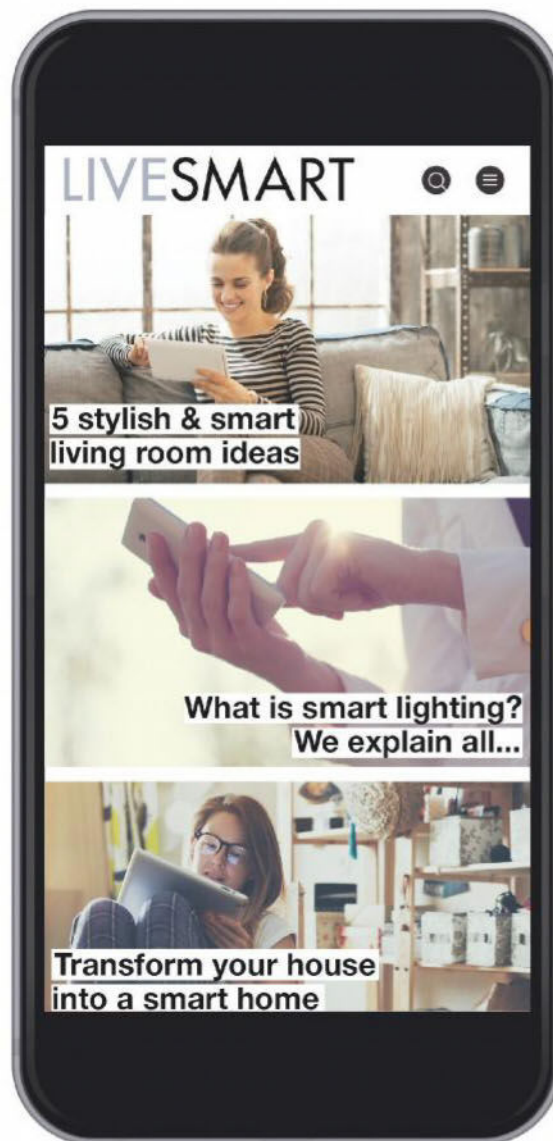
■ **To make the malfatti**, cut the herb-filled pasta sheets into misshapen, palm-sized squares, not being too exact; raggedy is good.

■ Melt the butter in a large frying pan over a medium heat, until foaming and then golden brown. Remove from the heat, add the lemon juice and season well.

■ Bring a large saucepan of water to the boil with two large pinches of salt. Cook the pasta for 3-4 minutes, until soft, but al dente. Remove with a slotted spoon and drain in a colander. Immediately add the pasta to the butter pan, tossing to mix gently. Serve with grated pecorino, if liked, topped with herbs and edible flowers.

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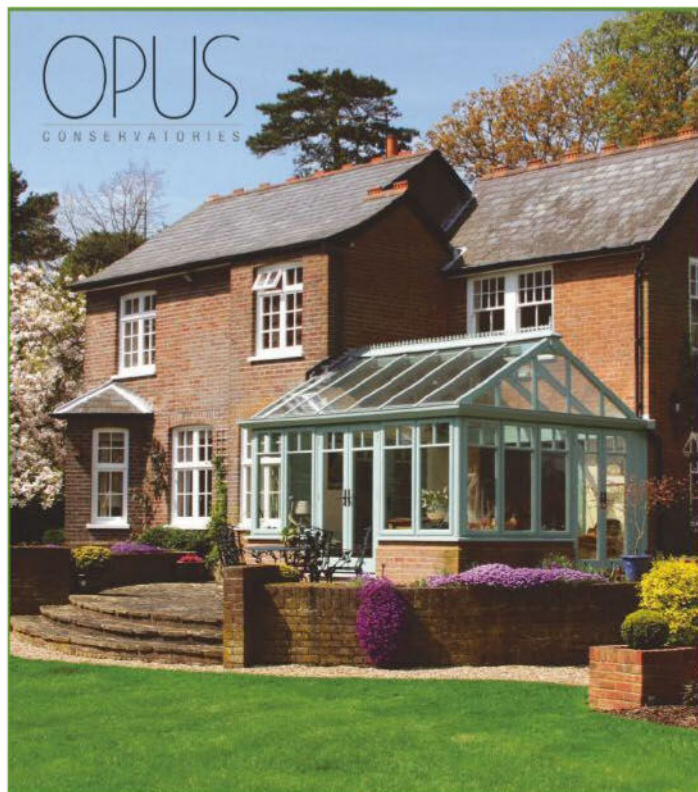
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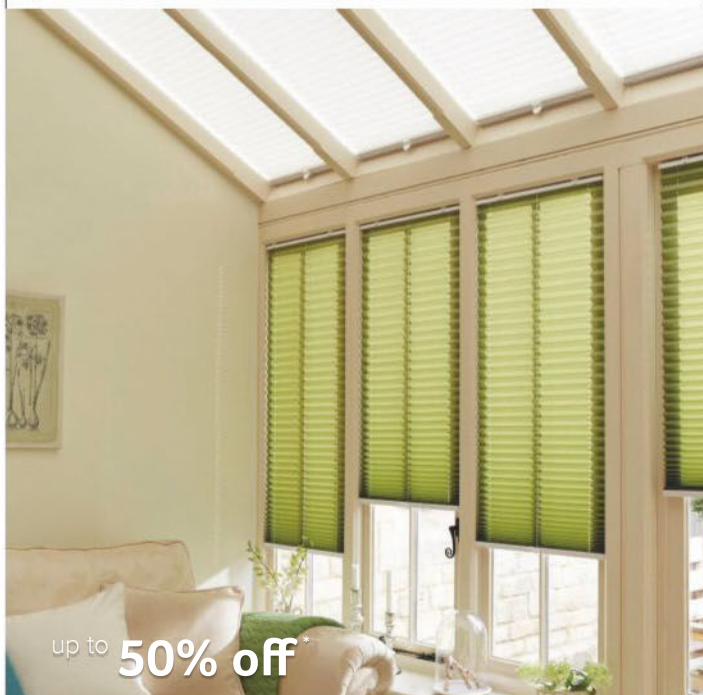
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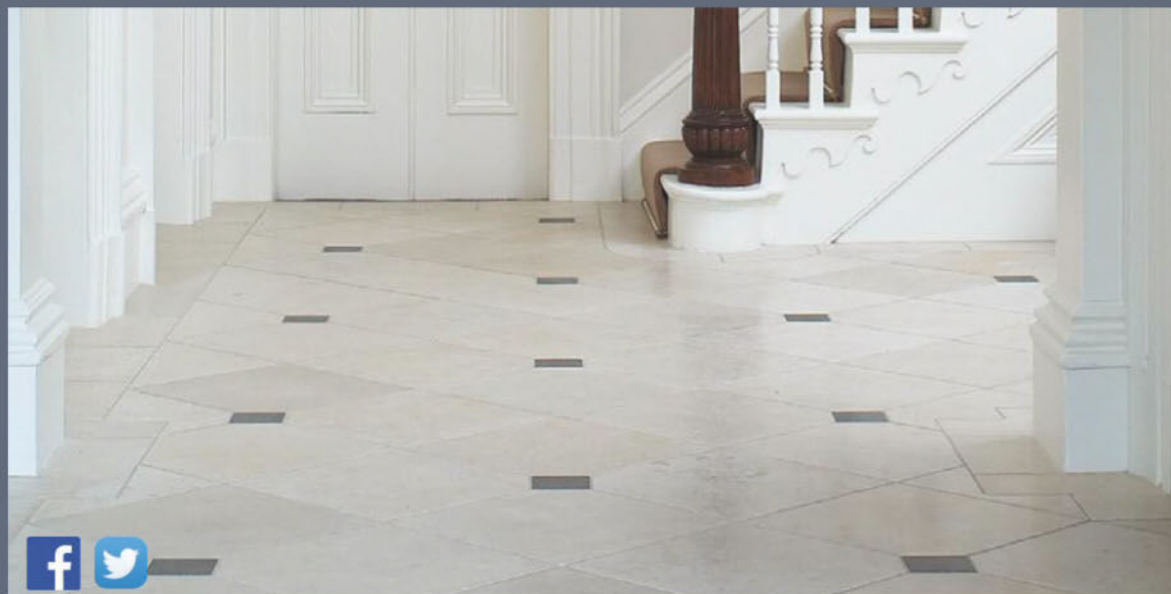


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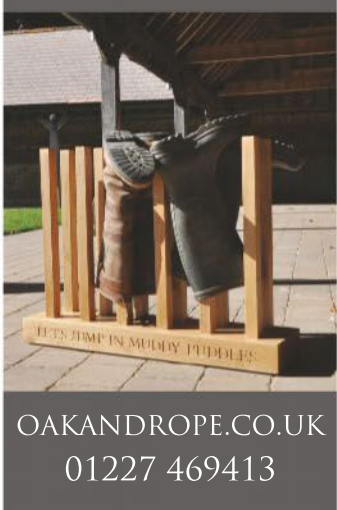
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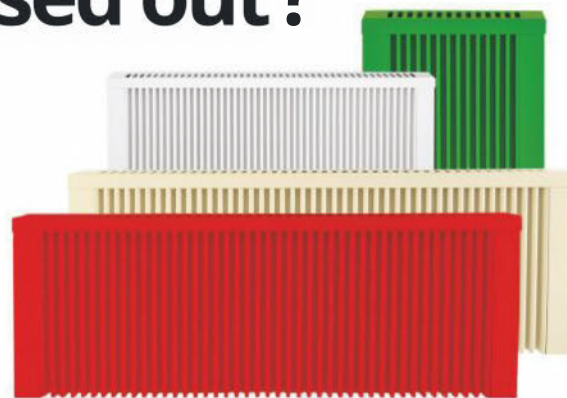
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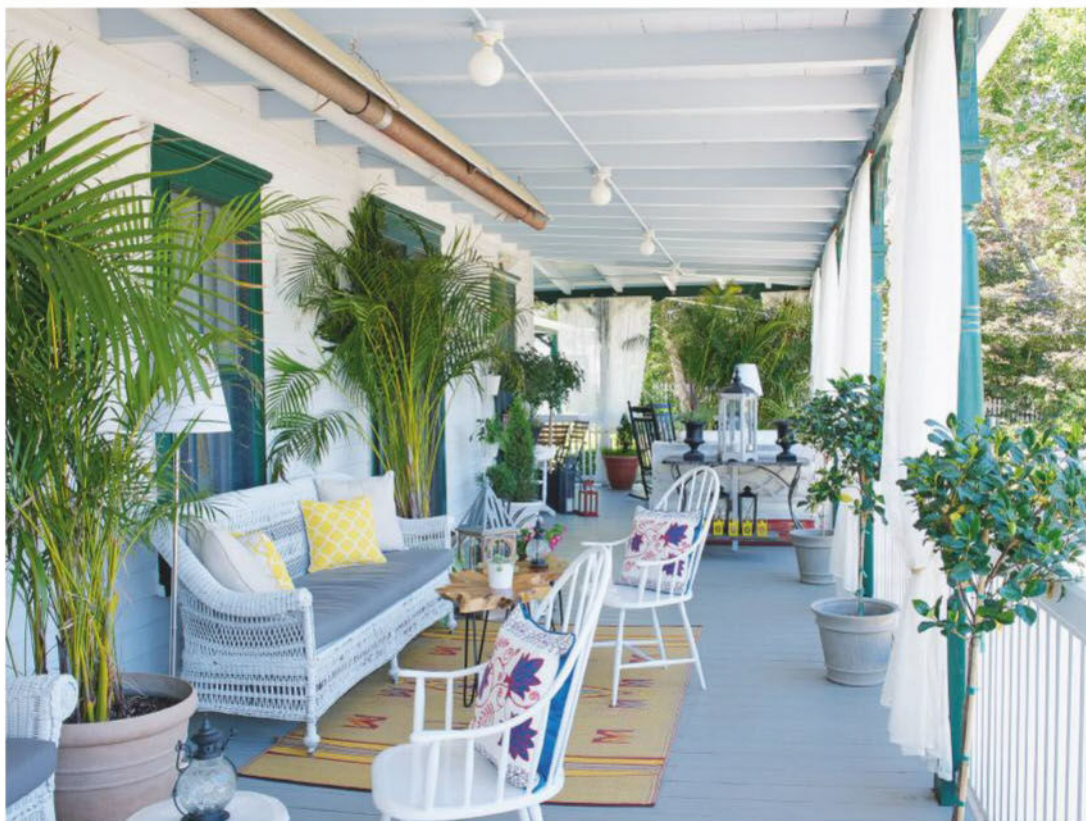
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