



HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY

Detached 1940s house
East Sussex

ROOMS Sitting room,
kitchen-diner/living area, snug,
cloakroom, four bedrooms (one
en suite), two bathrooms

PURCHASED 2014

PREVIOUS PROPERTY
"We lived in a 1950s house in a
village nearby," says Lynsey.

DINING AREA
Button-back upholstered chairs
make a welcome place to sit.
"We wanted to be able to lounge
around the table comfortably,"
says Lynsey.
Chairs, £149 each, Evans & Knight
Interior Design. Table, £1,999,
Sweetpea & Willow



COME TOGETHER

Entertaining is at the heart of Lynsey and Warren Evans' home, decorated in chic neutrals with an art deco twist

FEATURE JANE CRITTEHDEN | STYLING MARSHA TAYLOR | PHOTOGRAPHY JAMES FRENCH



KITCHEN
"I wanted colour
contrast here," says
Lynsey. "Dark grey
draws everyone around
the island and into the
centre of the room."
Island in Chicaod
eggshell, £54 for 2.5tr,
Neptune. Distressed oak
flooring from the Van
Gogh range, £264 sq m,
Kamdean



SITTING ROOM
Candles and fairy lights
create a magical atmosphere.
Try Ling & Emil's Ming console,
£970, LouDevo, Eichholtz
Rudman hurricane lamps,
from £345 each, Houseology



Interior designer, Lynsey Evans and her husband, Warren, love entertaining, so their home will be where all the family congregate this Christmas. 'One of the reasons we chose this property is because we knew it would make a fantastic party house,' says Lynsey. 'As well as entertaining family on Christmas day, each year I host a Christmas party for friends. We bought a table to comfortably seat 12 and tag on the table from outside.'

After deciding to relocate back to Hove after years of living in a village, Lynsey had an instant affinity with this 1940s house, drawn to its generous footprint and big garden. 'We drove around the corner and saw the sea along the horizon and were blown away,' she says. 'We'd really missed being near the beach and the city.'

Lynsey, who runs Evans & Knight Interior Design, as well as working with Warren in their property letting business, moved here with grown-up children, Ellie, 22, and Charlie, 20, who needed their own

space within the home. Although there was room for everyone, the layout was dark and chaotic with seven poly bedrooms and heavy wood panelling in the hallway and dining room. It didn't take long for Lynsey to put her interior design skills to use.

'I began roughing out a new layout after the first viewing,' she says. 'We removed the panelling and extended the kitchen to create a modern living space we could open up to the garden in summer.' On the first floor, Lynsey took the dramatic step of turning three bedrooms into one luxurious master suite. 'We didn't need seven bedrooms,' she explains. 'Warren and I love staying in hotel suites so we've recreated that look and feel.'

For Lynsey, this meant a classic neutral palette for a scheme with a sense of flow. Silvery greys downstairs make way to warmer taupes and creams upstairs, blended together with furniture in dark grey that draws the eye. 'The kitchen island is painted in Neptune's Charcoal as is the dresser and the back wall in the snug,' says Lynsey. 'The

colour repeats throughout the house – I've also upcycled the glass cabinet and vanity in our en suite in the same shade.'

Another nod towards Lynsey's love for big, bold decoration are the striking large table lamps and oversized vases that adorn the house. Art deco style adds glamour in black and gold furniture, ribbed glass lighting and geometric patterns. And with Christmas just around the corner, Lynsey has opted for natural decoration by using an abundance of greenery. 'Foliage softens and infuses the house with warmth, and sprinkled with fairy lights creates a sense of magic we all love at Christmas,' she says.

The whole family are really looking forward to celebrating this year and are delighted to be living back in the area. 'Sometimes I sit in the snug and catch a glimpse of the garden or the kitchen and I think how lucky we were to be able to do this project,' says Lynsey. 'We love living close to the sea, the city and the action – moving here felt like coming home.'

BEST BUY 'Our corner sofa in the snug is my favourite piece of furniture. We all love sitting here together in the evenings – it's so comfortable'



SNUG

Silvery greys create a relaxing feel. Wall (on left) in Charcoal matt emulsion, £38 for £2,999. Neptune. Long Island sofa in Squirrel cotton matt velvet, £4,570. Sofa.com



HALLWAY
A grey and taupe stair runner continues the colour theme upstairs. Fibre Devonian carpet in Doves, Eggin, Ocean Flooring. Chair covered by ES Riley Upholstery in Downing Gate in Gray, £40m. Tibout.



MASTER BEDROOM
A geometric print fabric breaks up the expanse of painted wall,' says Lynsey. Window dressings made in Ashley Wilde Asel Pearl, £26m, Evans & Knight Interior Design



MASTER EN SUITE
Art deco-style lighting adds glamour. Eichholtz Marino wall lamp, £509. Evans & Knight Interior Design. Marlborough bath, £2,100. Victoria & Albert Baths

