



KITCHEN
 'This part of the room felt disconnected before we extended the worktop to bring the two spaces together,' says Leanne. Bumble stools in smoked oak, £310 for two, Loaf. Flori glass pendant in brass is similar, £92 each, Rowen & Wren

BOLD MOVES

Having renovated several houses in neutral shades, Leanne Baud at last feels at home with a more dramatic palette

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HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY 1930s semi-detached house
LOCATION Huddersfield, West Yorkshire
ROOMS Sitting room, kitchen, orangery, four bedrooms (one en suite), cloakroom, bathroom
PURCHASED June 2016
PREVIOUS PROPERTY 'I renovated a two-up, two-down cottage nearby,' says Leanne.

DECORATING TIP

'I recommend Farrow & Ball's Cornforth White as it looks cool and bright or warm and cosy, depending on the light'

Leanne Baud describes herself as a 'serial renovator' having renovated and moved five times in the past 10 years. This 1930s house is a departure from her usual taste for older properties, and although at first she felt unsure about the lack of period features in her new home, Leanne soon realised there were upsides.

'In my previous cottage, and barn conversion before that, the rooms lacked light so I decorated using neutrals,' she says. 'Here, I've really enjoyed experimenting with dark, dramatic colours that are warm and comforting. Of all the houses I've lived in, this is the only one that really feels like home.'

Leanne, who works for the ambulance service, lives here with her husband, Ash, their daughter, Esmé, 1, and Leanne's sons from a previous marriage, Oliver, 14, and Mason, 12. The move came about after Ash encountered some practical problems living in Leanne's two-bedroom cottage. 'Ash is 6ft 3in and struggled with the low beams and we also needed space to store all his bikes!' says Leanne. 'So although this house was rather bland inside, it had already been extended to the side and back and there was a double garage, which could solve the bike storage problem.'

REINSTATING PERIOD FEATURES

Soon after moving in, Leanne, an avid follower of interiors, got started on the sitting room, opening up the fireplace and installing a woodburner, and reinstating the picture rail and coving, recording her progress on her Instagram account (@paint_paste_prosecco). She'd already bought a charcoal grey velvet sofa and chair from Loaf and decorated the walls in Farrow & Ball's Cornforth White.

'I used this grey tone throughout the house as too many colours can make rooms look disjointed,' she says. 'As time went on, I became braver and decorated in darker shades of grey and blue with touches of pink, gold and copper in furnishings and accessories.'

The master bedroom was the first place to be decorated in a navy shade. 'I often do a 13-hour night shift, so getting good-quality sleep is really important,' she explains. 'I was a bit nervous about the navy at first but it's turned out very restful.'

The same shade also appears in the bathrooms and in the kitchen where Leanne surprised herself by

KITCHEN

Leanne had the desk custom-made to her design and constructed the shelf above with a waxed scaffold board and copper brackets. Desk, £799, Parker Howley. Weathered wood cut-out clock is similar, £125, Cox & Cox

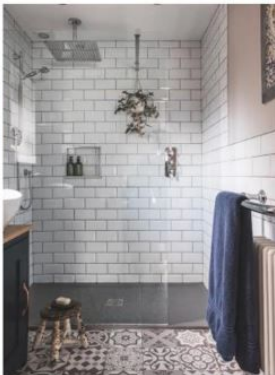
SITTING ROOM

The carpet was chosen once the room was finished. 'The pattern has really warmed up the room,' says Leanne. Argyll Patriot carpet, £29.99sq m, Flooring4UK. Crumpet extra-large velvet sofa, £2,245; Crumpet velvet love seat, £1,545, both Loaf





MASTER BEDROOM
 'A dark blue wall and copper side table creates a restful mood,' says Leanne. Walls in Hague Blue estate emulsion, £47.95 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball. Ormco hammered copper bedside table, £130, Habitat



STYLE TIP *'Display shelf artwork with the biggest in the middle and work outwards and downwards in size'*

choosing blue-black cupboards from a DIY shop. 'I'd intended on having a light kitchen and painting the walls dark, but when I happened to see the door on the salesman's desk, I knew it was right straight away,' she says. 'We made the kitchen look individual with copper handles and wire plate rack we sourced ourselves.'

BESPOKE AND BARGAINS

Leanne also mixed and matched furniture, buying investment pieces like the sofa and chair, and the bespoke vanity and kitchen desk – yet Esmé's 1930s wardrobe cost only £30. 'Bespoke was a good option when I couldn't find exactly what I needed,' she says. 'Upcycling furniture and keeping an eye on the sales meant we could stretch our budget – the Crittall-style shower screen popped up in a Black Friday sale.'

The bathroom is one of Leanne's projects where she adopted a similar shopping approach, splashing out on a mirrored wall and saving with an ex-showroom bath and basin. She went all out with the decoration, painting the walls and ceiling in charcoal. 'By the time I started the project, I was willing to give anything a go!' she says. 'After all, it's only paint, and very easy to change.'

Although Leanne and Ash still have projects to finish – a loft conversion and a porch are planned this year – they feel very settled here. 'I've never lived anywhere for longer than two years before and I've never been attached to a house like I am to this one,' says Leanne. 'I'm pleased with the balance of colour – we've got brave rooms and calming spaces and I love how the house works for us all.'

MASON'S ROOM

Dark walls and a brick-effect wallpaper strike the right balance in a teenager's bedroom.

Walls painted in Down Pipe estate emulsion, £47.95 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball. Tanlay Red Brick wallpaper, £12 a roll, B&Q. The Zelig lampshade is similar, £35, Habitat

EN SUITE

Floor-to-ceiling metro tiles frame the shower with a marble cut-off for the shelf insert and patterned floor tiles for interest.

Winchester Patchwork grey ceramic floor tiles, £37.25sq m, Wickes. Bespoke vanity, £450, Ashmore Spencer

ESMÉ'S ROOM

'Pale pink and vivid yellow are a surprisingly good combination and make Esmé's room look bright and cheerful,' says Leanne.

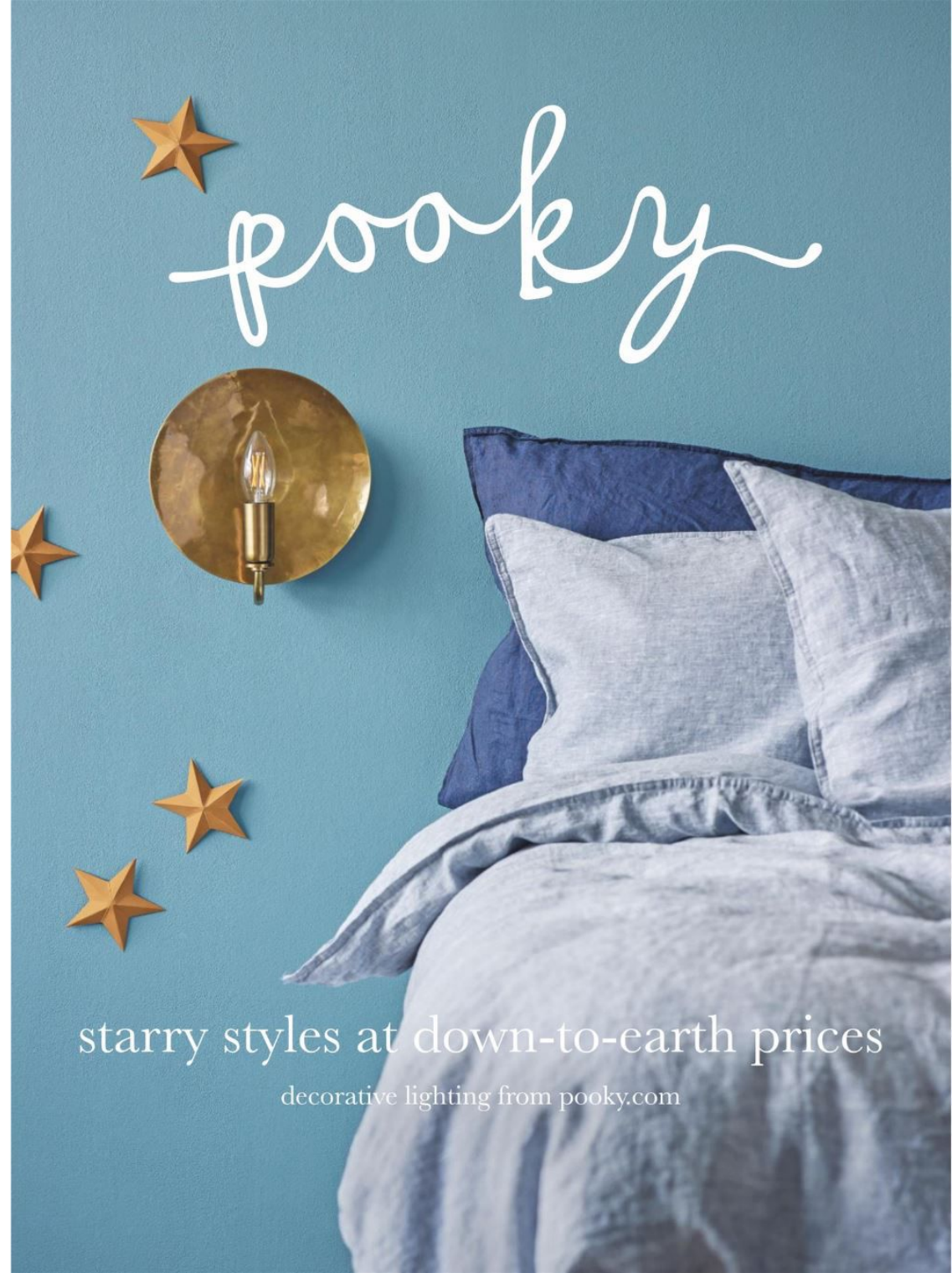
Wardrobe in Yellowcake estate eggshell, £64 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball. Felt elephant head, £30, Trouva. Cotton ball lights, £29.95 for a string of 20, Cable & Cotton

FAMILY BATHROOM

'Painting the walls and ceiling dark made this space feel bigger,' says Leanne.

Walls in Down Pipe estate emulsion, £47.95 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball. Arezzo matt black grid hinged bath screen, £199.95, Victorian Plumbing

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