

ALL CHANGE

Cutting their Victorian terrace allowed Barbara and David Hall to replan the layout to improve flow and maximise space

FEATURE JANE CRITTENDEN
PHOTOGRAPHY DOMUS STAY

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY
Victorian terrace

ROOMS Kitchen-diner/living space, cloakroom, utility room, four bedrooms, two bathrooms

LOCATION West London



LIVING SPACE
The corner sofa breaks up the linear design of the open-plan space and zones the relaxing area. Metal-framed glazing, Perla Windows. Flow sofa in Grey is similar, Noa Home. T-Rex print, Nick Morley. Wall sconce in Black, Chelsom



'FLIPPING THE KITCHEN AND LIVING SPACE AROUND ENABLED US TO OPEN UP THE WHOLE OF THE DOWNSTAIRS'

DINING AREA
The glazed partition and the wall enclosing the kitchen cupboards form a pleasing eating nook. Saarinen Tulip dining table in white Carrara marble, The Little Tulip Shop. White Basil chairs with solid legs, Calligaris

LIVING SPACE
'I designed bookshelves and a desk to soften and break up the large expanse of wall,' says Barbara. Joinery by Hibbs London, painted in Rolling Fog, Little Greene. Cushions in Plush Velvet fabric, Warwick at Jane Clayton

KITCHEN
'Choosing handleless cupboards ensures they don't encroach on the space,' says Barbara. Montana Shaker cupboards by Rempp Küchen and lacquered in RAL 7015; Calacatta Gold marble-effect quartz worktops, all Oceans Kitchens & Bathrooms. Schoolhouse vintage light, Mullan Lighting



Passionate property enthusiasts, Barbara and David Hall found themselves moving on unexpectedly after receiving an offer they couldn't refuse on their newly renovated house. Fortunately they had six months to complete.

'We'd just started our first commercial renovation with our property solutions business Bunny Hall, so we changed tack using the six months to finish so we could move in instead,' says Barbara, a sports marketing director. 'In the end, this house turned out to be a far better place to live with our newborn, Willow, now two.'

Barbara and David, who works in property finance, had initially bought the two-bed terrace because of its sought-after location near the High Road. It was in a dilapidated state.

'There was nothing to salvage and that was the most exciting thing,' says Barbara. 'We removed the entire back of the house and all the rotten floors. Our goal was to make the most of the footprint and create flow.'

Although the couple's project began with a commercial agenda, they were aware the life stage of prospective buyers or renters would probably mirror their own.

'The area is popular with young families like ours, so in my original design I'd already thought about buggy storage and the importance of open-plan living,' Barbara says. 'I took inspiration from a magazine project where I loved the kitchen at the front with the sink in the bay window.'

The couple dropped the floor height by 60cm to allow their worktop to fit beneath the existing windowsill. In doing so, they levelled the ground floor and made the whole space open plan. The opportunity also enabled them to achieve 2.8m head height with 2.4m in the converted loft



'A LOCAL STONE WAREHOUSE HAD SO MUCH CHOICE - I CHOSE THREE MARBLE PIECES FOR OUR VANITIES THAT THEY MADE TO SIZE'

EN SUITE

Carrara marble tiles on the walls and floor are from the same range. 'A chevron pattern has more grout lines and makes the floor less slippery,' says Barbara. Carrara marble wall tiles; chevron floor tiles, both Stone Deals. Bespoke vanity in Hicks' Blue, Little Greene. Bespoke marble countertop, Ideal Stone Interiors. Waters Elements Cloud stone basin, Oceans Kitchens & Bathrooms

WILLOW'S BEDROOM

The couple designed the first floor so this space could also be used as a dressing room for the main bedroom and en suite.

Wood Mini+ cot bed in White/oak; Wood dresser in White/oak, both Oliver Furniture

MAIN BEDROOM

'Feminine soft furnishings are balanced with the masculinity in the blue,' says Barbara. Wardrobes in Hicks' Blue, Little Greene. Blind in Calypso NCF4242-04, Nina Campbell at Jane Clayton. Cushions in Coromandel Meredith Coral NCF4241-01, Nina Campbell



where they created two additional bedrooms and a bathroom. The article inspired Barbara to twist the staircase, too.

'This allowed important hallway storage, a utility and cloakroom,' she says. 'We also took out all three chimney breasts to make the rooms as wide as possible.'

Barbara had to move fast with her interiors decision-making since she was also planning their wedding and was pregnant with Willow. She'd done plenty of research on their previous renovation and took design cues from the project. A highlight had been the internal glazing. 'Here we

used the same idea with glass partitions to zone downstairs as you don't lose the visual connection,' she says.

Herringbone flooring was also replicated, but in a colour change to modern ash grey, as was the high-quality German Shaker kitchen. 'Cupboards are blue-grey and handleless as the house has a more contemporary style,' says Barbara. 'We used Little Greene's Joanna to decorate throughout because we discovered the pink tones suit south and north-facing rooms.'

Panelling and bespoke joinery add interest to walls and help draw together the

expansive open-plan layout downstairs. Smaller details provide accent colours of burgundy and mustard in the toile wallpaper, cushions and chairs.

'The downstairs flow feels more natural on one level and with voluminous upstairs rooms, neighbours often think our house is bigger than others on the street,' says Barbara. 'It was the perfect layout when Willow was learning to walk but we've already got our eye on the next project - this time we plan to stay put for longer!' [bunryhall.co.uk](https://www.bunryhall.co.uk)