

KITCHEN

A working fire in the cook space is the height of luxury. Cabinets in Onyx Aura, £108 for 3.79ltr, Benjamin Moore. Weathered oak and metal stool, £295, Cox & Cox. Brooklyn dome pendant (below) is similar, £89, Industville



HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY
A detached 1950s house

ROOMS Sitting room, kitchen-diner, study, four bedrooms (two en suite), bathroom

LOCATION
Cheshire



SITTING ROOM

A decorative ceiling pendant is the statement piece in this space. Hayes six-arm chandelier in bronze, £724, West Elm. Corner sofa, £3,000, Arighi Bianchi. Bergen leather armchair (left), £899; footstool, £325, both John Lewis & Partners



DINING AREA

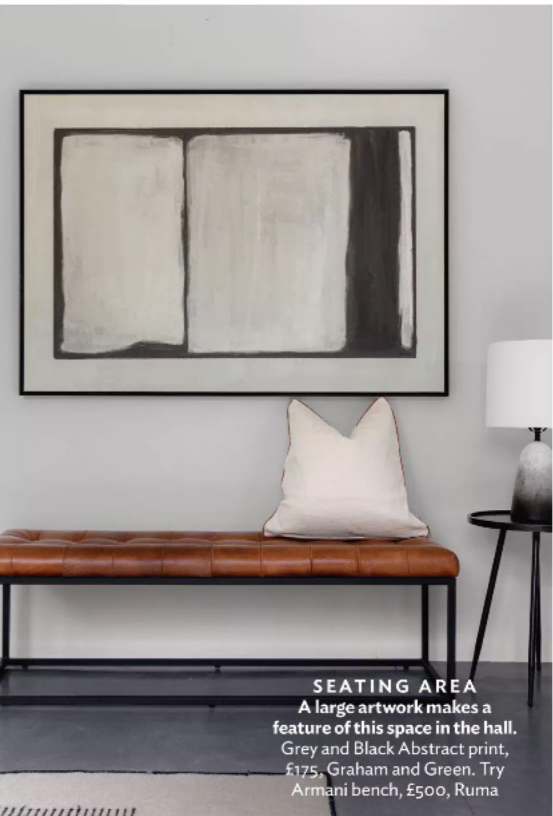
Wood and rattan bring rich texture to this modern scheme. Habufa Detroit Starburst table, £2,295, Furniture Village. Black cane rattan chairs, £265 each, Six The Residence. Joinery, Todd James



HOME
from
HOME

Known for her knack for making minimalist schemes luxe, designer Neeshay Nouman applied that talent to this family holiday house

FEATURE JANE CRITTENDEN
PHOTOGRAPHY JAMIE THOMPSON



SEATING AREA
A large artwork makes a feature of this space in the hall. Grey and Black Abstract print, £175, Graham and Green. Try Armani bench, £500, Ruma



HALLWAY
The clear banister panel keeps the open feel of this large space. Larache rug in Cream/Black £270, RugVista, is comparable. Try Grigio planter, £249.99, Hortology



MAIN BEDROOM
'Cladding slats add interest, complementing the black and brass tones,' says Neeshay. Try Elgin quilt, £290, The White Company. Bedside table, £469, West Elm. Lamp, £110, The Home Library



BATHROOM
A rug adds warmth to this cool marble scheme. Picasso freestanding bath, £1,395, Lusso Stone, is similar. Try Kilim Long Stitch rug, £300, RugVista. Stool, £99, Zara Home



STUDY
Having one room with wall-to-wall colour is a beautiful contrast to the rest of the house. Shelving in Essex Green Aura, £108 for 3.79ltr, both Benjamin Moore. Boucle easy chair, £695, Six The Residence

HOW DID YOU COME TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT?

My British clients were so pleased with my interiors in their Abu Dhabi home, they asked me to work on their house in the UK. This is where the family spends the school holidays.

WHAT WAS THE BRIEF? Previously, the property had been extended and renovated so there was no major building work, but my clients wanted smarter, more stylish interiors. They liked the idea of a character-filled home with a mix of moody and lighter elements, ideally with a neutral palette offset by darker hues. Although the house isn't their primary residence, it was important the interiors reflected their taste and felt like their family home.

WHAT WAS YOUR VISION? The house lacked a design story – there was no personality or cohesiveness between rooms. I have a gut instinct when I first see a property and my job is to merge my ideas with the client's thoughts. It had traditional elements like the parquet, but also a modern concrete floor and open-plan layout. My thinking was to build on this by blending minimalist contemporary styles with traditional character.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU? Travel was a big source of inspiration for me. I'd just been to the glorious University of Sydney before starting the project and I was awed by the contrast in the traditional and modern spaces.

HOW DID YOU BRING THE SCHEME TOGETHER? I'm known for creating neutral, minimalist spaces highlighted with layered textures and at least one

'EACH ROOM HAS AN EYE-CATCHING STATEMENT PIECE – EITHER TRADITIONAL OR MODERN – HIGHLIGHTED AGAINST A NEUTRAL COLOUR BASE'

statement piece in each room. In the study, this is the forest green joinery, in the sitting room there's a modern chandelier, and in the guest room, leafy wallpaper. My mood boards featured concrete, light oak, black metal, rattan, linen and velvet. The palette was black, off-white, beige and green – the latter appears in almost every room.

AND THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE? I'm based in the UAE, so this made things difficult! But I found two local contractors who really understood my vision and whose work was fantastic. Todd James did the decorative joinery, while Clarkson Lee handled the other joinery, decoration, flooring and the cloakroom renovation.

WHAT WAS THE MOST SATISFYING ASPECT OF THE PROJECT? Just before I handed the house over to the client, I walked from room to room and there was a sense of not quite knowing what to expect next, yet feeling comfortable with where I was heading. My client had seen photos throughout but she was overwhelmed when they first came here. Her husband was stunned! This is the most rewarding part of the job. 🏡 Follow Neeshay Nouman at The Niche Corner on Instagram @thenichecorner



BEDROOM
Rattan furniture here is a nod to the clients' time spent in Bali. Osier Sanderson wallpaper, £75 a roll, The Niche Corner. Cushion, £20, Lavish Home. Kensington mirror, £295, William Wood