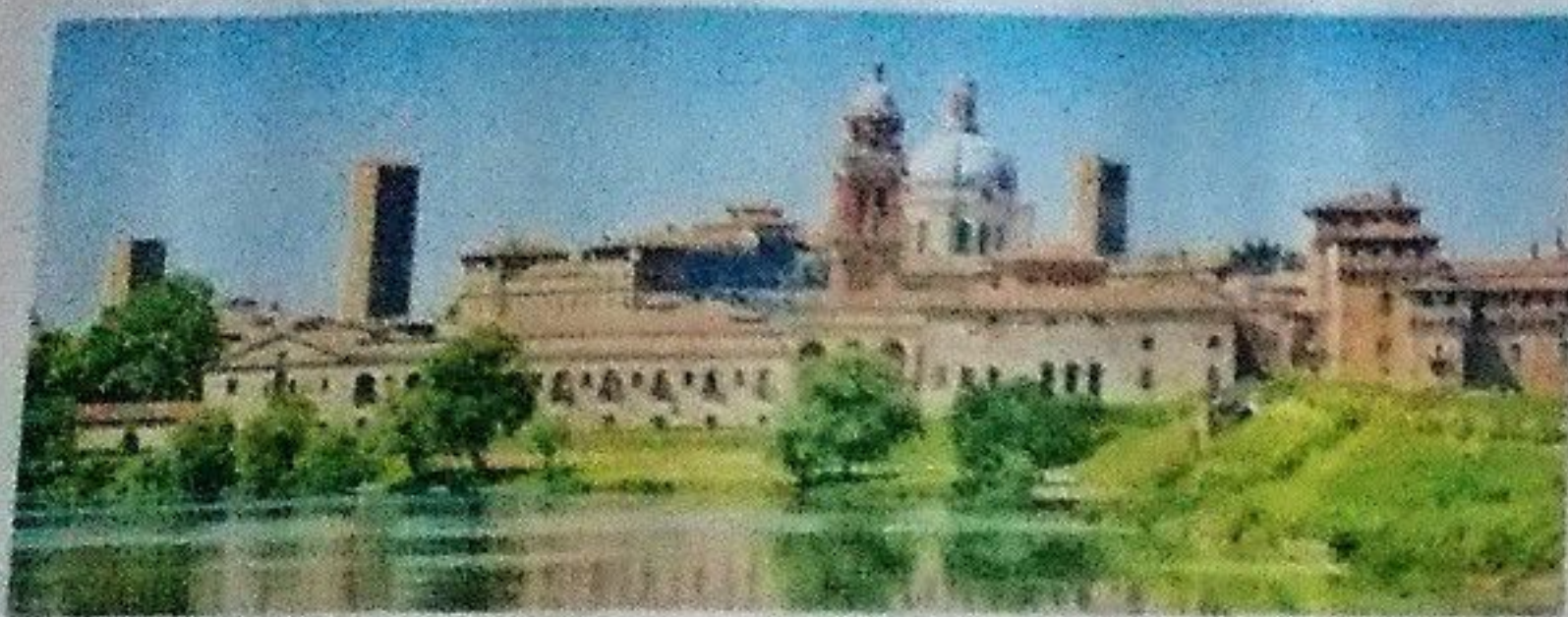


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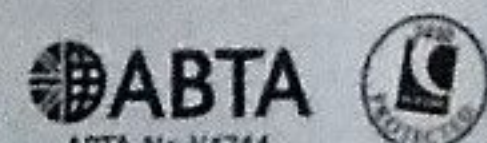
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DINING AREA

'We wanted a large kitchen-diner with lots of light and a link to the garden,' says Hannah. Keeler extending dining table, £1,335; Dorado cushion, £20, both Barker and Stonehouse. Calvin armchair in mustard yellow velvet and linen, £399, Atkin and Thyme

1930S DETACHED | 25BH



INSPIRING



HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY

Detached 1930s house

LOCATION

Hove, East Sussex

ROOMS

Hall, sitting room, kitchen-diner, snug, cloakroom, four bedrooms (one en suite), bathroom

PURCHASED 2016 PREVIOUS PROPERTY

'We lived in a smaller semi-detached 1930s house a couple of miles from here,' says Hannah.

PERFECT UNITY

Classic touches combined with vivid colour create a fresh look in Hannah and Paul Barratt's family home

FEATURE JANE CRITTENDEN | PHOTOGRAPHY JAMES FRENCH



BEST BUY 'The sofa needed to be big enough to fill the space, comfy enough to sink into and practical enough for the children, and it ticks every box'

Harmonising great interiors with the practicalities of a young family is a balancing act that takes some thinking. Hannah Barratt has nailed it in her home with a robust palette of wood, marble and brass, softened with colour. 'We've got three children and the whole house needed updating. So I didn't want to feel too precious about everything being new,' she explains. 'When we moved in there were no obvious period features remaining, so I took a modern approach, choosing contemporary colours and textiles,

and used materials that could withstand our busy family lifestyle.'

Hannah lives here with husband Paul, and children, Samuel, 12, Max, 10, and Phoebe, four. The house had been added to on all sides and while the couple were delighted with the ready-made space, they were keen to improve the downstairs layout. The garage was converted into a children's den, and the kitchen and dining room, separated by an arch, were opened up. At first the couple thought they might extend further.

'The rooms felt dark and enclosed but a friend pointed out that after we'd removed

the adjoining wall and added sliding doors, the space would feel much bigger and brighter,' says Hannah. 'It was good advice as it's one of the best rooms in the house now.'

Building firm Niche House, owned by a parent from school, carried out the building work to high standards. 'I wanted good-quality finishes that would last and I knew owner, Gary Stray, was really hot on detail,' says Hannah. 'The team did a great job.'

Since Paul works for Karndean Designflooring it was only natural the couple would choose a luxury vinyl plank from one of their ranges. Hannah loved the

KITCHEN

'The marble-effect acrylic worktop sets off the Shaker-style navy cupboards and is surprisingly robust,' says Hannah.
Cotswood in-frame kitchen in Deep Blue, £9,911; Minerva's Carrara White marble-effect acrylic worktop, £3,755, both Crown Imperial Kitchens.
Joe bar stools, £225 each, Habitat. Small Flori glass pendants in brass, £92 each, Rowen and Wren

SITTING ROOM

'Originally we had two small sofas in here that looked a bit lost,' says Hannah. 'The arrangement feels more comfortable and cosy now.'
Oscar corner sofa in Steel Clever Velvet, £3,445, Loaf. Hummingbird by Dave White, £800, Art Republic. Sweep floor lamp, £100, Made. Wall painted in Peignoir estate emulsion, £45 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball. Limewashed oak herringbone floor, £32sq m, Karndean

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DESIGN INSPIRATION 'The colour on our bedroom walls was inspired by the teal in Van Gogh's Almond Blossom. I have a print and I love it'

look of wood laid in a herringbone design, but without anything like this available. Paul had lime-washed oak planks cut to bespoke lengths to create the pattern. And now the product is a permanent fixture in the Karndean Knight Tile range.

'We have an expanse of floor space downstairs so I wanted it to have interest and stay looking good over time,' says Hannah. 'The vinyl planks are hardwearing and I like that the herringbone is a modern take on traditional parquet.'

A layered, warm grey scheme ties rooms together with textured materials of velvet,

wood, brass and marble. Each room also features a single dark element – shelves, the sofa, walls – which add interest without being overwhelming. 'I like a mix of dark tones to pull out lighter shades, then I'll add a bright colour for a modern twist,' Hannah explains.

In the kitchen, navy Shaker-style cupboards are topped with a practical marble-effect worktop, and brushed-brass ironmongery which gives a luxurious finish. A canary yellow ceiling pendant forms the centrepiece above the reclaimed wood dining table, matched in with Eames-inspired chairs. Upstairs, the main bedroom

has warm teal blue walls, marble-topped mid-century wood furniture and marble and brass light fittings. 'I applied that palette throughout the house,' says Hannah. 'It's unfussy and doesn't overload the rooms.'

Back in the sitting room, Hannah embraced the large dimensions with oversized lighting and furniture, shaping areas for storage, relaxing and TV viewing. 'I love how the house looks and that it functions really well on a practical level,' says Hannah. 'The downstairs rooms give us plenty of space to be together or apart – this is a place we can live in for a very long time.'

MAIN BEDROOM

The marble-topped table and marble lamp evoke a mid-century feel. Penelope side table, £349; small pillar table lamp, £129, both West Elm. Floral cushion cover, £8.99, H&M Home. Grey sequinned cushion, £17.93, Maisons du Monde, is similar

BATHROOM

A bespoke mosaic Karndean floor revamps the existing bathroom and replaces broken floor tiles. Black and white panel tiles are similar, £17.95 a sheet, Walls and Floors

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