

# A tower of style

*Malin Glemme, founder of rug brand Layered, gave a 1990s apartment in a converted water tower the charm and warmth you'd expect in a period home*

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## EXTERIOR

Malin's home is a three-bedroom apartment in this beautiful early 1900s converted water tower, located on an island near Stockholm





## HOME TRUTHS

### THE PROPERTY

Three-bedroom apartment in a converted water tower

### ROOMS

Kitchen-diner/sitting room, cloakroom, three bedrooms, one bathroom

**LOCATION** Stockholm, Sweden

### DINING AREA

'The chairs were sourced from various vintage places and sprayed green to match the kitchen with a contrasting raspberry fabric on the seats,' says Malin.

Similar vintage bamboo Swedish Miranda chairs, 1stDibs. Seats in Jane Churchill's Tarka Apsley fabric in Red, Colefax and Fowler

### WHY WERE YOU DRAWN TO THE APARTMENT IN THE OLD WATER TOWER?

Previously, I lived in an urban apartment in the 'Funkis' minimalist style with my three children, aged 12, 10 and seven. When I saw the early 1900s converted water tower, I fell in love with the old building. We live in the countryside on a beautiful island in the Stockholm archipelago, but we're only a short drive from the city centre.

### WHAT DID YOU WANT TO CHANGE?

The original conversion into apartments hadn't done our property justice.

Rooms were bland with no period features and my goal was to bring authenticity back to the old water tower. I didn't need to do any major building work; I replaced the kitchen, reinstated the period details and had storage made.

### HOW DID YOU WANT THE INTERIORS TO LOOK AND FEEL?

I love the sense of warmth and cosiness in the British cottage aesthetic, which fits in very well with the building and setting. My approach isn't as layered as true country cottage but from a Scandi perspective, I've used more colour and pattern than is typical! I like greens, pinks and

**'THE STREAMLINED BENCH IN THE HALL IS PRACTICAL BUT ALSO SETS A CHARACTERFUL TONE'**



### HALLWAY

'Walls are in an apricot hue – a neutral between yellow and pink – that feels warm but isn't obvious,' says Malin. Walls in Dimity, Farrow & Ball. Bench by New Day Interior. Seat in Fermoie's Sicily Outsici-503; made by Sanna Hall

**KITCHEN**  
'A green kitchen balances out the pink shades around my home and the tone isn't dominating in the open-plan room,' says Malin.

Cupboards from Ikea painted in Lichen, Farrow & Ball. Zellige Ecru tiles, Stiltje



### SITTING ROOM

A wall of artwork creates an eye-catching feature above the sofa. The colour of the sofa fabric echoes the pinks and reds used throughout the home, creating a sense of harmony and continuity. The Bloomsbury loose cover sofa from Love Your Home is a good alternative to this one



florals and accents of black and blue for contrast – I'm a bit nerdy about colour.

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR LOVE OF COLOUR.** I'm always looking for harmony and balance. A pink sofa was a must while neutral tiles in the kitchen with a pinkish tint are beautiful with the green cupboards. I spent time finding the right warm neutral for downstairs and chose Farrow & Ball's Dimity. **IS THERE A CROSSOVER BETWEEN YOUR WORK AND YOUR OWN INTERIORS?**

I have a weakness for rugs. At work I'm careful

about choosing the right yarn colour as the outcome varies according to the temperature at the time of dyeing. I often change rugs in my home according to the season – a warm tufted rug in winter and a flatweave in summer.

**WHAT'S BEEN THE BIGGEST SUCCESS OF THE PROJECT?**

I enjoyed working with Sanna Hall, who made curtains and cushions. All the patterns and colours bring traditional themes back into our old water tower home – it's a wonderful, harmonious place to live. 25

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**'I DON'T PLAN MY INTERIORS IN A STRUCTURED WAY, IT'S MORE ABOUT INTUITION AND CREATING A FEELING'**



#### BEDROOM

**'I had bunk beds made with storage to maximise space,' says Malin.** Beds painted in similar colour to Lichen, Farrow & Ball. Polka table lamp in blue and white, Pooky. Curtains made in Colefax and Fowler's Tansy Stripe fabric in Blue, Sanna Hall



#### BATHROOM

**'I updated this by adding brass taps and painting the cupboards in a green tone similar to the kitchen,' says Malin.** Paini Duomo mixer tap, Tattahome, is similar. Try Stonehouse Studio Beauvais white tiles, Victorian Plumbing. Ming vase, Ginori 1735



#### BEDROOM

**'My daughter already has an interest in interior design and chose the colours herself,' says Malin.** Walls in Calamine, Farrow & Ball. Curtains made in Colefax and Fowler's Berkeley Sprig in Green, Sanna Hall



#### MAIN BEDROOM

The rich burgundy on the woodwork and windows creates depth and interest.

Walls in Calamine; joinery in a similar colour to Eating Room Red, both Farrow & Ball. Carl Fagerlund Embassy chandelier, Pamono