Good homes



WHO LIVES HERE

Hannah (pictured) and Paul Barratt and their three children, Samuel,

13. Max. 11. and Phoebe six, share a four-bedroom mid-1930s detached house in Hove. East Sussex



EXTERIOR

Hannah felt that the bars on the Georgian-style windows obscured the views and the light. 'We couldn't afford to change them, so we kept the frames and replaced the glass units, which saved thousands of pounds,' she explains.



Hannah and Paul Barratt updated their spacious family home by changing the layout and mixing steely grey tones with vivid colours

A OPEN SPACE

'The living room needed rethinking,' says Hannah. 'The extension (above) made the room feel almost too big; it looked disjointed and lacked a focal point. We needed a space to be together as well as somewhere to do our own things without being shut away.' The couple embraced the room's large dimensions with oversized pieces of furniture and lighting, and created different areas for relaxing and storage. The corner sofa, from Loaf, suits the proportions, as does the large hummingbird artwork by Dave White. The Sweep floor lamp from made.com and rug also help define the space. One of the first pieces that Hannah and Paul bought was the antique box, which acts as a coffee table, from Newark Antiques & Collectors Fair. The back wall is painted in Farrow & Ball Peignoir and the flooring is Karndean Lime Washed Oak herringbone. 'Even though the room is big, it feels comfortable and cosy now,' says Hannah.

A HARMONIOUS HUES

Colour draws the large room together: two pink chairs from made.com sit by the window and mirror the cushions on the sofa. BELOW: An internal door marks the back of the original house. Beside it, a deep alcove was used to create shelving with a hallway cupboard behind. The shelves are painted in Farrow & Ball Down Pipe to tie in with the steel grey sofa.





A SUNNY DELIGHT

When it came to decorating, Hannah knew she wanted to take a modern approach, choosing colours and fabrics that look stylish but could withstand a busy family home. A warm grey colour scheme ties all the rooms together, while textured materials such as velvet, wood, brass and marble are used in the furniture, flooring and lighting. Bold yellow lifts the natural wood tones in the dining area, with a statement ceiling pendant from Original BTC and Eames-inspired Eiffel DSW chairs. The table, along with the Dorado cushion on the mustard armchair from Atkin and Thyme, is from Barker and Stonehouse. Family photos are displayed in Mosslanda picture shelves from Ikea.

OUT OF THE BLUE >

Hannah designed the layout of the kitchen so that she has views of the garden from the sink. The classic Shaker Cotswood kitchen, from Crown Imperial Kitchens, is updated with a navy finish and Minerva's white marble-effect acrylic worktop. The Joe bar stools from Habitat came from the family's previous home, and the Flori pendants are from Rowen & Wren. Hannah found the brass ironmongery from Handles & Knobs Direct to add a touch of luxury at an affordable price. The scaffolding board shelves were made by local wood-recycling project The Wood Store.





TEAL APPEAL ▶

Upstairs, warm teal walls hug the master bedroom, which has marble-topped wood furniture and marble and brass light fittings. 'I carried through the same palette from downstairs,' says Hannah. 'It's an unfussy look.' The Van Gogh print, Almond Blossom, which Hannah was given as a gift, was the inspiration for the choice of wall colour: Farrow & Ball Stone Blue. The furniture has a mid-century feel, with Penelope side tables and Small Pillar table lamps from West Elm, while a pendant by Tom Dixon is from The Conran Shop. The floral cushion cover is from H&M Home; sequined cushions are from Barker and Stonehouse.



SHADES OF GREY ▶

A bespoke mosaic Karndean floor was laid to revamp the existing bathroom. Hannah chose a tall radiator to provide warmth and storage space for towels, while the blind adds privacy and keeps the look clean and simple.







Soft velour pom edge cushion, £12, Next

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Titan pendant, £269, Original BTC



White furniture with touches of pink and yellow makes for a girl's bedroom without frills. Colourful string lighting from Cable & Cotton hangs above the cot bed. The shelving unit is from Great Little Trading Company, and the set of three suitcases is from Retro Kids.

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