

# Contrasting pink and green

An Art Deco-themed scheme with plenty of bold colour and pattern injected life and



## INSIDER INFO

### WHO LIVES HERE?

Carly Fee, a funeral celebrant and her husband, Simon, a counsellor, rented their four-bedroom maisonette in Wallsend for two years before buying it in 2015. The property occupies the top two floors of a three-storey Victorian house.

### WHAT WAS THE OLD SPACE LIKE?

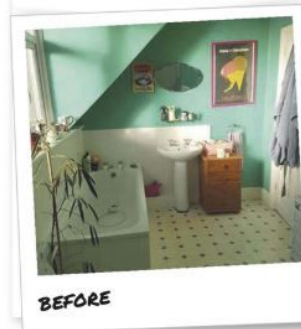
'The house had been let to students and was run-down. The grubby white tiles and sanitaryware made the room feel cold. The basin was cracked and the shower stall's flimsy door juddered open.'

### WHAT'S YOUR TOP TIP?

'The vinyl floor looks as convincing as tiles but is much more forgiving underfoot.'

### ANY MONEY-SAVING IDEAS?

'Pick one feature item and go for quality as it elevates the look of the more affordable pieces in the room. My green tiles are high impact and were quite reasonably-priced.'



BEFORE



When Carly and Simon Fee first moved into their maisonette – an ex-student house they rented from Carly's dad's partner – they were allowed to paint the oppressive grey bathroom a cheerful green. 'I love colour – I love green!' says Carly. 'I think it's really restful, so later when we bought the maisonette and updated the bathroom, I looked for tiles in the exact same shade.'

The couple bought the property in 2015 and renovated all the rooms. The bathroom was last on the list and, by early 2019, they couldn't wait to smarten up the worn-out room and make it their own. Carly was drawn to the bold look of traditional black and white tiles and, of course, green metro wall tiles in the aquatic shade often associated with the Art Deco era.

'I had about 40 samples and when this green metro tile arrived from Walls and Floors, I was so chuffed,' says Carly.

The contrasting pink didn't materialise until the last minute, after Carly felt inspired by a bubblegum-pink ceiling in a café. She realised that painting the bath panel and a small table in pink would add warmth to the room.

The couple used a trusted builder friend, Andy Peace, to fit their bathroom and do the tiling. He did an immaculate job in a couple of weeks but disaster struck when Carly had her first bath. 'I lit the candles and ran a bubble bath but, when I lowered myself in, the bottom of the bath felt like sandpaper. It was awful,' she says. A manufacturing fault meant the anti-slip coating on the enamel-coated steel bath was too rough to sit on. Carly and Simon received a replacement acrylic bath and the shop paid for it to be re-fitted.

'I love relaxing in the bath. The candle light reflecting off the tiles is so pretty,' says Carly. 'This is such a calming room.'

# warmed up my bathroom

fun into Carly Fee's bland and worn out space



### MAKE BRAVE CHOICES

The patterned floor, though bold, sits well with the bright colours because it's monochrome. White shower tiles, emphasised with grey grout, complement the floor

### COMBINE BOLD COLOURS

Carly has balanced her bold pink and green scheme by choosing complementary tones with warmth and softness to create a relaxing atmosphere with an Art Deco vibe. Painting the wooden bath panel and side table is an easy way to introduce a second bright colour without being too overbearing.

### SHOP SAVVY

Carly's builder advised keeping the shower tray as it still worked well. They then bought a good-quality shower surround and door. The toilet was a new one that Carly's in-laws didn't need from a bathroom suite; the planter and pots are from charity shops

## SHOPPING LIST

Wood Green gloss metro tiles, 200x100mm, £19.95 per sq m; Marvel 15x15cm Satin white wall tiles are similar, £10.95 per sq m; both Walls and Floors. White border tile, £3.10 each; bath panel and small table painted in Valspar's Mum's the Word, £28 per 2.5l, all B&Q. Forenza bath, £252, Wickes. Turin shower enclosure, £319.95; Olympia Art Deco bath mixer taps, £44.95; Olympia Art Deco bath shower mixer tap and shower kit, £99.95; Burlington Victorian basin is similar, £164.95; Burlington close coupled toilet is similar, £227.80; all Victorian Plumbing. Triton Kito chrome electric shower, £219, Amazon. Sintra Portuguese tile-effect cushioned vinyl flooring, £19.99 per sq m, Best4Flooring. Cambridge large traditional white towel rail and radiator, £269.97, Soak. Splash chrome-effect semi-flush bathroom light, £25, B&Q. Gold eye mirror, £15; gold fan candleholder, £3; both Flying Tiger. Wall hanging mirror is similar, £40; Lucy cane cream night stand, £59; green leopard print hand towel, £7 each and bath towel, £10 each; all Dunelm. Nicole Farhi cotton towel in pink plant hanger, £21, Frankie and Flea. Umbra set of three shelves is similar, £20, Connox. 'Bottoms Up' elephants vintage print, £12, The Trumpet Shop

TOTAL COST: £1,950

