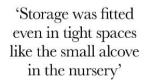






WHAT DREW THE HOMEOWNERS TO WORKING

WITH YOU? Like many of my clients, the couple are busy people with full-time jobs and a young family and they came to me through friends of friends. They bought the house already extended, so we didn't need to do any structural work, but it lacked personality. I like to give family homes a stylish yet 'lived-in' look, which I create by layering colour, patterns and texture. These homes also need good storage and lighting. WHAT WAS THEIR BRIEF? Since my client travels a lot with work, she wanted



to come into a calm, relaxing home and was drawn to a neutral scheme. We dialled this up in the designated adults spaces, like the front sitting room and their main bedroom, and as she likes blue we used varying tones in every room. Having a colour thread running through the house makes it feel cohesive.

HOW DID YOU APPROACH STORAGE AND LIGHTING? With

a comfortable, restful environment in my client's mind, the house needed cupboards to hide away the toys and clutter of the day. She likes a tailored look so we designed Shakerstyle joinery in nearly every room. The glare from spotlights is draining so we layered lighting with ceiling pendants, wall lights and lamps for a more comfortable, diffused effect.





NURSERY
Panelling adds
definition to the
room, while wall
lights pick out the
blue in the joinery.
Walls in Portland
Stone Light, Little
Greene. Anglepoise
Original 1227 wall
light, Utility Design.
Curtains in Cupid
in Antique Blue,
Chelsea Textiles.
Joinery in De Nimes,
Farrow & Ball

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DID YOU MAKE ANY BIG
CHANGES? We put back reclaimed
fireplaces into the sitting room and main
bedroom. The bathrooms needed gutting but
the kitchen was in good condition so there
was no point in ripping it out and starting
again. We always encourage our clients to
repurpose where they can – we kept the
clients' vintage rattan bed and reupholstered
her grandmother's antique stool and a chair.
HOW DID YOU CHOOSE THE
FABRICS? We added colour and pattern
to the neutral decor with window dressings,
lampshades, cushions and upholstery in

'A work desk with a drawer means you can clear the top of the desk at the end of the day'

fabrics from designers such as George Spencer Designs, Fermoie and Colefax and Fowler. The client likes geometrics, stripes and modern florals. For balance, I mix a bold print – like a blind – with smaller patterned fabrics. I also mix textures, such as the velvet and linen cushions in the sitting room.

WHAT WERE THE FINAL TOUCHES? For some clients it can be hard to visualise the end result so it's important to trust the process — single items look very different as a collective in a finished room! My client has a wonderful eye and has some lovely ceramics and coffee table books from her travels. She was a joy to work with, this project was a real pleasure to do.
pollyus/man.com





BEDROOM A vibrant blind fabric continues the blue tone that weaves throughout the house. Esther Teal Roman blind, Graham & Brown, is an alternative. Framed prints, client's own. Stool upholstered in Rabanna L-264, Fermoie

MAIN BATHROOM 'Neutral tones, warm wood and textured brass balance out the bold blue shower,' says Polly. Alsace Scallop honed marble splashback tiles, Mandarin Stone. MPRO towel radiator, Crosswater