

MARCH 2019

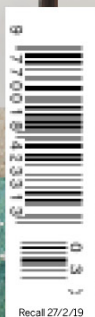
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF STYLE

Nº 9 VOL 100

# HOMES & GARDENS

**ALL IN THE DETAIL**  
From a chic Charleston  
townhouse to a historic  
family home in Essex

**DESIGN TO LOVE**  
Smart kitchen chairs,  
curvy sofas and  
pretty lampshades



## PATTERN & FLAIR

MARCH 2019 £4.75



**KITCHEN-DINER**  
Grey units were picked for a luxury look, but the handleless doors keep the space sleek. The kitchen worktop was extended slightly to create a subtle division between the cooking and eating areas.  
**Cabinetry**, Urban Myth. Bocci 14 Series **pendant**, Heal's. Isamu Noguchi **dining table**, Vitra. Bespoke **chairs**, Chapel Street.



# SMALL WONDER

By knocking down walls, opening ceilings and employing clever decorating choices, a tiny top-floor flat has become the perfect London pied-à-terre

WORDS SALLY ROWLAND PHOTOGRAPHS PAUL MASSEY



INSPIRATION

When Jolyon Prowse came upon a top-floor flat within a Victorian stucco townhouse in Kensington, he knew he had found the perfect pied-à-terre even though it was a diamond in the rough. ‘It was not an auspicious start,’ he says, ‘as the flat had been converted in the Nineties and rented out for 30 years, so had been allowed to deteriorate.’ An experienced property developer, Jolyon called upon two industry insiders to help transform the space – Victoria Wormsley of French-Brooks Interiors and structural specialists Chester Row, who would undertake the reconfiguring work to create a more open, light-filled home.

Jolyon divides his time between a working week in London and weekends in Wiltshire, so the flat needed to be a comfortable base. ‘In addition to creating the feeling of space, I wanted a modern, slightly edgy look, but it still had to be somewhere that felt like home after a long day.’ Key to the transformation was making the kitchen and living space open plan and installing remote-controlled skylights, plus making the staircase to the flat’s roof terrace open tread. Even small touches, such as opting for pale flooring throughout the flat, give a streamlined effect.

The primary purpose of any pied-à-terre has to be a good night’s sleep and the two bedrooms are unashamedly luxurious, but also instantly welcoming. Statement headboards, pared-back blinds, and Christopher Farr, Jim Thompson and Sahco fabrics in a soothing palette of blues and yellows are a winning combination.

The pièce de résistance has to be the roof terrace. It has views as far as the London Eye and offers a private retreat in the heart of the capital, complete with an inbuilt music system and lighting. ‘Even on a cold, crisp winter day, it’s like having a second living space,’ says Jolyon, ‘which for a central London flat is a real joy.’



**LIVING SPACE**  
Everything in this narrow room is streamlined – from the striking Circle 80 suspension lamp and the wall sculpture by Curtis Jeré to the fire. Balthus sofas, The Sofa & Chair Company. Isamu Noguchi coffee table, Vitra. Large Stern lamps with shades in Ghost linen, Porta Romana.



INSPIRATION

**MASTER BEDROOM**  
A deep window alcove has been turned into a tranquil seating area. Roman blind in Ombre Bronze by Chase Erwin. Throw, The Conran Shop.



**MASTER BEDROOM**  
Jolyon had the simple floating bedside table designed to fit the compact space. Brass ball light flex pendant, Michael Anastassiades. Headboard upholstered in Chicago, Christopher Farr Cloth.





## INSPIRATION



**ROOFTOP TERRACE**  
Jolyon has created a second living space up here with a sofa fit for lounging and even an inbuilt music system. Latitude Set 3 furniture collection, Indian Ocean.