Bright ideas

Pens at the ready: interior designers reveal their top tips and contacts for achieving beautiful looks within budget



'We often source and collaborate with Studio27 (above), One Brick Lane and The Restoration. All three specialise in upscaling mid-century pieces to add warmth, colour and individuality while respecting the design and watching the budget.'
CAZ MYERS, cazmyers.com

'A simple trick is a cloth-covered table – be it a console, centre or side table. This can be a traditional treatment with a generous bullion fringe around the bottom or more modern, with a pleated or graphic fabric. A long cover is also really useful for hiding things behind.'
NICOLE SALVESEN, salvesengraham.com

'When shopping for projects, consider buying internationally rather than limiting yourself to the UK market. Try looking in the US for furniture, the Netherlands for amazing tapware and Germany for appliances.'
IRENE GUNTER, gunterandco.com



'FOR AFFORDABLE YET INSPIRING FABRICS, I RECOMMEND THE CLOTH SHOP (USED HERE) AND WARRIS VIANNI, BOTH IN WEST LONDON.'
GEORGINA CAVE, caveinteriors.com

'BE CANNY WITH WINDOW TREATMENTS. IT'S NOT ALWAYS NECESSARY TO HAVE HEFTY LINED AND INTERLINED FABRICS – A SIMPLE UNLINED BLIND CAN BE VERY EFFECTIVE AND MUCH LESS EXPENSIVE.'
EMILY TODHUNTER, todhunterearle.com

'In an open-plan kitchen and living area, hide away as many utilities as possible. I have a wall of built-in cupboards and behind the doors are the fridge freezer, washing machine, tumble dryer and all the cleaning products. I've decorated the fronts with framed botanical prints, which add a sweet focal point to the small kitchen space.'
MARTIN BRUDNIZKI, mbds.com



FEATURE ARABELLA YOUENS **PHOTOGRAPHS** (MARTIN BRUDNIZKI) JAMES MCDONALD; (TIFFANY DUGGAN) ALEXANDER JAMES



'A BOLD COLOUR CHOICE CAN REALLY ELEVATE A SCHEME, ESPECIALLY IN A SMALL GUEST ROOM. FOCUS IT ON ONE AREA – A HEADBOARD OR A BEDCOVER – TO PACK A STATEMENT PUNCH.'
TIFFANY DUGGAN, studioduggan.com

'Being creative with storage can make a room to feel larger and let the finishes come to life. Carve out a small walk-in larder or laundry room: this creates a task-driven area and keeps the kitchen walls free of cupboards. An unexpected benefit is it's less expensive too.'
PHILIPPA THORP, thorp.co.uk

'SMALL CHANGES CAN HAVE INSTANT IMPACT. FOLLOW THE SEASONS: ADD CUSHIONS AND THROWS AND LAYER RUGS AS WINTER TAKES HOLD; IN SUMMER, HANG VIBRANT SILK AND CRISP LINEN AT THE WINDOWS.'
TRICIA GUILD, designersguild.com



'Decorate walls with a stencil. It is an inexpensive but effective way to create a beautiful backdrop, as shown with this neat diamond design in a children's room.'
KATIE GLAISTER AND HENRY MILLER-ROBINSON, kandhdesign.co.uk

'WE TRAWL FLEA MARKETS AND LOOK TO THE HIGH STREET FOR HIDDEN GEMS, AND KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR INTERESTING COLLABORATIONS. A RECENT FAVOURITE FIND WAS SEBASTIAN COX'S BEDSIDE TABLE FOR MADE.'
SOPHIE COLLER, kitesgrove.com

'A mix of high-street and statement pieces can be particularly effective to get the most out of your budget – just make sure the investment item is truly a one-off. Edition 94 in South Kensington, London, is a treasure trove of vintage furniture and handcrafted homeware. Its founder, India Whalley, has a great eye for individual designs, which she sources from hidden corners around the world. I love the vintage side tables that she hand lacquers in bold colours (below) – each piece is unique and can be made in whatever colour you like.'
BEATA HEUMAN, beataheuman.com →

