



Creating a considered HOME OFFICE

Top interior designers reveal important factors in fashioning a chic and practical home office and reveal five contrasting solutions

Home offices by their very nature are functional, yet as the world adapts to increased flexibility around working arrangements, they also need to serve as quiet sanctuaries within which to focus attention and efforts on the task in hand. Where the work space of one individual may centre around a specific set of requirements, another may find their needs best suited to entirely different reference points –

fashioning a work space as a thoughtfully considered process can reap dividends to bring pleasure both to the home and the working day.

Be it small or large, multipurpose or single-function room, creating a home office demands a level of care and attention that sees form marry perfectly with function. Here, designers give their insights into creating a deftly balanced and harmonious union.



Katie Glaister and Henry Miller-Robinson, co-founders and owners of K&H Design, on creating a multifunctional room



Considered design and careful curation see much-loved pieces incorporated into a colour-led scheme for a home office that also doubles as a guest room.

The brief

“This project was all about curating, working and

reworking with the clients’ treasured items. They were keen to use craftsmen from the UK and from around the globe, and also wanted us to play around with colour and texture. Our clients wanted this first-floor room to be their study as well as their guest bedroom. We had to include their large and much-loved Biedermeier breakfront chest into the scheme, which was considered carefully in the reconfiguration of the space and tonally in this room. They also wanted the en-suite shower room to be a hidden gem for guests.”

Creating duality

“As the room plays to two functions, we designed the bespoke sofa to open into a deeply comfortable bed, whilst the en-suite shower room is concealed behind

a subtle floor-to-ceiling jib door. As the room is not large but there was a lot to fit in, we designed a beautifully curved and therefore space-saving desk. The detail includes neat inlay, tapered legs and cable management.

“The sofa is a playful take on a Knole sofa – it is smart and deeply comfortable. The cushions are in a soft Kelway velvet by GP & J Baker, with a subtle but satisfying contrast to the horsehair fabric from John Boyd Textiles used on the sides and back, finished with a studded detail.

“The curtains are a Soie de Lune and K&H Design collaboration, and are hand-dyed to our bespoke colour specification – this took three attempts before the perfect colour was achieved. They were handwoven in Vientiane, Laos.”

The en suite

“Our client was keen to embrace colour in the small en suite. Farrow & Ball’s Inchyra Blue was used as the base colour, and we brought through the warmer hues from the study and reflection from the 1960s Italian shield mirror and the Swedish Orrefors glass wall sconces. We like to mix metals, and so introduced the chrome taps and stand. The marriage of the basin and vanity was a triumph – the vanity unit is from Burlington Stone, with the decorative Moroccan basin sitting comfortably within the bold natural markings and multiple tones of the green stone.”

Use of colour

“We had fun playing with colour through design-led pieces in this room, including the red office chair, green table lamp, and the warm tones in the rug to unite the room.” ▶

OPPOSITE The curved desk, specially designed to fit the space, is a sleek contrast to the dynamic pattern of the Wiggle rug by Melissa Wyndham from Robert Stephenson. The red Colette office chair is by Baxter and the green table lamp is from Louis Poulsen. The copper convex mirror lends a further playful note.

ABOVE LEFT The smart pull-out sofa bed by K&H Design is upholstered in horsehair fabric and velvet.

ABOVE RIGHT Warm tones in the Pentreath & Hall bookbinding paper on the lampshade echo the blue hues of the en-suite bathroom, whilst the mirror and wall-mounted glass sconces reflect details from the study. The Biedermeier chest is just seen to the left of the doorway.