

THE UK'S  
BEST  
PROPERTIES  
REVEALED!

# 25 BEAUTIFUL HOMES

MAY  
2025

SEE INSIDE MORE REAL HOMES THAN ANY OTHER MAGAZINE

Create a  
feel-good  
home

DISCOVER DESIGNER  
TOP TIPS THAT CAN  
TRANSFORM EVERY ROOM

## IN THIS ISSUE

- DREAM KITCHENS
- COLOURFUL LIVING ROOMS
- CHIC BEDROOMS
- BRIGHT BATHROOMS

# Step up your style

INSPIRING IDEAS FOR PLANNING A FRESH NEW LOOK

Victorian  
townhouse

Dutch  
canal house

Modern barn  
conversion

Former  
rectory

Extended  
bungalow





# PLAY IT COOL

Calming tones are enriched by a wonderful edit of materials in this chic kitchen

WORDS AMELIA THORPE | PHOTOGRAPHY CHRISTOPHER HORWOOD



## ISLAND LIFE

The 'working' area of the kitchen is defined by the island, with hob and two sinks in easy reach. The fluted finish of the wall units is echoed in the detailing of the island drawers, adding texture to the finished look.

Bespoke painted cabinetry in Ash White with fluted island, aged brass handles and kick plates, all Ledbury Studio. Celestial Pebble pendant lights, Ochre.

Similar armchair, see Callista, Pierre Frey at Monologue.

Similar oak herringbone flooring, see The Natural Wood Floor Co. Interior design, Muza Lab





PROJECT  
DETAILS**DESIGNER**

Gildas Braine,  
senior designer,  
Ledbury Studio  
([ledburystudio.com](http://ledburystudio.com))

**PROPERTY**

Victorian  
detached house

**WORK**

New kitchen

**LOCATION**

Somerset

As part of a project to overhaul their home, the owners called on Gildas Braine of Ledbury Studio to transform the kitchen. 'The existing cabinetry was stripped out before I became involved,' recalls Gildas, 'so I started with a clean slate – an opportunity to create something totally bespoke.'

**1 THE WISH LIST**

Since Ledbury Studio is known for its interesting use of materials, the owners asked Gildas for a new kitchen which would celebrate the beauty of texture. 'They wanted a calm and warm feel, without anything too ornate, and with individuality drawn from the palette of materials,' explains Gildas. 'The couple have a young family and enjoy socialising, so the room also needed to be eminently practical and hard-working.'

**2 MAKING IT WORK**

'The layout fell into place quite naturally,' continues Gildas. 'The wide glazing at the end of the room left one main wall for a sweep of cabinetry to accommodate appliances, sink area and storage, with an island in a parallel position to serve as the hub of the space.' A coffee station slots in between the kitchen and dining area at the rear of the room, with pantry and built-in refrigeration cabinetry opposite.

**3 MIXING MATERIALS**

'We have a treasure trove of materials in our showroom, making a great way to play with samples and put together a palette with clients,' says Gildas. Here, the wall run of elegantly simple single panelled doors is painted in a gentle shade of off-white, with fluted glass wall cabinets to introduce an element of texture and visual interest. Bespoke aged brass handles and kick plates add a subtle touch of glamour, while a herringbone oak floor brings in warmth. 'More texture comes from the reeded finish of the island, echoing the glass of the wall cabinets,' he explains, 'while natural beauty comes from the quartzite worktops and splashback.' In contrast to the light and open main area of the kitchen, the rear of the room features cabinets finished in aged and patinated zinc. 'This finish adds a little edgy drama and depth,' he notes.

**4 COMPLETING THE LOOK**

A custom bookshelf with brass rails creates an area for displays and somewhere to store favourite recipe books, while also acting to disguise a structural pillar. 'Every detail counts in this room,' says Gildas, 'creating a space that feels special, as well as inviting and warm.'





## PALE AND INTERESTING

Shades of white and wood are complemented by touches of aged brass. The breakfast bar is defined by the Diamond quartzite base, made to match the worktop.

Diamond quartzite **worktops** and **splashback**; aged and patinated zinc **coffee station** and **refrigeration wall**, all Ledbury Studio. Beetle **counter chairs**, Gubi at Skandium. **Steam oven**, Wolf. **Oven, combination microwave, warming drawer, induction hob**, all Gaggenau. Built-in **extractor**, Westin. **Fridge, freezer, wine storage unit**, all Sub-Zero. Fully integrated **dishwasher**, Miele. Flex **boiling water 3-in-1 tap** and Fusion **boiling water tap** with filtered cold and sparkling water Cube system, Quooker, both **custom finished in Matt Dark Smoked Bronze** by Ledbury Studio. Zenuno15 undermounted **stainless steel sinks**, The 1810 Company. Evolution 250 **waste disposal unit**, Insinkerator





**'THE MIX OF LUXURIOUS TEXTURES ADDS WARMTH AND  
QUIET VISUAL INTEREST WITHOUT SHOUTING'**



**TOP TIP**

A niche within easy reach of the cooking and prep area is a neat space to store all your herbs and spices

