

# DECORATION HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

HOW TO MAKE IT SUPER STYLISH



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## DECORATION DECEMBER 2016

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filled with berries and greenery adds a festive touch to Enrica Stabile's shop and eatery in Milan, See more in The holly and



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### HOME

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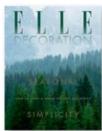
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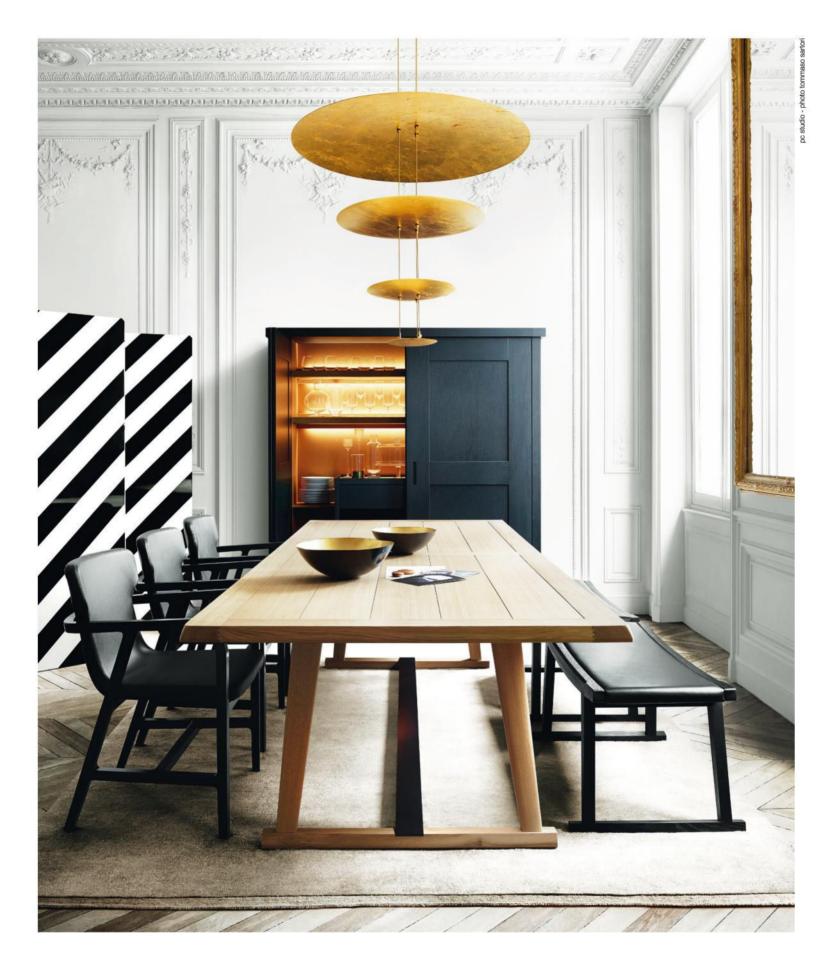




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#### THIS MONTH'S CONTRIBUTORS



#### Tom Hodgkinson

Twitter@idleracademy **Profession** Writer Feature The idler's Christmas, p41 Likes Bread, beer, bacon Home A terraced house in

Shepherd's Bush, which is actually

a kind of paradise. Wonderful community

Interiors style Modern medieval

Influences Old books. I'm currently reading Montaigne, which is full of fun and good sense Favourite colour Red - the colour of revolution

Three wishes Government to introduce a citizen's



#### Katie Treggiden

Twitter @katietreggiden **Profession** Writer Feature Lighting guides, p129 Likes Writing, swimming, live jazz Influences Ernest Hemingway, Wim Crouwel, and travel - the

former two for the pursuit of simplicity and clarity in my writing and the latter for a stream of ideas Home In the Surrey Hills - the connection to nature is the perfect antidote to all that travel in a draughty old Edwardian house that my husband and I have been renovating for six ve



#### Molly Hutchinson

Instagram @mol\_hutch **Profession** ELLE Decoration's new Editorial Intern

Interiors style I love simplistic, understated design and bright injections of colour, so my style

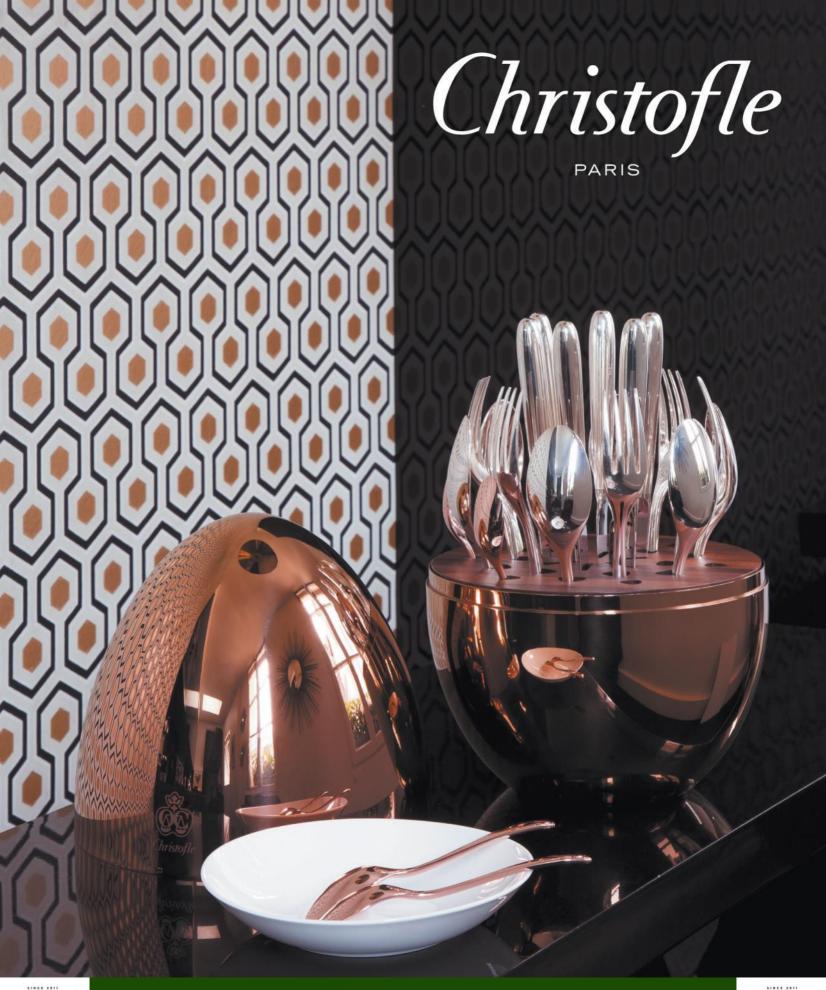
combines playful pattern with order and simplicity Favourite design object I am a big stationery enthusiast. I don't think that you can beat a beautifully designed notebook

Influences I love the material qualities of sculpture Favourite colour It changes a lot, but it always seems





.....















### CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN

I'm on a countdown to Christmas. For the fun and festivities? I'm afraid not, rather it's the deadline I've set myself for getting my house finished. By which I mean *all* of those outstanding jobs and design decisions sorted. I even made a list. It was rather long and a touch daunting. And my key motivator is not incoming guests or the very need-to-be-cosy-ness of winter, simply that I want to go into 2017 and not have to think about it anymore. No more sample pots, no more swatches, no more weekends deliberating over kickboards or trims (see last month's letter). It. Must. Be. Finished! I want to be able to enjoy my home, not still be living in the midst of project incomplete come the new year.

The thing is, decorating is hard; so many decisions, each resting on the shoulders of another. I always have a very clear idea of how I want any room or space to *feel*. I absolutely know the colours, materials and brands I love. But visualising a coordinated dialogue between the two can be painfully slow. It's the difficulty of knowing that something needs to be changed, but not being quite sure what to change it to. It can be fun, once you're into the swing of it and see things come together before your eyes. And, as I've often said before, it's always worth it in the end. But the endless options (something of an

### 'For me, Christmas decorating is all about the tree (six-foot fir, real), topped with a wonky homemade angel courtesy of the two-year-old'

occupational hazard if you're sitting in my chair); and the inevitable waiting for professional help (because once I can see it in my mind's eye, I want everything done yesterday, natch), can be frustrating.

And then along comes Christmas. That said, I find Christmas decorating, by contrast, super-easy. It's always all about the tree (six-foot Nordmann fir, real). It's decorated with fairy lights (white with green wires), baubles collected from year to year (theme: clear glass or white), and topped with a wonky homemade angel courtesy of the two-year-old. It sits right at the heart of our home, facing the front door. We endlessly trip over the branches, and the dogs go mad for chewing the decorations, but it's the closest thing to a family tradition we have, so it's a must. I don't do tinsel, or have cards everywhere, although I'm tempted to get busy with oranges as demonstrated in our festive home on p96, or perhaps create a chalkboard tree as seen on p74. So many ideas, so many *more* choices! Hopefully, though, this issue will make light work of *your* festive decorating. Now, I must get back to my pre-Christmas list...

 $\textbf{PS...} \ If you find yourself in need of even more ideas, go to elledecoration. co.uk/inspiration/Christmas and check out our festive moodboard$ 

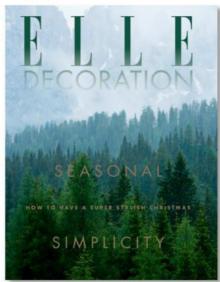
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# STYLE



### The gift list

In time for the festive season we've turned our monthly wish list into the ultimate gift selection. Whoever you're shopping for, get them something that #EDloves...

Roses and reds 1 Kelly Hoppen's 'Pablo' vase is perfect for anyone who's caught the pink trend bug. £28 (kellyhoppen.com) 2 Are-edition of a 1954 design by Luciano Gaspari, these 'Pinnacoli' ornaments will delight glass lovers. £1,876 each, Salviati (salviati.com) 3 Brighten someone's morning coffee ritual with this red espresso cup and saucer. £49, Mud Australia (mudaustralia.com) 4 Designed by Italian duo Brogliato Troverso and handmade in Venice, the glass 'Nelly' table light features a colourful and interchangeable 'hat' shade. £250, Cameron Peters Fine Lighting (cameron peters.co.uk)

5 Give your Christmas tree some Op Art-style with this red-and-white striped bauble. £6, The Conran Shop (conranshop.co.uk) 6 Habitat's 'Mulray' bauble features an on-trend wash of colour. £10 for two (habitat.co.uk)

7 Treat a beloved pooch to one of these 'Classic' dog beds. From £164.50 each, Mungo & Maud (mungoandmaud.com)



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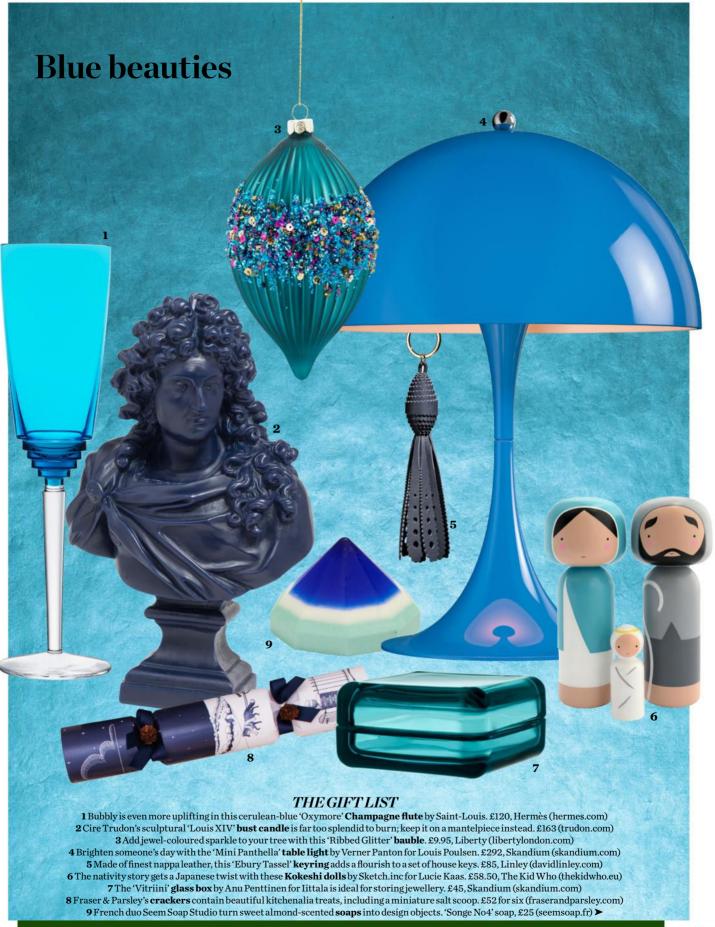






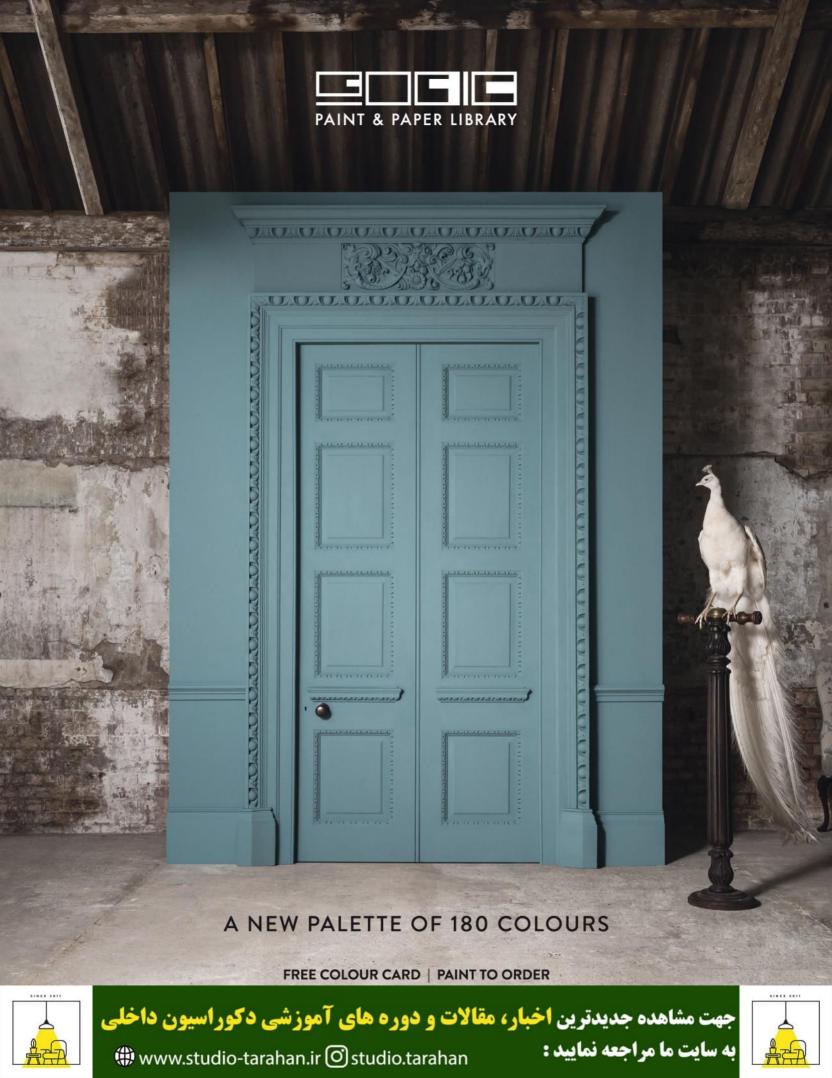














1 We love the antique look of this delicately patterned 'Remolinos' earthenware dinner plate. £8, Oka (oka.com)

2 American designer John Derian's bird illustration adorns this pretty teapot. £260, Astier de Villatte (astierdevillatte.com)

3 This ceramic owl decoration by Oiva Toikka is inspired by his famous glass bird designs. £17 for a set of three, Iittala (iittala.com)

4 Norm Architects' elegantly minimalist marble clock for Menu also comes in black or green. £220, SCP (scp.co.uk)

5 Patricia Urquiola's 'Serena T' lamp was inspired by leaves and comes in a copper, aluminium or black nickel finish. £424, Flos (flos.com)

6 Chisel & Mouse's 'Trellick Tower' plaster model is just the gift for fans of Brutalist architecture. £150 (chiselandmouse.com)

7 This vase by Stoke pottery Lyngard is hand-painted with a marble pattern. £79, Harrods (harrods.com)

8 Use this 'Audley' silver treats tin for sweets or pet snacks. £45, Soho Home (sohohome.com) ➤











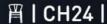


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### **BLACK EDITION**



WISHBONE CHAIR HANS J. WEGNER • 1950

"Master of the Chair" that is how Danish furniture designer Hans J. Wegner is known all over the world. The CH24, popularly known as the Wishbone chair, exemplifies this with excellence. Created from pure natural materials, it

is a brilliant example of Danish cabinet making traditions represented for generations by Carl Hansen & Søn. Discover the black version of the CH24 chair along with other Black Edition design classics at your nearest Carl Hansen & Søn dealer.



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Follow our four steps to give your visitors a comfortable, memorable stay

Prepping a guest room is an art, and at no time of the year is the skill more in demand than at Christmas. Getting it right is partly about anticipating your visitors' particular needs, but there are plenty of things you can have on hand that will improve any guest's stay. Here are our top tips

Number one, of course, is cosy, stylish bedding. Think natural fibres only, and avoid busy pattern and bright shades, which aren't restful for everyone. Cloth & Clay's bedding comes in an understated palette and includes the 'Hue' range of reversible linens, so guests can choose their colour preference (from £135 for a double set; clothnclay.com). Add a throw or quilt at the bottom of the bed in case the temperature drops, and extra pillows so that people can prop themselves up to read.

On the bedside table should be a reading lamp, a small music system that doubles as an alarm clock, and a water carafe. If your loved ones are of a sensitive disposition, it does no harm to add a silk eye mask, too.

A thoughtful host provides luxuries alongside essentials, and sweeps away clutter from surfaces in advance of guests' arrival – we like Sofa.com's upholstered storage

A host should also equip their visitors with dressing gowns, slippers and a hot water bottle; a spare phone charger, paracetamol and earplugs will also be gratefully received. They arrange books and magazines (the latest copy of ELLE Decoration, for instance!) within easy reach.

Last but not least, ensure that guests have spare storage space to use and create some atmosphere with welcoming scent: think fresh flowers, lavender pillow spray spritzed on the bedlinen and an aromatherapy candle.

♣ For more bedrooms ideas visit elledecoration.co.uk/ inspiration/bedrooms

> Main image Linen double duvet set, £79.99, H&M Home (hm.com). Cushion by Au Maison (aumaison.dk) – find similar at Made With Love Designs (madewithlovedesigns.co.uk)

Right, from top Dressing gown, £99, Toast (toa.st). Towels, from £4, Coze (cozelinen.com). White Lavender Sleep Set, £30, The White Company (thewhitecompany.com). Slippers, £69, Toast (toa.st)

Centre, from left 'B11' side table by Bord Bord, £230, A Splash of Colour (asplashofcolour.com). Table lamp, £58, Oliver Bonas (oliverbonas.com). 'Earth' candle, £38, Elemental Herbology (elementalherbology.com). Carafe set, £51.60. Nude Glass (nudeglass.com). 'R1 MK3' digital radio



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#### **ALL THE TRIMMINGS**

Crackers and wrapping paper are festive essentials. We visit two historic London department stores to discover how they create the best of the best



#### **HARRODS**

THE GIFT WRAPPING EXPERT

The doyenne of department stores, Harrods excels at Christmas customer service. Its Gift Wrapping Service was introduced in 1953 – promising to 'add a professional touch to your presents' – and was originally only available to those purchasing with a personal shopper. It is now open year-round, to all, and has recently increased in size, occupying a new space on the third floor.

Shoppers take a ticket and wait their turn, then start by picking from the 40 permanent and ten festive wrapping papers. Next, they choose a generous length of top-notch ribbon in any hue from the swatch books on the counter, and finally a jazzy garnish: this

### The wrapping service has a huge range of papers, ribbons and garnishes

could be an old-fashioned miniature toy, or a fresh bunch of crimson viburnum berries supplied by Harrods' in-house florist Moyses Stevens. Shop on the weekends of 5–6 or 26–27 November and you can have your label handwritten in calligraphy for free.

Every gift will be packaged beautifully. The 2016 job description for a Temporary Gift Wrapping Associate (rumoured to be one of the most hotly-applied-for Christmas positions) cites creativity as an essential skill, as 'we wrap everything from engagement rings to helicopters!' – see a video of the gift-wrappers in action at elledecoration.co.uk. Wrapping service from £6.50 (harrods.com).



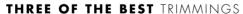
Founded in 1707, Fortnum & Mason has trailblazed throughout its history, but of special interest at Christmas is the company's championing of cutting-edge crackers. Yes, really!

'What is now restaurant 45 Jermyn St was, during the 1920s, a hall dedicated entirely to showcasing crackers that had been developed using pioneering technology,' Fortnum's in-house archivist Dr Andrea Tanner tells us. 'There were three kinds: the Pulling Cracker, which is the cracker as we know it today; the show-stopping, super-sized Standing Cracker, which, at a pull of a string, would explode and shower the party with smaller varieties;

### This year's star-shaped, six-person cracker is inspired by a past design

and the Table Cracker, which everyone gathered around the table would all pull together.' The latter inspired this year's showpiece: a star-shaped, six-person cracker (above, £65). Containing whistles and sheet music, six crowns and an amusing scroll written by Stephen Fry, it comes in Fortnum's signature minty *eau de nil* hue.

Christmas buyer Joe Guest confirms that cracker sales have increased year on year. He expects to see customers returning for the ever-popular 'King Of Crackers' (£1,000 for six), which are velvet-covered and rattle with treasures – this year's include a rose-gold-plated tea infuser and a scarf (fortnumandmason.com).





'Monochrome' crackers by Katie Leamon, £40 for six Handmade and filled with useful treats, from plant markers to soap (katieleamon.com).





Wrapsody gift wrapping service, from £3 for a present This company's 'wrapologists' create beautiful bespoke finishes (wrapsody.co.uk).

Crackers by Toast, £39 for six Decorated in the brand's signature warming, cosy colours, these will suit sophisticated table settings (toa.st).



CHARLOTTE BROOK PICTURES: GETTY, ALAMY

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#### THE LINE THAT MAKES LUXURY A VIRTUE.

The Virtuoso collection has all the best features a mattress can offer. Every model has a refined look and combines fine quality materials with elegantly sophisticated fabrics, and the most precious fibres Nature has to offer. The mattress cover, in shiny viscose, is embellished by a decorative motif of Florentine lilies. The layers of Mallow Foam, Memoform, Eliosoft and Elioform, to guarantee a correct support and a snug but firm comfort. The mattresses have a warm side whose filling is in cashmere, camelhair, Merino wool and horsehair, whilst the cool side is filled with a mix of linen, cotton, horsehair and silk.

Chose the most suitable solution for you.







## Craft the perfect Christmas

Deck your walls, table and gifts with sprigs of foliage from your garden - or a local florist - for a festive look that is natural and easy to achieve

Words JACKIE DALY Photography BART BRUSSEE/COCOFEATURES.COM Styling MARLIES DOES



## Snow globes

Clear baubles filled with greenery offer a fresh take on seasonal decoration. Look for 'fillable' glass globes (there's a good selection on Amazon; amazon.co.uk).



### 2 Brown paper packages

Create your own giftwrap with packing paper (try your local post office; postofficeshop.co.uk), string and a few sprigs of greenery. Natural linen (available from John Lewis; johnlewis.com) adorned with gold stickers works well, too.

### 3 Glass act

Recycle clear glass wine bottles to create candleholders. Fill the bottles (Lakeland sells sets of six; lakeland.co.uk) with water, add greenery and place a tapered candle in the top.

### 4 Window dressing

Bend coat hangers into circles and wrap foliage around the bottom half: we used asparagus fern and eucalyptus leaves to dress these minimalist wreaths.

#### 5 Star attraction

Gather a selection of large ivy leaves and cut out star shapes from them using a cookie cutter. Tape the stars to garden twine and display as





### Style | CHRISTMAS















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Cambridge 120 East Road CB1 1DB 01223 368828

Colchester 43-45 London Road CO3 9AJ 01206 363200

Knightsbridge 172 Brompton Road **SW3 1HW** 0207 838 0588

Mayfair 44-48 Wigmore Street W1U 2RY 0207 935 0177

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## The Idler's Christmas

Rushed off your feet this festive season? Tom Hodgkinson - aka The Idler counsels us to remember the tradition of winding down and making merry

As Christmas looms, the last thing on our minds is sitting around doing nothing. Christmas requires a lot of frantic rushing and stress: dashing around the shops buying presents, bustling about putting up decorations, worrying about food and getting anxious about family rows. Somewhere out there, we are encouraged to believe, is the 'perfect' Christmas, and it's going to take a lot of money and work to achieve the dream.

This is a shame, because the real point of Christmas is to take a rest, to feast and dance. Christmas takes place when the nights are longest and the ground is coldest. In the old days it made sense to throw a massive party at a point when it was just not possible to work outdoors. 'Winter is the farmer's lazy time,' Virgil wrote. It is the time for staying

in by the fire and warming our bellies with spiced wine.

In the 1930s, journalist GK Chesterton teased his readers for getting the festivities all wrong. 'The Christmas season is domestic,' he wrote, 'and for that reason most people now prepare for it by struggling in

tramcars, standing in queues, rushing away in trains, crowding despairingly into tea shops, and wondering whether they will ever get home.' Far better, he argued, that we stay at home and simply muck about: 'If Christmas could become more domestic, instead of less, I believe there could be a vast increase in the real Christmas spirit; the spirit of the Child.'

This is the sort of Christmas that was celebrated at Camelot, according to the great medieval poem Sir Gawain and the Green Knight. Christmas in those days really did last twelve days or longer, and no one was allowed to work. 'For there the feast was alike full fifteen days,/with all the meat and mirth men could devise.' Candles were lit to illuminate dark nights and a huge piece of wood - called the Yule Log - was thrown onto an open fire, which would burn for days. It was also a time for hospitality and charity, with grand households expected to feed the poor.

This sort of merry, lavish Christmas came under attack during the reign of Cromwell. To the Puritans, Christmas was a hopelessly pagan and old-fashioned idea. So they banned it.



In 1645 Parliament abolished Christmas: for the 15 years before Charles II was restored to the throne, it was illegal to celebrate the feast and shops were encouraged to stay open.

Christmas also underwent a decline during the Industrial Revolution, when attempts were made by factory owners to transform us from a nation of hard partiers into hard workers. Christmas was reduced from twelve days to one,

> and employees were allowed only two days holiday per year. But when Charles Dickens' tale A Christmas Carol was published in 1843, everything changed, and the season regained its character as a feast for the senses. The modern, miserable, industrial spirit of money-making and hard work was lampooned in the figure of Scrooge, and the medieval spirit was celebrated through the amiable Fezziwigs.

How can we bring the medieval and Dickensian spirit into our homes this year? The answer is to keep it simple and to share the work. First, take as much time off as possible. Then send children out to collect ivy: free decorations! [Head to p38 to discover how to turn foliage into garlands, baubles and more.] Buy presents online ahead of time. Delegate as much as you possibly can. And make sure you have a short nap every afternoon. That is a life-saver.

Sing: I heartily recommend Cerys Matthews' songbook Hook, Line and Singer. Dance: last year my family searched 'Scottish reeling' on Youtube - it's the best form of dancing because all ages can join in. The spirit of Christmas is freedom, so it's time to do what you want and do it your way without worrying what anyone else thinks. Tom Hodgkinson is editor of The Idler (idler.co.uk)

> Illustration **BABETH LAFON**



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This Christmas,

delegate as much

as you can and make

sure you have a nap

every afternoon







## **OUR VIEW OF THE COUNTRY**

The perfect Christmas present for design lovers and inspiration seekers this year is a copy of the new ELLE Decoration Country, our bi-annual book of the world's most beautiful rural homes





THE MOST INSPIRING HOMES IN THE COUNTRY

#### What is ELLE Decoration Country?

It's a highly collectable bi-annual magazine dedicated to the world's most inspiring countryside homes, published by the team behind ELLE Decoration UK.

Why should I buy it? Packed with interiors inspiration, it fuses the ELLE Decoration contemporary sensibility with a love of nature and the rural world.

Sounds great! What's inside? Volume 9, the Autumn/Winter 2016 edition, covers everything from homespun hideaways to innovative new builds. Explore a grand chalet perched high in the Italian Alps (right), a cosy Le Corbusier-inspired bolthole in a French forest and a modern home (above) with an interior that looks like it's from another era. Plus, discover 50 essential designs that are both beautiful and useful (right) and our directory of names to know.

Where can I get it? Find it in WHSmith and selected independent newsagents, or order online with free post and packaging at hearstmagazines.co.uk/ed/deco-country-9

Volume 9! Can I still buy the last eight? Yes, they're all available online too! Visit elledecoration.co.uk/country for more information on how to collect them all.

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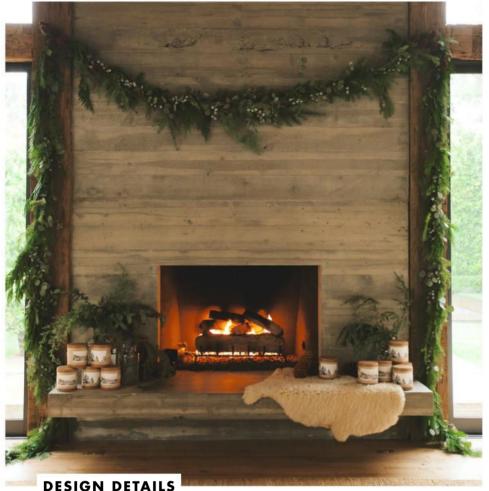
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FIREPLACES

Give your existing hearth a contemporary update, or design and build a new one with our expert quide

There's nothing like the flicker of flames to add a cosy glow to a living space, and the good news is that you can install a focal-point fire even without an existing chimney and hearth. To create a clean and contemporary look like this one, there are two options, according to Amy Grieve of The Platonic Fireplace Company (platonicfireplaces.co.uk). 'If you do have a chimney, start by getting it swept and have an integrity test done to make sure it's structurally sound.' Depending on the width of your chimneybreast and flue, it's possible to knock out an opening to make it wider. 'Bear in mind, though, that with a bigger opening you may need to fit an extractor fan or gather hood, to help pull combustion fumes out of the room. You may also need a fresh air vent to allow air in,' she says. These tips apply whether

### Natural stone such as limestone or slate is the most suitable material for a hearth, as it is impervious to heat and can run all the way into the fireplace

you have decided to go for a real fire or an open gas option. If you don't have a chimney, a glass-fronted balanced-flue gas fire, which is a completely sealed unit that can be installed with flue ducting (piping that leads to an exit vent in the wall) is your best option. 'You can also build in a fake chimneybreast,' says Grieve.

In terms of the hearth itself, natural stone such as limestone or slate is the most suitable material, as it is impervious to heat and can run all the way into the fireplace. Materials like concrete or marble will crack if directly under the heat source, but can be combined with more stable stone if you love the look. A gas burner can then be set in and topped with ceramic logs to mimic a classic fire. If vou don't have a gas supply, bottled gas such as LPG (Liquid Propane Gas) is also

#### **FOUR OF THE BEST**

FIREPLACE SUPPLIERS

#### Best for bespoke fire surrounds **Modus Fireplaces**

From its north London studio. Modus offers a range of custom-made fireplaces and completely bespoke options clad in everything from steel to leather. Milespit Hill, London NW7 (modusfireplaces.com)



#### Best for classic and contemporary surrounds Chesney's

This well-established manufacturer has a wide selection of handcrafted stone fire surrounds including designs by Barbara Hulanicki, Tim Gosling and Jane Churchill. 194-200 Battersea Park Road, London SW11 (chesneys.co.uk)



#### Best for antique surrounds Jamb

One of the most extensive collections

of antique fireplaces in the country. The company also offers a bespoke service and can advise on how to create fireplaces with the correct sizing and historical detail for your room. 95-97 Pimlico Road, London SW1 (jamb.co.uk)



#### Best for balanced-flue gas fires Acquisitions

The energy-efficient, remote-controlled 'X-Fires' range of gas fires come complete with a timer and a thermostat and run on natural or bottled gas. Acquisitions House, 24-26 Holmes Road, London, NW5 (acquisitions.co.uk)







Jason Cherrington, director of Lapicida, gives us the low-down on the styles of the moment, and how to use them

What is marble? Marble is a hard type of limestone that is formed under heat and pressure. Some coloured varieties are actually quartzites or sodalites, which have a different geological make up but are often classified as 'marble'. We usually associate marble with Italy, but every region of the globe has its own varieties with unique characteristics.

What are the most popular varieties? The current trend is for monochrome options, such as white Arabescato and Statuario, or black Portoro, but more colourful versions are also becoming popular (see *Nine of the best*, opposite). Where can I use marble in the home? Each marble will have particular properties that make it suitable or unsuitable for certain applications. For instance, some have a high flexible strength, which makes them good for stairs, whereas others are brittle if cut too thin. Sheet marble in tiles or slabs can be used for floors, walls and worktops, and honed marble, rather than polished, is preferable for the kitchen, because its surface is more forgiving when it comes to disguising marks caused by acidic foods, such as vinegar or citrus juice. How is it installed? Fitting natural stone is a specialist job. Buy your marble from a company that supplies and fits, or at least provides a list of recommended fitters. You can choose between pre-cut or bespoke slabs, and your choice should depend on the shape and size of the room. For expansive surfaces, pre-cut marble will be around 40 per cent cheaper than bespoke slabs, but if the room is small or has awkward angles it will be more cost-effective to opt for marble that has been cut to fit. It is vital that all marble is sealed once installed for full protection. Decorative effects can be achieved by contrasting or 'book matching' the marbles, using the natural veining to create patterns. Is it easy to maintain? It is a myth that marble is a high-maintenance surface



Detail (top and above) Be inspired by the multicoloured Street, London, designed by local practice Casper Mueller



marble floor found in Céline's concept store on Mount Kneer Architects. The show-stopping design is made up of 5,000 pieces, incorporating eight different types of stone in various hues (cmk-architects.com)



#### NINE OF THE BEST MARBLES

From minimal designs with subtle veining to options with intense colour and characterful markings



'Rosa Pietro' by Via Arkadia
The main characteristic of this stone is
the purple veins set against a stark white
background. From approximately £360
per square metre (via-arkadia.co.uk).



'Calacatta Zebrino' by Ann Sacks
Quarried in the mountains of Tuscany's Carrara
area, the unusual contrast of grey veining with
cream and gold makes this a unique find. From
£302 per square metre (annsacks.com).



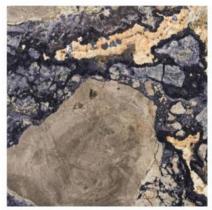
'Gris du Marais' by Salvatori
This is the Italian brand's signature marble.
It is a classic stone characterised by its
dappled grey effect and swathes of veining.
From £348 per square metre (salvatori.it).



'Rojo Alicante' by Mandarin Stone
Looking to inject a splash of luxurious colour?
Be bold and try this rich ochre-red marble,
which has a contrasting cream vein throughout.
£108 per square metre (mandarinstone.com).



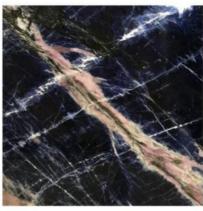
'Apuan Fantasy' by Antolini
With all the gradations of grey in one slab,
'Apuan Fantasy' shows the passage of time
clearly, creating a striking effect. Price
on application (antolini.com).



'Ball Eye Blue' by Britannicus Stone
One of Britain's rarest stones, this is a natural
conglomerate from Derbyshire that mixes
royal blue with amethyst and gold. £1,800 per
square metre (britannicus-stone.co.uk).



'Grigio Orobico' by Marble Granite Limestone Warehouse An Italian classic that decorates the Vatican



'Azul Sodalite' by The Stone Collection
Quarried in the Bolivian Andes, this blue marble
is coveted for its natural beauty From £6 000



**'Graphite' by Lapicida** An alternative to Nero Marquina, this new <u>Italian option is dark grey with white vei</u>ns



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Whatever your tiling project or aesthetic, the experts at **Topps Tiles** are sure to have everything you need

It's all too easy to think of statement furniture as the 'hero' pieces of an interior when really it's the supporting structure – the floors and walls – that offers the most scope for creating the foundation for truly great design within your home.

Enter Topps Tiles. With over 50 years of experience, it is the UK's leading tile specialist, offering the latest in tile design with exclusive ranges and unrivalled value and choice. The perfect port of call, in other words, for everything from simple splashbacks to statement walls and floors for both indoors and out.

Whatever your look – minimalist or opulent, rustic or Scandi-inspired – visit one of over 350 Topps Tiles stores across the UK for friendly expert advice on the best designs and specialist materials to suit your needs. Or go online, where you'll find a wealth of advice at your fingertips, including trend reports, photo galleries and a room visualiser that will let you plan your perfect interior in detail.

Advocates for open-plan living, for example, might want to find out more about the Topps Tiles 'XL Stadia' range

glossy finish, these extra-large porcelain tiles replicate real marble on a grand scale, allowing you to create a seamless living space with minimal grout lines for an opulent, open feel. The 'Albus' floor tile (opposite) pairs the look of marble with the practicality and easy maintenance of porcelain by replicating the white of Carrara marble to give a timeless, authentic-looking finish.

Anyone looking to create a more personalised interior, meanwhile, should look to a collection such as 'Attingham' and its 'Geometric Decor' tiles (above, right). Available in five patterns and finishes, they can be mixed, matched and laid in a number of ways (vertical, horizontal, herringbone) to create an eye-catching feature or accent to other tiles from the main range.

Alternatively, something as simple as choosing a different colour of grout is an effective way to tailor a finish, whether from the 'Bistro' range (right) or any other. As you'll quickly gather, this is one design experience where, as the saying goes, the only limit is your imagination.



**Top left** 'Stadia' floor tiles in 'Cliff', £80.30 per square metre **Top right** 'Attingham Geometric Decor' tiles in 'Seagrass', £16.49 per box **Above** Black, white and grey 'Bistro' floor tiles, £56.18 per square metre **Opposite** 'Albus' floor tiles, £64.80 per square metre. 'Diamante Pastels' tiles in 'Sky', £35 per square metre





# vitra.



Lounge Chair Twill & Ottoman Design: Charles & Ray Eames, 1956

www.vitra.com/loungechair







The department store for the home: a one-stop shop where you can find everything from mattresses to light fittings. Discover our top picks and reader discount

Did you know that Heal's was responsible for introducing Britons to the modern mattress? When founder John Harris Heal set up shop in London's Rathbone Place in 1810, featherbeds were a novelty from France, but must have been a welcome innovation for Brits accustomed to ones filled with straw. Ever since, Heal's has remained a mattress specialist: its Sleep Studio sells five different types, all handmade in the UK using traditional methods.

Since the store's flagship opened on Tottenham Court Road in 1818, beds and bedroom furniture have continued to play a big role in its success. But now its offering has expanded hugely to include items for every imaginable area of the home. Shoppers will find concessions and selected pieces by big international furniture brands such as Fritz Hansen, Moroso, Vitra and Porada; a lighting department where designs by Anglepoise and Tom Dixon sit alongside a 'pick & mix' bar of light fittings, ceiling roses and cables; and a selection of carefully curated vintage pieces, including beautiful rugs.

When designer Sir Ambrose Heal joined the family firm in 1893, the store's furniture acquired a reputation for being the most directional in Britain. It was the era of the Arts & Crafts movement, which championed hand-carved wooden furniture. So important was Heal's furniture at this time that Ambrose Heal received a knighthood in 1933 for raising British design standards.

Today, Heal's honours this commitment to craft through its range of handmade wooden furniture and makers, among them Luke Bishop and Yuta Segawa. New this season is the elegant but sturdy 'Cooks Table', inspired by country kitchens, and the 'Blythe' bedroom collection, which filters Arts & Crafts style through a contemporary lens and is named after Blythe House, the west London home of the Heal's archive at the V&A. This winter,

there's also the exciting 'Design Africa' showcase, which spotlights the continent's most exciting talents in ceramics, glass and textiles.

The best place to see the complete Heal's offering is at the Tottenham Court Road store, a three-storey space built in the Venetian palazzo style with a stunning spiral staircase. The brand also has branches in Westbourne Grove, Kingston upon Thames, Brighton and Redbrick Mill in West Yorkshire. Also, check out its revamped website for an easy way to shop. heals.com >





From top Arts & Crafts ideas meet contemporary style in the 'Blythe' bedroom collection, from £195 for the vanity mirror. Heal's introduces feather-filled mattresses to the UK. The impressive spiral staircase in the Tottenham Court Road store. 'Overton' dining table, £13,110; 'Porto' chairs. £1.518 each both



#### DESTINATION STORE HEAL'S

A wealth of new furniture and accessories is hitting the shop floor at Heal's this season. Here's our pick of the best buys



'Mr Clarke' wall clock by Newgate, £60
This minimalist design is timelessly
elegant and will look perfect displayed
in any room of the house.



'Shibuya' vase by Christophe Pillet for Kartell, £96 An innovative plastic moulding technique creates bold bands of colour on this vibrant vessel.



'Basil Pyramid' side table by Arthur Leitner for Petite Friture, £281
We love this French brand's quirky, modern pieces, including this powdercoated steel and cork side table.



'Ro Easy' chair by Jaime Hayón for Fritz Hansen, £2,327 Influenced by Arne Jacobsen's iconic chair designs this





**'Balmoral' four-seater sofa, from £3,199** An update of the traditional Chesterfield design with clean lines and a high back and arms. It looks



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'Knitted' pendant lights by Janie Textiles, £156 each Made using merino wool, these beauties come in a selection of colours and shapes.



'Monochromatic' dinnerware by Mervyn Gers, from £16 This Cape Town potter's work forms part of Heal's exclusive new 'Design Africa' range.



'Terreria' bookshelf by Archea Associati for Moroso, £156 per piece (£4,680 as pictured)  $This \, modular \, shelving \, unit, made \, from \, stoneware, makes \, a \, textural \, style \, statement.$ 



'Francis Round' wall mirror by Petite Friture, £450 A functional work of art, with a painterly design that evokes the effect of paints clouding in water.







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Six fascinating facts you need to know about this historic design superstore

• In 1810, the year that Heal's first opened its doors, several other momentous things happened: Jane Austen wrote Sense & Sensibility and Beethoven composed Für Elise.



• In the 19th century, Heal's was one of the first retailers to print advertisements in the newly popular serialised novels of the era (among them Charles Dickens *Bleak House*, left). Its in-store Mansard Gallery, opened in 1917, was the first UK space to exhibit Modigliani's art.



• Sitting on a window ledge on the Tottenham Court Road store's 1916 spiral staircase is a large bronze cat by French sculptor Chassagne. Sir Ambrose Heal bought it in 1925 and loved it so much that he refused all offers to sell it; it has remained on the staircase ever since.

- Heal's offers a Styling Service to help you get your interior just as you want it to be, and will make bespoke pieces to commission including made-to-measure wardrobes.
- Today, the store is known for its collaborations with up-and-coming designers, notably through its fantastic 'Heal's Discovers' range. New pieces this season include Tim Summers' 'Flip' desk (right), a solid oak design that rethinks the traditional bureau for modern home workers.

• The Heal's website has several handy guides that are invaluable for design fans – among them tips for what to consider when buying lighting, sofas and rugs, plus care guides for leather and marble.

## 15%~OFF for every reader

SHOP THE LATEST HEAL'S COLLECTIONS WITH YOUR EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNT

**HOW IT WORKS** To receive your 15% discount, visit your nearest branch of Heal's with this month's issue of ELLE Decoration and show this page at the till. Alternatively, shop online at heals.com and enter the promotional code ED15 at the checkout. The discount is available from 7–23 November\*

## JOIN ELLE DECORATION AT HEAL'S FOR A CHRISTMAS SHOPPING PARTY!

On 8 December from 6–9pm, #TeamED is co-hosting a Christmas shopping evening at the Heal's Tottenham Court Road store. There will be food and drink, bars on every floor and a live musical performance from Pop Choir, as well as the chance to shop the new collections and our curated design picks. Find out more at heals.com/events

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MY CULTURAL LIFE MARGARET HOWELL

We ask a tastemaker what they are reading, watching, listening to and downloading

Fashion designer Margaret Howell is a fervent supporter of British Modernist design; her London store has staged exhibitions of Ercol furniture and in September she launched two new colours for the 'Type 75' lamp, created in collaboration with Anglepoise (@margarethowell; margarethowell.co.uk)

The song that makes me feel instantly happy is Ike and Tina Turner's *River Deep, Mountain High* (3). I love the energy of its Motown sound, which takes me straight back to all those raw teenage emotions.

I'm currently reading Leanne Shapton's Swimming Studies (2; Penguin, £12.99). I've always been a keen swimmer, so it's a special pleasure. She conveys the discipline, rituals and rigour of Olympic training, but also gives us eccentric digressions and surprises. For example, for her own recreational swimming, she relaxes by wearing pieces from her collection of vintage swimming costumes, which are lovingly illustrated in the book.

Music has always been important to me - since the

early days listening to Radio Caroline and The Rolling Stones (6) performing at Eel Pie Island. But I like challenges as well as the familiar, and it was a great pleasure when a friend took me to Wigmore Hall for a concert of Bartók, Ligeti and Kurtág. The work of these Hungarian composers might seem 'difficult', but I found it exciting and full of energy.

The last exhibition I saw was 'Evelyn Dunbar: The Lost Works' at Pallant House Gallery in Chichester. I like the intimacy of small out-of-town galleries, and would rank Dunbar alongside Stanley Spencer and Eric Ravilious.

My favourite film is Wim Wenders' *Pina*, his 2011 documentary about choreographer Pina Bausch (4). It is so visually powerful; I can watch it repeatedly. Bausch's choreography is, for me, the best of modern dance, integrating music, costume, location and movement.

STUE

5



SWIMMING STUDIES

A free day in London would combine a bike ride to swim in my local lido, a walk along the north bank of the River Thames (7) and an exhibition. Or, for something rather different, I'd meet my daughter and granddaughter for lunch or tea at the Garden Museum near Lambeth Bridge. I'd then head home via the Thames Clippers river bus to Greenwich, but if I was really indulging myself, I'd have dinner first at the Soho restaurant Great Queen Street.

My favourite quote is from Berthold Lubetkin, the post-war Russian émigré architect: 'Nothing is too good for ordinary people.' He built some great private and council housing in Britain as well as the imaginative, now sadly unused Penguin Pool at London Zoo.

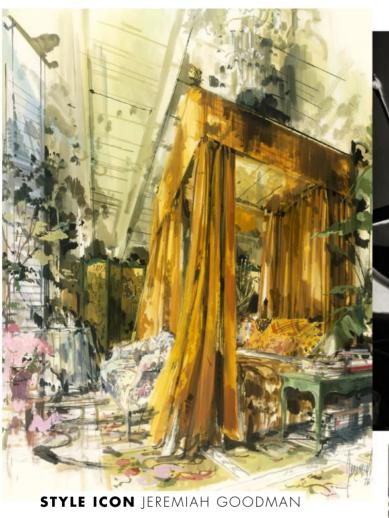
I have two favourite destinations. Alvar Aalto's house in Helsinki (5) and the Shetland Islands (1). I love more or less everything that Aalto designed. I own one of his original, now battered, '60' stools, and a glass jug and

tumblers designed by his wife Aino. I was invited to the Shetlands years ago and was inspired by the colours of the landscape. I'd love to go back and explore further.









This American artist's watercolour illustrations of rooms are more romantic than any photograph

**Who was he?** Growing up in the Great Depression, Jeremiah Goodman's (1922–) fascination with décor was a much-needed form of escape. The Niagara Falls-born artist learned to draw after being given a box of crayons to distract him from a childhood injury. He went on to become a successful advertising illustrator in New York, publishing work in *Harper's Bazaar* and *House & Garden*. His youthful dream had been to make it as a Hollywood set designer;

it never happened, but he found himself entering that world in a different way. What makes him an icon? We're used to images of glamorous interiors filling the pages of coffee-table books. They're almost always immaculately styled, but less often intimate or spontaneous. Goodman's paintings are different. Offering glimpses into the homes of the rich and famous – many of which have otherwise eluded the public gaze – they have a candour and charm that formal photographs can't match.

Offering rare glimpses into the homes of the rich and famous, his paintings have charm and candour

Goodman had always painted interiors for pleasure, but began doing so professionally after meeting the actor Sir John Gielgud in 1948. Gielgud invited him to England, where he stayed in 'glorious country houses' and mingled with the likes of Cecil Beaton. It was all 'very *Brideshead Revisited*', he remembered. Gielgud's refined drawing room, rendered in soft greys and presided over by a towering

of watercolour overlaid with splashes of coloured gouache, creating a soft-focus, almost Impressionistic effect. Other, more famous rooms followed: fashion icon Diana Vreeland's scarlet 'garden in hell' drawing room, Beaton's conservatory at Reddish House in Wiltshire, and Tiffany & Co designer Elsa Peretti's boudoir. Capturing film goddess Greta Garbo's sitting room – much more ornate than her sober off-screen persona would suggest – was a particular coup. What else should I know? Goodman's work has made it into the permanent archives of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, not just for its socio-historical value but also for the artist's supreme skill. His rendering of light is breathtaking, as is his ability to blend gauzy colour with the precise details of furniture and ornaments. Today, Goodman is still working away in his New York studio at the grand old age of 94.

**Find out more** Goodman's first London exhibition is on display until 5 December at Colefax & Fowler's Mayfair showroom (sibylcolefax.com). You can also buy his prints at Dean Rhys Morgan (deanrhysmorgan.com; jeremiahgoodman.com).

Illustrations, from left Leonard Stanley's bedroom in Hollywood. David Hicks's country house living room. Ronald and Nancy Reagan's living room.



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# Your life in colour







#### FIR GREEN

This wintry colour evokes crisp forest walks and Christmas celebrations

Each year, in a pattern as regular as the change of the seasons, when the garish orange and black tide of Halloween recedes two other colours rise up in their place. If red reminds us of the winter cheer to be found by our hearths, fir green is redolent of what happens out of doors during winter. It evokes snow-silent forests, the smell of resinous needles underfoot, and the feeling of noses pinched by the cold. Of course, it also brings to mind the fir trees we drag indoors in time for Christmas.

Unlike red, whose associations with winter's festivities are relatively recent, fir green's claim to be the season's hue goes back before the birth of Christ. Around the winter solstice, when the night is at its longest and every

moment of daylight feels precious, the Romans celebrated Saturnalia. Dedicated to Saturn, the god of agriculture and harvest, the festival was one of misrule and merriment: servants became masters, gifts of evergreen branches were exchanged, and any speeches given had to make

people laugh. Further north, Druids and Vikings also incorporated dark-green foliage into their celebrations of the year's turning point.

The use of fir trees themselves came a little later. Although the origins of the Christmas tree are hotly contested, one popular tale involves Saint Boniface, the 1st-century bishop responsible for converting most of Germania (the Roman term that described swathes of central Europe, including Germany and the Low Countries). According to legend, upon coming across an oak sacred to the god Thor, Boniface immediately chopped it down. When the local pagans objected vociferously, he presented them with a fir tree that he claimed was a symbol of Christ, thus allowing them to carry on much as they had before. Boniface's pragmatism was not universally appreciated. Tertullian, an early Christian

author and near contemporary of the bishop's, took a very dim view of tree veneration. 'Let them over whom the fires of hell are imminent, affix to their posts laurels doomed presently to burn,' he fumed.

Thankfully, fir green has since been welcomed in from the cold. Because of the paucity of dyes and colourants available before the Industrial Revolution, artists and designers struggled to get reliable greens. But in 1775, while studying arsenic, a Swedish scientist called Carl Wilhelm Scheele discovered a family of greens that could be used to colour everything from house paints to confectionery. Fir green became a darling of the Arts and Crafts movement: many of William Morris's early

> designs, for example, are symphonies on the theme of evergreen foliage. It makes a good foil for other colours, too, which is why this shade of green is often used on museum walls. And while some can find it overpowering in their homes, it has been embraced in furniture and soft furnishings.

Kathleen May, a textile artist who uses natural dyes to colour her fabrics, mixes indigo and chlorophyllin (the green pigment found in plants) to create cushions the shade of a misty Nordic forest. And the elegant curves of Gubi's 'Grand Piano' sofa sing in unctuous green velvet. Rich and saturated, this is a colour that feels dignified and timeless, but never staid. So while it might feel especially relevant now, perhaps we should remember that, like a puppy, fir green isn't just for Christmas.

Paints to try 'Hunter Dunn' mattemulsion, £42.50 for 2.5 litres, Paint & Paper Library (paintandpaperlibrary.com). 'Brompton Road' matt emulsion, £42 for 2.5 litres, Mylands (mylands.co.uk). 'Scottish Pine' non-drip gloss, £15.49 for 750 millilitres, Crown Paints (crownpaints.co.uk)



Rich and saturated,

fir green is a colour

that feels dignified

and timeless



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#### CHRISTMAS WORLD

However you choose to decorate your home this year, Harrods Christmas World has something to suit all tastes. With seven themes, from Country House to Vintage, the department is filled to the brim with baubles, ornaments and crackers. Also available are Eleanor Stuart's exclusive advent calendars. Handcrafted with 25 compartments and finely painted details, they are destined to become a family heirloom.

Christmas World, Second Floor, Harrods



#### JESSICA RUSSELL FLINT

With a style that mixes kitsch patterns with nostalgic references, Jessica Flint Russell's wrapping paper designs are unlike any other. The Central St Martin's graduate has created six exclusive papers that are sketched using old-fashioned ink and quill pens for a detailed effect. Harrods Gifts and Stationery has all those vital little essentials for the festive season from cards to ribbons to gift tags. For a professional touch, head to Gift Wrapping Services on the Third Floor.

Gifts Wrap and Stationery, Second Floor, Harrods



#### CONTEMPORARY LIGHTING

Classic and practical or sculptural and show-stopping; whatever lighting you're after Harrods stocks them all. Browse the timeless collection of Anglepoise lamps, both regular and supersized, or explore ultra-modern, metallic designs by Lee Broom and Jonathan Adler (above). Elsewhere, there are industrial-style droplights by Buster and Punch, or for something altogether more delicate, take a look at the artistic creations by Italian brand Flos.

Contemporary Lighting, Third Floor, Harrods



#### **BETHAN GRAY**

Voted Elle Decoration's Best British Designer in 2013, Bethan Gray has become known in the industry for her use of geometric shapes, pastel shades and cultural references. Her dynamic new collection, Shamsian, is available in-store, alongside other modern ranges by designers including Kelly Wearstler, Timothy Oulton and

Tom Dixon, Contemporary Furniture, Third Floor, Harrods





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From embroidered carpets to Chinese amulets, the Christmas decorations in this Danish villa reflect its owner's well-travelled style

Words TRISH LORENZ Photography BIRGITTA WOLFGANG/SISTERS AGENCY





LLE Decoration first visited Sara Schmidt's modern villa in Odense, Denmark, back in 2012, and we were delighted to be invited back for Christmas with Sara and her daughter Maria (two). Sara is the founder of interiors company Brandts Indoor and specialises in sourcing global homewares from bazaars and markets across the world. Clean lines, an open layout and a natural palette of slate, marble and teak make this house the perfect backdrop to her pieces. 'I was excited by the idea of fusing the strong Scandinavian architecture with my eclectic global aesthetic,' she says.

Come December, you won't find gaudy baubles or Father Christmas references here. 'Christmas in Denmark is all about red and white, but we don't go for the classic look,' says Sara. 'I've always enjoyed the challenge of celebrating Christmas in an elegant and understated way that is true to my own style.' Brightly coloured embroidered suzani rugs from Uzbekistan are layered beneath the tree, which is decorated with real candles,

glass baubles in muted colours, and unique pieces that Sara has bought on her travels, including a delicate Chinese amulet. On the mantelpiece, vintage Afghan bangles are stacked together to form glimmering intricately patterned silver candleholders, and gifts are wrapped with patterned ribbons and fabrics. Colourful textiles from Uzbekistan and Turkey are used to decorate the table, and other objects found on Sara's trips are used in equally innovative ways. Lassi cups, the metal drinks tumblers most commonly found in India, are used as tealight holders to add glamour and warmth to the table setting. Next to the sofa, on an ottoman that has been repurposed as a coffee table, more lassi cups are filled with winter hyacinths that emit a beautiful scent.

Sara's favourite festive memory is the first Christmas that she spent with her daughter. 'We brought her home on 23 December. We hadn't had time to do much Christmas preparation but all the family was there and it was a great chance for them to get to know her. It was a lovely relaxing day.' brandtsindoor.dk ➤





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#### HOW TO DECORATE THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Steal Sara's slick, international style

I keep my tree fairly simple and understated. I always get a fresh fir from one of the markets and light it with real candles: it's the normal thing to do in Denmark. I think that it's important not to add too many decorations. I use glass baubles, but avoid traditional Christmas colours - I prefer to choose cooler tones, like turquoise, brown and nude. I like the decorations to integrate with my usual style - lots of the objects that I find when I'm travelling look great on the tree.













Living room Two suzani [a type of embroidered textile] carpets from Uzbekistan are layered beneath the Christmas tree. 'They tie the tree in with the style of the rest of the room,' says Sara. The silver candleholders on top of the fireplace are made from Afghan bangles

Details From sprigs of green and beautiful wrapping to baubles in neutral tones, the festive touches in Sara's home are delicate and decorative











**Dining room** The Christmas table is decorated with two suzani textiles from Uzbekistan – Rug Store has a good selection. Moroccan tea glasses are used as tealight holders (available from Moroccan Bazaar in the UK) and fresh hyacinths make pretty place settings. Pieces of jewellery that Sara found in a bazaar in Mongolia have been framed and hung on the wall behind the table. The dining chairs are the 'CH24 Wishbone' design in black by Danish designer Hans, J Wegner for Carl Hansen & Søn (available at Skandium). The rug is a vintage Anatolian kilim from Brandts



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Details A tassel from Turkmenistan is used to decorate a present. Afghan bangles are piled up to make intricate candleholders, and the tree is hung with pieces from Sara's travels. Gifts are placed on the stair treads; underneath, a chair by Charles and Ray Eames for Vitra (available at Twentytwentyone) sits beside an antique British trunk and a stool found on a trip to Syria

Bedroom White walls and bedding form a neutral base for patterned cushions made from vintage Turkish kilims Stockist details on p166



#### MY CHRISTMAS

Sara and her family gather for traditional Danish festivities

We celebrate on Christmas Eve, and usually get up late because we've been busy at work in the run up to Christmas. We wrap the presents and make dinner preparations and then go to Church in the afternoon. Afterwards, our family start to arrive and, once we're all settled, we'll eat a traditional Danish Christmas dinner of duck with potatoes. After dinner we light the candles on the tree and then everyone holds hands and we sing carols and dance around the branches.







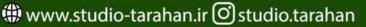




Words HANNAH BOOTH Photography KRISTA KELTANEN/LIVING INSIDE Styling JUTTA NORDLUND

Take inspiration from this loft apartment and celebrate the season in modern Finnish style with sleek, graphic decorations

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very year, during November, the giant fir tree that grows outside Jutta Karihtala's apartment is set ablaze with lights. It marks the start of her Christmas season: a whirl of cooking, lighting candles, taking saunas and, most importantly, decorating her airy, white apartment. 'I like to start preparing in early December,' she says. 'As we don't put a tree up in the house until Christmas Eve, I sketch a festive scene on the chalkboard.'

Jutta lives in a former cloth factory that has been converted into 150 loft-style apartments with her husband Pekka Paju, her son Daniel (11), and the family's dogs, Moses and Rasmus. With its red brick façade and square clock tower, the building cuts a distinctive silhouette on the shores of Lake Littoinen in southwest Finland. The oldest parts of the building date from the 1860s; Jutta's section was built later, in 1924. 'I love the location,' says Jutta, who runs a product and graphic design company, Circus, and is training to be an interior designer. 'We have the lake and forests, but are also close to the city of Turku.'

The house epitomises pared-back living and, during the winter, when there is little daylight, its white walls and vast industrial windows keep it feeling bright, 'I chose

a monochrome palette because I wanted to reflect the building's industrial past,' she says, 'but I fill the apartment with softer vintage pieces to prevent the scheme from becoming too boring. I own more secondhand furniture than new.'

When temperatures plummet and snow covers the ground, the house exudes cosiness and warmth. Sheepskins are thrown over chairs and fairy lights are strewn around. 'I like to keep all these things out until February, when the worst of winter has passed,' says Jutta.

Most of the family's festive decorations are rustic, natural and handmade, such as pieces of plywood wrapped in brown twine, evergreen foliage displayed in brown paper bags, hyacinths in glasses, and stars made from twigs. I love crafting and other little DIY projects at this time of year,' says Jutta. She keeps the tree simple, dressing it only with plain white baubles, crystals, snowballs, and paper decorations - 'It's festive, but not too sparkly'. Elsewhere, she drapes lights over mirrors, and burns candles - lots of them. 'I put them everywhere, even in the bathroom,' she says, 'I love the magical atmosphere of winter and Christmas.' oblik.fi

'We don't put a tree up in the house until Christmas Eve, so I sketch a festive scene on the chalkboard'



Kitchen Open shelving displays white crockery from Ikea and a bag with a typographic design by Nicolas Vahé (find it at North Sea Design) Portrait Homeowners Jutta Karihtala and









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The family's decorations are rustic, natural and handmade, such as pieces of plywood wrapped in brown twine, evergreen foliage displayed in brown paper bags, hyacinths in glasses, and stars made from twigs

#### **CHRISTMAS TIPS**

Homeowner Jutta Karihtala's five easy festive flourishes

1 Draw a winter scene in white chalk on a blackboard I do this in early December before we put up the Christmas tree, to add a festive touch that can be changed on a whim.

**2 Candles, candles everywhere** I like tall thin ones, but use a variety around the house in black, white or silver.

**3 Drape fairy lights over mirrors and shelves** Again, I use black, white and silver lights, which work well with the monochrome scheme in our home.

**4 Add flowers and foliage** I always bring hyacinths indoors in December, and fill pots with evergreen leaves to add extra colour to the house.

**5 Sheepskins** I rest these over chairs and sofas from December to February. They lend the whole house a cosier feel.

Kitchen The island includes a timber breakfast bar. On top of it sit two copper candlesticks Details Hanging from the blackboard are plywood decorations wrapped in twine. The homeowners' love of monochrome and









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Words ALI MORRIS Photography MARIA VOUS/SISTERS AGENCY Styling ELISABETH KRUSE/GLOTTI PRESS





o one does winter living quite like the Danes. Their love of cosiness is such that they have a dedicated word for the warm sense of wellbeing it creates: hygge (pronounced 'hue-gah'). And, at Christmas time, this feeling is evoked in even the most minimalist of abodes, such as the Copenhagen apartment of Niels Strøyer Christophersen, co-founder of Danish furniture brand Frama.

Located on the ground floor of a five-storey, early 20th-century apartment block in the city's Østerbro district, Niels's home was a watch store before he purchased it and began his renovation project. 'I moved in during 2012, when I was developing my first furniture collection,' says Niels. 'It was a hectic period in my life – all of my energy was devoted to the collection and restoring the house.'

'My initial plan was to paint the walls white, as we do in Denmark,' he says. 'But when I stripped the wallpaper away, I liked the look of the bare plaster walls so kept them as I found them.' Elsewhere, colour pervades the space: Niels applied a vibrant green pigment to the plaster in his dining room and painted his living room 'St. Pauls Blue' – a strong statement shade that was developed by Frama in collaboration with Norwegian paint brand Jotun.

'My initial plan was to paint the walls white, as we do in Denmark.
But when I stripped the wallpaper away I liked the bare plaster walls'

At the beginning of December, in time for the first Sunday of Advent, Niels prepares simple Christmas decorations that reflect the minimalist, relaxed style of his home. Pine sprigs, ivy, fir cones and star-shaped decorations made from silver birch bark are scattered across the dining table, while an arrangement of foliage and branches, gathered in a metal container, serves as a tree. 'You could call my aesthetic sparse,' he says. 'I like to use natural materials and simple shapes. I don't have a box of Christmas decorations that I open each year. I craft new ones every time.'

The result is restrained yet wild: 'It's about letting nature speak for itself and not adding too many fussy layers,' says Niels. For him, the essentials of Christmas are crisp tablelinen, the smell of fresh pine in the air and, as darkness falls, the soft glow of flickering candlelight. *framacph.com* 





### How to decorate the table

Niels shares his checklist for creating simple cheer

- A solid wood table. I like to keep it bare to create a natural feel.
- A selection of vintage cutlery, candlesticks and silverware.
- Linen napkins I use blue ones from Parisian brand Merci.
- Simple ceramic plates and a mix of glassware. Here, I have combined purple wine glasses by Frama and clear tumblers bought locally.
- **Natural foliage**. Place a few sprigs tied with twine on each plate.









This page Instead of a traditional Christmas tree, branches and off-cuts of foliage are arranged in a steel vase.

Decorations include silver birch cut into star shapes, pine cones and simple glass baubles

Opposite Placed beneath a homemode circular wreath are (from left) a 'Piano' chair from Stellar Works 'Adam'













Danish ceramicist Anni Arndal Jensen makes and bakes all of her own Christmas decorations, lending her home a cosy handcrafted charm in the coldest months of the year

Living room Clusters of candles bring a simple festive touch. Hung low over the rustic handmade coffee table, which originally sat in homeowner Ole's father's workshop, is a Verner Panton 'VP Globe' pendant lamp (available from Skandium in the UK). Zoé, the family's Fox Terrier, sits on the arm of the sofa – find a similar grey wool design at Habitat. The wall lamp behind the sofa is an industrial-style vintage piece (try Trainspotters)







Words JACKIE DALY Photography KRISTIAN SEPTIMIUS KROGH/HOUSE OF PICTURES Production LISE SEPTIMIUS KROGH

illed with the scent of cinnamon and spices, Anni Arndal Jensen's 18th-century Danish townhouse is instantly welcoming. Candles glow among spruce trees in a corner of the living room, while homemade breads and pastries are piled temptingly beside bowls of dried fruit and bitter oranges dipped in Valrhona chocolate on the kitchen table.

Anni, a ceramicist, lives on the top two floors of the building above her pottery shop in the quaint town of Holstebro. She shares her home with her husband Ole Arndal, a college principal, their son Oliver (18), and Fox Terrier Zoé. An artist's sensibility pervades the white, light-filled interior, which is decorated with natural materials and traditional furniture. At Christmas, a wealth of handcrafted trimmings reflect the charming simplicity of the space.

The preparations for the festive season begin in early December,

baskets or large metal pots. The trees are decorated sparsely with real candles and beautifully crafted baubles that are handmade by Anni - she inscribes each one by hand with words of wisdom. She also makes large batches of salt-baked rye hearts, which she hangs from twine to decorate the branches.

The kitchen is the hub of all festive activity in this home. The annual ritual of gift wrapping takes place at the large dining table. Anni gathers materials throughout the year - foliage, velvet ribbon and simple brown paper packaging - to decorate her presents, and adds a personal touch in the form of small ceramic hearts made by hand using raku (a traditional Japanese technique). On the big day itself, her table setting is simple and rustic. Breads are served on wooden platters and handmade place cards double as gift tags. December is the busiest time of the year in Anni's shop, but her







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AN ARTIST'S SENSIBILITY PERVADES THE WHITE, LIGHT-FILLED INTERIOR, WHICH IS DECORATED WITH NATURAL MATERIALS AND TRADITIONAL FURNITURE







Kitchen The huge metal pot holding the Christmas tree is one of a pair; the homeowner found them while she was travelling in Vietnam and loved them so much that she had them shipped home. The old filing cabinet is a vintage find – try Retrouvius for similar in the UK

Details Applicathers material throughout the year to decorate her gifts at Christmas. Here, she has used brown paper string foliage and here



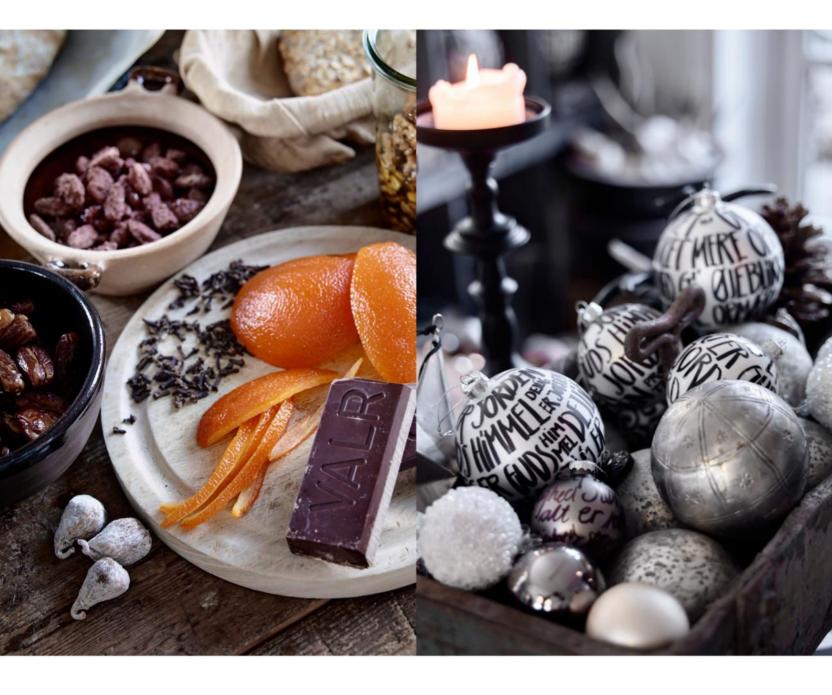




ANNI'S CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS REFLECT THE CHARMING SIMPLICITY OF THE SPACE AND EVERYTHING, FROM BAUBLES TO SWEET TREATS, IS HANDMADE







#### **CHRISTMAS TIPS**

Get crafty this December with Anni's top five ideas for handmade decorations

- **1 Use spray paint** Give old ornaments new life with a coat of metallic colour, which will also add sparkle. Ice the tips of evergreens and pine cones with snow spray for a festive feel.
- **2 Start foraging** Fill a shallow glass vase with nuts, pine cones, berries and cinnamon sticks and display on rough offcuts of wood to create a rustic centrepiece.
- **3 Bake biscuits** Edible ornaments smell and look fantastic. I hang them with ribbon for a sweet, pretty treat.
- **4 Display the everyday** Vintage cookie cutters, old iron keys, and pieces of jewellery look beautiful hung from the tree.
- **5 Make it personal** Simple paper tags can be personalised with Polaroids or black-and-white photos of loved ones. Stamp the









# PERFECTION

The owners of this Danish home favour a laid-back approach to decorating for the festive season

Words NELL CARD

Photography BIRGITTA WOLFGANG/SISTERS AGENCY

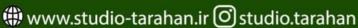








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**Above** The Berber rug is from Ellos in Denmark (try Larusi for similar). Ida likes to wrap her gifts with dark green velvet ribbon **Living room** The 'Papa Bear' chair is by Hans J Wegner, available at Skandium. On the wall is a print of Scarlett Johansson and an uncycle

da Dalgaard Thestrup's parents own a Christmas tree farm in the small Danish town of Sorø, one hour's drive from Copenhagen. As a child, she recalls how her family would always select the most impressive and perfectly symmetrical specimen for their home each year. It's a childhood tradition that Ida has chosen to subvert. She prefers a scattering of short, sparse, lopsided trees (also chosen from her parents'



farm), each adorned with pared-back ornaments that complement the understated aesthetic of her apartment in Dyssegård, an area just nine kilometres north of the capital city.

Ida and her husband Morten moved into the third floor of this five-storey, 1940s red-brick building in November 2013, attracted by its abundant natural light and flexible 102-square-metre floor plan. It took a year to renovate: the kitchen has new cabinetry from Ikea and the main living space is clad in wood panelling, constructed from sheets of MDF and a new wooden architrave. The walls, floors and ceilings are all painted soft white

## IDA, AN ART DIRECTOR, IS DRAWN TO SIMPLE SHAPES AND A MONOCHROME PALETTE. EACH YEAR SHE AND HER FRIENDS MAKE A NEW SET OF ORNAMENTS

and grey – the only exception being the glorious pop of teal in the kitchen, which elevates the entire scheme.

The apartment undergoes its festive transformation on the first of December, when a thicket of wonky trees makes its way up to the apartment in the building's old elevator. As an art director, Ida is drawn to simple shapes and a monochrome palette. Each year, she gathers together her girlfriends and they make a new set of ornaments. 'We get a lot of inspiration from Pinterest,' she says. This year, she plans to create a small three-dimensional townscape for her son Carl, similar to the paper Christmas trees that are clustered on the sideboard in her workspace.

Once the main tree is adorned with the couple's collection of vintage baubles and hearts, baking is next on the agenda. Both her mother and sister take part, making a selection of traditional Danish cookies: cinnamondusted jødekager, wreath-shaped vaniljekranse and almond-topped finskbrød.

This year, to mark their son's first Christmas, Ida and Morten are hosting Christmas dinner for 16 family members. Ida will decorate the table with candles and imperfect larch branches and together they will serve a traditional feast of roast duck, roast pork, boiled potatoes, brunede kartofler (potatoes glazed in caramelised sugar that Ida describes as 'nasty good'), red cabbage and thick gravy. After the meal, they honour the Danish tradition of singing and dancing around the tree. @idestrup









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# MY CHRISTMAS

Ida tells us about her favourite places to visit in Copenhagen during the run-up to Christmas

I like to get all the prep work finished early, so that I have time to appreciate the twinkling sights of the city. As a family, we visit Tivoli Gardens, an amusement park in Copenhagen. There is a new display of lights each year, so we spend an evening walking around the Christmas market and craft stalls. We also visit Nyhavn Harbour for a cup of  $gl \phi gg$  (mulled wine) and some  $\mathcal{E}bleskiver$  (round cakes with a warm apple centre; right). Kongens Nytorv, Copenhagen's public square, is also wonderful in December and has a large ice rink. If I have any last-minute shopping to do, I'll visit Finders Keepers (finderskeepers.dk), a market where up-and-coming artists sell their work.

**Kitchen** A rustic wine rack (above) is decorated with festive lights and an Advent candle stands on the stool to the left. The family love to bake traditional cookies, pastries and cakes. The floors are painted in 'Fusion 5362 Farge Inn', a teal shade by paint brand Jotun – a rare shot of colour in the monochrome













# The Winter cottage

Hailing from Lapland, the home of Christmas, it's no surprise that the owners of this house know how to celebrate the season in style. Here's how they create cosy winter glamour

Words TRISH LORENZ











e fell in love with this area. It's very peaceful and surrounded by forests and flowing streams. My husband Tero and I were born in Lapland in northern Finland, so being close to nature is very important to us,' says financial manager Krista Suutari. That is why the countryside setting in southwest Finland where the couple have built this charming timber-framed home is perfect.

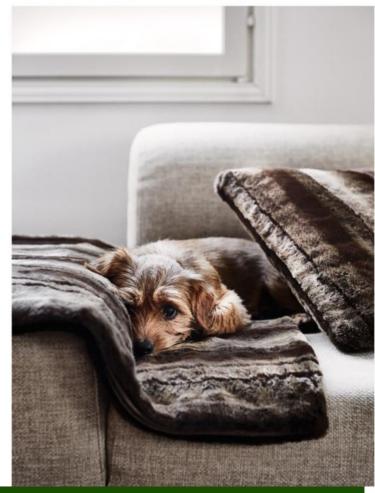
They share the 185-square-metre, two-storey house with their 18-year-old daughter Essi and Norfolk terrier Lily. There are three bedrooms upstairs, and an open-plan living area downstairs with space for a very Finnish necessity: the sauna. 'We use it every evening,' says Krista. The interior of the house is neutral, a subtle palette of grey, white and taupe fused with wood, copper and brass. 'We were inspired by nature when decorating – the rocks and the trees translate into the calm colours that you see around the house.'

# 'I like clean and simple Christmas decorations: we use lots of vintage crystal glasses from an antiques shop, candles and white flowers'

The family look forward to spending time at home during the festive season. 'I love Christmas,' says Krista. 'I start planning by October at the latest, but collect pine cones and moss from the forest all through summer and autumn, which I save and use as decorations.' The family's Christmas décor is understated yet impactful. 'I like a clean and simple look: a lot of white flowers and candles,' Krista says. This aesthetic extends to the tree, which is festooned with silver and gold coloured baubles and candles.

The dining table, which sits in a bay window, is equally festive. 'I place a big linen cloth on our Christmas table and white porcelain dishes that I inherited from my family. We use vintage crystal glasses that I found in an antique shop, lots of candles, white flowers and that's it!' says Krista. 'Finnish winters are long and cold so we tend to like candlelight, which brings warmth to the winter darkness.'











# **CHRISTMAS TIPS**

Love the cottage's warm yet natural style? Krista tells us five ways to cosy up your home

- 1 Use plenty of candles Candlelight is great for creating warmth in a space during the winter months.
- 2 Layer lots of soft cushions and blankets on armchairs and sofas; they help to keep everyone cosy during the long, cold evenings.
- **3 I prefer restful colours** and we never over-dress the Christmas tree. It's nice to bring a natural feel to the house.
- 4 Use lots of fresh flowers, especially white blooms, which bring a room to life.
  5 The scent of freshly made cakes and biscuits is so homely at Christmas.
  Every holiday, I bake a plum cake using

Every holiday, I bake a plum cake using a recipe that I inherited from my grandmother. It is a family tradition.

























The stark palette and bare branches that decorate this Danish home echo the beautiful winter wonderland that exists beyond its walls













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classic, with a colour scheme inspired by the landscape surrounding his cottage in the Danish town of Skælskør, where he has lived with his girlfriend for the past 14 years.

The interior of the house is crisp and white, but there's an oldworld dose of Christmas spirit here, too. Displays of antiques and ephemera – wooden letters, cricket balls, musical instruments and vintage toys - are arranged on tables and windowsills and in cosy corners. The overall aesthetic eschews sparkle in favour of rustic charm. 'I'm drawn to the understated and the everyday.' says Henrik, 'but work to a palette of brown and grey - it creates a refined, almost puritanical look against the white walls.

A sparse elder stands in place of a traditional Christmas fir; like the trees in the woodland outside, it has shaken off its leaves for winter. Its branches are dressed with candles and simple wooden

# THE INTERIOR OF HENRIK'S **DANISH COTTAGE IS CRISP** AND WHITE, BUT THERE'S AN **OLD-WORLD DOSE OF** CHRISTMAS SPIRIT HERE, TOO

ornaments, including lettering salvaged from a bookshop, and tiny stars, drums and sledges, all hung from leather cord. Locally grown red Pigeon apples decorate the base and the gifts that are piled around it are wrapped simply in brown paper and string.

The open-plan home is ideal for festive gatherings and Henrik's two children (now adults) often visit at this time of year. 'My favourite memories of Christmas are of when they were young, he says. 'There is something very special about Christmas and children.' The frenetic excitement of those days has passed, but Henrik continues to enjoy a family dinner on the big day, which takes place on Christmas Eve around a table decorated with rosehips and pinecones. 'We have a traditional meal, which is usually roasted duck with apples and prunes or an old recipe passed down by my partner's grandmother - roasted rib of pork and red cabbage with orange, cinnamon and cranberries. For me, Christmas is about closeness,' he says. 'It's about spending time with loved ones - that's what we share here.' fildefercph.com

Dining area Henrik's place settings fuse forest-foraged decorations with luxurious accents for simple seasonal style on the zinc-topped table. Branches covered with red rosehip create a dramatic centrepiece, and red Pigeon apples are scattered around blue glass tealights. The linen table runners and napkins are made from old flour sacks, while the classic blue-and-white china is by Royal Copenhagen (available at Skandium in the UK). The cutlery is vintage (try Summerill & Bishop for similar) Stockist details on p166>



### HOW TO DECORATE THE TABLE

Follow this five-step guide to setting out a simple yet striking backdrop for your Christmas feast

Consider the overall look you want to achieve when selecting a dining table. Henrik's zinc-topped table creates a cool, industrial-style base for his grey linens and classic blue-andwhite china.

Think beautiful and ∠ functional: set your such as china, glassware and cutlery, and keep

table with key items first, purely decorative pieces to a minimum for a refined finish.

Simple cuttings from the garden make perfect O centrepieces at Christmas – select them for their shape as well as their colour.

Christmas dinner is always more magical by candlelight, but people do like to see what they're eating. Dot candles or tea lights all over the table rather than using just one or two in the centre.

Take your time. Whether you're folding napkins or arranging glassware, attention to detail makes the ordinary extraordinary.



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newspaper cones. Salvaged number placards, originally from a racecourse, are displayed with cricket balls Stockist details on n166 >

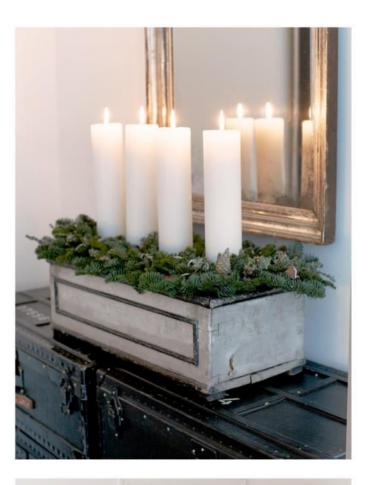






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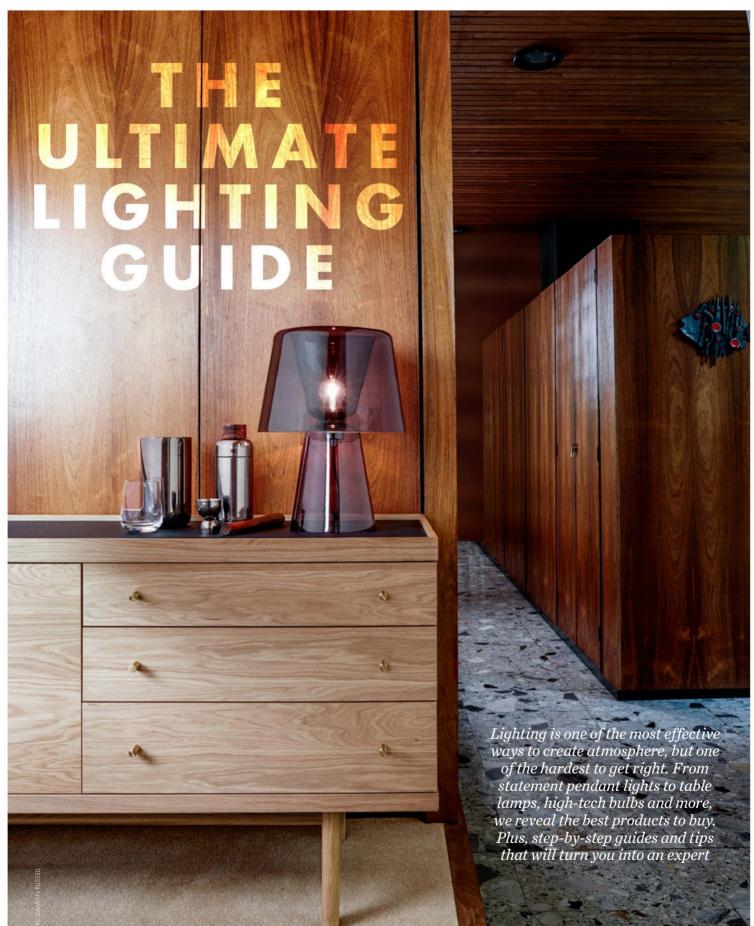


TACCIA
BY A. & P.G. CASTIGLIONI

1962





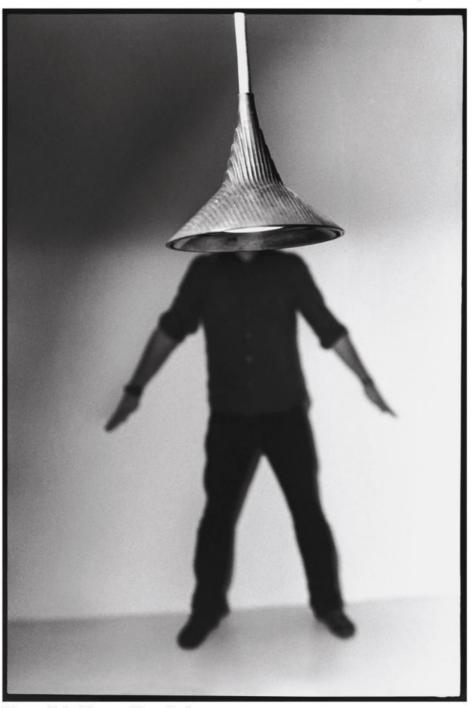






# A tribute to light

Elliott Erwitt, 2015



Herzog & de Meuron: Unterlinden

# Artemide





# HOW TO PLAN A LIGHTING SCHEME

Create the perfect lighting look throughout your home with our eight-step guide to organising your project from start to finish



Start early Plan lighting at the 'first fix' stage – at the same time as plumbing – to minimise the disruption of wiring. Think about the layout of the room and position downlights where they will have most impact. 'When it comes to downlights, less is more,' says Georgina Wood, design director at David Collins Studio (davidcollins.com). 'They need to be discreet and have a purpose.' Avoid grid-like arrangements, which result in flat light, and instead position spotlights where they will be most useful, above bedside tables, food preparation areas or desks.

Think about natural light levels Consider when you use each room – an office you use during the day will require a different approach to a snug that needs to be lit for nighttime relaxing. Optimise existing light with high-gloss ceiling paints, mirrors, and by using pale colours for walls. Use pendants or downlights to light the room after dark, and position extra light fittings in corners that are less bright during the day. 'Make as many lights as possible dimmable to give maximum flexibility,' advises Susie Rumbold, founder of interior design studio Tessuto (tessuto.co.uk) and president of the British Institute of Interior Design (biid.org.uk).

Add task lighting Will the spare room double as an office? Will your children do their homework in the kitchen? Match task lighting – ranging from desk lamps to integrated LEDs – to these activities, and to the people doing them: a 60-year-old needs three times as much light as a 20-year-old to read by.

Use accent lighting 'What is the first thing your eye is drawn to when you enter the room?' asks Susie Rumbold. 'That's often a good thing to highlight.' Use picture lights or hidden architectural lighting (read more on p133) to draw attention to the best features of every space.

**5** Don't forget candles and open fires Flickering flames have comforted humans for millennia and shouldn't be ignored in the rush for the latest lighting gadget.

Choose your fittings carefully Understand the difference between architectural and decorative lighting – they perform the same functions, but architectural light is integrated into the fabric of the building or furniture, whereas decorative lighting usually takes the form of lamps, which double up as home accessories. 'Architectural lighting is discreet and allows decorative lights to act as jewellery in an interior,' says Georgina Wood. Ask your electrician to make sure your chosen fittings and switches are compatible – for example low-voltage LEDs need a low-voltage dimmer switch. You should also add together the wattage of all the bulbs in each circuit and make sure the total falls within the maximum load capacity for your switches.

Decide on circuits and controls Make sure you think about the combinations of lights that you want to place on a shared circuit – this means that they can be switched on and off together, using anything from a simple switch to the latest smartphone-controlled systems. High-tech bulbs, such as Philips Hue (starter kit £149.95, John Lewis; johnlewis.com) not only enable you to switch lights on and off from your smartphone, but also control colour and brightness, and set your lights on timers.

Get everything installed professionally Anything involving electricity is always best left to the professionals. You'll need an electrician approved by the NICEIC (National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting)

– a self-certifying one can approve his or her own work to ensure



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# BRIGHT ENGINEERING

Master of functional furniture, concept stores and even prefabricated cabins, German brand Vipp is finally branching out into lighting, after more than 70 years in the design business. As ever, ergonomic efficiency is the main aim: each model (table lamp, pictured) has articulated joints that are engineered to be fully flexible. The powder-coated aluminum shade is uniform across every style. From £179 (vipp.com).





#### THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX

A modern take on the chandelier, the 'Witt' is created by American architect David Rockwell – who has designed the sets for Broadway blockbusters – and New York LED specialist Rich Brilliant Willing. Pearlescent spheres hang inside and on the sleek, black outline of a quadrangle. From £1,580 (richbrilliantwilling.com).



This month sees the launch of Soho Home's new lighting range, featuring crystal chandeliers, glass pendants and retro task lighting, including this 1960s-inspired 'Watts' floor lamp, which has three pivoting arms so that you can direct light in any direction. £395 (sohohome.com).

Don't forget the details The most elegant lighting scheme in the world can be let down by clunky electrical essentials. Forbes & Lomax famously makes nothing but switches and sockets, particularly transparent acrylic ones. As well as being a classic British brand, it continues to innovate: its latest socket includes two integrated USB charger ports, eliminating the need for plugs and extension leads. From £80 (forbesandlomax.com).

## NAMES TO KNOW FIVE GLOBAL RISING STARS



Kaia Masterminded by a former metal worker in Vienna who was inspired by Art Nouveau architecture, Kaia's lights are beautiful and understated. 'Ora' pendant light, £16,800 (kaja at)



Emilie Lemardeley
After studying
politics in Paris,
Emilie trained in
product design and
hasn't looked back.
Her glass pieces are
works of art. 'Ademas'
pendant light, £9,900
(emilielemardeley fr)



David Pompa Half Mexican, half Austrian David Pompa Alarcón mixes Mexican style with technology. The 'Cupallo' uses spun brass produced by artisans in Mexico City. £305 each (davidnompa com)



Ladies & Gentlemen
The new version of
Dylan Davis and Jean
Lee's 'Equalizer' light,
made by artist John
Hogan, changes colour
as you look at it from
different angles. From
£5,490 (ladiesand
gentlemenstudio com)



Asaf Weinbroom
Weinbroom's designs
are inspired by
mechanisms, so tend
to be beautiful and
flexible. He works
mainly with wood.
'Spot Light' ceiling
light, £384 (asaf
weinbroom com)







# The 'Antumbra' table lamp by Magnus Long is the first foray into lighting for marble specialist Pietre di Monitillo. The idea is that the black Nero Marquina marble pebble partially eclipses the glowing Carrara behind it. £530 (pietredi monitillo.com).

# SEED OF CHANGE

Foraging for inspiration is a well-known Nordic hobby, and so perhaps it is an organic evolution that Vita Copenhagen has taken the humble forest acorn as its muse. The 'Acorn' pendant light has a kernel of either brass, copper or steel. £55 (vita copenhagen.com).



Our favourite new product launch from British brand CTO Lighting is the 'Nimbus'. Over a metre in height, it is handmade in the Midlands from bronze and fine glass discs that miraculously conceal the bulbs within. It's the only cloud we're happy to hang above our heads – though do check your ceiling's structural integrity first, as

## **HOW TO USE**

## ARCHITECTURAL LIGHTING

This term refers to lights that are fitted into the fabric of walls, ceilings or furniture. It's a little more complicated than ordinary lighting, but the effects are worth the effort. Here's a guide to the most popular options

**LEDs** Consider placing LED strips underneath stair treads or behind handrails to aid nighttime navigation. 'LED ribbon in cabinetry or bookshelves is a great way to add atmosphere,' says Bruce Weil of The Lighting Design Studio (thelightingdesignstudio.co.uk). The strips are cut to length, wired into a power unit (which must be carefully chosen according to the electrical load required - flexfireleds.com has an easy guide) and then plugged into the nearest socket. Shadow gaps - where plasterboard on the wall stops just short of the floor, creating a hollow - can be lit using LED strips instead of adding skirting. Fixing LEDs strips to the underside of the plasterboard, so that they cast light onto the floor without being seen, will highlight this architectural detail. Worried that LEDs produce a cold light? 'Choose 2700K, at the warmer end of the spectrum, and a Colour Rendering Index (CRI) of 90 or above,' says Weil. Wall lights Indirect light is softer than direct light, so use wall lights to bounce brightness around and create a flattering effect. Wall lamps - and all other architectural lighting, with the exception

a task best left to the professionals. If you do attempt electrical installation yourself, you'll need to get the completed job tested by a fully qualified electrician and obtain a minor works certificate. **Spotlights** A plasterer can skim trimless downlights into the ceiling, so that you only see the light and not the fitting. 'They create the impression that light is coming from apertures in the ceiling,' says Richard Strange of Darklight Design (darklightdesign.com). Try Whitegoods (whitegoods.com) for plaster-in fittings. Spotlights can also be installed under wall-mounted kitchen cabinets to light worktops; inside wardrobes; and within alcoves to highlight favourite objects try the 'Minos' collection by John Cullen Lighting (johncullenlighting.com). As above, all spotlights needs to be wired into existing electrical circuits. >

of LED strips – need to be wired into your existing electrical circuits. This is









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### NEW TRENDS IN DETAIL

British designer Sebastian Wrong calls 2016 a 'very exciting moment in lighting,' because this year has delivered plenty of groundbreaking innovations to take advantage of. Here are our highlights

New LEDs 'LED lighting is delivering much better quality illumination at much lower cost, so there's no reason not to use it in your home,' says Bruce Weil of The Lighting Design Studio. 'What's available now is tried and tested, so we can confidently design lighting with integrated LEDs,' adds Wrong. LEDs are long-lasting, energy-efficient, cool to the touch and vibration- and shock-proof. They are now being used for everything from 'virtual skies' (faux rooflights that mimic natural light) to LED decorated wallpaper a unique way to illuminate your walls. OLEDs (organic LEDs) These are a relatively new technology providing a uniform spread of light, rather than single light points. They come in sheet form and can be used to brighten whole surfaces without the need for shades or diffusers. They produce very little heat, and with low glare and shadow, can reduce eye fatigue. Reinvented lightbulbs Plumen, the pioneer of beautifully designed, energyefficient lightbulbs, has just launched the 'Plumen 003' (£150; ukshop.plumen.com), which has a faceted gold detail on the inside, while the sculptural 'URI' laseretched acrylic LED bulb from Hong Kong brand NAP (£40; indiegogo.com) casts spectacular shadows. Vintage-style filament bulbs are also enjoying a revival, now fitted with energy-efficient LEDs.

Research shows that light can affect everything from sleep to productivity, so wirelessly connected bulbs like the 'Active Light' by Hive (from £89 for a starter pack; hivehome.com) that are able to mimic sunrise and sunset, can have a positive effect on people's lives. High-tech controls Alongside wireless smartphone- and tablet-controlled systems, lighting will soon be intelligently managed in the same way that adaptive thermostats, such as Nest, learn your behaviour to adjust room temperature. This means, for example, that the lights could gradually brighten at the time you usually get up, without you having to pre-programme them to do so. Lighting that learns from you – it's the future.

# BEDROOM

From left 'Glo' table light (on floor) by Carlo Colombo for Penta, from £235, Chaplins (chaplins.co.uk). 'Spun Light F' white floor light by Sebastian Wrong for Flos, £1,120, The Lollipop Shoppe (the lollipopshoppe.co.uk). 'Mu' daybed by Toan Nguyen for Dedon, from £3,186, Leisureplan (leisureplan.co.uk). Bespoke side tables by Antonino Sciortino.  $`Nemo' \textbf{table light} \ by \ Harvey \ Guzzini \ for \ Nemo, \pounds 160, \ Nest \ (nest.co.uk). \ `Flow' \textbf{table light}$ by Nicola Design for Fabbian, £119; 'Orten'zia' petal table light by Bruno Rainaldi for Terzani, £246, both David Village Lighting (davidvillagelighting.co.uk). 'Cappello' table light with marble base, £205, Molo Design (molostore.com). 'Palpebra' cone-shaped table light by Federico Delrosso for Davide Groppi, £180, Twentytwentyone (twentytwentyone.com). 'Evo' table light by Calligaris, £156, Stocktons (stocktons.co.uk). 'Saba' pendant light by Davide Groppi, £234, David Village Lighting (davidvillagelighting.co.uk) ➤







From left 'Miami F3' floor light by Giordana Arcesilai for Antonangeli, £1,765. Made In Design (madeindesign.co.uk). 'Cloud' white chair by Carlo Colombo, £584, Arflex (arflex.it). 'Kimiko' wallpaper, £127 for three panels, Extra Tapete (extratapete.de). 'Balloon' outdoor bulb light by Giordana Arcesilai, £172, Antonangeli (antonangeli.it). 'Z3 Bird's Nest' pendant light, from £283, Ay Illuminate (ayilluminate.com). 'Granito 30' **floor light** (used as side table) by Ernesto Gismondi for Artemide, £424, David Village Lighting (davidvillagelighting.co.uk). 'Fire Kit table light by 5.5 Design Studio for Skitsch, £139, Connox (connox.co.uk). 'Transplastic' rattan and plastic chair by Fernando and Humberto Campana, £4,357, Galleria Luisa delle Piane (gallerialuisadellepiane.it). 'Tuscany' artificial grass, £30 per square metre, Limonta Sport (limontasport.com). Bespoke yellow table by Antonino Sciortino. 'Play' armchair by Philippe  $Starck for Dedon, from £384, Leisureplan (leisureplan.co.uk). `Picot' \textbf{ottoman} \ by Paola \ Lenti, from the properties of the properti$ £610, The Modern Garden Company (moderngardencompany.com). 'UTO' white light (on floor) by Lagranja Design for Foscarini, £307, Nest (nest.co.uk). Hen sculpture by Benedetta Mori Ubaldini, sourced from Galleria Rossani Orlandi (galleriarossanaorlandi.com). 'Blumen' **bulb light** (on floor) by Omar Carraglia for Davide Groppi, £365, Twentytwentyone (twentytwentyone.com). 'Teda 302' floor light by Ferdi Giardini for Oluce, £604, Nest (nest.co.uk). 'Belvedere' black wall light by Antonio Citterio and Toan Nguyen for Flos, £366, Chaplins (chaplins.co.uk)





# HOW TO USE

OUTDOOR LIGHTING

'Good exterior lighting has the power to transform your home and maximise your outdoor space,' says Peter Bowles, managing director of Davey Lighting (originalbtc.com). Follow our tips to help you perfectly light your garden

Porch lights Porches can be lit with a pendant above the door or a pair of wall lights that project both upwards and downwards ('up-and-down' lights) on either side. Lights will appear half their size when viewed from 50 metres away, so go big - a quarter of the height of your door as a rule of thumb. Porch lights are usually connected to indoor electricity circuits by drilling through the walls - a job best left to an electrician. 'If you have stepped areas, consider mounting LED strips under each step,' suggests Richard Strange of lighting consultancy Darklight Design. To avoid any wiring, use passive lighting with solar-charged strips and a passive infrared sensor (PIR) that will switch the lights on when it senses movement. Garden lighting 'You can increase the perception of space inside your home by making your garden visible at night,' says Bowles. Use uplights to highlight favourite trees or sculptures. Garden lights will need their own electrical circuit run from your fuse box. The circuit must be protected by a circuit breaker to prevent electric shocks in the event of an accident. If you want to run cables underground, they should be buried 45 centimetres under patios and paths, or 75 centimetres under lawns and flowerbeds. And you'll need to invest in a weatherproof junction box (used for concealing electrical connections) and rubber-coated cables. Lighting for entertaining Garlands of lights bring a party atmosphere to outdoor dining, and many run on battery packs, meaning they don't require connection to the mains. Hang them in trees and along the top of walls and fences. A fire pit or chiminea will keep you warm as well as providing light. Also, don't forget task lighting for outdoor food-prep areas. Weatherproof lighting All outdoor lighting needs to have a high IP rating (this is a measure of how well sealed from dirt and moisture the light fitting is) look for IP44 or above. When it comes to fittings, look for natural materials. 'They're low maintenance and age beautifully,' advises Bowles. >









# Jamb.













'DESIGN YOUR INTERIOR LAYOUT BEFORE **CREATING A LIGHTING SCHEME; DON'T LIGHT** AIR, LIGHT SOMETHING PHYSICAL. ENSURE **BULBS ARE HIDDEN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE'** 

SIAN BAXTER, LIGHTING DESIGNER (SIANBAXTERLIGHTING.CO.UK)

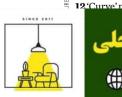
# PENDANT LIGHTS

1'Gerde' pendant light, from £56.30 each, Broste Copenhagen (brostecopenhagen.com) 2 'NL Reserve' pendant light, £44, Nook London (nooklondon.com) 3 'Cloak and Dagger' pendant light by Esther Patterson, £590, Curiousa & Curiousa (curiousa.co.uk) 4'Pitch' pendant light, £160, Vitamin Living (vitaminliving.com) **5** 'Equalizer' pendant light, £5,646, Ladies & Gentlemen Studio (ladiesandgentlemenstudio.com) 6 'Le Crystal 3' pendant light, £1,351, Giopato & Coombes (giopatocoombes.com) 7 'Tac/Tile' pendant light by André Fu, £4,704, Lasvit (lasvit.com) 8 'Dalston' pendant light by Industrial Facility for Wästberg, from £325, SCP (scp.co.uk) 9 'Model 2065' pendant light by Gino Sarfatti for Astep, £828, Viaduct (viaduct.co.uk) 10 'Circuit 2' pendant light, £2,900, Apparatus (apparatusstudio.com.com)

11 'Aplomb' pendant light by Lucidi & Pevere, £481, Foscarini

(foscarini.com)





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### TABLE LIGHTS

1 'Brillo' table lamp by Alessio Bassan for Capo d'Opera, £374, Chaplins (chaplins.co.uk) 2 'Rita' table light, £79, Made (made.com) 3 'Cast' table light by Studio Vit for Petite Friture, £211, Twentytwentyone (twentytwentyone.com) 4 'Urano 50' table light by Elisa Ossino, £4,680, Salvatori (salvatori.it) 5 'Screen' table light, £140, Kimu Design (kimudesign.com) 6 'Porcini' table light, £80, Habitat (habitat.co.uk) 7 'Bowl' table light by Knut Bendik Humlevik, £298, New Works (newworks.dk) 8 'Highlight' table light by Dan Yeffet, from £1,755, Veronese (veronese.fr) 9 'Kurage' table light by Luca Nichetto and Nendo for Foscarini, £399, Aram Store (aram.co.uk) 10 'Vico' table light, £540, Natuzzi (natuzzi.co.uk) ➤



**LIGHT SOURCES DON'T HAVE TO BE ON THE CEILING POINTING DOWN - ONES THAT SEND** ARCS OF LIGHT ACROSS A ROOM OR UP FROM THE FLOOR CAN BE FAR MORE EFFECTIVE'

KELLY HOPPEN, DESIGNER (KELLYHOPPENINTERIORS.COM)









Lladró at Harrods

















'DIMMABLE LIGHTING IS A MUST. IF YOU CAN'T AFFORD A PRESET SYSTEM, **DO YOUR RESEARCH: MOST LIGHT SOURCES TODAY ARE LED, AND AS** SUCH DIMMER SWITCH COMPATIBLE'

ROBERT CLIFT, LIGHTING DESIGNER (ROBERTCLIFTLIGHTING.COM)





### **WALL LIGHTS**

1'Fly-Too' wall light by Design Consuline, £312, Luceplan (luceplan.com) 2 'Varv' wall light, £29, Ikea

(ikea.com)

3 'Diderot' wall light, from £498, Hector Finch (hectorfinch.com)

4'Warren' wall light by Søren Rose Studio for Menu, £240, Aria (ariashop.co.uk)

5 'North' wall light by Arik Levy for Vibia, £2,196, Staffan Tollgård (tollgard.co.uk)

6 'Oma' wall light, £792, Katriina

Nuutinen (storekn.tictail.com) 7'Conroy' wall light, £576, Jamb (jamb.co.uk)

8 'Leonard' wall light, £275, Soho Home (sohohome.com)

9'Noc' wall light by Smith Matthias,

£109, Wrong London (wrong.london) 10 'Scissor' salvaged wall light,





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### FLOOR LIGHTS 1'Lampo' floor light by Paolo

Cattelan, £1,131, Cattelan Italia (cattelanitalia.com) 2 'Caravagggio Read' floor light by Cecilie Manz for Lightyears, £380, SCP (scp.co.uk) 3 'Estampe' floor light, £2,330, Christian Liaigre (christian-liaigre.fr) 4'Effimera' floor light, £1,399, Prandina (prandina.it) 5 'Spot on Base' floor light, £800,

Asaf Weinbroom (weinbroom.com) 6 '360 M Carronade low' floor light by Markus Johansson for Le Klint, £846, Skandium (skandium.com) 7 'Superloon' floor lamp by Jasper Morrison, £3,251, Flos (flos.com)

8 'Optical' floor light, £895, Lee Broom (leebroom.com)

9 'Line One' floor light by Norr11, £359, Heal's (heals.com)

10 'Pattern' floor light by Kevin Reilly £1.550 Holly Hunt





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The PH lamp 1926-2016

1 OCTOBER - 31 DECEMBER 2016

PH 3½-2½ Copper Floor Lamp Design: Poul Henningsen



The Lamp comes with two top shades – one copper and one glass



In 1926, Poul Henningsen created the first lamps to feature his trail-blazing three-shade principle, which soon became world-famous. This innovation took as its starting point the logarithmic spiral. For its 90th birthday we present the PH 3½-2½ floor lamp as a limited copper version.

### louis poulsen





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### **BRAND TO KNOW**

### ARTEMIDE

The Italian firm known for its witty, innovative designs, including the iconic 'Tolomeo' desk lamp

In mid-century Italy many avant-garde design brands started to collaborate with cutting-edge architects and designers, reasoning that associating a product with its creator gave it more appeal. Founded in 1960 by Ernesto Gismondi and Sergio Mazza, Artemide has worked with highly individual designers over the years and as such, its lighting is characterful and varied.

Gismondi studied aeronautical engineering, while Mazza is a designer; this partnership of opposites mirrors the company's fusion of state-of-the-art technology and artistic expression.

### **FOUNDED IN 1960, ARTEMIDE HAS BUILT UP A CHARACTERFUL AND** VARIED COLLECTION OF LIGHTING

In 1967, Artemide produced Vico Magistretti's clever dimmable 'Eclisse' light, so-called because it has a rotating inner shade that can eclipse the lightbulb. Evoking planets and astronauts' helmets, it embodied the era's fascination with space travel and oozed 1960s pop style. It was followed, in 1972, by Richard Sapper's iconic 'Tizio' desk light, which reflected the designer's taste for minimalist elegance, and a collaboration with 1980s design movement Memphis that produced Ettore Sottsass's 'Callimaco' floor light. Former Memphis member Michele De Lucchi co-designed Artemide's ultra-practical 1987 'Tolomeo' lamp with Giancarlo Fassina; its shade swivels 360 degrees. More recently, Issey Miyake's 'IN-EI' lights of 2012 unfold from flat fabric to form 3D shades - proof that Artemide's quest for innovation remains undimmed (artemide.com).





### FIVE FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT ARTEMIDE

1 The company also produced furniture in the 1960s, exploring the possibilities of plastic with its stackable 'Selene' dining chair, 'Demetrio 70' coffee table and 'Studio 80' table, all designed by Vico Magistretti. 2 In the 1960s, Artemide collaborated only with Italian designers, but in the 1970s it embarked on a period of international expansion, working with German designer Richard Sapper, Swiss architect Mario Botta and Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava. 3 In the 1990s, Artemide announced its philosophy 'The Human Light', which focuses on promoting wellbeing rather than only pursuing technological excellence.

4 Artemide's bestselling lights are the 'Tolomeo', the 'Tizio', the 'Castore' pendant light by Michele De Lucchi and Huub Ubbens (2003), Ross Lovegrove's 'Mercury' chandelier and Giuseppe Maurizio Scutellà's 'Pirce' lamp (both from 2008).

5 The company has garnered prestigious Compasso d'Oro design awards for the 'Eclisse', 'Tolomeo', 'Pipe' and 'IN-EI'.

From top 'Pirce' pendant light by Giuseppe Maurizio Scutellà (2008). 'Castore' spherical lights by Michele De Lucchi and Huub Ubbens (2003). 'IN-EI Minomushi' LED fabric pendant light by Issey Miyake (2012). 'Eclisse' orange table light by Vico Magistretti (1967). 'Tolomeo Micro' table lights by Giancarlo Fassina and Michele De Lucchi (original 1987). Artemide's flagship Hong Kong showroom





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### BRAND TO KNOW

### BOCCI

The Canadian company that allows nature and craft techniques to dictate the forms of its original lights

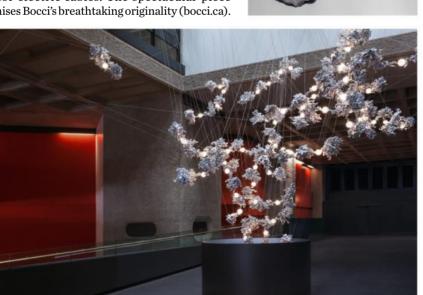
Bocci's sculptural chandeliers, which are made by amassing myriad hand-blown glass pendant lights, make a dramatic impact. Each piece is masterminded by creative director Omer Arbel, who is inspired by the way that materials behave under different volatile conditions – from varying temperatures to gravity. 'We see ourselves as inventors of techniques, not of forms,' says Arbel. One example of this idiosyncratic approach is Bocci's '73', which is made by plunging blown liquid glass into a scrunched-up, heat-resistant fabric. When removed, the hollow glass assumes the fabric's crumpled texture, and an LED bulb is slotted into it. Arranged in clusters of milky white pendants, they resemble clouds. In fact, many Bocci pieces take the form of gargantuan installations.

Bocci's experiments are conducted at its headquarters in Vancouver, by a creative team at its research laboratory and by glass-blowing experts at its glassworks. The company was founded in 2005 by Randall Bishop, a reclusive entrepreneur, and Arbel,



who is an architect. The name is taken from the games of bocci (an Italian variation of boules) that the duo played while discussing their company's future.

Vancouver might seem remote, but Bocci is now internationally renowned, and its arresting light installation '44' currently hangs in the foyer at London's Barbican Centre. Its visceral, rock-like aluminium components transmit electricity to the spherical, pearl-like light sources linking them, obviating the need for electric cables. The spectacular piece epitomises Bocci's breathtaking originality (bocci.ca).





### SIX FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT BOCCI

1 Bishop and Arbel met by chance in New York, where the latter was exhibiting his '14' glass pendant light, which would later become Bocci's first product. Arbel felt disillusioned with the conservatism of architecture in his native Canada and yearned to be more experimental.

**2** The '14' light, which comprises frosted glass orbs housing low-voltage xenon or LED bulbs, is one of Bocci's best sellers.

3 Bocci was initially based in a red barn on farmland before moving to its Vancouver headquarters in 2008. In 2007 it took part in the Milan Furniture Fair for the first time, suspending a chandelier from a forklift truck in the city's Zona Tortona district.

4 Around two in 10 of Bocci's experiments give rise to a new design. These are numbered chronologically, and named accordingly.

5 Bocci's most eccentric design, '38', consists of glass spheres with a multitude of cavities deep enough to hold both plants and lights.

6 A totally different idea from Bocci is '22', a range of electric sockets that sit flush with the wall — an elegant alternative to unsightly, protruding plastic faceplates.

From top A colourful cluster installed at Bocci 79, the company's Berlin showroom, which opened in 2015 and is situated in a converted 19th-century courthouse in Charlottenburg. '76' cascading down a staircase at Bocci 79. '76' detail. The cloud-like forms that make up '73'. The '44' installation



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### **BRAND TO KNOW FLOS**

The Italian powerhouse formed successful partnerships with lighting greats Castiglioni, Scarpa and Starck

In 1962, an exciting new chapter in Italian lighting began when visionary entrepreneur Dino Gavina and Cesare Cassina, co-founder of furniture brand Cassina, set up Flos in Merano, northern Italy. Their mission? To dream up radically innovative lighting designs. The catalyst for this was a meeting with Arturo Eisenkeil, an inventor seeking applications for a technique called 'cocoon', whereby polymer fibres were sprayed on skeletal metal frames. The US army had deployed the technique for packaging and for protecting their Jeeps from adverse weather conditions. Recognising that it could be used for lighting. Gavina and Cassina manufactured several unusual, otherworldly lamps, including the pod-like 'Taraxacum' (1960) by brothers Achille and Pier Giacomo Castiglioni, and Tobia Scarpa's 'Fantasma' (1961), which resembles a huge chrysalis.

Flos's unconventional incorporation of utilitarian elements into its designs, such as the Castiglioni brothers' 1962 'Toio' lamp, crowned by a car headlight, soon became its hallmark. In the 1960s, businessman Sergio Gandini and his wife Piera became partners in the firm: their son Piero has been Flos's CEO since 1996. He has initiated collaborations with illustrious international designers. encouraging them to push the envelope in terms of materials and forms. Memorable examples include Philippe Starck's 'Miss Sissi'

### FLOS BECAME FAMOUS IN THE 1960S FOR ITS UNCONVENTIONAL **USE OF UTILITARIAN ELEMENTS**



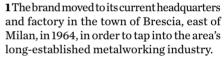
of 1991, shaped like a table light but made of polycarbonate in a blackcurrant hue, and Konstantin Grcic's frosted plastic 'May Day' lamp (2000), topped by a hook that acts as a cable winder.

More recently, Flos has launched Jasper Morrison's 'Superloon' floor lamp with a swivelling disc that emits a silver glow inspired by moonlight, and Patricia Urquiola's leaf-shaped 'Serena' table lamp. By collaborating with such a diverse roster of designers, Flos ensures that its product range is exciting and unpredictable (flos.com).





### FIVE FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT FLOS





4 Flos's UK bestsellers are the 'Arco' lamp, Jasper Morrison's 'Glo-Ball' opaline glass spheres, Michael Anastassiades's 'IC' light (a sphere balanced on a brass or chrome rod, inspired by juggling) and Philippe Starck's 'K Tribe', a contemporary version of a traditional table lamp.

5 Flos's first shop opened in Milan in 1968. It often featured Op-Art inspired window displays created by Achille Castiglioni.

From top 'Viscontea' pendant lights by Achille and Pier Giacomo Castiglioni (1960) hang at the Atrium showroom in London. 'IC' wall light by Michael Anastassiades (2014). 'Superloon' floor light by Jasper Morrison (2015). 'Toio' floor light by the Castiglioni brothers (1962). 'Snoopy' table light by the Castiglioni thers (1967), 'Serena' floor light by Patricia Urquiola





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### LIGHTING DIRECTORY

The showrooms and websites to visit to find the perfect pieces for your home

### ARTEMIDE

An Italian lighting leader with a vast range of contemporary and classic options. A new addition to the range this year is the slim metal-stemmed 'Orsa' pendant light by Foster + Partners (artemide.com).

### BUSTER + PUNCH

Think lighting with a rock'n'roll edge: filament bulbs made from vintage smoked glass and shades crafted from rolled metal with a graphite powder-coated finish. The LED teardrop 'Buster Bulb' is the star buy, and comes in smoked, gold, and crystal finishes (busterandpunch.com).

### CAMERON PETERS FINE LIGHTING

An online consultancy dedicated to designer lighting, from crystal chandeliers by Windfall to Millelumen's minimalist, modular LED systems (cameronpeters.co.uk).

### CHRISTOPHER WRAY Expect to find everything from dazzling Murano glass

dazzling Murano glass chandeliers and ornate brass downlighters to modern table lamps (christopherwray.com).

### CTO LIGHTING

Artisanal and bespoke lighting with a focus on metallic finishes. There are also pieces by Belgian designer Michaël Verheyden and duo Richard Shed and Sam Johnson (ctolighting.co.uk).

### DÄR LIGHTING

A broad spectrum ranging from polished chrome statement pieces to modern crystal lights and traditional chandeliers. Under the David Hunt Lighting brand, you'll also find handcrafted designs that can be customised to fit (darlighting.co.uk).

### DAVID VILLAGE LIGHTING

A Sheffield brand that stocks collections by big names such as Bocci and Moooi, as well as its own 'Light Attack' range (davidvillagelighting.co.uk).

### FONTANA ARTE

Iconic lighting dating from the 1930s onwards. Recent successes include pieces by Sebastian Herkner and Paola Navone, whose 'Pinecone' table light is made from glass that is blown into a metal framework (fontanaarte.com).

### FORBES & LOMAX

Best known for pioneering the invisible light switch, this is the place to go for all kinds of switches and surrounding plates, including rotary dimmers and the company's new sockets with integrated USB ports (forbesandlomax.com).

#### FRITZ FRYER

Herefordshire specialist in both antique and modern chandeliers: expect to find decorative glass pendants, swan neck wall lights and standard lamps. The team also offer restoration and repair services (fritzfryer.co.uk).

### HABITAT

A high-street hit selling playful, contemporary and affordable lighting, from metal tripod floor lamps with paper shades to garlands of neon fairy lights (habitat.co.uk).

### HEAL'S

Well-priced in-house designs, plus lighting by design heavyweights such as Tom Dixon and Lee Broom. Look out for filament bulbs and a good selection of lamp shades, too (heals.com).

### HECTOR FINCH

An extensive, decorative range for use in the home and garden, from classic Italian glass pendants to hanging lanterns and sleek picture lights (hectorfinch.com).

### HOLLOWAYS OF LUDLOW

All types of lighting alongside bulbs, switches and cables. The new 'Caravaggio Read', an updated version of Cecilie Manz's 2005 design, has a flexible arm to better tilt and direct the light (hollowaysofludlow.com).

### IAMB

Reproduction antique lighting by Will Fisher. His signature shape is the globe lantern, which comes with different finishes and elements; one has a band of gilt detailing around its middle (jamb.co.uk).

### JOHN CULLEN LIGHTING

Visit the showroom for a strong offering of architectural and task lighting. The newest launch is the 'Syon', a miniature LED spotlight for use indoors and out (johncullenlighting.com).

1 'Hooked 3.0' stone and brass pendant light, £505, Buster + Punch (busterandpunch.com) 2 'Nami' gold chandelier by Beiko Kaneko £770. SCP (scn couk) 3 'VL.38' table light by Vilhelm Lauritzen £370.







### KREON

A good selection of ultraminimalist recessed lighting in a mostly monochrome palette that blends seamlessly with the architecture of a room (kreon.com).

### LASVIT

This Czech brand is renowned for its high-quality glass lighting collections by the likes of Nendo and Arik Levy, plus limited editions and extravagant sculptures (lasvit.com).

### LLADRÓ

Porcelain lighting with a twist of kitsch, from jaw-dropping gothic chandeliers to a series of cordless 'Firefly' table lamps with fun totem-style stems. Available at Harrods (harrods.com).

### LOUIS POULSEN

This Danish manufacturer collaborates with world-class architects and designers to create simple, refined lighting. The company recently relaunched its elegant 'VL38' table lamp by Vilhelm Lauritzen, with a white shade and brass fittings (louispoulsen.com).

### OCHRE

Contemporary takes on chandelier lighting, such as clusters of glass pebbles. The new 'Mirage' wall light has a sculptural woven stainless-steel shade (ochre.net).

### ORIGINAL BTC

British-made classic and contemporary lighting including the Davey Lighting heritage marine range.
We love the 'Hatton' table light, which has a multifaceted bone china shade that resembles pleated paper (originalbtc.com).

### RALPH LAUREN

Sophisticated floor, table and wall lights, as well as stylish ceiling fixtures. New arrivals include the Art Deco-style 'Rivington Billiard' in brass and clear ribbed glass (ralphlauren.com).

### REMAINS

A mix of restored 20th-century vintage lighting, new designs produced in the company's New York factory and a Modernist-inspired collection by hip LA studio Commune (remains.com).

### ROWEN & WREN

This homewares brand sources pared-back utility-style lights with metallic finishes. Highlights include exquisite antique bronze lights from France, a range of handmade 'Brenna' floor lamps in tarnished silver, and the 'Selby' pendant light (rowenandwren.co.uk).

### SCP

The British retailer sells exclusive new designs alongside a great range of classics, such as George Nelson's mid-century pieces. The collection by American design studio Roll & Hill features sleek wall sconces by Fort Standard and cascade chandeliers by Lindsey Adelman (scp.co.uk).

### SKANDIUM

A veritable mecca for lighting by past and present greats – expect an especially good selection from Scandinavian brands such as Fritz Hansen, Muuto, Le Klint and Louis Poulsen. We love the new Studioilse version of the 'Billy' table lamp, which has an oiled rosewood stem and brass feet (skandium.com).

### SKINFLINT

A salvage specialist selling enamel US paratrooper pendants, 1930s industrial German factory lights and 1960s opaline wall lights, all of which have been carefully restored (skinflintdesign.co.uk).

### TRAINSPOTTERS

A brilliant selection of vintage industrial lighting and re-makes of classic designs based on originals that are now hard to find (trainspotters.co.uk).

### **TWENTYTWENTYONE**

Everything from the final batch of Modernist lighting by Peter Nelson to the new 'Hotaru' collection by Barber & Osgerby, inspired by Japanese lanterns (twentytwentyone.com).

### WIRED CUSTOM LIGHTING

Statement lights – think pewter pendants and table lamps with Murano glass bases – that can be tailored to specific dimensions. You can also commission one-off lights of your own design (wired-designs.com).

5 'Smart Stab Light' silver light trio by Arik Levy, £410 as pictured, Artemide (artemide.com) 6 'Pinecone' table light by Paola Navone, £1,032, Fontana Arte com) 7 Copper pendant light £180, Jamb (jamb co.uk) 8 'Birdy' table light £209, Holloways of Ludlow (hollowaysoffudlow com) 9 'Walter' glass and



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# ESCAPE









### **FURNITURE FOR LOAFERS**





Look beyond the high-street displays. Here is our alternative guide to inspiring illuminations, indoors and out

#### **INDOORS**

The only surviving London residence of Charles Dickens, 28 Doughty Street (3) will this month be transformed with Victorian decorations – dried oranges, holly and ivy. Visit on 14 or 21 December for a performance of *A Christmas Carol* at dusk, or join carol singing around the piano on Christmas Eve (dickensmuseum.com). Yorkshire's Castle Howard also pulls out all the stops for the season, festooning its grand Baroque interiors with more than 50 fresh Christmas trees and garlands of greenery and winter berries from the estate (castlehoward.co.uk).



### 2. BRAVE WINTER SWIMMING

We Brits may take a little more cajoling into year-round outdoor swimming than our Scandinavian counterparts, but this series of heated outdoor pools should help to enthuse us. East London's London Fields Lido reopened in 2006 as a heated venue with colourful lockers (hackney.gov.uk), while Bristol's Grade II-listed lido also has a small yet stylish spa (lidobristol.com). And, if a midwinter bathe really doesn't appeal, try breakfast at Brockwell Lido (above): its pretty café looks out on to the water (thelidocafe.co.uk). Finally, we are excited about Thames Lido – an Edwardian pool in Reading

#### **OUTDOORS**

As twilight falls on 23 November, Kew Gardens (1) switches on its annual 'Christmas at Kew' mile-long installation. Our favourite part is the 'Tunnel of Light', lit by 60,000 bulbs (23 November–2 January; kew.org). In Buckinghamshire, Waddesdon Manor (2) welcomes light artist Bruce Munro's 'Field of Light' into the grounds (9 November–2 January; waddesdon.org.uk). Finally, Dulwich Picture Gallery (4) presents 'Winterlights', including two ornate trees by Nagual Creations (6–18 December; dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk).

### 3. LEARN TO MAKE DECORATIONS AND DELICACIES

Take a break from present buying and enrol in a class that will teach you to create something unique

Chocolate making Learn the art of cocoa from the crème de la crème at The Savoy's chocolate and pastry masterclasses. A crash course in ganache, tempering and emulsions, then a three-course lunch (27 November, £185; fairmont.com).

**Gilding baubles** Equipping pupils with four glass orbs, sheets of gold leaf and a paintbrush, Judy Weatherall teaches the skill of making tree decorations in a one-day course at West Dean College in Sussex (1 December, £139; westdean.org.uk).

Calligraphy Suzie Dickens' workshops are held throughout the year, but book in this month for a festive evening class dedicated to tags and cards (9 and 30 November, £55; a-laise.co.uk).











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### 4. REDISCOVER ARTISTIC GREATS

The work of two top 20th-century artists is celebrated in must-see retrospectives this month. Tate Britain takes a look at the work of painter Paul Nash in its autumn blockbuster. He's best-known for his war scenes, which demonstrate his frustration with conflict through Cubist-influenced paintings, but also on display will be work from peacetime (The Rye Marshes, 1932; top) and studies of flora and fauna (until 5 March; tate.org.uk). Over at central London's Waterhouse & Dodd gallery, the New York graphic artist, printmaker and renowned optimist Paul Peter Piech is celebrated with a rare selling exhibition of his woodcut and linocut prints. Some pieces are emblazoned with political quotes and his signature disarming illustrations, while others tap into a gentler side (My Own Mind In My Own Church, right; 22 November-17 December; waterhousedodd.com).







A visit to the glorious Geffrye Museum Of The Home, whose collections show how middle-class abodes have been furnished and lived in from 1600 to the present day, will be extra special this Christmas. Each room is decorated in the festive style of the period: a Victorian wonderland is decked out in floral chintz and a fir tree; the 1910 sitting room heralds the arrival of crackers and presents under the tree; and colourful paper chains hang from the ceiling in the 1965 room (above). Even the trendy 1998 loft-style apartment has fairy lights and a Nigella Lawson cookbook on the breakfast bar (22 November–8 January 2017; geffrye-museum.org.uk).



### 7. DESIGN THE PERFECT WREATH

These classes will show you how to bring cheer and style to your front door

Scented Young florist Chloë Robinson's convivial workshops in Cheshire are a rare treat. Mimosa, plump vibernum berries and eucalyptus adorn pupils' creations, alongside festive favourites spruce, thistle and birch (6 and 9 December, £35; chloerobinsondesign.com).

**Quirky** The duo behind The Flower Appreciation Society will teach class-goers in their Hackney studio to weave seasonal foliage, pine and dried limes into romantic-looking roundels (12 and 14 December, £75; flowerappreciationsociety.co.uk).

**Scottish** In Edinburgh's wonderful Botanic Gardens, pupils use Scottish fir and flora to make wreaths fit for a king. Arrive early and take a tour of the gardens (3 December, £50; rbge.org.uk).

Classic Judith Blacklock is holding two wreath workshops at her Knightsbridge Flower School (pictured; 3 and 8 December, £150), as well as a flower-arranging morning that starts with a dawn tour of the New Covent Garden Flower Market (5 and 7 December, £165; judithblacklock.com).

**6. Book tickets** The National Theatre's Christmas programme of evening events brings wit and wisdom to London's South Bank throughout December. Most magical will be an evening held to celebrate Allie Esiri's new poetry anthology, 'A Poem For Every Night of the Year' (Pan Macmillan, £16.99), on 25 November, when



SDS:





The season of the spectacle is upon us. Here are our top theatre picks

The skyline of theatreland in London's West End has changed: the Grade-II listed Shaftesbury Theatre (above), built in 1911, now has a dramatic weathered steel fly tower (the structure above the stage from which scenery, lights and props are dropped onto set) atop its original red-brick façade, by Bennetts Associates. Now showing? The all-singing, all-dancing Motown: The Musical, which charts the careers of Stevie Wonder and Diana Ross (until October 2017; shaftesburytheatre.com). Also in London, Hans Christian Anderson's famous tales are showcased in two strikingly different ways. Choreographer supremo Matthew Bourne's brand new adaptation of Red Shoes at Sadler's Wells promises to astound with costume and set design by the awardwinning Lez Brotherston (6 December-29 January 2017; sadlerswells.com). At the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, *The Little Matchgirl* will be a fairytale match for its atmospheric candlelit stage (24 November-22 January 2017; shakespearesglobe.com).



### 9. MEET THE NEW STARS OF CRAFT

Cockpit Arts, the social enterprise that supports craftspeople at the start of their careers, is holding Christmas Open Studio weekends at its two sites in Holborn (24-27 November) and Deptford (2-4 December). See a porcelain vessel be thrown (vessels by Eleanor Lakelin, pictured), an apprentice silversmith forging Bauhaus-inspired jewellery, or a marbled book being bound. We'll be joining the queue to see bursary awardee Charlie Laurie making his beautiful leatherwork (cockpit

10. Book a table When you make a dinner reservation using new app and website ChariTable, the restaurant donates £1 for every diner to a UK charity - there are 7,000 to choose from. With eateries on ChariTable's books ranging from The Wolseley and Petersham Nurseries to the tiny Honey & Co, country pubs and chains such as Piccolino, Bill's and Aubaine, this could be the most enjoyable and easy way to do good (charitablebookings.org).

### 11. TOUR LONDON WITH THE EXPERTS

Put one of these three new city guides on your pre-Christmas wishlist

London Uncovered: Sixty Unusual Places to Explore by Mark Daly and Peter Dazeley (Frances Lincoln, £30) is an excellent book for those of us who can't see for looking. Even lifelong Londoners will be amazed at what has been in front of their noses all along - from subterranean libraries to quirky museums.

East London Food by Rosie Birkett and Helen Cathcart (Hoxton Mini Press, £26) proves there's more to Hackney's food and drink scene than trendy lattes.

London Precincts (Hardie Grant, £17.99) is a vibrantly illustrated bible for newcomers to London, by Fiona McCarthy. It takes readers round the metropolis neighbourhood by neighbourhood, pointing out must-visit markets and the odd surprise, such as







arts.com).



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### STYLISH INTERIORS

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### DAVID STUDWELL

David Studwell often uses figures that are synonymous with certain eras, in particular the swinging sixties. Marilyn Monroe, Steve McQueen and Elizabeth Taylor all feature in his work evoking a strong sense of nostalgia and bringing elements of the past into the present. He has exhibited in London and also the USA, and been published. Featured here is 'David Bowie,' a limited edition silk screen (56 x 45cm, £300). Visit www.davidstudwellgallery.co.uk or





### **BEFORE BREAKFAST**

Inspired by a scene in Edwin A. Abbott's 1884 novella Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions, in which a square who inhabits a two-dimensional world meets a sphere from a three-dimensional world. It is screen-printed by hand in Before Breakfast's East London studio using water-based pigments before being sewn together with care and attention to detail. www.beforebreakfast.london or email info@beforebreakfast.london for more information



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### THESE PLEASE

These Please is one of those innovative growing companies you ought to know about but probably haven't come across before. They design beautiful ceramic door knobs which can be used to transform kitchen units and bedroom furniture. There's an Aladdin's cave of hundreds of knobs in different colours, styles and patterns. "Totally and utterly gorgeous". Please visit www.theseplease.co.uk or call 01435 817153 and Elle Decoration readers can save 10% on their first order by using code ED10. Pictured "South Downs" set of



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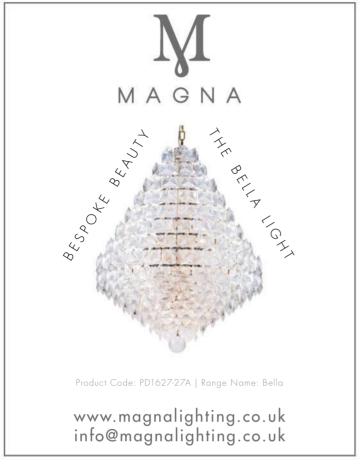


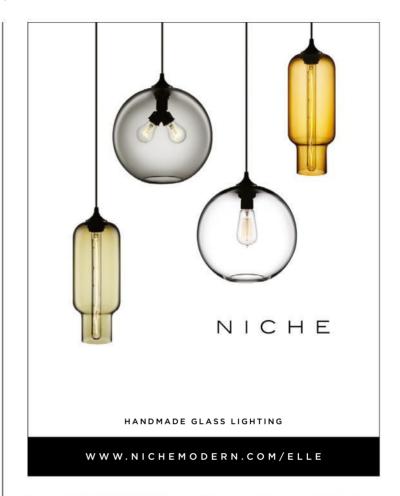


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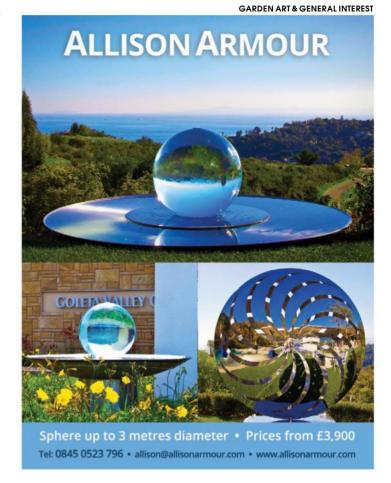


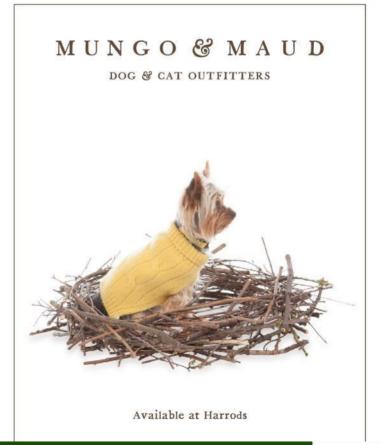
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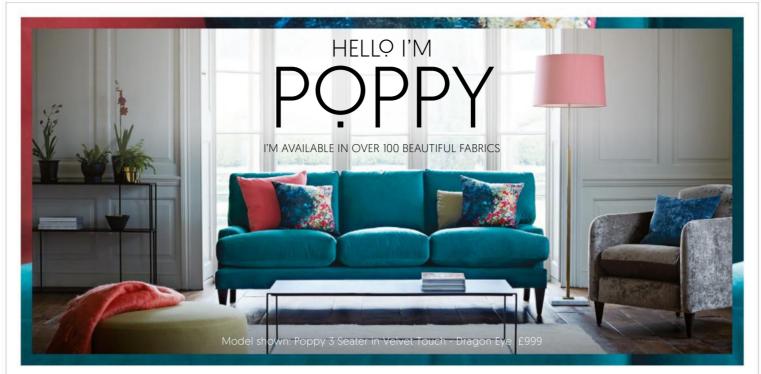




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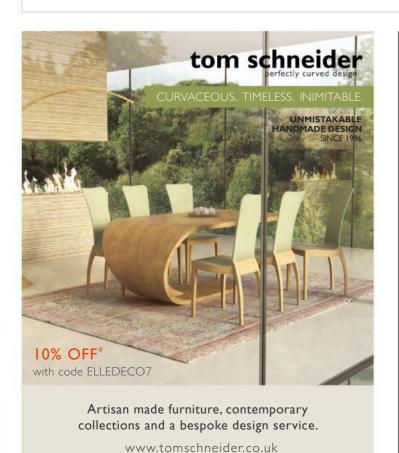
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If time, money and family rituals were no obstacle, what would your dream Christmas be? For #TeamED it's a heady mix of fireside comfort, adventure and winter sunshine

2 Tony Peters Art Director

### 1 Michelle Ogundehin Editor-in-Chief

In my vuletide fantasies. I have rented an enormous Italian villa. large enough to accommodate each faction of my family in a separate wing. We congregate at 11am on Christmas morning in the great hall, warmed by two large open fires, with a huge real tree as its centrepiece. Present opening is followed by a seven-course lunch, after which the grown-ups are rolled to a TV snug while the kids run it all off watched over by a Mary Poppins-esque nanny.

### 3 Jack Melrose Junior Designer

Frozen lakes, snow-dusted forests and vast mountains sum up Alaska, the picturesque backdrop to my ideal Christmas. I'd stay in a cabin with my family and friends; we'd explore the wilderness and see the Northern Lights.



4 Sarah Morgan Deputy Chief Sub Editor I dream of spending the festive season in an English country house that has enough space for everyone I love to come together in comfort. My ultimate venue would be The Pig hotel in Brockenhurst, because its cosy drawing rooms would look stunning decked out in classic decorations.

My dream Christmas would be to take my family to the

mountains. It hasn't snowed properly in the UK since

my children were born, but every time we have a light

dusting they get so excited. I'd love to teach them

then spend the whole day on the slopes.

to ski or snowboard. We'd open presents first thing,

### 5 Charlotte Brook Junior

**Features Writer** 

The only element that Christmas lacks is a bit of adventure. Money no object, I'd escort the family to a hitherto unvisited corner of the British Isles - nothing too exotic. Lundy island or Ireland's west

coast - and we'd stay in a large Landmark Trust house. Once there it would be festive business as usual (walking, talking, fires, films) until Christmas Day, when I'd ban cooking and treat everyone to lunch at a nearby pub.







6 Clare Sartin Chief Sub Editor When it comes to Christmas I want there to be a festive chill in the air and a deep, pillowy covering of snow on the ground. That's why my perfect Christmas would be spent in

a log cabin in Sweden. It would be somewhere far from the city, where my family and I could relax, bicker, and drink plenty of gløgg (sweetened, very boozy, mulled wine).

### **7 Rosie Cave**

Editor's Assistant On a remote beach, somewhere in the Indian ocean, where there are Piña









### 8 Amy Bradford

**Features** Director I'd like to see a favourite city, Venice, as I've never seen it before: in winter. Venice is

exquisite when the summer sun dances on the water, but I'd love to see it in the tenebrous weather of Christmas-time as well, empty of tourists with festive lights twinkling as the sea mists roll in. Perhaps for New Year I'd take the train to St Petersburg, Russia, known as the Venice of the North.

### Coladas on tap, a surfing Santa Claus and guaranteed sunshine. Christmas is the one time of the year that my whole family have off work, so it would be nice to spend it together somewhere where we can relax.

9 Alex Kristal Decorating Editor If money were no object, I'd take my family to the Yucatán Peninsula in Mexico, even



**Deputy Art Director** I'd lie on the beach in Barbados, with a good book during the day and dinner with friends at night. Surely nobody truly enjoys the long, cold December nights in the UK?

11 Jackie Daly Homes Editor My fantasy would be to board the Orient Express and travel to Budapest for a connection with the Polar Express. I'd be travelling to a winter wonderland - the skyline set aglow by the Northern Lights - and be joined by loved ones in a festive log cabin for Christmas Day

though the basic cabañas on the beach that I remember from 20 years ago are more likely to be chi-chi resorts now. There really is nothing like being in the sunshine to beat those winter blues



### SKANDIUM°



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