



Love Interiors

Designer Jo Love injects some spring style into the home

love your interiors

Creating a dream home should be fun and creative. The reality - setting and running budgets, controlling costs, managing people, sticking to schedules and making all those decisions - can be daunting.

Careful planning and seeking inspiration are key to getting it right. I am a great fan of lists and huge scrapbooks to get you started. Cut and stick

into your scrapbook anything that evokes the kind of look and atmosphere you want to create. It does not cost anything to dream, so open your mind and start writing a list. You will be surprised how easily your dreams can come true!

Jo's list

To help you work out what you want, complete the following list and take it to any designer, architect or furniture supplier. They will give you feedback which will help you achieve your desired look:

- 1/ What are your interests?
- 2/ What kind of environments and spaces make you happy in each room?
- 3/ List your 'must have' items, whether a dining space or even a space to work from home.

4/ For your bedroom, what style makes you relaxed.

5/ List any places you admire that you would love your home to look like.

6/ With no budget restrictions, how would you imagine your dream home.

7/ What are the important qualities that make your home a home.

8/ Include your recycling regime in your new plans to make it easy to be green and to save energy.

Jo's spring tips

colour

- Start to infuse those dated beiges and neutrals with bright colours, pastels and textures.
- Don't go for one accent colour in a room, go for a combination of colours and textures on a base palette.
- Avoid the beige carpet and be brave with stripes and colour or use rugs. Timber floors still look good and if you use laminate flooring try and avoid the lighter shades.

wallpapers

- Use wallpapers to add texture and colour. You don't always have to go for a print that you will get bored with, look at the textures that are available now on wallpapers, or clad your walls with interesting natural and man-made materials or use timbers.



Habitat

World's End Tiles



Heals

love your interiors

bathrooms

- Use traditional furniture mixed with ultra modern fittings.
- Don't be tempted to tile everywhere but just in the wet zones. Get the look of real stone with porcelains or ceramics.
- Paint sections of walls or use suitable wall coverings.

kitchens

- Go for sleek and modern designs hand-built to suit.
- Mix timbers with lacquers and painted units. Inject some colour into the room with an individual unit or upholstered piece.

lighting

- Make suspended lights, floor and side lamps interesting and decorative. Use discreet lighting.

storage

- Storage is important in minimising clutter. Use hidden and sleek style storage solutions as a backdrop to your design pieces. Choose one-off pieces and give them space to present themselves.



Heals

eclectic taste

Eclectic is no excuse for clutter - keep on those auction websites and don't keep anything that you don't need. Keep anything that is of interest or has a great story to it, to decorate your home. Mix vintage with modern chic.

balance

- Make sure you balance all the rooms in your home with the same intensity of colour. It is just as good to know when to stop!
- Pick out just a few strong pieces of furniture, or a wall finish, to be the prominent features in a room. Layer with medium strength items and the remainder should fit into the background.

individual

- Feel free to put your own signature on your home, make it your own by using the unique things that you like.

Jo Love of Love Interiors and Richard Baker of Richard Baker Furniture Ltd have combined their respective talents to offer a complete design service on your home interiors. From furniture design including wardrobes, kitchens and freestanding pieces to soft furnishings, colour schemes and lighting. Richard's showroom is now extending its opening times and is offering this service every Saturday from 10am-4.00pm.

Richard Baker Furniture Ltd, Wimbledon Studios, 257 Burlington Road, New Malden
020 8336 1777 www.richardbakerfurniture.co.uk