

MAKE YOUR DREAM HOME A REALITY

REALHOMES.COM

REAL HOMES

10
steps to a
budget-friendly
kitchen

**BEFORE
+ AFTERS**

**60 PAGES OF
STUNNING HOME
MAKEOVERS**

**EXTENSIONS
MADE EASY**

No planning
permission
needed!

**THE BEST
BUILT-IN
STORAGE
FOR EVERY
ROOM**

**Cool
caramels**

THE MODERN WAY TO DECORATE
WITH THIS RETRO PALETTE

**BEST
BUYS**

**COSY
LOVESEATS**

**SPACIOUS
LARDERS**

**VINYL AND
LAMINATE
FLOORING**

FUTURE

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Glass act

Keeping doors closed in winter can lead to gloomy halls and dark landings where there are no windows to let daylight in. Don't let this be a barrier to brightness. These LPD industrial-style doors have enough glazing to keep the light flowing through rooms. A perfect combination of contemporary and classic, they have Art Deco influences and the look of the black steel-framed doors that are as on-trend now as when they were first designed back in the Victorian era. But they also have an urban edge that'll fit with a modern loft-like scheme. They cost from £213.99, Moda Doors



SCREEN SCENE

If you're struggling to make space for the home office you suddenly find yourself needing, adding a screen to an existing room could be an economical answer. B&Q's new Alara range of modular room dividers can create a private zone and provide a professional backdrop for all those Zoom calls. You could also divide a shared bedroom or even create a corridor in an open-plan home with them. They can be customised with windows, corkboards, oak slats and shelving. Post extenders to the ceiling keep them secure. Panels for the divider start from £40. B&Q



Adoration Rose,
Poison into
Medicine

Leaves of Grass,
Colours of my Mind

Energetic Grey,
Poison into
Medicine

Piero Purple,
Poison into
Medicine

PAINT IT GREEN



Happy anniversary to Francesca's Paintal! It's 25 years since colourist Francesca Wözel founded her sustainable paint company – one of the first in the UK to specialise in eco paint. The colours Francesca creates aren't just about being green, they tell a story. The two latest collections, Poison into Medicine and Colours of my Mind, are inspired by art and words. The first emulates the serenity of Piero della Francesca's 15th-century painting *The Nativity*. The latter explore the idea of words as colours and embodies the pleasure of reading. From £21.52 for 1ltr of eco emulsion



Lead the car charge

Mandy Simpson, brand director at Anderson EV (anderson-ev.com), reveals how to switch on to charging your electric car.

WHAT OPTIONS ARE THERE FOR CHARGING YOUR CAR AT HOME?

You can use a domestic three-pin plug socket for 2.3kW of power for emergency slow charging and keep your car ticking over. Most drivers prefer the speed and convenience of installing a home fast charging point. About 350,000 homes will be fitted with electric vehicle chargers by 2025. If it's a smart charger, it qualifies for a Government grant.

WHAT ARE THESE GRANTS?

The Government offers grants to support the wider use of electric and hybrid vehicles via the Electric Vehicle Home Charge Scheme (EVHS). For home charging, the OLEV grant allows electric vehicle drivers to claim up to £350 for a home charging point. You can claim one charge point per eligible vehicle and up to two eligible vehicles per household. In Scotland, there's also a £300 Energy Savings Trust (EST) grant.

WHAT SHOULD I CONSIDER BEFORE CHOOSING A CHARGER?

Find out your home's power supply and decide if it's sufficient. For example, is a 7kW charger enough or would you prefer an extra boost to a 22kW option to charge your car more quickly? Our Anderson A2 7kW option is supported by a single-phase power supply, which 90 per cent of households in the UK have. But if you have a three-phase power supply to your home, or want to upgrade to one, you can get up to 22kW of power. Look for a charger in finishes and colours to suit your home.

DO CHARGERS SUIT DIFFERENT CARS?

It depends on the charger – always check. Ours are compatible with all electric and hybrid plug-in vehicles, so will still work if you switch to a new car.

