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# Livingetc

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## THE BIG REFRESH

style inspiration  
from the world's  
most beautiful  
kitchens & bathrooms

**COOL KIDS' ROOMS**  
DECOR FOR LITTLE  
ONES THAT LASTS  
THROUGH THE AGES

**40**  
new-season  
sofas and  
chairs  
\*FOR LIVING  
SPACES BIG  
AND SMALL

march 2022



# RENOVATION NEWS

INNOVATIVE IDEAS FOR KITCHENS, BATHROOMS AND PROJECTS

## HOT CHOCOLATE

Colour trend alert! Sludgy brown cabinetry is the order of 2022, according to kitchen specialist deVOL. The brand has seen an increasing interest in the earthy hue and in this latest project, based near London's Regent's Park, the shade is paired with oak and understated brass hardware. 'It's very sophisticated and grown-up and works so beautifully with little glints of brass and black slate,' says Helen Parker, deVOL's creative director. Take note... **Classic English kitchen by deVOL, from £25,000 (devolkitchens.co.uk)**



## Brass notes

Luxury architectural and electrical hardware brand Heritage Brass has launched Signac, a capsule collection consisting of curved door handles, elongated cabinet handles and circular cupboard knobs. When it comes to finishes you are spoilt for choice with seven offerings, from polished nickel to antique brass. You can even pair them with sockets and switches for a more eye-pleasing look. From £11.45 (m-marcus.com/heritage-brass)

**Cuple's French Door CAFF42 fridge freezer** has a 'holiday mode' so you can switch off a single compartment that's not in use, £1,651



## Hex appeal

Antique brass and matt black finishes are among the most desirable right now so Abode has created a kitchen tap that gives the best of both worlds. The dual-tone Hex has a striking industrial design with knurling on the spout tip, giving it a stylish yet distinctive look. From £356 (abodedesigns.co.uk)



## SHINE ON

Rangemaster has unveiled its new range of Spectra kitchen sinks in three finishes - copper, gold and graphite. Each is supplied with fittings for inset and undermount installation, making them compatible with all worktops. Not just that, the sinks are scratch-resistant so there will be little to take the shine off these pieces. Spectra 1.5-bowl PVD sink in copper, £640 (rangemaster.co.uk)



## PRINTS CHARMING

Want to add some pattern to your bathroom walls but wary of using wallpaper? The ceramic floral tile, Wildflower Rose from Original Style, might just hit the sweet spot. Inspired by the wildflowers of the British countryside seen during walks at the height of the pandemic, the pretty print is instantly transformative, softening the hard surfaces usually found in bathrooms. Part of the Living range, its colourways include gold and violet, but we particularly love the soft pink hues, which would be perfectly set against earthy green. **£79.95sq m (originalstyle.com)**

## 3 of the best

### SINGLE PILLAR BATHROOM LIGHTS



A long-time favourite for those in the know, this has a dimmer and comes in weathered brass (shown), polished brass and chrome-plated finishes.  
**Davey Lighting offset pillar wall light, £765 (originalbtc.com)**



This art deco-inspired piece is made from multiple glass rods that are topped and toed with brass – and it has a rather appealing price.  
**Long Roddy wall light, £131 (pooky.com)**



Slim and elegant, this beautiful satin-finish light is created from reeded brass and precision-cut fluted glass, and is also available in a double version.  
**Flume wall light, £588 (jadamsandco.com)**

### EXPERT INSIGHT

## engineered wood flooring

**Robert Walsh, founder and owner of Ted Todd, on all you need to know about the solid timber alternative**

“**Engineered wood flooring is a real hardwood floor** – unlike laminate, vinyl or LVT. It has many benefits over solid wood floors, such as being able to use it over underfloor heating. Engineered wood floors should also not be confused with a ‘real wood veneer’ floor, which is where the top layer is only 1mm or less.

**When choosing an engineered wood floor**, you’ll want to consider some technical practicalities as well as how the floor looks. Ask yourself questions such as: where will the floor be fitted, will it be installed over underfloor heating, will it be laid next to other floor coverings such as tile, and how will this impact the thickness that is needed?

**Our engineered floors are made from layered sections of solid wood.** The top layer of an engineered board is known as the wear layer and ranges from 3mm to 6mm. This will be what you see when the floor is installed and may be European oak, pine or walnut, for example. Wood floors can be sanded and resealed, so the thicker the wear layer, the more often you can do this over the years. The most important factor when looking into the construction of an engineered wood floor is what the layers are made from. Furniture-grade birch plywood is a good choice and has a lot of weight to it.

**Within the industry, 10mm/12mm-20mm thicknesses** are pretty standard for engineered floors. It is common for 10mm or 12mm wood floors to have a wear layer of only 1mm or 2mm, which doesn’t give you the longevity you’d expect. We make a 12mm floor that has a 4mm wear layer, which is unusual for the industry, as it still gives the option to sand down over the years.

**A 20mm floor with a 6mm wear layer** is the absolute best you can buy. Our 20mm floors come with a 25-year guarantee, as we’re so confident in the quality and construction of them.

**You can install engineered wood floors** in any room, including bathrooms. Make sure the room is well ventilated and that you use a thick, good quality bath mat when getting out of the bath or shower to catch any splashes. However, it is a specialist project and we would never recommend that anyone DIY it.

**Engineered wood flooring is extremely sustainable** – just make sure that the floor is FSC or PEFC certified.



tedtodd.co.uk