

Keep it eco-chic

We're all having to redefine the way we use our space, but that doesn't mean sacrificing style – or sustainability. Here are some tips and hacks for making a difference in your own home



The home office

Working from home has made us all reconsider our home workspace, and as flexible working is likely to become more the norm even after lockdown restrictions have been lifted, it's an increasingly important element of the interior. Bringing natural materials and textures into an office or work area is a good way of reconnecting with the outside world, which can help

to aid concentration and create a feeling of well-being. Look for sustainably sourced wooden furniture such as West Elm's mid-century-style desks. An easy fix is to find a piece of reclaimed wood from a salvage site, such as Lassco (lassco.co.uk), and secure it to the wall as a floating desk. Decorate walls with pale, earthy shades for a calming vibe, and add woven baskets for easy storage.

← Desk, £525, chair, £155, baskets, from £35, and vases, from £22, all **Rose & Grey** (roseandgrey.co.uk)



↑ FSC-certified wood desk, £559, **West Elm** (westelm.co.uk)



↑ Rattan and oak desk, £399, **La Redoute** (laredoute.co.uk)



↑ Bamboo table lamp, £25, **Ikea** (ikea.com)

Words: Jessica Doyle



TOP TIP
Plants and branches in vases reinforce the natural look. Add cosiness with wool throws, or look out for soft textiles made from recycled plastic

Light-impact living rooms

Buying vintage furniture, and saving it from landfill, is a good way of making eco choices while also adding individuality and character to a room. Try websites such as Vinterior (vinterior.co) and Ceraudo (ceraudo.com) for an edited selection if you can't bear trawling through eBay. For new pieces, Anthropologie is selling stylish natural rattan furniture by Anglo-African brand Hadede, and John Lewis has debuted a plastic- and foam-free sofa and armchair. Natural paints, such as those by Edward Bulmer and Bauwerk Colour, are better for the planet and air quality within the home, and both brands do a good range of colours with a high-quality finish.



↑ Rattan lounge, £800, **Hadede x Anthropologie** (anthropologie.com)



↑ Foam-free armchair, £1,399, **John Lewis & Partners** (johnlewis.com). **Left** Furniture and accessories in natural materials, all **John Lewis & Partners** (as before)

FIVE OF THE BEST

Eco-friendly fragrances



Light candle, £48, **Evermore London** (evermorelondon.com)



Warm Cotton soy-blend candle, £44, **Clean Space** (spacenk.com)



Bergamot + Wild Flowers candle, from £15, **Holistic London** (thisisholisticlondon.com)



Circe candle, £49, **Polkra** (polkra.com)



Blossom & Gilt reed diffuser, £50, **Ashley & Co** (johnlewis.com)



Better bathrooms

There are a few simple, eco-conscious hacks you can use in the bathroom, such as adding an extra bin for recycling, and investing in refillable dispensers for soap, shower gel and shampoo (brands such as L'Occitane and Ashley & Co offer product refills). Or, try going plastic-free with solid soap and shampoo bars. Julia Watkins's new book, *Simply Living Well* (Hardie Grant, £16.99), is full of advice and recipes for making natural bathroom products (see left). There are also shower heads that reduce water usage, such as Grohe's Rainshower range, which uses up to 40 per cent less water. Your choice of towels is also a chance to lessen your impact. Sheridan and Christy use organic cotton, and while striped hammam towels look great hanging on bathroom hooks, they are also much lighter than regular towels, so take up less space in the washing machine and dry much faster.

Cotton-mix hammam towel, £36, **Bohemia** (bohemiadesign.co.uk)



Organic-cotton towels, from £3, **Sheridan** (sheridanaustralia.co.uk)



Kinder kitchens

To update cabinets, British Standard's new handles, a collaboration with eco-luxury brand Elvis & Kresse, are made from decommissioned fire hoses, making them both chic and hard-wearing. If you're planning a whole new kitchen, look for energy-efficient, water-saving appliances and sustainable materials such as bamboo worktops (which also have antibacterial qualities).



Fire hose cupboard pull, £37, **British Standard x Elvis & Kresse** (britishstandardcupboards.co.uk)



Clay cooking pot, £59, **Tiipoi** (tiipoi.com)

TOP TIP
Stock kitchen shelves and worktops with eco-chic accessories in wood, ceramic and clay



Left The Sebastian Cox Kitchen, from £15,000, **deVOL** (devolkitchens.co.uk)

Right Linen bedding, from £23, **Nordic House** (nordichouse.co.uk)



Recycled wine glasses, £34 for four, **LSA** (lsa-international.com)

Nina Plummer of Ingredients LDN

Sleep easier

Over seven million mattresses are burnt or sent to landfill each year in the UK. But you can now buy mattresses that can be recycled rather than discarded at the end of their life, such as Button & Sprung's foam-free one, and Naturalmat's all-natural, chemical-free mattresses and bedding. Woolroom, which makes beds and bedding using

British wool, has just launched a traceable bedding range, where you can scan a QR code to find out about the farmers who provided the wool for each product. For sheets, linen (pictured) is a sustainable choice, and has a casual elegance. A more affordable option is bedding from Sainsbury's Home, made from cotton and recycled plastic bottles.

TOP TIP
As well as requiring less water than other natural fibres to grow, linen helps to regulate body temperature while you sleep

