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 ${\tt LESSON\ LEARNT\ 'Work\ with\ a\ builder\ you\ can\ trust\ and\ a\ designer\ who}$

understands your taste. We didn't discover the hard way but have friends who did'



very time Sadie Tew returns home she is reminded of why she was initially drawn to her house. "We're surrounded by horse paddocks, country lanes, open fields, the willage duck pond and beautiful walks,' says Sadie. "It's my sanctuary." And now a forever space shared with artist husband Justin and their nine-year-old son Jolyon. "I visited the nearby town of Woburn for a friend's wedding and lowed the area,' says Sadie." It hen came to view this house on a whim and it literally wrapped its arms around me." Fast forward 23 years and the original farm cottages are now

juxtaposed with two contemporary extensions accommodating an open-plan space with a kitchen, cosy living and dining areas, and a vaulted master bedroom suite with a study above.

The timber-dad extensions, sympathetic to the local architecture, open onto an elegant pool and pale limestone patio area, that has been artfully landscaped. In the summer, the feel is Mediterranean chic meets contemporary country, with a delightful selection of trees and sculptural topiary. Sadie's fast-paced career working at Ralph Lauren means that she frequently travels abroad. Home is my escape and in

summer we love to host long relaxed lunches – Justin is a great cook, 'she says.' I grew up in Majorca and wanted to emulate that glamorous and serene outdoor feel.' Inside the house, structural changes were made largely by Justin.' I tend to come up with the coup de coeur, then Justin focuses on the detail and research'; says Sadie. 'He has a really good design eye.' 'A converted outhouse by the kitchen is now home to Justin's studio, where he produces his colourful attwork. With the building work complete, Sadie enlisted the help of her friend and interior designer, João Botelho, founder of

Casa Botelho, to come up with a beautiful new scheme for the house. We met 20 years ago and share a mutual fervour for fashion, explains Sadie. I had already chosen a few special pieces, but I was keen to work with Jodo to transform and upgrade our living spaces. His iconic "masculine glamour" style is in tune with my lowe of clean lines and simplicity. Having also worked previously for Nicole Farhi and Michael Kors, Sadie's style is highly influenced by luxury design, high-quality materials and bespoke finishes, all with a timeless longevity. Art deco influences, jewel-toned furnishings and a

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sense of symmetry prevail throughout, with pairs of mirrors, consoles, wardrobes, chairs and tables, thoughtfully chosen from Casa Botelho's bespoke collections. Forest green marble and dark bronze metal finishes have been used to help unite the spaces,' says Sadie. 'I like to keep colours calm, lines simple and always by the best I can afford.'

The sitting room and sing are in the original beamed cottage, and have been designed as more formal spaces. 'The bespoke drinks cabinet in here is among my most cherished pieces,' explains Sadie. Shades of ivory, blue and beige add a

calm aesthetic to the master bedroom and bespoke designs in textural leather, marble and American walnut contrast with the rustic vaulted beams. Our bedroom is one of my favourite spaces, says Sadie. Yat night, the moon shines through the skylights and by day we enjoy views from the Juliette balcony, across the garden and paddocks.'

For Sadie and Justin, their home is the culmination of their life experiences, travel influences and design collaborations. 'The house always inspires us,' says Sadie. We're very lucky to live here and never take it for granted.

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