

# Livingetc

THE HOMES MAGAZINE FOR MODERN LIVING

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## 50 fabulous ROOMS

27-page style  
and inspiration  
special

**NEW COLOUR  
DIRECTIONS**  
FROM CARDINAL RED  
TO THE PALEST PINK

## CHIC URBAN SPACES

To-die-for homes  
packed with ideas

## MID-CENTURY MODERN

DESIGN PIECES WITH A  
CONTEMPORARY TWIST

## SHOPPING FOCUS

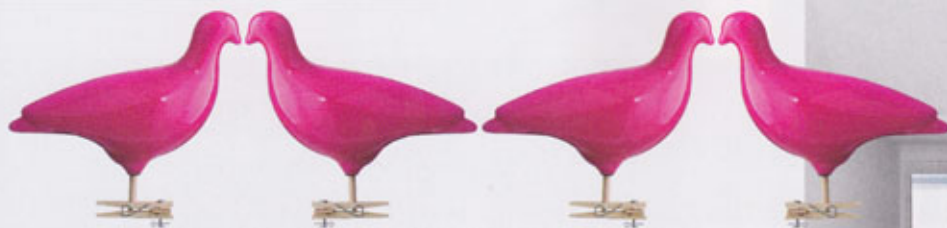
- Statement sideboards
- Home office kit
- New season accessories



RECALL: 27/8/2014



## DESIGNAdvice



**Q** Could you help me find some ambient pink lights that I can use in my small lounge? I don't like LED colour-changing lights, but I still want something more quirky than traditional. Any ideas?

Cerys, Wrexham

**A** Ed Carpenter's acrylic Pigeon Light comes in various colours that create a pleasant glow, including Pink, above, and it's great for perching in alcoves, on hooks and on the edge of furniture or shelving units. It's £67 at Thorsten Van Elten (theo-theo.com).



**Q** I want a slate floor for my bathroom, but which is warm underfoot. I've also heard slate scratches easily. Is that the case?

Joshua, Manchester

**A** Yes, there are issues with the upkeep of slate floors and many people choose porcelain facsimiles, most of which are excellent copies – and better as far as wear and tear goes. Porcelain is still cold to the touch, though, so I'd suggest a quality vinyl alternative such as Back to Black Vamp, left, approx £70 per sq m, from the Signature range by Amtico (amtico.com). It's also suitable for use with underfloor heating – try Warmup's solutions (warmup.co.uk).



**Q** I'm after a cool neutral geometric carpet for my hall staircase and landing. Apart from stripes, I can't find anything I like. Can you suggest more modern offerings?

Alice, Surrey

**A** The problem with large patterns is that the design gets broken up over the stairs, so it can look messy and fractured. The stripe is still the classic and looks effective running down the stairs: check out Paris Ebony, Troy Charcoal or Cunard Greige by Roger Oates (rogeroates.com) for an elegant striped monochrome look, all £115 per linear m. Another option is Quirky Dotty Damson, above, from Alternative Flooring (alternativeflooring.com), a simple but slick dot design in wool, £99.80 per linear m.

## PS...

Fancy being king of the castle? Try the Landmark Trust (landmarktrust.org) for unusual places to stay, from forts to lighthouses.



**Q** We're lucky to have a largish garden and the kids are bugging us to camp and sleep out, weather permitting. We don't have a tent and would like to buy something attractive that stays up throughout the season rather than a cheap eyesore! Advice, please.

Bethany, Epsom

**A** Bang Bang Tents (bangbamtents.com) does some great colourful four-person tents, such as Fool on the Hill, above, £185. They can be left out all summer, will look fab and have the added bonus of a solar-powered cell for charging phones and iPods.

**Q** I've had my kitchen refitted – but haven't yet installed an extractor fan. The space isn't big and I've kept it clear of cupboards and clutter, so choosing a suitable extractor is proving difficult. Can you help?

Malaika, Nottingham

**A** I don't know your budget, but for something really special, consider a feature extractor from Elica (elica.co.uk). Its hanging models can double as lighting – and I love its stainless-steel and glass Light Pyramid Island, right, from approx £1,115.

