

REAL HOMES

NOVEMBER 2011 £3.40

Inspiration, style & expert advice

SAVE! 20% on the latest styles
at The Cotswold Company

WIN! New dining room furniture &
accessories from Next Home

SAVE! 20% on Dwell's new
Autumn/Winter collection

38 GREAT BUYS!

- Bathroom storage
- Larder units
- Kitchen wall tiles
- Stylish artwork

COVER STORY
'We built
our dream
home'

REAL ROOM IDEAS!

32 KITCHENS
36 BATHROOMS
21 LIVING ROOMS

**DECORATING
UPDATES!**
50 smart new looks
for lighting

Real projects

- Victorian flat TRANSFORMATION
- Edwardian RENOVATION project
- Traditional house REDESIGN
- REMODELLED first floor flat

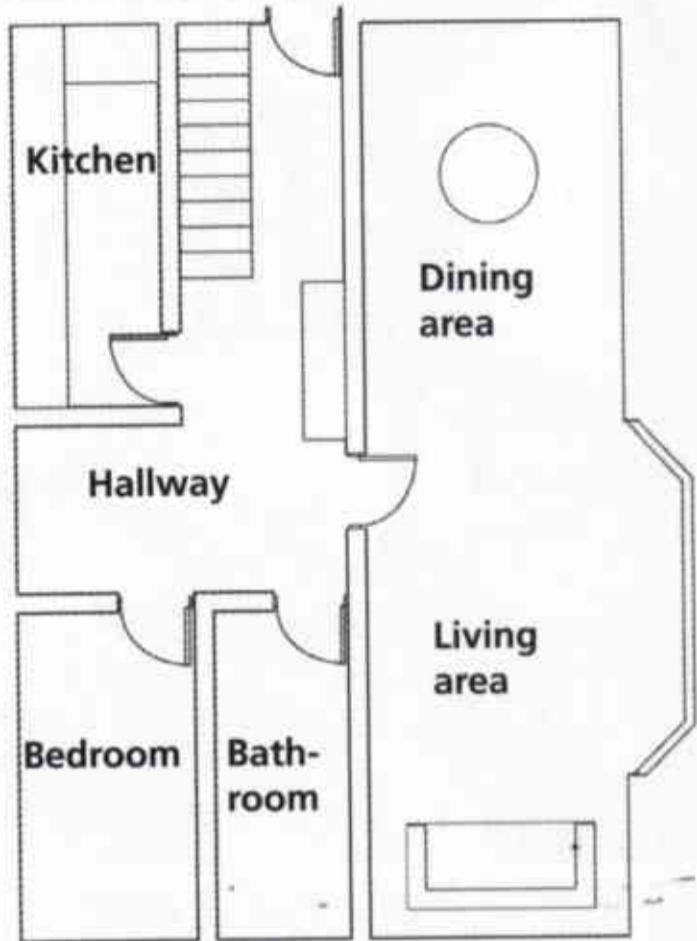
Create stylish
rooms with a
neutral colour palette

Latest flooring trend:
Striped carpet



PLANS

GROUND FLOOR AFTER



LOFT CONVERSION AFTER



The former three-bedroom flat is now a two-bedroom flat. Two bedrooms on the ground floor have been knocked through to create one large open-plan living/dining area, while the former loft space sitting room has been turned into the master bedroom. The WC room was changed into a stylish en suite

COSTS

Bathrooms (inc plumbing and tiling)	£3,800
Kitchen	£1,550
Decorating (inc flooring and blinds (materials only)	£1,420
Garden work	£1,300
New Velux window (including materials)	£795
Replacement boiler	£700
Building and plastering	£600
Repairs to chimney	£300

TOTAL £10,465

TRICKS OF THE TRADE

TOOLBOX ESSENTIALS

Whatever your home improvement project, update your collection of DIY tools to include the latest gadgets



HANDY SHARPENER

Keep your DIY and garden tools sharp and work-efficient with this hand-held sharpener. Using just a bit of pressure, draw the AnySharp Edge tool over a blunt blade a few times to restore its sharp edge. Small and lightweight, the AnySharp Edge costs £14.99 from Anysharp.com.



GROUT TRANSFORMER

If you want to improve the look of discoloured grout on kitchen and bathroom tiles, use the UniBond Anti Mould Grout Reviver pen as an easy alternative to re-grouting. Available in Ice White, the pen comes in two sizes – 7ml, from £5.19, and 15ml, from £8.98, both Homebase.



LATEST TAPE MEASURE

With its integrated laser spirit level, digital display and practical marker unit, you'll find it easier to assess where to cut or drill with the Bosch PMB 300 L Laser Tape Measure. Priced from £39.99, it's available from Amazon.co.uk.

SLIMLINE TOOL

The Stanley 4-in-1 Pocket Driver is a slimline pen clip with four useful screwdriver bits – 1/8in, 1/16in, PH#1 and PH#2. Small enough to carry in your pocket, it comes with a non-slip textured surface. It costs £2.49 from Screwfix.



PREPARATION GADGET

With its easy-grip handle and rotary carbon steel cutting wheels, the Stanley Orbital Wallpaper Scorer, £12.28, from B&Q, will help you to remove wallpaper by perforating the paper so that the steam or stripping solution can get underneath it.

COMPILED BY MICHELLE GUY