

# My home style is traditional **MEETS MODERN**

**Temi Johnson** has decorated her beautiful house with unique finds and a vibrant colour palette that lifts the spirits all year round

**Style idea**  
Make the most of alcove space with a set of shelves

The kitchen units are from Olive & Barr. I already had the layout for the kitchen and general design sorted out in my mind,' says Temi. 'Olive & Barr brought that vision to life. I knew I wanted a green kitchen – a shade that could feel traditional, but also fun! The bar stools are from Dunelm.



## Living room

'Because these houses are tiny, our aim was to use colour and furniture to make the space feel bigger and more inviting, and I think we've definitely achieved this in the living room,' says Temi. The bright walls make a statement in this space and Temi adores them. I think it's really hard to be sad in a room surrounded by orange. I also find it very warming,' she says.

I definitely don't think it's a colour for everyone and I've had a lot of comments from people that love it and others that have politely called it "interesting." The wall paint is an eco-friendly limewash from Francesca's Paints. She hand-mixes them in her studio in Clapham, and I went to visit her to choose the shade. She's amazing!

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▲ Temi bought the bookcase, along with the Ercol chairs and sofa, on eBay. 'They're my best bargain buy,' she says. The blue rug is from IKEA and the brass coffee table is also an eBay find



I absolutely love art on walls and I'm really fond of my ladies in here,' Temi says. 'The woman wearing the Fez was my mum's — she had it since I was little, and I had my eye on it for years. When we moved in, she finally let me have it, so that piece is special to me'

## HOW TO...

## Shop second-hand

Whether you want to bag a bargain or be kind to the planet, shop savvy

- If you're shopping for a piece of furniture or larger item, make sure you've taken your measurements beforehand. You'll need to measure the space it's going to fit in, as well as doors or entrances that it will need to pass through. Take a tape measure with you while shopping, so you can make sure your chosen item will fit.

- Make sure you check your piece thoroughly. Often, vintage items won't be immaculate and that's all part of the charm, but you don't want to get home to find that drawers or doors don't open, or that it has woodworm.

- When it comes to car boot sales, be prepared to haggle. If you're picking up a few pieces, why not ask the seller for a deal as you're buying more than one item?

- Think about how you can transform your find. Maybe it's not in the right colour, or you don't like the handles, but these are all factors you could easily change.

- There are some great online vintage homeware stores. Try Oh So Retro, Hutch Community, Mayfly Vintage and selling sites, like Facebook Marketplace.



'Luckily, we didn't have to do much to the fireplace. We had some black paint left over from our last place and I just gave it a little freshen up. My husband bought me the picture above the fireplace. I had my eye on it for a while and not so subtly sent him links I had found on eBay!'

## Hallway

'This area wasn't the best when we moved in,' says Temi. 'The original door frame had been left in without a door attached and the floor was covered with a loose piece of carpet. Underneath this was concrete. As a result, we knocked out the old door frame and I decided to tile over the floor.'

We were lucky enough to have a door with stained glass, though I didn't like the dark red colour of the wood so I painted it the same shade of orange as the living room. The door had to be painted in eggshell paint, which looks a bit lighter than the walls. Although it's slightly ill-fitting and not exactly craft-friendly, I love the door so much. We painted the walls in a vibrant blue. I had the colour made up in B&Q to match the Bert & May floor tiles. I took one of the tiles into the shop and they scanned the colour for me.'

A shelving unit by the door is a handy place to keep the family's shoes.

