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THE ART OF LIVING BEAUTIFULLY

No 8 Vol 99 hgtvinspiringbeautifully.com

RECALL: 31/1/18



PASSION *for* PATTERN

DECORATING WITH BOLD COLOURS & MOTIFS
DESIGNER RUGS & LAMP SHADES

SUBTLE STATEMENT

A gentle palette and metal detailing combine to create this classic scheme with a contemporary edge



Soft shades lend this previously dark room a light, fresh feel. The design of the mirror, which was inspired by the look of Crittall windows, is echoed in the bookcase for a sense of continuity.



ABOVE Cupboards with push catches at the base of the bookcase store AV equipment. **BELOW** To reduce the dominance of the large dark sofa, the seat and back cushions have been re-covered in a pale cotton.



DESIGNER

Lisette Voûte,
Lisette Voûte Designs,
020 7228 5824,
lisettevoute.com.

Can you describe the project?

This large living room is on the ground floor of a Victorian mansion block in Earl's Court, southwest London. Although it has a high ceiling and large bay window, it had been furnished with a charcoal-coloured sofa and a heavy walnut bookcase, which filled an entire wall and made the room feel dark and uninviting. My clients have two young children and wanted a space with a lighter, fresher look suitable for family living, watching TV and socialising with friends.

Where did you start?

The first step was to replace the bookcase with a smaller design, which would hold the TV. Open shelves and slender posts, inspired by the design of Crittall windows, give the bookcase a lighter feel, while flat-fronted base cupboards are clean and modern.

How did you plan the furniture layout?

We kept the sofa, recently purchased by my clients, in the same position, and added a large coffee table. This forms the central focus of the room, with two armchairs brought in to create a conversation circle.

What about the colours and materials?

The walls had recently been painted a soft grey, so I complemented this with shades of blue and taupe. Layers of different textures in these tones add interest, as well as comfort. I had the seat and back cushions of the sofa re-covered in a paler shade to lighten the feel of the dark sofa, and chose a weathered grey finish to add a modern touch to the oak coffee table and console. The bookcase, in an inky blue-grey, grounds the design and acts as a balance to the stronger colours of the artwork. The mirror over the fireplace is also inspired by Crittall windows, while the burnished bronze wall lights introduce another contemporary, slightly industrial note.

Can you tell us about the rug?

The rug was custom made in Nepal from pure wool and is soft underfoot, but robust enough to endure the rigours of family life. It was inspired by a traditional Oushak design, but has a subtly faded appearance and character all of its own. The size suits the room's proportions and its beautiful tones unite all the different elements of the scheme.

WHERE TO BUY

FURNITURE Bespoke bookcase painted in Little Greene Juniper Ash, littlegreene.com; footstool; coffee table; console and side table: all Lisette Voûte Designs, lisettevoute.com. Similar sofa, Cenova with resting unit, from £5,197, BoConcept, boconcept.com. Peggy armchair, £540 plus fabric, Sofa.com, sofa.com. Juno armchair, £535 plus fabric, Arlo & Jacob, arloandjacob.com. **FABRICS** Footstool and cushions in Mazarin in Indigo/Linen, £63m, [Zoffany, stylelibrary.com/zoffany](http://Zoffany.stylelibrary.com/zoffany). Sofa seat and back cushions in Clark Cendre, £52m, [Nobilis, nobilis.fr](http://Nobilis.nobilis.fr). Peggy armchair and cushions in Oushak, £107m,

Hodsoll McKenzie, zimmer-rohde.com. Cushions in Koto in Indigo, £43m, [Harlequin, stylelibrary.com/harlequin](http://Harlequin.stylelibrary.com/harlequin); and Maine, £83m, [Hodsoll McKenzie, zimmer-rohde.com](http://HodsollMcKenzie.zimmer-rohde.com). **ACCESSORIES** Similar bespoke rug, Heritage Light Blue, [Knots Rugs, knotsrugs.co.uk](http://KnotsRugs.knotsrugs.co.uk). Telescoping floor lamp, £229, [West Elm, westelm.co.uk](http://WestElm.westelm.co.uk). Similar wall lights, Dale picture light in Antique Brass, €202.95, [Mullan Lighting, mullanlighting.com](http://MullanLighting.mullanlighting.com). Alana table lamp, from £111.39, [Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com](http://PotteryBarn.potterybarn.com). Large window frame mirror, £299, [Net Deco, netdeco.co.uk](http://NetDeco.netdeco.co.uk). Extra fine merino throw, £215, [Johnstons of Elgin, johnstonscashmere.com](http://JohnstonsOfElgin.johnstonscashmere.com).