

Space odyssey

The desire for more room almost drove Peter and Vivienne Cameron to move from their beloved home – until some smart solutions were presented to them

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SITTING ROOM
Sofas and pouffes provide ample seating options. Contemporary lighting adds a modern twist to the scheme. Bespoke joinery, Origins Design. Sofas and cushions, Love Your Home. Wall and ceiling lights, Pooky. Pouffe and curtains in fabric by Osborne & Little

HOME TRUTHS**THE PROPERTY**

An Edwardian semi-detached house

ROOMS Sitting room, kitchen-diner/living area, utility room, four bedrooms, three bathrooms

LOCATION Southwest London



KITCHEN

Units at both ends of the main run ensure there's plenty of storage. A double oven has been fitted between units on one side of the sink, while a fridge-freezer balances the look on the other side.

Fridge-freezer, Fisher & Paykel.
Pendant lights, Pooky



KITCHEN

Open shelves create some breathing space between the run of units and provide a place for displaying plants, books and ceramics.

Belgravia cabinetry collection in Army Green, PAD London.
Quartz worktop in Carrara Mist, Nilestone. Tap, Quooker

DINING AREA

Bespoke joinery built into the alcoves ensures a sleek, uncluttered look. A bar within one cabinet with a mirrored back is a fun addition and useful for social occasions.

Bespoke joinery in Green Smoke by Farrow & Ball, Origins Design. Pendant lights, Heal's



Peter and Vivienne Cameron had been living in their comfortable home for 30 years, but as their extended family grew, the constraints of a typical Edwardian semi, with several separate rooms, none of which was quite big enough, started to mar their enjoyment of it. 'There wasn't a large enough room for family celebrations and the rooms we did have didn't flow,' explains Vivienne. 'We explored moving house, which would have been expensive and a new house would probably have needed reconfiguration anyway.'

In the end, with the benefit of advice from local architect Keith Malone, the Camerons realised that it was possible to redesign their existing house to create a 'new' house within it, which would deliver exactly what they wanted. The property's existing layout comprised a

ground floor with a front room, 'middle' room and an open-plan kitchen/dining room. 'Keith removed the walls to the middle room to create one big space, with the ability, via pocket doors, to separate off the front room as and when we want,' explains Peter.

On the first floor of the house, the couple borrowed space from one bedroom to create a luxurious en suite for the main bedroom. 'Overall, the total number of rooms hasn't altered, but the space has been so cleverly transformed,' says Vivienne.

Kitchen designer Libra Dalligan of PAD London was invited to create a new kitchen that didn't compromise on storage and which would happily accommodate the Cameron's children and all their grandchildren. 'The previous kitchen was an awkward U-shape, some of the

'There was no need to extend – rooms were just reconfigured and walls taken down to make the house work harder'



BEDROOM

Jewel shades from the fitted blue wardrobes and a compact orange sofa in the window bring colour and warmth to this space.

Bespoke wardrobes in Stone Blue by Farrow & Ball, Origins Design. The Rita sofa, Emelda Grace, is similar



EXTERIOR

New glazed doors that open onto the garden provide a seamless link between inside and out.

EN SUITE

Fully recessed mirrored cabinets in the new stud wall provide plenty of storage, as well as reflecting the light. Mirrored cabinets, Hib. Double sink unit, Harvey George. Bonheur Mint ceramic wall tiles and Brompton porcelain floor tiles, Artisans of Devizes



features were no longer useful and there were void spaces to consider,' explains Libra. A light, neutral kitchen was initially discussed, but during a home-design visit, Vivienne and Peter took a liking to a stronger green shade. 'It felt a bold choice for them initially, but they took the risk and overall it paid off and has created a more characterful look.'

The third gap in the remodelling jigsaw was filled by interior designer Karen Oliver. 'The project was a hybrid of full interior design process for some spaces, but just a consultation for others,' she says. 'The key element, from a functional perspective, was to finalise the room layouts for the ground floor and main bedroom and en suite. This allowed me to do an electrical and lighting plan based on these rooms, to feed into both the architect's and kitchen designer's plans. From an aesthetic perspective, I created

an overall concept to ensure there was good flow, while each space retained its individuality.'

The Cameron's love of colour and pattern and their eclectic art and objects were key in the transformation. Karen took inspiration for the warm hues from the fireplace tiles. 'I've used blues, greens and oranges throughout as connectors. For example, the dark green kitchen matches the green of the dining room cabinets; the floor tiles in the en suite are also used for the utility room; the shade of the TV unit is the same as the walls in the loo. These connections unite the spaces and give a sense of cohesion.'

Working with three creative professionals has certainly produced one very fine home. 'We love it,' says Vivienne. 'It's lived up to every expectation and visitors can't believe it's just the same size as it was before!' 
malonearchitecture.com; pad.london; karenoliver.co.uk

'There are pocket doors in the kitchen that, when opened, connect it to the sitting room and make it such a flexible space'



BEDROOM

Decorative details such as the upholstered headboard and pretty table lamp elevate this space and create the feel of a luxury hotel bedroom suite.

Headboard in fabric from The Headboard Workshop.
Table lamp, Pooky

