

INTERIOR DESIGN

RETRO *in the balance*

Pascoe Interiors applies a mix of contemporary and vintage styles to a townhouse in Chichester, West Sussex.



MEET THE DESIGNER

Since 2000, **Clare Pascoe** has offered a comprehensive design service from her design studio in West Sussex. Specialising in her signature vintage contemporary interior design style, Clare sources and imports original mid-20th century furniture from the UK and Europe, which is sympathetically restored and reupholstered in Oving, giving a unique and highly desirable interior style. Championing British suppliers and makers, Clare offers clients a sustainable interior design solution without incurring the over-inflated price tag usually associated with eco designs. (pascoeinteriors.com)

Modern retro decor is hard to pull off. When we talk about retro in relation to interior design, we mean the inevitable comeback of old designs every few decades.

These designs will often take on different forms, or be remodelled by using different material finishes, but more often than not they will be presented alongside contemporary pieces.

It is this balance of old and new that Pascoe Interiors sets out to achieve when they took on a townhouse project in Chichester. With three months to complete the job, and a brief to appeal to young buyers and people wishing to downsize, the team started work applying their signature vintage contemporary style to the property.

After designing the layout for each room, ensuring the same balance, flow and aesthetic was present throughout, the team began their search for the furniture. Requests were put out across a network of vintage furniture dealers to source the right blend of mid-20th century pieces.

"The skill with designing schemes with mid-20th century furniture is knowing when to stop and when to use pared back and contemporary elements to balance the scheme," explains Clare Pascoe. "Otherwise the danger is that the interior will become themed or slavishly vintage."

PICTURES: The new townhouse in Chichester needed an interior suitable for young and older buyers, so a careful blend of retro-vintage and contemporary furniture was selected.

The sun room features two vintage Eames chairs in mustard yellow and cream with a brass and bronzed glass vintage coffee table, all sourced and restored by Pascoe Interiors.





Balancing the style of the house with its setting and location within a walled city was important when considering the furniture options.

Careful arrangements were made with the vintage and new furniture suppliers to ensure the smooth collection and delivery of items. "Already areas had been re-designed at the eleventh hour when a key piece was sold to a collector," says Clare.

An eclectic mix of original mid-20th century furniture, copies and new pieces has been combined to create a contemporary finish for the townhouse. Altering the quantity of originals and copies according to budget means that this look is more attainable.

Shopping list (new pieces)

LIVING ROOM

Floor rug Ikea: ikea.com/gb/en/

Coffee table Habitat: habitat.co.uk

Sofa and armchair made.com

Artwork Hus & Hem: husandhem.co.uk

Dining chairs & floor lamp made.com

SUN ROOM AND ROOF TERRACE

Sofa bed, floor lamp, cushions and artwork made.com

Footstools Habitat: habitat.co.uk

Dining set Home Sense: homesense.ca

PRINCIPAL BEDROOM

Bed, bedside lamps and throw made.com

Chest of drawers & bedside table Ercol: ercol.com

GUEST ROOM

Bed and bedside table Ercol: ercol.com

Artwork, lamp, throw and cushions made.com

GUEST/STUDY

All from made.com

LEFT: The vintage centrepiece of the second guest bedroom is an Eames cobalt blue chair, sourced at a cost of £350.

RIGHT AND BELOW: All blinds and curtains were sourced and fitted by Pascoe Interiors. The living and dining area features reasonably priced furniture from the high street, combined with vintage touches such as the tea sets.



ABOVE: Part of Pascoe Design's ethos is to provide eco designs solutions at a reasonable price. The vintage brass and bronzed glass coffee table in the sun room cost just £175.





RIGHT: The guest bedroom features a vintage side table in Danish teak, with one drawer. It cost £225.

BELOW: The principal bedroom is furnished with items mainly from the high street for a more contemporary feel.

