

More Ideas ♥ More Tips ♥ More Style *What's inside matters most...*

BRITAIN'S BESTSELLING
HOMES MAGAZINE

OCTOBER 2015 £3.70

Ideal Home

986

Irresistible New Looks & Ideas

THE FASHION ISSUE

Glamour - It's Back!

- THE LILAC REVIVAL
- SHOW-STOPPER WALLPAPERS

Beautiful possibilities...

- 2 Ultramodern Extensions
- 3 Trend-Proof Kitchens
- 2 Sanctuary Bathrooms

**TIMELESS
STYLE**

'FOREVER'
TRENDS TO
INVEST IN

FOUR
INSPIRING
REAL
HOMES



US \$8.99 AUS \$9.95 NZ \$11

ALSO
INSIDE!



Shopping Haul:
New-Season Finds



Need-To-Know
Appliance Trends



Autumnal
Tastes & Treats



'Mid-century modern is the perfect fit'

Give your home a makeover in a style that stays true to its roots, as Egon Walesch has done in his childhood holiday cottage that was built in the Sixties

FOR WHERE TO BUY ITEMS SHOWN, TURN TO OUR SHOPPING DIRECTORY



The big CHANGE

ADDING AN EXTENSION,
REVISING THE LAYOUT,
REDECORATING AND
INSTALLING WIRELESS
HEATING, LIGHTING
AND MUSIC
SYSTEMS



Kitchen

Furniture and accessories inspired by Fifties and Sixties designs stand out against the striking dark kitchen cabinetry, giving the room a retro vibe. Bespoke kitchen, £5,250. Egon Welesch Interiors & Flowers; painted in Down Pipe Dead Flat Emulsion, £54 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball. For similar pendant lights, try the PH 31/2-3, £632 each, Louis Poulsen range, David Village Lighting.



Take the 60-SECOND TOUR

BOUGHT FOR 9,750 IR£ SPENT £141,500 NOW WORTH £120,000



THE PROPERTY

A two-bedroom, timber-framed cottage in Lough Ree, County Westmeath, Ireland, built in the Sixties. The owner inherited it from family in 2010.

WHO LIVES HERE

Egon Walesch and his partner Richard Goodwin. Egon is an interior and floral designer (egondesign.co.uk), and Richard is a managing consultant.

WHAT IT COST

Building work.....	£101,000
Kitchen.....	£5,250
Bathrooms.....	£10,000
Lighting.....	£5,750
Decoration.....	£7,000
Furniture.....	£12,500
TOTAL.....	£141,500

THE LOOK

Classic yet simple, with a mix of retro and modern furniture.

LESSONS LEARNED

“To find bargains on websites such as eBay, dedicate a chunk of time to your search.”



GROUND FLOOR

An open-plan kitchen, dining and living area spans the length of the cottage, with two bedrooms with en suites off the hallway. Sliding doors lead out to a veranda at the rear.



Get the
LOOK
PAGE 67

Living room

Bold graphic patterns and large windows that bring the outside in are two characteristics of the mid-century-modern look that Egon loves. Large Mistral sofas, from £1,995 each, Heal's. For a similar armchair, try the Redford in Zest Green, £429, Made.com



TREND ALERT!

Mix iconic mid-century shapes and patterns with contemporary pieces of furniture and accessories to create your own unique, modern look



When Egon Walesch inherited a cottage on the shores of Lough Ree in County Westmeath, Ireland, it quickly became a restoration project. In contrast to his London home, which he shares with his partner Richard Goodwin, Egon's cottage is located in remote woodland. 'I lived here in the early Eighties,' he says. 'My parents were building a house nearby and the cottage became our family home, so I have lots of memories of this place.'

The couple spent a lot of time planning, drawing and visualising the space. Due to the damp climate, the cottage wasn't cost-effective to heat, so Egon's main priority was to insulate

the roof, walls and floor, which required an experienced builder. 'As we live in London the majority of the time, it was imperative to find a builder that we could trust to get on with the work,' says Egon. 'Liam Clancy was in tune with our aspirations for the cottage - we kept in constant contact with him during the project and visited the site every six weeks.'

Egon wanted the building's interior to reflect its natural surroundings and to look much the same on the outside as it always had - like a lovely cabin in the woods. He exposed and painted the rafters and beams, which has created extra height going right up to the roof, making the cottage feel spacious and airy. Other structural changes involved knocking through the kitchen and living room to →

Living room

This chimney breast is finished with a natural clay plaster, which contrasts well with the colours used for the furniture upholstery. Mistral footstool, from £645. Heaf's upholstered in Luna Apple, £100 per m. Melin Tregwynt. Lumiere 05 Grande lamp in Amber, £455. Foscarini range, Foundry Light + Design

© Living room

Egon has made clever use of space by adding a log store beneath the bespoke window seat. Beni Ourain rug, from £1,500; Boldi Rugs. For a similar print by Peter Deig, try a selection, Artnet

'I'd always disliked orange, but now I've discovered how well teal blue with hints of orange work together'



Get the
LOOK
PAGE 67



'I'm passionate about the natural world and my aim is always to incorporate that into the interior'

create one large living and dining area, and building a side extension to contain two bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms, as well as a cloakroom and floor-to-ceiling windows. 'The original cottage had a standard window in the living room, but when you sat down you couldn't see out of it, as your eye line was lower than the window itself, so we invested in triple-glazed, floor-to-ceiling windows and sliding doors in the living room and bedroom to enable us to enjoy the views fully,' says Egon.

To ensure that the property is cosy all year round, the pair decided to install a clever mechanical heat-recovery system to extract all the stale, warm air from the kitchen and bathrooms, and warm up the cold air that is drawn into the property, thus ensuring that the air inside is always fresh. They also installed useful behind-the-scenes technology, such

as remote heating and lighting controls, and a wireless home-music system.

Local kitchen outfitter Jim Kelly built a range of units topped with Carrara marble, as well as a zinc-topped unit to house the hob and oven. 'There are a lot of family connections for me here,' says Egon. 'I asked the same stonemason who provided the marble for my parents' headstone to supply the marble worktops.'

The open-plan kitchen and living area are an interesting mix of modern and classic. 'Rather than focusing on one style, I prefer to mix things up,' explains Egon. The cottage has Scandinavian touches with white-oiled floors, light-coloured boarding and new and mid-century-modern furniture. It also has more of an urban feel than might be expected, with bright accessories and bold retro patterns that are far from the expected chintz. 'I had →

☉ *Main bedroom*

Egon chose the woodland wallpaper to reflect the cottage's surroundings. Woods wallpaper, £72 per roll, Cole & Son. Humbert T60 throw, £266, Missoni Home range; for a similar stool, try the Whitstable low, £125, Mathers & Hirst range; both Heal's

☉ *En-suite bathroom*

A cast-iron, roll-top bath sits on sleepers. For a similar bath, try the Tivoli cast-iron on wooden sleepers, from £1,399, Aston Matthews. Ellipse encaustic tiles in blue and grey, £185 per sq m, Lindsey Lang



● Main bedroom

The floor-to-ceiling sliding door makes the most of the views of the woodland and lake. Rocking chair, from £1,361, Hans Wegner range, Aram. PS 2014 bureau in orange birch veneer, £345; Frosta stool, £8; both Ikea. Peita desk lamp, £28, Habitat



3 of the best
MID-CENTURY FINDS

£45

Accent piece

Perk up your sofa with this busy print in orange and grey. Jacquet cushion in Tangerine, Mini Moderns



£24.99

Well spotted

Layer your sofa with mix-and-match textiles. Grey spot blanket, H&M



£149

Dot to dot

Match a patterned footstool with a plain-covered sofa. Lydia accent footstool, Very





‘Rather than focusing on one style, I prefer to mix things up’

3 Guest bedroom

A mid-century-style wooden bed adds warmth and interest to a simple white room. Chiltern bedstead in oak, £850, Ercol range, John Lewis. For a similar floating drawer, try the Pacco, £63, Mocha. Task short wall lights, £186 each, Original BTC

always disliked the colour orange before, but now I've discovered how well teal blue with hints of orange work together,' says Egon.

Richard has a talent for upholstery, so the couple have upcycled furnishings found in auctions and through favourite online stores, such as eBay and St Jude's. 'We work as a team, discussing colour options or design ideas,' says Richard. 'I'm passionate about the natural world and love plants and trees, and my aim is always to incorporate that into the interior.'

For the living-room chimney breast, Egon sourced a natural, breathable clay plaster from a company based in Cornwall and had it couriered to Ireland. He also replaced the existing open fireplace with a wood-burning stove from the Isle of Wight. 'I designed the surround and our builder Liam found and shaped the timber for the mantelpiece, which has worked really well as a focal point in the living area,' says Egon.

The renovations took less than nine months and now Egon and Richard visit the cottage every six weeks or so, as it provides a handy base for overseeing Egon's interior-design projects in Ireland. What started life as a damp and dated holiday cottage has become a place of year-round relaxation and serenity for the couple, who love sitting out on their new cedar, raised-deck veranda. 'It's just as I always dreamed it would be,' says Egon. 🏡



9 Guest en suite

The walls of the walk-in shower are covered in Italian waterproof plaster

Inca brass shower, from £1,783, Tradition range,

Aston Matthews. For similar plaster, try the

Tadelakt, £76 for 10kg, Kreidezeit range, Mike

Wye & Associates



10 Veranda

A spacious platform of decking links the inside with the surrounding woodland



Add interest to a pale scheme by mixing a few different patterns

£55

Great deal
GO DOTTY

Bag a bargain with this polka-dot cushion
Polka cushion in Duck Egg, Heart of House range, Argos

Ideal
SPOT ON

Get extra cosy with a lamb's wool cushion
Melin Tregwynt Mondo cushion in Aqua, The Wool Company

£11.99

Ideal

FEELING MOORISH
Try this smart, graphic take on a Moroccan Berber rug
Souk wool rug (W152cm x L244cm), West Elm

£449

£170

Get Egon's look

Give your living room a cosy cabin feel with rustic textures and autumnal accent tones

FOR WHERE TO BUY ITEMS SHOWN, TURN TO OUR SHOPPING DIRECTORY

Ideal

ON REFLECTION
Cast a cosy glow with this golden-lined light
Peggy wall light in antique brass and black, Holloways of Ludlow



£275

Great deal

DOWN LIGHTER
Or keep it simple with this smart style
New York black and white wall light, Bodie and Fou



£125

£1,995

Ideal
INSPIRED BY NATURE

Choose furniture upholstered in muted forest tones
Mistral large sofa in Olive boucle wool (H82cm x W208cm x D94cm), Heal's



Great deal

DIAMOND STRIPES
Go for a busier pattern with this hand-tufted design
Diamond Berber rug (W120cm x L180cm), John Lewis



£799

Great deal
PALER OPTION

A shade or two lighter, but just as low slung
Kotka three-seater sofa in Vintage Grass (H87cm x W218cm x D93cm), Made.com



£599

Ideal

SASSY STRIPES
Perk up your scheme with an accent armchair
Bucknall armchair in Teal stripe (H85cm x W75cm x D82cm), Very



Ideal

COPPER CHEVRONS
Snuggle up under this throw made from soft alpaca wool
Elvang zigzag throw in Copper/Steel, Houseology



Great deal
CROSS LINES

Switch direction with this horizontal striped alternative
Soda armchair in Candy Stripe (H80cm x W84cm x D84cm), DFS

£499

£165

£35

Ideal

HEARTH WARMER
Use for the perfect focal point in your room
Cove 2B wood-burning stove, Charnwood



£2,165

Great deal

COOL COTTON
This Turkish-style throw is hand woven in natural cotton
Evelena Clementine throw, The Cotswold Company



£595

Ideal

CLASSIC DESIGN
These elm and oak tables nestle together nicely
Originals nest of tables (H40cm x W67cm x D51cm), Ercol



£120

Great deal

SWITCHED ON
For a hassle-free alternative, try this electric stove in a stylish cream finish
Focal Point traditional electric stove, B&Q

£124



Great deal
TWO'S COMPANY
This nest comes as a pair in a pale-oak veneer
Skandi oak nest of lamp tables (H46 x W57 x L40cm), Dunelm



ASK EGON

■ WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR HOME? 'It's so peaceful, especially during winter. After the leaves have fallen, the views across the lake are even more impressive.'

■ WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE HOMES BUY? 'The Charnwood stove was key to creating a cosy, inviting space whatever the weather outside.'

■ WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE INTERIORS SHOP AND WHY? 'Family run Avoca (avoca.com) started life inside Ireland's oldest weaving mill. The store now has 10 locations in Ireland, selling throws, clothing, homeware and even its own food.'

■ WHAT'S YOUR DECORATING SECRET? 'Try out large samples of paint and wallpaper by moving them around in different light and positions to see how they work.'

■ WHAT INSPIRED YOU ABOUT THE PROJECT? 'The view. The interiors have been designed to reflect the fact that the outside is such a peaceful, beautiful area.'