

# FESTIVE glamour

Splashes of colour and elegant accessories are the hallmark of Emma and Dominic Green's seasonal celebrations

FEATURE ROS CONNELLY | PHOTOGRAPHY ROBERT SANDERSON



Christmas in Emma and Dominic Green's household is always a colourful affair. Each year they dress the tree with a collection of vibrant baubles, helped by their three-year-old son Charlie, and their home is filled with sparkling decorations and shimmering votives.

But the couple's choices haven't always been so bold. 'Before moving here, we lived in a flat that we decorated in neutral shades,' says Emma. 'In retrospect, I think I was scared of colour, but that changed when we found this house. Soon after we moved in, I took an interior design course, which helped me to re-evaluate my approach.'

Situated in their favourite part of London, the property was an easy choice for Emma and Dominic, who works in catering. 'We're very comfortable here as we love the local cafés, shops and park,' explains Emma, 'but we also wanted more room, lots of natural light, original features and some outdoor space. We were very lucky to find the ideal place in the middle of our neighbourhood.'

Finding a house that needed some improvements provided the perfect opportunity for Emma to try out her new-found design skills. A natural side return was ideal ▶

## 1 SITTING ROOM

**'I love this space,' says Emma. 'It appeals to me as it's classical and timeless, yet colourful and comfortable, too.'**

Decorative balls (hanging from lights), from £3.50, RE. Footstool and cushion in Paul Smith's Stripes fabric, £68m, Maharam

## 2 DINING ROOM

**The couple went for a rich colour scheme in this room, which creates a good atmosphere at night for their dinner parties.**

Philippe Starck Victoria Ghost chairs, £165 each, Heal's. Emma found the Kudu horn (on the mantelpiece) while on safari in South Africa

## 3 KITCHEN

**The kitchen was updated two years ago and old natural beech cupboard doors were swapped for glossy taupe-coloured ones.**

Find a similar kitchen and shelving at Euromobil



INSPIRING

## HOME TRUTHS

### THE PROPERTY

Victorian terrace

### LOCATION

Southwest London

### ROOMS

Hall, sitting/dining room, kitchen, cloakroom,

four bedrooms (one en suite),

dressing room, two bathrooms

### PURCHASED 2000

### PREVIOUS PROPERTY

'Before we moved here, we lived in a flat just three streets away from this house,' says Emma.

for a future extension, and the loft was ripe for conversion. With no hesitation, the couple snapped the property up and set about putting their own stamp on the place.

Starting with the kitchen, Emma and Dominic added French windows that open out onto the garden. 'We also installed glossy units on both sides of the room, with glass shelving to keep the look light and airy,' says Emma.

Working their way through the house, the couple's biggest task was the loft conversion and the eaves now accommodate a bedroom, dressing area and en suite. 'We wanted to create a similar feel to the boutique hotels we've stayed in,' says Emma. 'We finished just three weeks before Charlie was born, so the timing proved a little tight.'

With the work complete, the family is looking forward to their favourite time of the year. 'We let Charlie add the finishing touches to the decorations,' says Emma. 'Luckily, he loves bright splashes of colour as much as we do.' 25

### 1 EN SUITE

**This stylish space incorporates a large bath, double sinks, and a shower, as well as a handy dressing area. To find out more about Emma's work, visit [emmagreendesign.com](http://emmagreendesign.com).**

Shutters, price on application, Plantation Shutters. The walls are painted in Cornforth White, £32.50 for 2.5 litres, Farrow & Ball

### 2 MASTER BEDROOM

**A luxurious velvet headboard, silk cushions and Egyptian cotton bedding help create the look of a boutique hotel.**

Curtains in Morning Glory silk dupion, £79m, Clarissa Hulse. Philippe Starck Lou Lou Ghost chair in opaque black, £70, Heal's



DESIGN TIP *'I like to use black in most rooms, even if it's just minimally, as it anchors a scheme and brings it together'*

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