

This page: The striking Cloud Pendant ceiling light by Liang & Eimil in the front room is complemented by a Cloud sofa from Restoration Hardware and stool by Norman Copenhagen at Nordic West.
Opposite page: The Reas share a love of the colour red and the hue is featured in small and large ways throughout most rooms, with pieces like the striped Studio chair from Buchanan Studio.



INNER BEAUTY

A thoughtful, sympathetic renovation of this charming period property created a light-filled, open-plan home that perfectly suits a young family, while carefully preserving its historic character and timeless charm.

WORDS & PHOTOGRAPHY BY BENEDICTE DRUMMOND



The dining area features a dark red Metallico table by Piero Lissoni, rug from A Rum Fellow, Foster + Partners Seta Chair for Mattiazzi, buffet from Antique Modern Mix, Knit pendant by George Nelson, artwork 'A Pearl is A Flowering Oyster' by Heath Wae, and 'Artichokes and silver tray' artwork by Eugene Rea, Max's father.

“IT WAS IMPORTANT TO US TO KEEP THE HIGH CEILINGS AND PERIOD FEATURES WHILE CREATING SOMETHING FRESH.”





-top tip-

Make your room feel bigger without knocking down any walls. Use **Resene Wallpaper** with vertical stripes to make your room look taller. Or turn the wallpaper sideways for horizontal stripes to make your room look wider.

Resene Wallpaper Collection
33959



Opposite, from top: The kitchen has a Bulthaup stainless steel kitchen island; Floor-to-ceiling windows in the sitting room.
This page, from top: A neat study nook; Bespoke under-lit stone sink designed by Undercover Architecture helps create a stunning powder room.

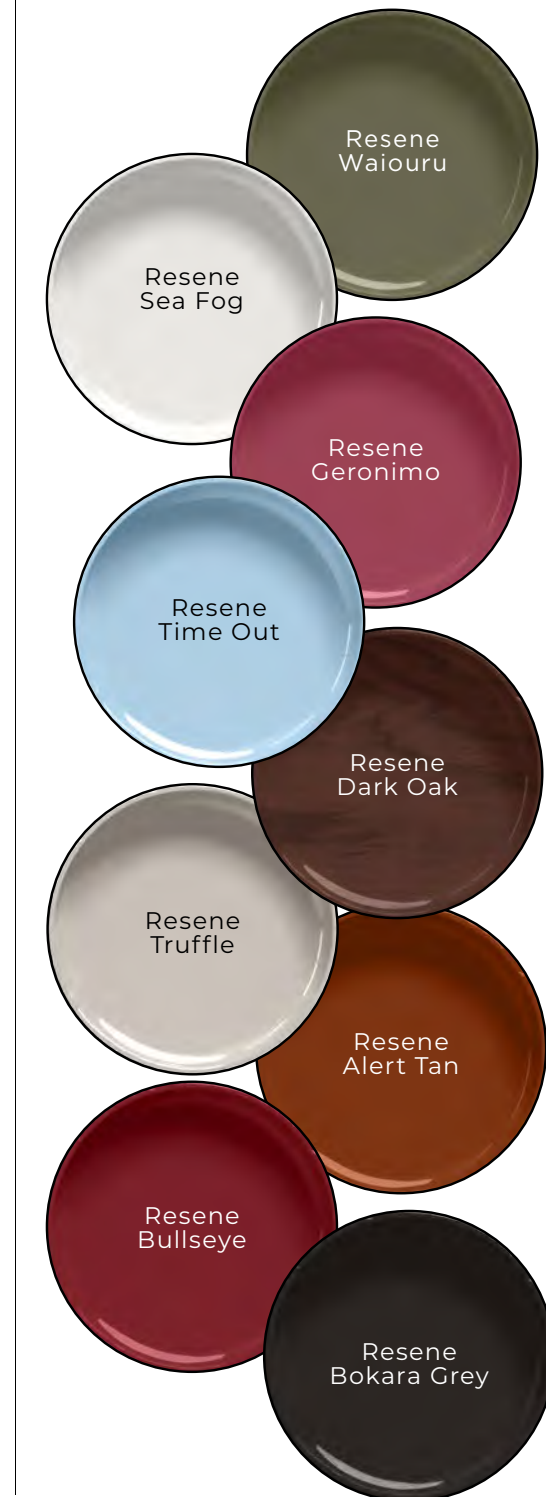
Available from Resene ColorShops
resene.com/colorshops

Resene
ColorShop
your wallpaper experts!



ARTFUL AND REFINED

There's something endlessly appealing about a home that balances sophistication with a creative edge. Layer crisp architectural details and elegant neutrals with bold injections of colour and striking forms. Deep reds, earthy greens and rich timber tones offset by fresh whites create a space that feels timeless and full of personality. Visit your local Resene ColorShop or for more ideas, visit resene.co.nz



When Amy and Max Rea first stepped into their Barnes home in West London, they immediately saw its potential. With soaring ceilings, elegant period features, and plenty of scope for transformation, the property seemed ready to evolve into a space that could grow with their young family. “This is the first house we have owned, so it feels surreal to be living here now the works are all done,” says Amy, who lives here with her husband Max and their two boys – Luca, aged three, and Leo, just seven months. Originally from Sydney, Australia, the couple brought with them a love of bright, open spaces and family-focused living when they moved to London.

Already familiar with the area, having rented nearby before buying, they knew Barnes was the perfect community for their family. “We decided to buy in Barnes because it’s such a great community. There are lots of young families, it’s very green and relaxed, but you can still be in central London easily. We feel very fortunate to be able to raise our family here,” Amy says.

After a sensitive extension and reconfiguration, the house now spans 299m² and offers five bedrooms, four bathrooms, a powder room, boot room, open-plan kitchen/living/dining space, a separate reception room, pantry, master dressing room, and a study.

“I love our ensuite – it’s a touch of luxury at the end of each day – but the living space off the kitchen is where we spend most of our time. Hanging out together with a view of the garden is perfect,” Amy says.

Clockwise, from this page: The natural shades of the master bedroom have a calming effect. The artwork above the fireplace is ‘Currant’ by Anna Skladmann. Above the bed is ‘My Engagement Roses’ by Anna Skladmann; Vanities and joinery designed by Undercover Architecture complement a freestanding bath in the ensuite.

To bring their vision to life, Amy and Max turned to Luke Chandresinghe from Undercover Architecture. Their brief was simple: create a light-filled, open-plan home while retaining the historic character. The result is a considered blend of restoration and innovation.

At the rear, a generous extension opens onto the garden. To avoid a bulky down-stand beam, Undercover Architecture collaborated with Baker Chatterton Structural Design to create a bespoke stainless-steel-clad cruciform column, echoing the kitchen island and preserving a sense of openness. As a Building of Townscape Merit in a Conservation Area, every detail had to be carefully considered. The rear extension features sympathetic brickwork, while new windows and French doors have traditional self-supporting brick arch lintels. Inside, period features such as cornicing, ceiling roses, and working fireplaces have been reinstated.

Perhaps the most striking transformation is the entrance. By relocating the staircase, Undercover Architecture created a wide, double-height hallway with a sweeping bespoke staircase rising through all three floors. Upstairs, a new mansard roof and dormer windows unlock light and space, while enlarged openings in the master suite frame leafy garden views.

For the couple, the finished home is more than a renovation – it’s the backdrop to family life. Both Amy and Max, who works in the video game industry, love the balance of history and modern comfort.

“We loved the high ceilings and period features, and it was important to us to keep those while creating something fresh. Now, it feels like home.”

LIVING INSIDE

