

JUST CHILL OUT



SQUARE CARPET CUSHION

£40, frenchconnection.com

WHO LIVES HERE? Architect Mia Buzzi with her husband and two cats. **WHERE IS IT?** In downtown Milan, the funky district around Porta Genova and the Navigli canals. When Mia bought the 19th-century building, once a concrete factory, it had been abandoned for 50 years. 'It was the right spot to realise my dream – to create a place where I can live, have a studio and also run a small bed-and-breakfast. A place to keep out the hectic world on the other side of the door.'



SUMATRA WIDE BOOKCASE

£695, lombok.co.uk

2. ADD CLEVER STORAGE

When it comes to storage, aim high. Mia has put bookshelves above the doors and climbing an alcove. And for a super-cosy statement, a sofa is replaced by a pair of daybeds, side by side. ▶



STOCKUND CHAISE LONGUE

£350, ikea.com



1. CREATE A COOL FIREPLACE

Can't afford an expensive mantel? Put in a wooden one then style it up by painting it and the chimney breast in one colour. Here, the mocha accent wall is the starting point of a living room that's casual-cool thanks to textures, from the soft sofas (try loaf.com) to the rug (modern-rugs.co.uk) and a daybed (see lombok.co.uk). A gilt mirror adds glamour.



BAMBOO SOFA

£545, idylhome.co.uk

XXXXXX

Lynt empore incidunt ut labore et dolore ore et dolore magnam labore et aliquam empore.

MOHAIR THROW

£85, dunedincashmere.co.uk

£395, www.nunido.co.uk



COMBACK CHAIR



STACK OF BOWLS

£12.50 each, nomiliving.com

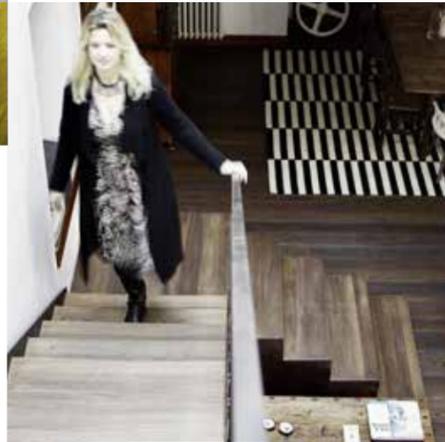
3. ADD MULTI-TASKING FURNITURE

Shelves set into the dining room side of the kitchen worktop are a clever way to give a piece of furniture dual purpose, and also link an open-plan kitchen/dining area. Use it to display your best china, and keep to one colour and pattern to unify the look. On the wall is photo print by Stefania Ricci.



4. INSTALL A COSY-COOL KITCHEN

A warm contrast to the smooth concrete floor, the bespoke kitchen units are made from recycled wood. To create something similar, you'll need to find a carpenter/joiner at mybuilder.com. If you don't want to go the whole hog, try adding freestanding units. The Barnstable range from Habitat is cosy but contemporary. Framing the wall units in white lifts the brown and Mia has added matching ceramic lights (for similar see originalbtc.com). She also created an accent wall in the same shade of mocha as in the living room.



7. OPEN UP THE STAIRS

The stairs, made of larchwood for a light feel, were created in two sections. The lower set is without a banister to keep the open feel. The upper set has a slim steel banister that looks sleek and modern.



8. DOUBLE UP

Against silvery walls (try Crown Indulgence Aspen Silver Matt Emulsion from diy.com), Mia has built a double sink from recycled wood topped by black granite. The taps set into the wall keep things neat (cphart.co.uk). The wooden mirrors are from a second-hand shop. ■

5. JAZZ UP YOUR DINING SPACE

The black and white rug (check out ikea.com) sets the funky tone of the dining space, which is open-plan to the kitchen. Mia has combined all sorts of finds to create an eclectic, visually

interesting space. Around the table are wooden chairs and modern thermoplastic Comback chairs by Patricia Urquiola in white and yellow. At the back, on a teak and steel console, is Mia's own 'cabinet

of curiosities', which includes a table lamp made from recycled pieces, bought at an antiques shop in Brussels (which gives the display height), vintage vases and the teeth of a couple of sawfish!

£92, shabbystore.co.uk



TALL LEAF VASE

CERAMIC BELL PENDANT



£155, heals.com

LEVANT RATTAN LAUNDRY BASKET



£195, okadirect.com

6. ADD THE LUXE FACTOR

Give your bedroom a feeling of luxe calm with an oversized bedspread that drapes elegantly over the bed and spills on to the floor. Mia's pom-pom bedspread was bought in Marrakech, the soft white a contrast to the black bedding (find one on etsy.co.uk or take a

look at the pom-pom duvet at urban outfitters.com). The bedside table, again made from recycled wood, is bespoke. Get a similar look with the Angus side table (swooneditions.com), teamed with a black lamp, such as the Bobby at habitat.co.uk.

£258, utilitydesign.co.uk



FOSCARINI BIRDIE TABLE LAMP



XXXXXXXXXX

lynt empora incidunt ut labore et dolore ore et dolore magnam labore et aliquam empora.



MANOR DOUBLE BATHROOM VANITY UNIT

£1,675, okadirect.com