

THE WORLD'S BEST-SELLING HOMES MAGAZINE

JULY 2010 £3.80

ELLE

NEW SECTION

Wellbeing:
Helping you
to live well
at home

DECORATION

Easy summer living
35 ways to holiday at home

STYLE SOLUTIONS

Cool kids' rooms
made simple

SMART SHOPPING

Sexy sun loungers
and pretty cushions

SUMMER DINING SPECIAL

Stylish ideas for indoor/outdoor entertaining

47 FABULOUS THINGS TO DO IN THE UK RIGHT NOW!



EXPERT ADVICE

Growing concern

Interior designer Antonia Stewart explains how to make decorating a child's room a stress-free experience

- Decorating with children in mind is often easier if they have some input, making summer holidays the perfect period to roll out the paint charts and brushes. Allowing them to be involved in the re-designing of their bedroom or play area will make them more comfortable about the change.
- Obviously, you want the finished result to be a nice-looking space, but be sure to think about practical things such as storage and flexibility from the outset.
- Little people have a lot of kit and as they grow their possessions accumulate with alarming speed, so it's important to adopt a firm approach to de-cluttering.
- Combine open and closed storage to enable children to easily access their favourite toys, while the bulk of them are kept tidily out of view.
- Try to avoid age-specific themes and instead opt for colourful fabrics and wallpapers that work equally well for children of all ages.
- Looking for a quick, easy update? Wall stickers, colourful storage boxes and printed rugs can all work wonders.
- Most importantly, ensure that the project is a fun, creative activity which brings all the family together. antoniastewart.com



From left: 'Togitog' wooden chair by Ben Huggins, circa 2006; New British Design (newbritishdesign.com); 'Chubby' wooden table by Eric Pfeiffer for CB2, 2009; 'Noble' wooden stool by Laif, wooden chair by We Do Wood, 2010; Design Delicatessen (designdelicatessen.com) ▶