

## CREATING CALM

There will be important areas of the home that will see investment and special attention paid. Obviously, with a move towards hybrid working for many, home offices continue to be prominent. Simon Temprell reveals, "People are looking for clever ways to carve out a niche somewhere, whether under the stairs or in the guest bedroom. A desk can be incorporated into just about any room of the house and easily disguised when not in use. These areas should not feel like an afterthought, or you will not be happy working there."

Richard Moore, design director of Martin Moore, recognises that the kitchen has become a multi-functional space, incorporating a work area. As such, he has noticed a desire for "custom-built specific ancillary rooms – utility rooms, boot rooms, laundry rooms and back kitchens – not as afterthoughts but as 'spill over' areas, keeping noise, clutter and mess out of the kitchen."

Creating a calming space is key, as Charu Gandhi explains, "We are noticing a real shift towards an emphasis on instilling tranquillity at home. Our clients are seeking out calm, soothing spaces extending beyond the living room into other spaces, such as the kitchen. Accenting kitchen spaces with warm timbers is an easy way to create a more natural, serene aesthetic and having clever storage solutions – particularly in the kitchen – is key to designing a relaxing living space and can quickly make a room feel clean, fresh and calming."

This need for calm and well-being extends to other areas, such as bathrooms. Creative director of Drummonds, James Lentaigne expands, "Achieving a sense of wellness and well-being within interiors has become a top priority for many of our clients, and this is likely to continue into 2023. Alongside wanting our luxurious, comfortable tubs, they want to incorporate areas in the bathroom where they can relax and take time out." He adds that investing in bathrooms can also combine with the return to maximalist looks: "Bathrooms are one of the few places in the house where you can get away with strong, vivid tones which might be over-the-top in other rooms. Maximalism is very much on-trend with more and more people experimenting with bold patterns and bright colours."

### ABOVE RIGHT

Bathrooms are set to take a maximalist approach with decorative features and statement tubs. *Hammered Copper Usk bath, from £11,940, Drummonds*

**RIGHT** Dedicated ancillary rooms will be essential for keeping noise and clutter separate from work and living spaces.

*Pantry from £10,000, Martin Moore*

