



# LOFTY AMBITION

Once dark and uninviting, this scheme in the eaves has been revolutionised by the clever use of glass and rich colour



**DESIGNER**  
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### Can you describe the space?

This bedroom is in the loft conversion of a Georgian townhouse in east London. It had been converted about 20 years ago, but it had become dated and drab, with oppressive dark green walls and a heavy-looking wardrobe dividing the space. Although the room is large, at 8x4m, it felt anything but. Our brief was to create a much more inviting, peaceful retreat.

### How did you begin the project?

The first step was to remove the wardrobe and replace it with a Crittall screen, which references the metal-framed windows of the surrounding old warehouse buildings. The glazing allows light to flow through the room, instantly creating a more spacious feel, while also cocooning the



A Crittall screen echoes the surrounding urban environment and neatly zones the room.  
**ABOVE LEFT** A comfortable place to read has been created beneath a roof light.



**TOP** A display cabinet is a charming and original approach to storage. **ABOVE LEFT** The vanity unit is built into a recess, with a large mirror bouncing light around the room. **ABOVE RIGHT** Stairs up to the bedroom feature a window into the en suite. **RIGHT** A small study area makes good use of a difficult space under a sloping ceiling.

## WHERE TO BUY

**FURNITURE** No 4 bed with Harlech headboard, from £9,500, Savoir Beds, [savoirdesign.co.uk](http://savoirdesign.co.uk). Percy bedside chests, from £1,551.60 each, Julian Chichester, [julianchichester.com](http://julianchichester.com). Stilt Coupe armchair, from £6,340, Holly Hunt, [hollyhunt.com](http://hollyhunt.com). Bespoke side cabinet, Tim Moss, [timmoss.co.uk](http://timmoss.co.uk). Bespoke display cabinet, D&A Binder, [dandabinder.co.uk](http://dandabinder.co.uk). Artelinea Monolite 2.0 basin vanity unit, from £3,000, CP Hart, [cphart.co.uk](http://cphart.co.uk). Bespoke fitted wardrobe, Caz Myers Design, [cazmyers.com](http://cazmyers.com). Bond desk, £2,950, Jonathan Adler, [uk.jonathanadler.com](http://uk.jonathanadler.com). Caribou chair, £1,854, Ochre, [ochre.net](http://ochre.net). Stasis desk lamp, £730, Bert Frank, [bertfrank.co.uk](http://bertfrank.co.uk). WALLS Elitis Pleats Hallelujah wallpaper, £287.20 a roll, Abbott & Boyd, [abbottandboyd.co.uk](http://abbottandboyd.co.uk). Shadow White estate

emulsion, £43.50 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball, [farrow-ball.com](http://farrow-ball.com). FABRICS Bespoke cushions, Caz Myers Design, as before. FLOORING Double Fumed Oak, from £102.30m sq, Waxed Floors, [waxedfloors.co.uk](http://waxedfloors.co.uk). PARTITION Bespoke Crittall screen, Lightfoot Windows, [lightfootwindows.co.uk](http://lightfootwindows.co.uk). LIGHTING and ACCESSORIES Cordoba Bronze bedside lamps, from £163.55 each; silk shades, from £106.29 each; all Heathfield, [heathfield.co.uk](http://heathfield.co.uk). Summit table lamp (alongside armchair), £2,815, Holly Hunt, as before. Gubi Adnet wall mirror, £1,809, Chaplins, [chaplins.co.uk](http://chaplins.co.uk). Bespoke wall mirror (above vanity unit), Caz Myers Design, as before. Dornbracht Tara wall-mounted cross handle basin mixer in Black, £819, CP Hart, as before.

sleeping area, something we think is important because a bed in the middle of a large room doesn't feel very inviting. Once we had established the sleeping and dressing areas, we were able to introduce separate zones for reading, with a comfortable armchair and a desk area for writing. A vanity unit and mirror close to the dressing area and en suite was the final piece of the jigsaw.

### How did you use colour?

The client is an artist, so he was keen to create a strong, beautiful look with some bold colour. The starting point was the bed: its headboard is upholstered in a bronze-coloured fabric, which is echoed in the cushions and lamp bases, with merlot accents on the shades and bolster. The wine colour continues in the velvet of the armchair and the desk chair, with touches of bronze and black around the room.

### Can you tell us about the dressing area?

The display cabinet is the focus and was designed to add a little theatre and fun. The wall behind is papered in a patterned, pleated-effect design to introduce movement and softness. We repainted the existing built-in wardrobe and added new handles. The wall-hung vanity unit opposite was given a tactile grey metal finish.

### What other decorating advice you can share?

We painted the walls and ceiling in the same colour, because it makes the angles less obvious and the areas of reduced ceiling height less oppressive. A bedroom needs to be calm and well organised, but do ensure there are enough tactile fabrics to introduce comfort in contrast to the harder finishes of cupboards and cabinets. Once you have chosen a few beautiful pieces, give them enough space. Sometimes what isn't there is just as important as what is.



FEATURE AMELIA THORPE PHOTOGRAPHY NICK SMITH