

LIVE THE LIFE...LOVE THE STYLE

# COUNTRY HOMES & INTERIORS

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## WARM HEARTED

HUNKER DOWN WITH COSY FOLK LOOKS

*Feel the glow*

SAVE  
-20%-  
AT GARDEN  
TRADING

MODERN  
RUSTIC  
KITCHENS  
+  
ROCKING  
CHAIRS  
+  
BOOT  
ROOMS

MY COUNTRY  
BUSINESS  
AWARDS  
*winners*

*Enjoy autumn...* APPLE CRAFTS,  
RECIPES FROM THE WOODLAND,  
REAL FIRES, BACK-TO-NATURE SPAS



STEP  
1

# Design a space with texture

THE LATEST MODERN-RUSTIC TREND - A MIX OF CLASSIC COUNTRY AND INDUSTRIAL STYLE - BREATHES NEW LIFE INTO COUNTRY KITCHENS. THINK BRASS AND STEEL ACCENTS, RECLAIMED WOOD, OPEN SHELVING AND PLENTY OF TEXTURE

## Choose metal

It's hard to ignore the 'Cristal effect' on modern architecture right now, but the revival of this Art Deco glazing style is now also influencing design choices inside the home, and the kitchen is no exception. Fred Horlock, Designer, Neptune, has woven metal accents into his company's inspiring new collection. 'We took matching coffee tables and stacked them to form an unusual island unit,' he explains. 'And, instead of traditional wall cabinets, you can upturn Cristal-style steel side tables and use them as shelving,' he adds.

Henley Oak kitchen, from £13,000; island made from Carrar large coffee tables (stacked), £990 each, all Neptune



Kitchen, from £20,000. Otura encaustic tiles, £6 each, all Bert & May. Siemens HB672GBS18 single oven, £649 each, John Lewis

## Toned-down tech

'Contemporary appliances can make a kitchen look clinical. This is where natural rustic materials can dial down the modernism, while still letting you enjoy the latest technology,' says Lee Thornley, Founder, Bert & May. Here, black-stained reclaimed timber units reduce the impact of minimalist ovens. The island is finished in hand-aged brass with marble top.



Bespoke kitchen, from £35,000, Blakes London

## Embrace the rough

'Texture is key to a rustic space and bang on trend. Unfortunately, some people avoid textured surfaces in the kitchen, on hygiene grounds, but it's really not necessary,' says Jamie Blake, Director, Blakes London. 'In this kitchen a durable water-resistant, white oiled finish has been applied to the cross-sawn textured board cabinetry, resulting in a functional and practical surface with abundant personality.'

## Go for preloved

If upcycling is your passion, draw inspiration from this property in the Cotswolds, which belongs to ceramicist Mouse Martin. Preloved finds, such as the old fire bucket ceiling light shades and window blinds fashioned from old Hungarian grain sacks, take the trend for scientific design to new heights. Mouse's creative talents are also behind the reclaimed timber cabinet doors, the worktops, which are made from sanded scaffolding planks, and the edgy wall cladding and splashbacks, made using inexpensive sheets of corrugated iron.



To stay in Filly Island Cottage in the Cotswolds, contact Unique Home Stays. Try Romado in Britain for upcycled kitchen furniture and storage, from £25 for a pallet wine rack.

**Tip** Take kitchen design cues from your property's heritage. If there are exposed beams or stone walls, consider chunky timber shelves or a chiselled stone worktop. In food prepping areas, choose non-porous worktops to ensure good hygiene. »