



SHOPPING *List*

Lights, stool in kitchen John Lewis:
johnlewis.com

Bespoke curtains Maisha Design:
maishadesign.com

Fabric Prestigious Textiles: prestigious.co.uk

Rug/carpet Gravity Flooring:
gravityflooring.co.uk

Bespoke sofa Sofa and Chair Company
(fabric from Romo): thesofaandchair.co.uk,
romo.com

Dining table and chairs, side tables
West Elm: westelm.com

LED lights Mr Resistor: mr-resistor.co.uk
**Kitchen units, built-in wardrobes, bedside
cabinets, chest of drawers, bathroom
vanity units** Maisha Design: maishadesign.
com

Kitchen worktop Chiltern Marble:
chilternmarble.co.uk

Tiles and mosaics for bathrooms
London Tile and Mosaic Company:
londontileandmosaic.com

Flooring Kahrs: kahrs.com

Bedspreads and cushions (bedrooms)
Maisha Design (fabric from
Cristina Marrone): covertextltd.co.uk/
cristina-marrone.html

Music system Sonos: sonos.com

A second chill-out area has been created in the second bedroom, which doubles as a reading nook. The owners wanted this room to be functional as a guest bedroom and also as a relaxation area, so Almas designed the room so that the big double bed could be used as a day bed. This was achieved by upholstering the wall behind the bed with faux leather, and creating a cover to go over the bed – with the cover and throw cushions, the effect is of a deep sofa.

The main bedroom needed to be soft and luxurious, which was accomplished with the introduction of silk carpets, luxurious bedding and clever details. The one-off wardrobes and cabinets were made by Maisha Design, with horn handles from Ochre. Rather

INTERIOR *Design*



Industrial *chic in Shad*

A one-bedroom industrial apartment in the Shad Thames district of London has been redesigned to provide two bedrooms and a chic new colour scheme.

No one knows Shad Thames like Almas Shamsee of Maisha Design. Having lived in the area for 10 years, she is the go-to designer for this riverside nook of London and knows better than anyone how to make a converted warehouse apartment work for a modern client. So when the owner of this apartment in the Butler's Wharf end of Shad Thames wanted to redesign his home, Almas was his obvious choice.

He wanted the one-bedroom, one-bathroom apartment to be changed to create two bedrooms and two bathrooms, which meant that a complete reconfiguration of the flat was necessary. The kitchen had to be moved further into the apartment, forming

an L-shaped, open-plan living space comprising dining area and lounge.

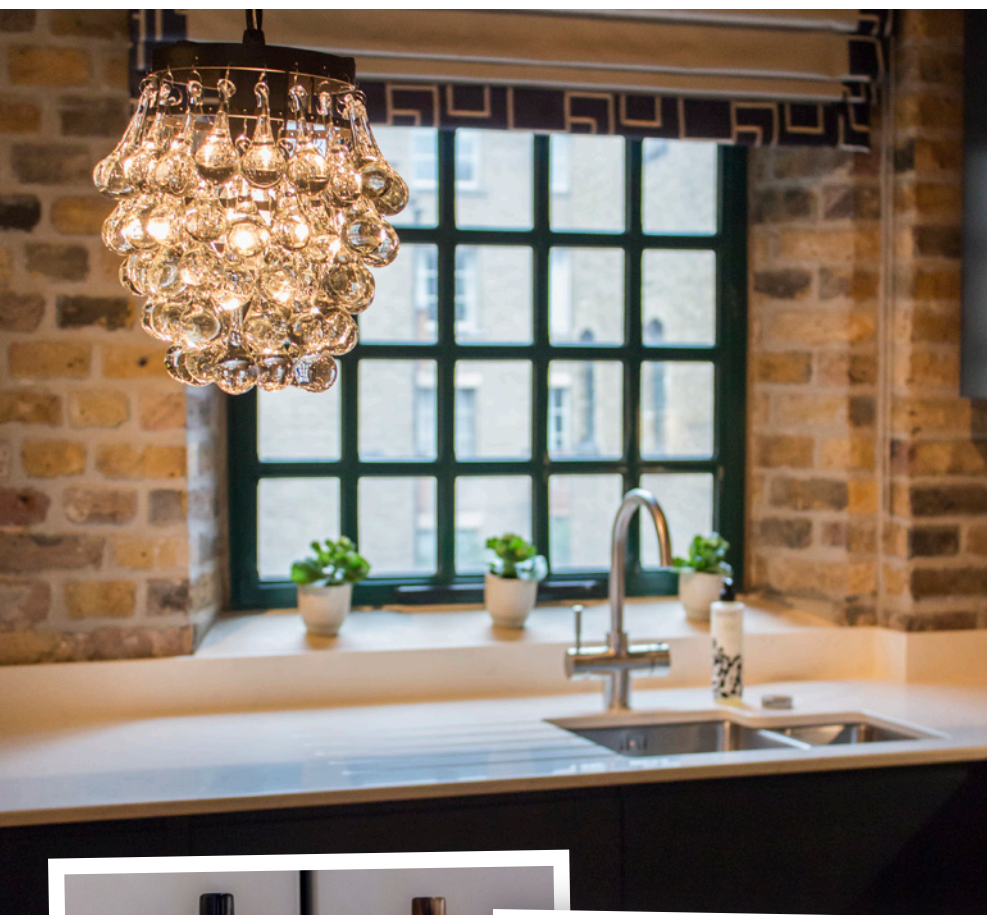
The kitchen units were made to measure by Maisha Design in a blue-grey lacquer with a quartz counter, the textures of which replicate marble. This colour is continued through the whole living area, and brings warmth to the exposed brick walls.

The pendant lights that hang over the island are from John Lewis and bring delicacy to the scheme; the frame of the lights is unfinished metal, but the glass softens the design and prevents it from appearing overly industrial. The fabric used on the blinds and curtains in the open-plan space was chosen for the pattern, which echoes the brick walls and adds a flash of colour.



The dining area is composed of a made-to-measure L-shaped bench with a rustic-style, solid wood table. The LED and pendant lighting, along with the soft grey fabric on the chairs, lifts the area and gives it a real sense of intimacy – perfect for entertaining.

The living area itself continues the blue-grey colour scheme, and uses the same brick print fabric on the curtains and cushions. The large industrial balcony doors are softened with sheer curtains enhancing the elegance of the room. The sofa, made by The Sofa & Chair Company, has feather-wrapped foam covered with a Romo fabric which has a slight metallic sheen. Surround sound has been discreetly added in this area, and Sonos runs throughout the apartment.



“I always ask a client for a list of things they would like in their apartment, and to select their must-haves.”

than using bulky curtains, which would reduce the space in the narrow room, Almas used sheer blinds in front of electric roller blinds. As the sheer blinds are drawn all the time, it creates a soft fabric wall, giving the room a very romantic feel. LED lighting above the wardrobes provides ambient mood light when required.

One very bespoke detail of the apartment is in the bathroom, as Almas explains: “I always ask a client for a list of things they would like in their apartment, and to select their must-haves. The client is a huge Liverpool FC fan, so at the top of his ‘must-have’ list was to use the Liverpool logo ‘YNWA’ (You’ll Never Walk Alone) somewhere. I used it in the tiling in the bathroom, and he maintains it is his favourite detail of the flat.”

With so many stunning features to choose from in this industrial yet elegant apartment, that’s the sign of a true fan.

MINI BIOGRAPHY



Almas Shamsee is the founder and creative director at Maisha Design. Originally trained as an economist and after almost 10 years working in the financial services industry, Almas decided to pursue her passion for interior design. Having completed a number of personal projects as well as commissions for family and friends, Almas formalised her training at the prestigious Chelsea College of Art and Design.

Maisha is Swahili for life, and the London-based Maisha Design specialises in bespoke interior and spatial design. Its aim is to create timeless interiors that are both functional and beautiful, taking each unique project and tailoring a design from initial concept to the final installation.

FIND OUT MORE
maishadesign.com