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COUNTRY HOMES



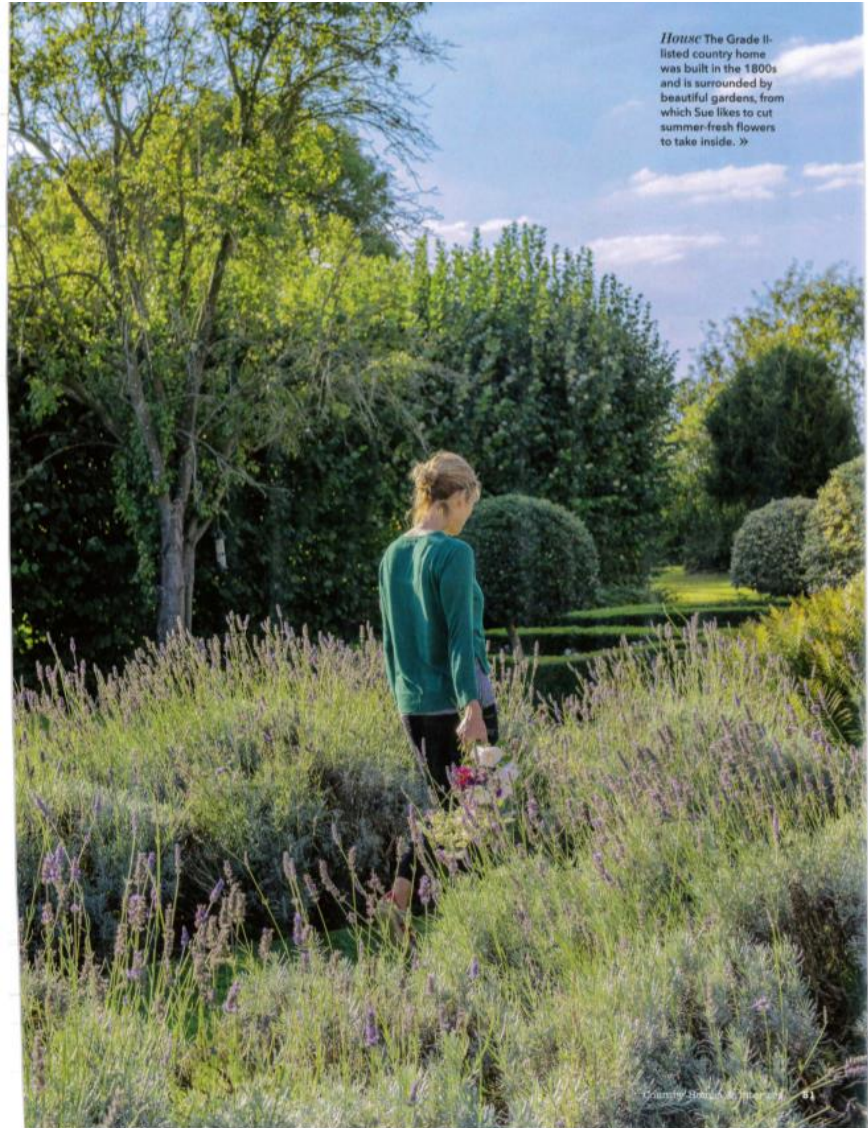
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GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTRY HOUSE



An idyllic setting
SUE GORING'S USE OF STRIKING FABRICS AND RETRO
FURNITURE GIVES A MODERN TWIST TO HER CLASSIC
COUNTRY HOME WITH ITS BEAUTIFUL VIEWS



House The Grade II-listed country home was built in the 1800s and is surrounded by beautiful gardens, from which Sue likes to cut summer-fresh flowers to take inside. >>



Dining room Pops of orange enliven the decor. **Chairs, Habitat.** covered in Harlequin fabric. **Blind fabric, Jane Churchill.** **Orange cushions, John Lewis.**



What makes this house a home...
 "This house and its gardens give us a space for the whole family to enjoy and want to spend time in"



AT HOME WITH...

Owners Sue Goring, who runs Range Essentials, Everhot's accessories collection, and her husband Guy, Managing Director of Everhot. They live here with their children, Ethan, 15, Kally, 14, and Alisha, 10.
House A Grade II-listed property, built in the 1800s, with five bedrooms. The family moved in in 2013.

It's not hard to see why Sue and Guy Goring fell in love with the idyllic country house they now live in. Not only is it surrounded by beautiful gardens with a swimming pool, but it has views that stretch to the nearby Cotswold Hills and over to the River Severn.

Before they bought the property, the Gorings were living close by. 'We had come across the house before, as some friends had viewed it when it was previously on the market, and so we had seen the details already,' says Sue. 'Our friends didn't buy the house, but we had admired it from afar for some time.'

'When the house came back on the market a few years later, we went and viewed it ourselves as we were looking for a property with more land,' Sue says. 'I loved it immediately. I liked the fact that the interior was homely and cottagey at the same time. Lots of light flowed into the kitchen and living room, which was really appealing. And I adored the garden with its flowerbeds and lawns.'

'Guy is taller than me, so he'd have liked a house with higher ceilings!' she adds. 'But the layout worked well for the family. It had a nice feel and was in good condition.'

After moving in, the Gorings put their stamp on the place by redecorating. A neutral backdrop allows each room to flow from one to another, and Sue has added in colour with fabrics and accessories. 'I like neutral and >>

Living room Vibrant cushions and throws introduce shots of colour into the neutral scheme. **Corner sofa, Sofas & Stuff.** **Throws, Shrutti.** **Round cushions, Raine & Humble.** **Rug, John Lewis.** **Side tables, Made.** **Table lamp, Graham & Green.** **Blind fabric, Harlequin.**



Kitchen Pops of colour include a purple island that tones with the aubergine range cooker. **Cabinets, similar from Harvey Jones.** **Range cooker, Everhot.** **Bar stools, Cox & Cox.**





ON OUR DOORSTEP...

Visit... 'Woodchester Mansion (01453 861541, woodchestermansion.org.uk) near Stroud. It's an old mansion that was never finished, with fantastic gargoyles and wonderful woodland walks. Westonbirt Arboretum (0300 067 4890, forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt) near Tetbury is not far, and the trees there are beautiful, whatever the time of year.'

Shop at... 'Stroud Farmers' Market every Saturday - it's fantastic.'

Go for a meal at... 'William's Food Hall & Oyster Bar (01453 832240, williamsfoodhall.co.uk) in Nailsworth. It's a deli with a restaurant, so great for browsing and eating. The Bank Café (01453 543920) in Dursley is really nice and ideal for a coffee - it's a bit different for this part of the world.'

What we love most about living here...
 'Its light, space and peacefulness, along with all the lovely outside areas'

Main bedroom Old beams contrast with a modern bed. Bed, similar from John Lewis. Bedlinen, Margo Sally. Ceiling light, Jim Lawrence.



Bathroom
 'Pretty pastels keep the look misty fresh. Bath, similar from Drummonds Blind, similar from Laura Ashley.'

Pool area The nearby Cotswold Hills provide an epic backdrop. Garden furniture, similar from Indian Ocean.

Scandinavian-style schemes, but I like to add punches of colour,' she says. 'I do what feels right at the time.' For example, the kitchen and living room schemes were dictated by the blind fabrics. 'I loved the fabrics, so I worked backwards from those,' Sue says.

The kitchen's neutral backdrop is punctuated with shots of colour, with a purple island providing vibrancy against the off-white cabinets, which the Gorings had repainted. The wood work surfaces, flooring and integrated fridge surround contribute to the country feel. In addition, an aubergine Everhot ranger cooker was installed, fitting snugly into what was the old stone fireplace.

In the dining-room, Sue again picked out the colours of the statement blinds to inspire her wow scheme with orange accessories and retro-style black chairs bought from Habitat and re-covered in a Harlequin fabric. A trestle table made by Guy's father adds a country touch.

The zesty tones of the living room are enhanced by fresh blooms from the garden. 'We wanted the space to feel bright and welcoming, so we incorporated pinks and greens with splashes of colour,' says Sue. Lively cushions and throws complement the modern-rustic look.

'It's a lovely home for the children,' says Sue. 'They have a lot of fun here. We love it and feel very lucky.'

T Visit Range Essentials, rangeessentials.com; Everhot, everhot.co.uk. Or call 01453 870887. »



Back garden The original stone walls give an insight into the property's historic past. Garden gate, similar from Wickes.

FEATURE: OLIVER JAMES. PHOTOGRAPHS: POLLY BATES