

ESSEX

Living

HOMES & INTERIORS • PEOPLE & PLACES • FASHION & BEAUTY • FOOD & DRINK • EVENTS • COMPLIMENTARY

MARCH 2019

JAMIE'S MANOR

OLIVER FAMILY BUY
SPAINS HALL FOR £6M

FLOWER POWER

SPRING PHOTOSHOOTS
FOR YOUR FAMILY

TOP TEN

PLACES FOR
AFTERNOON
TEA FROM
THORPE BAY
TO WIVENHOE

Inside
**THE
CRONDON
BARN
FAVoured
BY ROYALTY**

SPRING CLEAN

MALDON'S MRS HINCH'S
TOP TIPS

ORGANIC BEAUTY

SOUTHEND'S ANSWER
TO JO MALONE



BEAUTIFUL BOUNDARIES

Earth Designs specialises in urban domestic gardens in London and Essex

Earth Designs was formed by Katrina Kieffer-Wells in Spring 2003 and, along with her husband and partner Matt and their team, she has now completed more than 300 designs and 150 builds. In her monthly column, Leigh-on-Sea-based Katrina shares her design tips on garden boundaries.

PERSPEX

Cheap, easy to install and available in a variety of colours. Go for a black gloss if you want to add glamour. Attach to existing fences with screws. Top tip: ask the supplier to pre-drill the screw holes.

METAL

One of the first gardens I designed 15 years ago included stainless steel panels for a reflective quality in the shady garden.

PLANTING

It may seem obvious, but if you lack floor space footprint, you could up the ante on your greenery, by using a vigorous climber to cover unsightly fences. Consider the following varieties: *Trachelospermum jasminoides*, *Hydrangea petiolaris*, *Clematis armandii*.

RENDERED WALLS

If you are lucky enough to have brick walls boundaries, leave them alone. If you have breeze block walls, why not render them and paint them and dark grey. The planting will pop against them.

CLAD IN NATURAL STONE

There is a great new product on the market called Designclad. Measuring 3mm thick, it gives the most beautiful sheer finish in natural stone effect.

VERTICAL GARDENS

If stone isn't your thing, consider a vertical garden. You can pick your plants according to the aspect, and you can have planting systems with integrated watering systems.

SCREENING

It comes on a roll from DIY centres. It will deteriorate in time, but if you want a quick fix, easy solution that is low-cost, consider bamboo, willow or hazel screening. Or get thick bamboo poles, and attach them to your fence for a more unique robust finish.

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