THE white SPECIAL
34 pages of interiors, shopping and decorating ideas

BEAUTIFUL HOMES
Elegant spaces full of inspiration

URBAN GARDEN DESIGN
FROM FAKE GRASS TO FANCY FENCES

JADE JAGGER
MY STYLE SECRETS

SUMMER BUYS
- Sun loungers
- Outdoor ovens
- Modern parasols

New neutrals
all the WHITE moves

Thought renovating a house was difficult? Lara and Jon did it while living in a different country – and the result is jaw-droppingly awesome.

Photography - Simon Brown
Styling - Mary Weaver
Waves - Joanne Simmons
Home truths

Describe life with twin boys in three words... Loud, exhausting, wonderful!

What gets your day off to a great start?

Any morning that starts post 7am! And a good old cup of English breakfast tea too.

In your home, are you a full-time tweaker or content to leave things be? Definitely a full-time tweaker - I won't settle until I'm happy.

Bookworm, film buff, magazine junkie...

- Which one are you? Magazine junkie. As a teenager, my bedroom walls were adorned with fashion shoots rather than posters of boy bands.

- Even as a poor student, I always bought glossy fashion mags as my little luxury.

What do you never leave home without?

A very heavy handbag, wristlet and red lip, which will ultimately cover me (and my six-year-old twins) for every eventuality.

What's your favourite trick to relaxation? A glass of Sauvignon Blanc, preferably Kiwi.

You're at the pick'n'mix counter - what do you choose?

Candy bananas, teeth, cola and milk bottles. They all bring back happy memories and, yes, I am that person who finds it funny to grin at everyone with a sweetie booth in place.

LIVING ROOM

This ground-floor space tends to be used for grown-up hangouts. The sofa was an investment bought in Australia, says Lara, 'but white weather and little boys with dirty fingers isn't a good mix!' The artwork, entitled Grooves, was another purchase made in Sydney - it's by Australian artist Adam Cullen.

Get the look: Hush the Bloom ceiling light and the Bourge table lamp are by Farnese-Last of Kardell. Field Love and Black Marilyn limited-edition prints by Peter Blake at artpublic.com.

MASTER BEDROOM

Lara chose to move the couple's bedroom to the back of the house, where doors open on to a semi-circular balcony. 'The light is lovely in here, she says. 'And it's quieter too, away from the road and the local centre nearby, so I can't hear the honky-tonky music!'

Get the look: Hush's Bloom ceiling light and the Bourge table lamp are by Farnese-Last of Kardell. Field Love and Black Marilyn limited-edition prints by Peter Blake at artpublic.com.

MAX'S BEDROOM

There was a 13-week shipping time for the bunk beds to arrive, so the boys had to sleep on temporary ones,' says Lara. 'Max and Alfie love them, though, and can have friends for a sleepover, so all the delay and hassle of getting them into the house was definitely worth it.'

Get the look: This is the Wave 2 bunk bed by Minimon. The Compass storage unit is by Ata Cadori-Ferrier for Kardell. For a similar wall colour, try Fossil Earth's Garden Tolly emulsion.

'We like having books out and the crazy accessories picked up on our travels – we don't want the house to look too serious.'
MASTER BATHROOM

'I'm obsessed with marble,' says Lara. 'Each time the budget was a bit tight, the architect would suggest we save money by cutting back on the marble and I'd say absolutely not! It's so glam.'

GET THE LOOK The Portuguese marble was sourced by Jon Loveday. These are Mackintosh shower fittings and basin taps by Lefroy Brooks. For a similar shower screen and mirrored wall cabinet, try CP Hart.

'I put my heart and soul into this place – our homes abroad were short-term, but this house feels permanent'
IDEAS to STEAL
Liven up pale palettes with subtle hits of colour and metallic accents

KEY SURFACES
FROM LEFT Oak Brendan White flooring, from £78 per sq m, Ecora; Toad absolute matt emulsion, £35 for 2.5l, Little Greene; and Lyon linen in Oatmeal, £136 per m (W137cm), Westbury Textiles at Attfield

KEY FEATURE Parquet flooring
Laid out in classic, chevron fashion, rich engineered boards add a final luxe touch to Lara and Jon’s mezzanine library. Chosen to match the bespoke shelving, the flooring makes the perfect backdrop for showcasing the couple’s capsule collection of furniture and accessories. To replicate this look, supplier Parquet Flooring (parquet-flooring.co.uk) recommends its Oak Engineered Herringbone floor, with the top layer lacquered in Black/Brown. Expect to pay from £45 per sq m.