

## CLEVER KITCHEN

The kitchen was put in by the developer and made by [whw.co.uk](http://whw.co.uk). Rachel added the island unit later, to keep her cookbooks, herbs, spices and oils nearby when cooking.



## DECLUTTER YOUR LIFE

# A place for EVERYTHING

Moving from an Edwardian house to a new build meant a new look for the Jagos – and unique storage to maximise space



The Jagos' new home



**Rachel and Francis Jago, and their children, Meg, 12, and Tom, nine, loved living in London, but after ten years in the same house, they felt they had reached the end of the road.**

"We lived in a lovely Edwardian town house and had done all we could in terms of decoration, in keeping with the style of the house," explains Rachel. "We put it on the market and, incredibly, it sold in four weeks!"

The couple knew that they wanted to stay in the area, and went to look at somewhere very different: new-build town houses nearby. "We were bowled over by the light and

space," says Rachel. "And, of course, we could move straight in."

With this new start in mind, the family had to completely rethink their traditional furniture. "With an old house, you get caught up in having everything that fits the period. So we started to really think about what we wanted to keep. We sold some of the nicer pieces of furniture, gave some things away, and took masses to charity shops plus did carloads to the tip. It was incredibly liberating!" laughs Rachel.

Once this process was complete, Rachel called in an interior designer friend for advice. "The first thing that she said was, 'Where are you going to put all your stuff?'" says >>

### UNDER THE STAIRS

This set of cupboards was a must for Rachel, to prevent clutter accumulating upstairs. Each family member has their own pull-out drawer.



*"We fell in love with the light and space in our new home"*

### STORAGE SOLUTION

Something most women wish for – a spacious pantry. Rachel had this added by the kitchen installers at the same time as the island unit.



### LOW LEVEL

The wooden unit below the television is useful for storing DVDs, games consoles and other bits and bobs that clutter the space.



### READING CORNER

The area on the first floor, between the sitting and dining rooms, is the perfect place for the family's books, and makes good use of the space.





### FINE DINING

The stylish, free-standing storage unit in two halves is a former exhibition piece of Barbara's that fits perfectly. The lampshades have a real designer feel, but came from B&Q (diy.com).

Rachel. "She had a point – there was a distinct lack of storage."

Leafing through a magazine, Rachel saw an advert for Barbara Genda Bespoke Furniture, a local storage specialist, so arranged a meeting. "We had made mistakes in the old house by cutting corners, so I was determined to get it right this time," explains Rachel. "Barbara has a very practical approach and doesn't believe in spending money unnecessarily, which I liked. I knew what I wanted, so we started with my main issue – the understairs cupboard. Barbara was great – she designed the angled doors so that we get maximum use of the space – great for the children's bags and PE kits." She then used the same

process in the rest of the house, especially with the bedroom wardrobes, asking Rachel what she wore regularly, to make sure everything was perfect for them.

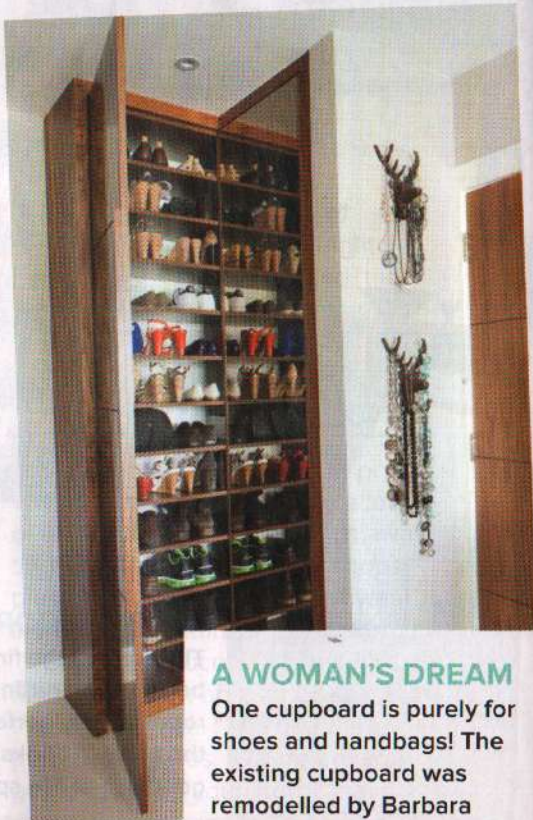
Once the all-important storage was sorted, Rachel turned her attention to the decoration. "As it's a new build, there's no natural character, so I decided to add texture with interesting wallpapers," says Rachel. "I also changed the flooring in the sitting and dining rooms, from beige carpet to a wood-effect vinyl."

"Now that the project is finished, the house perfectly reflects our personalities and lifestyle, and we have all the storage we need for years to come!" laughs Rachel. See [barbara-genda.com](http://barbara-genda.com). **w&h**



### BEDROOM MATTERS

The large bank of walnut fitted wardrobes is broken up by smoked mirror fronts. The pretty bed cover is from [zarahome.com](http://zarahome.com).



### A WOMAN'S DREAM

One cupboard is purely for shoes and handbags! The existing cupboard was remodelled by Barbara to create this dream unit.

*"Moving from a traditional house to a new build was very liberating"*

### CLEAN LINES

The bathroom was put in by the developer and came from [cphart.co.uk](http://cphart.co.uk). "I have used accessories and fake plants from [tkmaxx.com](http://tkmaxx.com) to add a touch of fun," says Rachel.

For bespoke storage and furniture, try Barbara Genda, who is based mostly in the greater London area, or [nevillejohnson.co.uk](http://nevillejohnson.co.uk) nationwide.

## STYLE STEALS

Mirror the feel of Rachel and Francis's home

SHADE OF GREY Fab over a dining table. £28, [next.co.uk](http://next.co.uk)

SIDE BY SIDE Hide your music equipment in this stylish unit. From £200, [habitat.co.uk](http://habitat.co.uk)

SITTING COMFORTABLY Relax on this Barcelona chair and foot stool, £499, [grosvenorbeds.com](http://grosvenorbeds.com)

STAG DO The place to hang pretty jewels. £69, [grahamandgreen.co.uk](http://grahamandgreen.co.uk)

SO NEAT Clear clutter with this Orla Kiely wall unit, £1,899, a place for everything. [foreverything.co.uk](http://foreverything.co.uk)

