

ALL HANDS ON DECKS

Radio DJ and presenter *Lilah Parsons* buzzes us into her London flat...



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A WHOLE NEW WORLD OF
SHOPPING FOR ME NOW*

Nothing beats a genuine warm welcome, and with Lilah Parsons, that's exactly what you get. Beaming with pride on the recent renovations to her West London flat, the 29 year old is quick off the mark to get stuck in with stories of how she transformed a two-bed into a spacious, modern home. From chatting about her obsession with grey to how she picked out the perfect doorknobs, we settle down on the sofa to discuss the star's new grown-up side...

Thank you for letting us into your lovely London pad Lilah. Is this 'home sweet home' for you?

I used to live in this area as a child, so it does feel like home. When I bought this flat a few years ago it looked completely different, but I had this vision to transform it. I never thought it would actually quite happen – but it has, finally, and I just love it!

What's your favourite part of the flat?

Honestly, all of it because I've put so much heart and soul into every little detail. However, I am really chuffed with my bathroom because it's a tiny space but I've really made the most of it. Little details like having the door changed so that now it opens outwards gives even a small bathroom so much more space.

How would you describe your interior style?

Clean, fresh, modern and a little bit Scandi with retro touches. I've always loved subway tiles and that vintage feel. Plus, there's a lot of grey in my flat, which I love. Whenever my family buys me

anything now, they just say: "Oh, give her something grey and she'll be happy!"

Where do you get your interior inspo from?

Pinterest is really good. I was looking for ideas on how to organise my shelves in the living room, so I just checked it out on there. I'd never even thought about things like this before – like doorknobs and handles! I spent an entire afternoon in a knob shop, just staring at them! Interiors has opened up a whole new world of shopping for me now.

Are you any good at DIY?

I can do bits and bobs like flat packs, and I've sanded and painted furniture. I love shopping for bargains in markets, but I haven't started knocking down walls yet – I'm still scared of things like that...

What's the first thing you do when you get in?

I literally get home, go through the door and take off all my clothes. My poor flatmate is so used to me being naked! The other day I seemed to find

myself cooking naked! I love trackies too, and I also have the cuddliest squishy dressing gown that my mum gave me for Christmas. It's grey, obviously. So comfy!

What's your dream day at home?

I am such a homebody. Don't get me wrong – going out, seeing my friends and going to gigs is great, but I just love coming home and spending time curled up on the sofa with loads of food and a bottle of wine. Recently, I've just finished watching *Big Little Lies*. The soundtrack is amazing! Honestly, it's one of the best shows I've seen in ages, I was totally gripped! Watching the Kardashians is my other guilty pleasure. I don't know why I'm so intrigued by them. I think everyone's the same, why do we care? I have no idea, but we do.

Do you like to cook?

I'm quite lazy when it comes to cooking. I went to cookery school about ten years ago, so I can cook. I tend to do easy things like omelettes, and I make a mean lasagne, that's my dish. Oh, I also



"I've been DJing for five years now – I love it. There's nothing better than seeing a crowd reacting to the music you're playing. It's taken me to Wembley Stadium, Paris Fashion Weeks, the Maldives and this summer, Ibiza for the first time."



“When I first did up the flat everything was very grey and white, so my brother encouraged me to try and mix it up a bit with some texture – hence this wooden side table. It’s so practical.”

make a really good homemade honeycomb ice cream too. I basically like nursery food! My flatmate and I love ice lollies and chicken goujons, which are basically the grown-up, acceptable version of chicken nuggets, right?

Who would be your dream dinner guest?

Tom Hardy is very welcome to come round for dinner, anytime. I love the Queen, but how stressful would it be having to curtsy and call her Ma’am all the time? Kim Kardashian could be interesting...

Are you a tidy or messy person?

So, this is really interesting! I’ve always been so messy and then this flat happened and now I’ve become SO tidy. It’s very odd. My friends and family can’t get over it. The first time I had guests round was on my birthday and I freaked out when I would spot them putting drinks down without a coaster or spilling things. It was about 2am, my friends were all here dancing and drinking and I just found myself mopping the floor as their drinks were spilling out of their glasses. We had the Spice Girls playing and there I was, a cloth under my foot, mopping up the floor whilst dancing!

What about your wardrobe? We bet that’s super organised...

It’s pretty tidy. I am a bit particular about my wardrobe. All my hangers are in the same colour, grey of course, and are all the right way around. I’m quite specific, so I have jumpers, tops, jeans, socks, underwear all organised. I have the odd designer piece, but most of my wardrobe is affordable fashion.

Houseplants are really on-trend right now. Do you have green fingers?

So, I started off with real plants and they’ve slowly been dying. I went away the other week and asked my flatmate to water them. I came back and there was a big dead plant in the living room, but she proudly told me that she had watered both the cacti – which she didn’t know were plastic! I do think the fake ones



Lilah uses copper accessories to add glamour to her space



“My bedroom is the only place in the entire flat where there’s a bit of colour. The geometric, hot pink headboard was a bit of a mad splurge. It’s grown on me and works well with all the grey. Plus you can have fun with bedding and easily change up the feel of the room with a different duvet.”

‘TOM HARDY IS VERY WELCOME TO COME ROUND FOR DINNER, ANYTIME’

are the way to go though, especially the succulents because they look plastic-like anyway, whereas realistic, regular fake plants are trickier to find and get right.

Are you a fresh flowers kind of girl?

I love them. I was meant to buy some for today but ran out of time. Sorry! I love sending flowers to my friends; I do that quite a lot. They make great moving-in presents. When I first moved in here, my friend came over and I had no furniture but we sat on the floor and she brought tea and crumpets – that was a great idea too. Another friend bought me lovely glasses. Mugs also make good house gifts, they’re always welcome – and candles! I love candles! I have candles everywhere, in the bathroom, bedroom and main living area. I love traditional scents like lime, basil and mandarin. Don’t mess with the classics!

She embraces a pop of colour with a pink headboard



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...GET THE LOOK

We show you how to recreate Lilah's style with some key pieces

"My bedroom is nice and calm apart from the hot pink headboard, which is the most colourful thing in the flat. I discovered that you can mix up the vibe of a bedroom so easily by just changing the bedding."



Hotel Collection Tia Pompom 180 Thread Count Duvet Set Sb, **L49WJ**, from £25

"Bookcases aren't just for books! I like to mix it up with art and ornaments that I've picked up, mixing textures and colours to create interesting displays."

Set of 3 Vases, **KWM69**, £29



"I love this little table with its metallic legs – perfect for a lamp, some art and candles. The fern print is by a local artist in Somerset. It's actually a handmade notecard that I framed."



Piper Table Lamp, **KXNT6**, £29

Teddy Side Table, **KX3MT**, £39

Kylie Minogue Kylie Dark Noir Diffuser, **LDAPR**, £25



MISSING CREDIT



"The matching bedside tables and lamps give a nice, clean symmetry to the room. The vintage Vogue print I bought in Paris when I was a teenager. I've always loved trawling markets to find original pieces."

Cara Glass Column Table Lamp, **KL73Y**, £39; xxxxxxxx, **XXXXX**, £xx; Kylie Minogue Rose and Cassis Candle, **LDAPT**, £22; Graham & Brown Glamour Fashion Metallic Framed Wall Art, **KWH7Q**, £45



PHOTOS: LORNA ROACH HAIR & MAKE-UP; SCARLETT BURTON; STYLING: CHARLIE WELLS