

NOVEMBER 2003 £3

Livingetc

BIGGEST
ISSUE EVER!

THE HOMES MAGAZINE FOR MODERN LIVING

GROWN-UP DECORATING

- HOW TO USE BLACK
- GLAM LOOKS FOR BEDROOMS
- THE ART OF SYMMETRY

MODERN FIREPLACES

Check out the
20 hottest
styles this
winter



AOL Keyword: Livingetc

HIT THE SHOPS FOR...

Fabulous glass buys,
sexy dining tables &
brilliant kitchen kit

Seductive SPACES

COME OVER ALL SULTRY IN
HOMES DESIGNED FOR PLEASURE



ABOVE The kitchen splashback is mirrored mosaic – buy yours at **The Reject Tile Shop**. **RIGHT** The original Edwardian

cupboard was painted a subtle shade of grey-green (try **Farrow & Ball**) and the glass was layered with silver leaf.

BELOW The back door is painted with blackboard paint for notes and doodles. Get blackboard paint from **B&Q**, £4.78.



'When we moved in there was psychedelic carpet everywhere – we had to get back to the basics

with Joseph, their two-year-old son, has seductive touches throughout. Beyond the bedroom, you might chance upon Donna's collection of early erotic photography (which she's assembling to make delicate but suggestive collages for the walls of the new shop), and a vintage mannequin in the hallway is dressed simply with ribbon. Even selected lamps and furniture are decorated with delicate lace and trimmings. 'Ever since my days as a fine art student, I've collected little antique bits and pieces, feminine trimmings, ribbons and fabric, not quite knowing what I'm going to do with them. They all end up being used to decorate something: a frame, a mirror, the edge of a chest of drawers. And antique lace and lingerie have been a real passion of mine ever since I first saw my grandma's French knickers blowing on the line.'

However, before you start thinking that Donna is constantly in sex-kitten mode, taking candlelit dips in that silver-leafed roll-top bath, flipping through old books of erotic photos, and focusing her mind on feminine indulgence, be heartened by the fact that she has to channel most of her energy into running her business. And when she's not working out the figures, you'll find her >>

The modern kitchen, including the striking extractor fan, was designed and made by Dominic Ash. Handle-free cupboards, sprayed with car paint for a polished finish, reach the ceiling for max storage, and the island unit adds valuable extra work space.



HOW TO SILVER-LEAF GLASS

Donna's secret for giving glass that gorgeous aged look is applying layers of delicate silver leaf, which she gets from L. Cornelissen & Son. She sometimes enhances the effect by putting pieces of lace or pictures behind the silver, too.

- 1 Dilute a little gelatin in warm water. Rub onto clean glass with cotton wool.

- 2 Lay a sheet of silver leaf transfer onto the damp glass and peel back the transfer paper, leaving the silver behind. Repeat, butting the squares up to one another.
- 3 Allow to dry for several hours, then gently burnish the silver with a soft cloth to flatten any wrinkles and create the mirroring on the other side of the glass.