

IN FOCUS

Mixing old and new

» The irregular angles found in unconventional buildings can make it tricky to use the space efficiently. Rather than trying to install off-the-shelf freestanding furniture, bespoke joinery is often better. An odd-shaped nook could become a cosy daybed, while wardrobes and drawers can be built around beams and columns.

» Architect Sam Tisdall (samtisdall.co.uk) inserted a straight-sided timber mezzanine into the curved apse of a church (right), creating a bedroom with straight walls and built-in storage that turns a beautiful-yet-impractical roof space into a liveable one. It's accessed via a bespoke timber staircase. The parts were prefabricated by CNC cutting before on-site assembly.



The idea

Period project

Bespoke joinery makes the most of space in the master bedroom of a converted London church

A mezzanine was replaced to form this bedroom. It celebrates the original architecture and brings light into the Victorian building

↓ Architect Moreno Masey (020 3142 6554; moreno masey.com) made the clock face opaque, bar one diamond, and got it working again

→ Jo Cowen Architects (020 7371 0357; jocowen design.com) converted an old bakery in a way that celebrates the building's heritage



The idea

Precious time

An old clock tower has become a shower room in this penthouse that overlooks Trafalgar Square



The idea

Clear divide

Cast-iron columns and steel and glass divider screens have been incorporated into this old bakery