

The

ENGLISH HOME



BEDROOMS
& EN SUITES

Celebrating the essence of English style

November 2018 | Issue 165 | £4.40 | UK Edition

EFFORTLESS ELEGANCE

Chic in the city, classic in the country

DREAM HOMES

Victorian terrace,
colourful manor,
refined rectory,
inviting townhouse

DESIGN MASTERCLASS

Yvonne Grenney's style
rules for sitting rooms

SMART BUYS
Fires & stoves
Clever storage

BEDROOMS & BATHROOMS

Best-dressed master suites from four-poster beds to roll-top baths



Four-poster style

With sumptuous drapes and an often tall and imposing frame, the four-poster bed offers a bold presence in a bedroom. In the days before central heating, heavy curtaining on all four sides of the bed afforded insulation and created a 'room within a room', keeping draughts at bay. Such considerations are, thankfully, not necessary in most modern homes, but using the drapery and stature of such a bed has once again become a means of adding a luxurious look and a statement focal point, particularly in a master bedroom suite.

A full-tester four-poster bed features an upper solid panel; a canopy bed features a fabric canopy as a ceiling; other posted designs may be without a top, or with an open rectangular framework supported by the four posts.

Four-poster beds have never disappeared from English interiors and in recent years their popularity has risen again, not just in the context of country-house style but in more modestly scaled city terrace homes, too. The professional eye of the interior designer is not daunted by quandaries of size and scale, and designers are certainly leading the way in this reinvigoration of bedroom design, proving that the four-poster bed can be effective in both large and more compact bedrooms.

We have seen some designers - Tim Gosling, Veere Grenney and Paolo Moschino, for example - use four-poster beds that almost fill a bedroom, and in such cases, rather than dominate the space, the bed sets an inviting look. The trick is often to make the bed frame taller than average, so that the eye line is not disrupted by the frame. Interestingly, in more compact rooms, where there is limited space on all sides to walk around the bed, one feels immediately enveloped by a sense of comfort rather than seeing the space as overwhelmed by the bed. The beautiful bedroom by Veere Grenney (*top right*) is a perfect example of this.

Antiques specialist and interior designer Max Rollitt is certainly a fan of the four poster, and this year launched a range of four-poster beds, each a refined redesign of antique four-poster pieces he had sourced

OPPOSITE Four-poster beds suit contemporary settings, too, as this bedroom by Turner Pocock for Gallagher London amply demonstrates.

TOP RIGHT Interior designer Veere Grenney has used a four-poster bed to inspirational

effect in this nearly sized bedroom. (To see more of Veere Grenney's work, turn to page 120.)

RIGHT The restrained form of the New Gloucester Bed by Max Rollitt encapsulates the essence of early-nineteenth-century design. From £10,850.

