



INSIDE SECRET: Top, the snug is painted dark green with the centre light from Leeds-based Dowsing & Reynolds; middle left and right, the house at the rear before and after the transformation; above, the kitchen is from Arlington Interiors based at Sunny Bank Mills, Farsley.

➔ thanks to large areas of glazing. The interiors too are perfect with a simple palette of grey, white and black on the walls with pops of colour.

The kitchen is from Arlington Kitchens, based at Sunny Bank Mills in Farsley, and the glazing is from Clearview Windows.

The open-plan living space required structural metal poles to hold up the first floor, and Ruth has made a feature of them by painting one black and two in orange.

The latter work perfectly with the orange wall cupboards in the hallway, which are by Leeds design studio and workshop Esgate & Keir, which also made the built-in wardrobes and fitted out the dressing room. A black wall with surrounding wood panelling in the sitting area helps the TV blend in and also contains a secret door into the snug.

The staircase made by the builders was done on a tight budget to a design by Ruth and Andy and the inexpensive wood batons are the most striking element. The showers and taps are from Meloria in Bawtry and the tiles are from Tile Trader in Elland.



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Luckily, much of the furniture and lighting from their previous house fitted well, not least because the Prestons have invested in some timeless classics, including a Saucer Bubble pendant light designed by George Nelson, which is above the dining table from Made.com. A stand-out light above the stairs is by Leeds-based Dowsing & Reynolds.

Art plays a big part in the decor and says Ruth: “We don’t buy generic art. It has to mean something to us as a family so we have quite a few photographs by my brother who studies photography at Central St Martins.”

The Prestons’ endeavours have attracted the attention of Lifestyle Locations and their home is now on the books of the Yorkshire firm, which sources properties for TV, film and photography shoots.

“It took us a year and a lot of stress to complete the project but it was well worth it,” says Ruth. “We all love it here and the house works so well for us as a family.”

■ **Find Ruth on Instagram @ hiddenhouseleeds. For more information on Lifestyle Locations, visit www.lifestylelocations.co.uk** 