

## 4 GET THE WOW FACTOR WITH ART DECO-STYLE STEEL-FRAMED WINDOWS

One name springs to mind when you see these industrial-look windows and that's Crittall. This heritage firm has seen a surge in popularity of late. Here Alan West, design director of glass extension specialist Trombé Ltd, discusses the enduring appeal of steel and talks us through this striking side and rear extension project.

**Why are Crittall windows so popular?** Beloved of interiors fans and architects, these Art Deco-style steel-framed windows (the company also sells sliding doors) usually have a striking black edge, although other colours are available. The overall effect is very appealing – bright, light spaces and a well-designed glass extension create a room that everyone gravitates towards. The windows used in this property are particularly detailed, with a multitude of glazing bars, but Crittall windows can also be simpler and more modern in appearance (crittall-windows.co.uk).

**What would this build involve?** The build time for a project like this one is generally between 12 and 20 weeks, depending on the size of the building. The cost of the project pictured here would have been in the region of £75,000 – you can produce a similar effect by spending upwards of £20,000, not including builder's fees. Most extensions require planning and if you are building within a metre of a party wall, then a Party Wall Award will be required (see *What to know before you build* previous page) – don't be afraid of these processes, as they're there to protect you as much as your neighbour!

**Are there any downsides to a glass side extension?** There's a great deal of ill-informed opinion on glass extensions – the classic being that they make your home too hot in summer and too cold in winter. Don't let this put you off! There are loads of solutions to address both of these issues, such as high-performance double glazing – glass that cleverly reflects solar heat while retaining internal heat (trombe.co.uk).

**'A well-designed glass extension will enhance family life, creating a room that everyone gravitates towards'**



This side and rear extension features Crittall steel-glazed windows and doors. The British firm is the original maker of this type of window, which has an industrial yet Art Deco look



## THE DETAILS WINDOWS AND DOORS

*We take a closer look at some more inspiring projects, from swivelling doors to stylish box windows*

### The new bay windows

A smaller alternative to traditional conservatories, box windows make perfect spots to soak up the sun.



These two projects, one by Trombé Ltd (top; trombe.co.uk) using sleek steel-framed glass and another by McLaren Excell (below; mclarenexcell.com), are all about adding light and space. The façade of the McLaren Excell project is clad in rust-effect Corten steel and the interior joinery is made from grey elm. In each one, a generous ledge runs around the inside of the box window, providing a perfect spot to sit and gaze out over your garden. Tip: the box seat is also a great place to sneak in extra storage.



### Two clever types of patio doors

How they open is just as important as how they look...



**Pivoting** This swivelling door, designed by architecture firm Alma-nac, provides a grand entrance to the garden. It is 3.3 metres high, framed with stained accoya (a highly durable wood) and fitted with double-glazing. Its height means that, from the upper kitchen level, views of the outdoors are not hindered (alma-nac.com).

### Wraparound

Architecture firm Bradley Van Der Straeten has turned this garden door into a dramatic feature that stretches around the corner of the extension. The design has two elements – a bi-folding door on the right and a smaller pane of glass on the left, which can be folded back against the wall (b-vds.co.uk). **ED**



PICTURES: JAKE FITZJONES, ANGIUS LEADLEY BROWN, NICK GUTTRIDGE

➕ For even more inspiration catch up on Channel 4 show 'Inside Out Homes', featuring architect Zac Munro and our own Editor-in-Chief Michelle Ogundehin – available to watch now on All4