

Home

... you won't find them in our selection of Britain's most spectacular new extensions – though you will see colour, angles and larch cladding. Get inspired or just dream

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Bifolds are bygones, judging by the latest home extension projects by some of Britain's top architects. Slim-frame sliding doors are now de rigueur or, failing that, industrial-style steel-frame glazing. And should you have the space, a picture window – architect speak for one large, fixed piece of glass – preferably with a built-in

seat, is another must-have. Homeowners are bringing forward projects before build costs and mortgage rates rise even further. Many have rushed to lock in finance for their plans at fixed interest rates by taking further advances on their mortgages, according to Chris Sykes from the mortgage broker Private Finance. If you are among these renovators, or wish you were, and could use some dreamy escapism amid all the gloom, we have put together our pick of Britain's most inspiring new extensions. Spoiler alert: none of them has bifold doors.

BYE-BYE

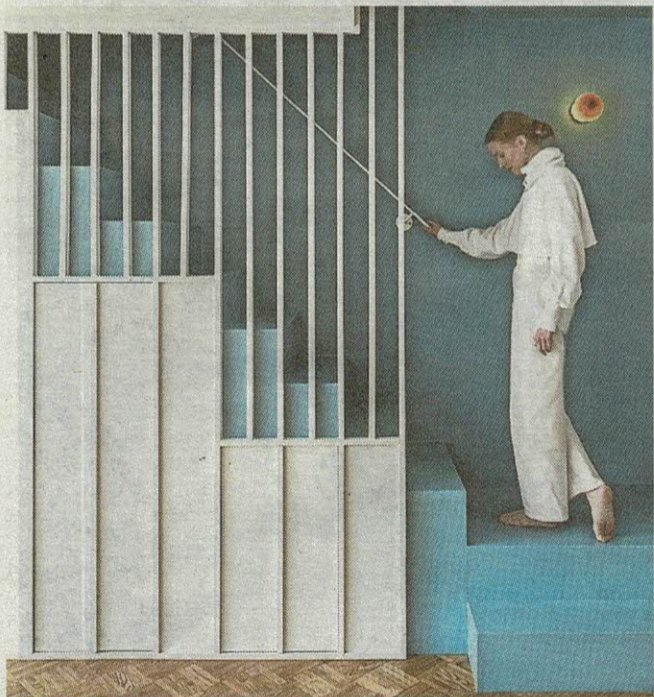
▶ ANGLE CLADDING TO SHADE GLAZING

Blackened and silvered larch wraps around a fixed window in this striking kitchen extension of a young family's Victorian corner house in Wandsworth, southwest London. Set at a 45-degree angle, the cladding creates a garden bench while also shading the kitchen from overheating. Mascot Bespoke/JAAM Architects



◀ GO DARK IN NORTHERN ROOMS

Actress Zoe Boyle and her husband Benedict Spence, extended a dark basement flat in Dalston, east London, to turn it into a kitchen for their house above. Blocks of deep colour – loved by Zoe – punctuate the clean white lines favoured by Benedict. "If a room is south-facing, go for a bright colour; if north facing, go for dark tones," says the project architect Jessica Williamson. Bradley Van Der Straeten Architects



◀ HANDMADE TILE TRANSFORMATION

A hipped roof extension, clad in larch and handmade tiles by the Danish company Petersen, gave a modern makeover to an interwar house in Epsom, Surrey. Downstairs is a minimalist kitchen, while a new master bedroom and bathroom celebrate the vaulted ceiling upstairs. Oliver Leech Architects



◀ LINK OLD AND NEW WITH GLASS

A glass link connects the ultra-modern bronze kitchen extension to the knapped grade II listed barn. A sculptural form in its own right, the extension creates a family hub that unifies the barn – with the historic farmhouse. Gregory Phillips Architects



▶ PICK BURNT WOOD FOR DRAMA

A north London family wanted a fourth bedroom, but planning restrictions limited how far a two-storey extension could protrude. A diagonal wall creates a first-floor window seat, while Shou Sugi Ban burnt timber cladding unifies the rear façade and is echoed in the monochrome interior. Paul Archer Design