

No one would recognise this formerly bohemian and dated house

It took city worker Sam Webster two years, and a lot of hard graft, to create a stylish, but welcoming home



The downstairs living room is reserved for relaxing around the original Victorian fireplace. The cornices and ceiling roses have been restored, while a Persian rug from Ikea, leather sofa by Katy Ellis Interiors and grey, silk-effect wallpaper by Tektura all add to the look

Good idea!

Vinyl parquet-effect flooring looks as good as the real thing at a fraction of the cost.



When Sam Webster decided to buy a property, he knew exactly what he wanted. 'I grew up in the country but moved to London because of work,' he explains. 'I'd been renting a flat in Vauxhall which was noisy with no outside space, so I knew I definitely wanted a house with a garden.'

Sam, who works in finance, needed somewhere with good transport links but found much of the city was out of his price range. After three months of searching, he struck lucky in Nunhead, south east London. 'I had never heard of this particular spot, which is probably why it's still a reasonably priced area. It has a railway station a few minutes' walk