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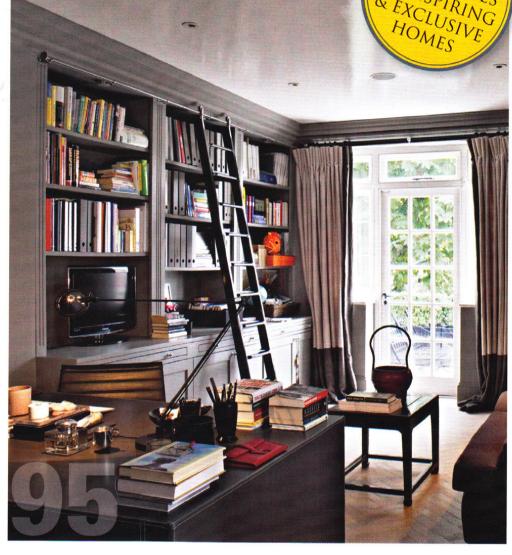
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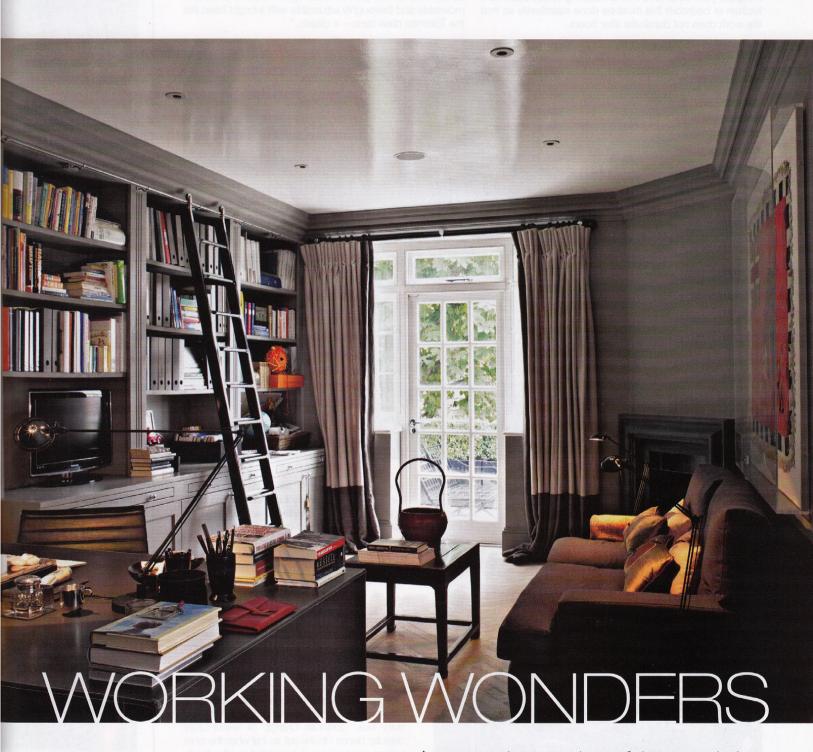
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As a growing number of the population is working from home, a dedicated office space is perfect for keeping organised

Report: Sophie Baylis

he holy grail of home offices is a dedicated desk area complete with the necessary space for storing unsightly paperwork, a good-quality, comfortable chair, and perhaps a coffee machine close to hand. In an ideal world you will have a spare room to convert into a dedicated study, but in the likely event that you plan to integrate your desk area into an existing space such as a kitchen or bedroom this must be done seamlessly so that the work does not dominate after hours.

"When lighting a work space shadows must be avoided," suggests Thomas Griem of TG Studio. "Therefore the location of the directional light – ie a flexible light that you can swivel – in correspondence with the working person is very important. The directional light source should be above and slightly in front of the person's head. Nothing works better than a well-placed desk light which is rotatable, moveable and thoroughly adjustable with a bright head like the Tolomeo desk lamp – a classic."





Previous page (p95): Mena Interiors intended this room to serve many functions. "It belongs to a young family who wanted a space where the husband and wife could catch up in the evening," explains interior designer Melanie Rademacher. "and cater to the family's passion for reading." Melanie also gave the couple the option of relaxing on the sofa or sitting opposite each other at the large desk.

Above: Charles Robertson of David Linley designed this home office-cum-guest room for a city worker. "It was a very small space so the real test was to come up with a multifunctional solution," he explains. The answer was a large unit incorporating a pull-down bed and desk, plus plenty of storage. "The statement unit is constructed in walnut, but the way it has been designed and the curved details of the shelves and desk soften its bulky look," continues Charles. "A walnut Linley desk set blends into the unit so that when the room is used as a bedroom, it doesn't feel so office-like."

Left: "Given it is a basement, function, ergonomics, storage and as much natural light as possible were the key considerations for this space," says interior designer Harriet Anstruther. Harriet opted for a mostly white scheme to enhance the feeling of space, while large patio doors and a skylight guarantee plenty of natural light.

Case study



