

## Case study



**Interior designer:** Ursula Wesselingh at Room To Bloom.

**The clients:** A professional couple with a young child and a baby on the way.

**Location:** South London.

**The brief:** To refurbish a neglected spare room into a peaceful nursery for a baby girl.

**Cost:** Around £10,000.

“This room needed a lot of basic work before we could start to decorate,” says Ursula. “First, I insulated the floor and ceiling to help with temperature and sound control (the kitchen is located below), then replaced the ceiling, re-plastered walls, repaired a rotting window, levelled the fireplace hearth and installed a new radiator.”

Ursula installed shutters at the window to control light levels – crucial for healthy sleeping patterns – and fitted a dimmer light switch so it would be easy for the parents to check on their little girl without waking her up.

Built-in wardrobes and wall-hung box units provide space for storage and display, and Ursula included a comfy chair for nursing and reading. “My client was heavily pregnant, so the race was on to complete the project before she gave birth, while trying to minimise upheaval,” she reveals. “I had originally planned to refurbish the floorboards, but due to time restraints we chose carpet instead. This actually had the added benefit of insulating further against sound from the kitchen.”

Longevity was a key consideration, so Ursula painted walls a timeless grey shade and chose a wallpaper design that would stand the test of time. “Grey provides a neutral background which can be warmed up with colourful accents,” she explains.

