

# The world of Kelly

Kelly Hoppen is interior designer to celebrities. Her stunning furniture collection is stocked by just five carefully selected UK retailers – and Suffolk's own Brightwell Interiors is one of them

Kelly Hoppen was just 16 when she undertook her first interiors project. By the age of 20, she had designed the home of Formula 1 star Guy Edwards. Today she's the 'Queen of Taupe' and has been honoured with an MBE for her contributions to the field of interior design. Her simple yet luxurious style has dressed British Airways' first class cabins and the Beckham's LA home to name a few. Her empire at The Yard in Notting Hill is a veritable Kelly world, where one can find everything from Kelly scents to accessories, wallpaper and furniture.

## When did you know that you wanted a life in interior design?

Ever since I was a young child I knew I had a passion for interiors. I would bore my mother to death with requests for her to take me around show houses each weekend, and my constant rearranging of her furniture. I finally took the plunge and took my first interiors job at 16, designing a kitchen for family friend.



Left and below; furniture and accessories from Kelly Hoppen Home. Top; Kelly Hoppen

## How would you categorise your own personal style?

Simple, luxurious and textural best describes my own personal style.

## What makes a house a home?

'Home' is a feeling rather than a look and the definition of that feeling differs from person to person. It's about designing a home that works for the way that you live and the way that you entertain, and that reflects your values and personality.

## What do you think today's home should provide us with?

Home is the most important place. It should be tranquil and harmonious, with a sense of order and peace – it's a place we retreat to for comfort and relaxation. It really has to work for the individual.

## What inspired your new furniture collection?

I was hugely inspired by vintage furniture. I tried to look into my mind's eye and design items that I would love to have within my own interior schemes – pieces that work well alone or with a wider collection.

## What is it about your brand that translates so well for the Brightwell Interiors customer?

Being timeless makes my brand work for Brightwell Interiors customers. It's not about a one off statement piece that will immediately date. It's about the customer having options for finishes and being able to customise pieces to their own taste. In this collection you can choose from over 50 styles in 800 combinations, so people can really tailor it.

## You are famous for your approach to colour. What is your philosophy?

I'm often asked why I use a palette of beiges





and neutrals, but I don't think this makes the offering limited. These colours work well in all environments – they can provide a neutral backdrop if someone wants to add colour, or the neutral palette used in statement items makes them more workable.

**Your approach to interior design and furniture design brings a sense of calm and tranquillity to the home environment. Is this part of your inspiration?**

I think the home is about layers, whether it's scent, texture or colour – they all mix. I reference Eastern philosophies through my work that bring a sense of harmony to the home.

**To 'make' a room requires a few 'key' items – what are those items, in your opinion?**

In every room, a few key pieces are important to make impact. For example, in a living room, the coffee table is key as it is where everything emanates from. In the bedroom, it's the bed as it's the largest item, so bed linen and cushions can be fun. Another way is with art. I adore having a star piece in every room, like in my living room, with the crystal chainmail lights which I designed.

**Kelly Hoppen Home is now stocked at Brightwell Interiors, Brightwell Hall Farm, Brightwell, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP10 0BE  
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www.brightwellinteriors.com**

