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## FOCUS ON INTERIOR DESIGN

Whether your space is long, short, wide or narrow, it presents its own unique challenges. Find out how to make it a useful, cohesive room with this expert guide

FEATURE RACHEL OGDEN

# Hallways

### BUILD IN STORAGE

Whether you opt for cupboards in a recess or an entire walkway of floor-to-ceiling cabinets, bespoke units make a large amount of space available for all your needs. Fit flush to the wall, balancing the uniformity with eye-catching lighting along the other side. Irina Townsend matt lacquered wood cupboards in light taupe with dark nickel handles, H261x W611xD70cm, POA; whitewashed, wood-effect ceramic tiles with Emperador marble-effect inserts, £95 per m<sup>2</sup>; ceiling-mounted chandeliers, from £400 each; chandelier pendants, from £550 each, all Keir Townsend



**A**awkwardly proportioned and tricky to design, hallways can prove difficult to update. However, as the first place to greet you as you step through the front door, and a showpiece area that gives the first impression of the home beyond, rethinking yours will impact positively on every room that leads from it.

## SPACE PLANNING

### DESIGNING FROM SCRATCH

‘The first consideration when designing a hallway in a new home is whether to make it one of the main features in the house. If you have the space, make sure there is enough room in the hallway for people to move about, as a number of guests can gather here. Opting for vaulted ceilings at the design stage can make a hallway look and feel much more attractive and spacious, while ensuring there is plenty of light reaching the space to bring the room to life. For most homes, a hallway is functional, but there is no reason why it couldn’t be used as extra living space, such as a home office or reading area. House orientation is also a factor to consider when designing a hallway; if it faces south then include plenty of windows so you don’t miss out on all the beautiful natural light.’

**Emyr Davies, design manager at Welsh Oak Frame**

### BIG AND SMALL CONSIDERATIONS

‘There are rarely features that need to be worked around in a hallway, such as windows or outside walls, so the space is a blank canvas when it comes to deciding

### MAKE SMALL BEAUTIFUL

Smaller tiles rotated 90 degrees to the wall in contrasting colours will give the illusion of width. A radiator cover with a similar criss-cross pattern, neutral walls and traditional light fittings add to the period charm, while reduced-depth furniture in the wider part of the entrance increases the feeling of space into the house. Made-to-measure top-coated MDF radiator cabinet customised from design D52828, H80xW150xD20cm, £323.22, Jali. For similar tiles, try Victorian Black/White Chequer, £66.19 per m<sup>2</sup>, Topps Tiles

