

ELLE

DECORATION

IT'S SPRING!
Let the outside in





#2

SHUTTER SOLUTIONS

A practical option for any home, external shutters filter light and increase privacy. Follow these tips from Nick Garratt, director of The New England Shutter Company, to ensure that you choose the right style for your room (thenewenglandshuttercompany.com).

- **Consider the climate** and how your shutters will weather in those conditions. I recommend using Western Red cedar as it's a material that improves with age.
- **If you decide to paint** your shutters, use an acrylic finish as it is water-resistant.
- **Our most popular style** is 'Soho' (£460 per square metre). Its modern, architectural aesthetic is really on-trend.

- **Different window frames suit different shutters.** Cafe-style shutters usually cover the lower half of a window and provide privacy while allowing light into the room, and full-height shutters are a good option for sash windows and French doors. Victorian bay windows will benefit from tier-on-tier versions, because this type allow the top and bottom panels to be opened independently.
- **Employ an experienced carpenter** to fit your shutters. Most companies, including us at The New England Shutter Company, offer a full installation service. *Pictured above: these striking shutters are part of Bar Tomate, designed by Sandra Tarruella interiors practice, in Mexico*

#3 OUR PICK OF THE BEST PLANTERS

Brighten up any garden, patio or balcony with these smart and colourful pots



'Lucille' hanging basket, £350, Llot Llov (lloflow.de). 'Tyssen' wire plant pot, £12, Habitat (habitat.co.uk). 'Feeling Pot Canvas' pot by Marie Michielssen, £25, Serax (serax.com)