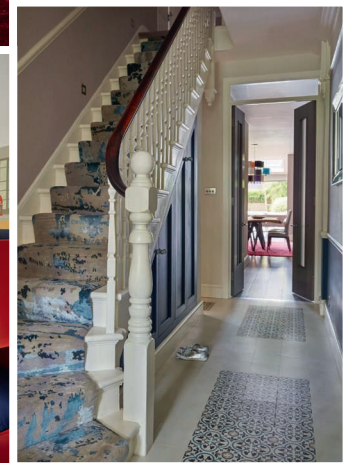




## Tracey Saunders

Time spent living abroad has influenced this London-based designer, whose attention to detail is evident from the initial planning stages to the positioning of artwork in the finished interior

I have always had a passion for interior design and architecture and secured my first client while only halfway through my interior design course. Living in South America and Africa for some years, surrounded by extraordinary natural landscapes, has definitely influenced my style. I also love mid-century designers such as Arne Jacobsen and Charles and Ray Eames and have huge admiration for today's designers, including Tricia Guild and Allegra Hicks. My projects range from newbuilds of varying scales to the interior design of existing houses, and involve working with teams of skilled builders alongside an array of suppliers and makers. Rather than imposing a signature style, I feel my role is to bring to life a client's vision. Sometimes people don't know what they like but they generally know what they don't like, so that gives me a good starting point. I recently completed a project for the explorer Levison Wood. Designing his office space with dark panelling and cleverly displaying artefacts from his travels and many books, it was an example of how as a designer you have to interpret the client's taste and lifestyle and not yours. **Detail is king; it is what makes a design come together, whether it is the shade of grouting for tiles or the height of a skirting board.** Beautiful interiors must also be functional - the current trend for open-plan living needs careful thought to create different areas. **It is imperative to engage the right craftsmen to bring a scheme to fruition. I always respect the knowledge and expertise of the people I work with, as without them my designs would not come to life.** I love discovering small individual suppliers. Rug designer Jennifer Manners is a new find that I am using for various projects. **You have to know a client personally in order to create a space that they will love. I ask about childhood memories of home as this can have a big impact on a person's taste.**  
[saundersinteriors.co.uk](http://saundersinteriors.co.uk)



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Designer Tracey Saunders. The kitchen extension of a recently completed project by Saunders Interiors. The entrance hall of the house. A child's bedroom. The main bedroom

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