



MEET THE DESIGNER

Interior designer STEVE LOVE of Camillin Denny is based in Brighton and has been involved in a variety of interiors projects both locally and internationally. Recent work includes a turn-key interior refurbishment of a penthouse apartment in Malta, residential design for a large property in Shanghai, overseeing the development and managing of a residential investment property in Brighton and hotel and spa design in London.

Founded in 1997, Camillin Denny specialises predominantly in residential interior architecture. It has grown into an international company involved in large scale masterplanning projects in Libya, listed property restoration, hotel design, and commercial and residential projects small and large, both at home and abroad.

SUPPLIERS

- Contractor** Chris Game, Aequitas Developments 07786 364993
- Furniture** RUME [www.rume.co.uk](http://www.rume.co.uk)
- Joinery** Richard Hill Interiors [www.richardhillinteriors.com](http://www.richardhillinteriors.com)
- Pendant light** CTO Lighting [www.ctolighting.co.uk](http://www.ctolighting.co.uk)
- Splitface limestone wall and hearth** Stonell [www.stonell.com](http://www.stonell.com)
- Fire** Universal from Metalfire [www.metalfire.eu](http://www.metalfire.eu)

Pictures: Fiona Walker-Arnott, [www.fwaphotography.com](http://www.fwaphotography.com)



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# MORE THAN A VIEW

DESIGNER STEVE LOVE HAS TRANSFORMED A CRAMPED LOUNGE INTO MULTI-FUNCTIONAL, OPEN-PLAN LIVING SPACE.

The kitchen usually gets top billing as the heart of a home, but in this Brighton residence it's the sociable living and dining space that pulls everyone together.

Three generations of the family have lived in this seafront home, meaning the space has been placed under different demands as more children have arrived. Keen to hang on to their incredible views the homeowners opted to reconfigure the space instead of upsizing.

With a passion for true functionality, Steve Love of Camillin Denny saw that incorporating a relaxed lounge area, formal dining and comfortable TV room into one sociable space would suit the family's lifestyle.

This detached 1960s house had been extended in the 70s and it was several years since any interior decoration work had been carried out. As a result this family room transformation soon turned into a refurbishment of the whole house.

Overlooking Brighton's famous pebble beach with huge south-facing windows, the lounge and dining room were originally joined by a large archway. The TV room was accessed by a single door and separated by a bulky chimney breast covered in 70s stone cladding. This layout didn't suit the young family, who wanted a much more linked space with a working chimney breast separating the two rooms.

Steve came up with a solution that involved minor architectural alterations with maximum visual impact, making a feature of the dividing wall by opening up part of the existing TV room and thereby creating a semi-divided space.

By cutting into the chimney breast on three sides the working fireplace adds a focal point to the room and allows an obscured view to the TV area beyond.

The key to designing a successful open-plan living space is to delineate zones and create a sense of natural flow, according to Steve. "The mix of textures and timbers throughout

help define each space. The light oak floor highlights the custom-made cashmere rug in the lounge area and contrasts nicely with walnut doors and slatted walnut furniture. We then brought in splitface limestone to wrap around one wall in the TV area which really stands out against the soft sheen wallpaper."

A neutral palette of taupe, stone colours and light green accents are lifted with the use of subtle metallic finishes. The shimmering surfaces reflect the bright light which the room affords in daytime. The custom-made sofas take advantage of the large south-facing windows with sea views and the open fire, while the dining room overlooks the rear garden and incorporates a bespoke cabinet cleverly hiding a serving hatch to the kitchen.

The overall impression is of calm and lightness. The careful combination and placement of material, furniture and texture results in a harmonious interior and an individual living space perfectly suited for its owners.



GET THE LOOK

- 1** Hailing all the way from Nepal, this Leaf Trellis rug is made from wool/silk. For a rug measuring 2.16m x 1.55m, expect to pay £1,940. [www.hillcorugs.com](http://www.hillcorugs.com)
- 2** Natural Bath limestone is used to create this contemporary fireplace. Italian riven black slate provides the dramatic dark background. Priced from £4,250 including VAT. 01963 350242, [www.templestone.co.uk](http://www.templestone.co.uk)
- 3** To avoid the expense of custom-made furniture, this two-seater sofa from IKEA costs £279 and is available in 11 colours. [www.ikea.com](http://www.ikea.com)

