

Best of Homes, Interiors & Improvements

Create your dream living space – whether you're putting the final touches to your grand design or refreshing a room, here are some of the best ways to improve your home

VELFAC and VELUX®: a history of providing glazing solutions from roof to ground level



Think of rooflights or roof windows and you might just think of VELUX. Ever since Villum Kann Rasmussen, a civil engineer with a creative mind, had the idea of putting windows in roofs in 1941, VELUX roof windows have been bringing ventilation and daylight into buildings all over the world.

Rasmussen's passion for daylight stimulated the next logical development when he launched his own range of façade windows. Based on the same principles as the VELUX roof window, he used a pivot hinge to create his first tilting façade window. The façade window was trademarked as VELFAC in 1962 — a contraction of the words ventilation, light and façade.

Today, VELFAC and VELUX remain sister companies within the VKR Holding Group. Constructed to the same high-quality standards, using similar materials and manufacturing methods, VELFAC and VELUX combine to provide complementary glazing options, from roof to ground level.

Both brands are optimised for energy performance with double- and triple-glazing options available. Intensive testing programmes ensure they meet all the

necessary performance regulations, including target U-values and weather resistance.

True to their Danish origins, VELFAC and VELUX are designed with sustainability, longevity and style in mind. Provided with 10- or 12-year warranties, depending on the range, they typically have decades-long lifespans — in some cases, up to 60 years.

Sleek and contemporary, their good looks combine external, low-maintenance aluminium façades with internal FSC-certified wood to create warm and welcoming interiors. And, of course, they contribute to the creation of light, bright and energy efficient homes.

VELFAC UK's internal sales and marketing manager, Kevan Woolf, comments: "We perhaps don't talk about our VELUX link as often as we should. Together, VELFAC and VELUX offer house builders, architects and developers an impressive range of complementary window and door products to create stand-out homes."

Transform spaces into favourite places.

VELUX®

VELFAC®



Visit velfac.co.uk or velux.co.uk for more information, to view products and to book an installer.

Explore stunning ancient and antique pieces



Apollo Art Auctions, a leading antiques auction house with a global clientele, is proud to present 'Fine Islamic, Indian and Chinese Art', 'Fine Ancient Art and Jewellery' and 'Fine Ancient Art and Antiquities' auctions.

On 14 and 15 December, head to their showroom at 63-64 Margaret Street to explore a selection of ancient and antique pieces, from wearable jewellery to unique décor.

Call 07424 994167 or visit apolloauctions.com to find out more.



Creating contemporary architecture

Spatial Design Architects is an Essex based multi-award-winning RIBA-chartered practice, specialising in contemporary architecture, serving clients across the UK.

With 20-plus years of experience, they focus on designing bespoke new build homes and extensions, while providing a turnkey solution, in securing planning permission, and providing technical design for private residential and commercial clients.

Their dedication to bespoke designs ensures attention to detail, through their design, detail, and delivery service.

Notably, their Beach House project (pictured), which prioritised eco-friendliness and unique design, won the Best Individual New Home, East Anglia Region at the 2020 LABC Building Excellence Awards.

At Spatial Design Architects, they are dedicated to creating outstanding modern architecture, focusing on bespoke designs for residential properties, homes, apartments, mixed-use developments, and commercial spaces and projects.

To get in touch, visit spatialdesignarchitects.com



Maximise your sale price with the power of auctions



Think auctions mean settling for less? Think again! Barney Estates & Auctioneers are a top choice for selling your property or land, with a trustworthy and transparent process that is tailored to suit receivers, charities, mutual societies and individual sellers alike. With over 65 years of expertise spanning London, the Home Counties and beyond, they're committed to helping you achieve the best possible price.

They offer flexible completion, meaning you can choose a timeline that works for you, from just seven to 28 days. Plus, you get instant results: exchange contracts

immediately at the auction and avoid waiting months for conveyancing.

Barney Estates & Auctioneers is also the only UK auction house to offer weekly live auctions — from their southwest London office or an elegant Knightsbridge hotel. Buyers can join online, by phone or in person, maximising the competition. Your property will also be showcased on the renowned EIG Property Auctions platform, giving you exposure to buyers across the country.

With audited client deposit accounts and professional insurance up to £2 million, you're guaranteed peace of mind. Plus, with their no sale, no fee policy, you won't have to pay a penny if your property doesn't sell. Let's make your property sale simple, stress-free and successful.

Schedule a free consultation — virtually or in person — to explore how to enter your property into their national live auctions.



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Call the team on 020 8432 7330 or email sales@barneyestates.co.uk for more information.

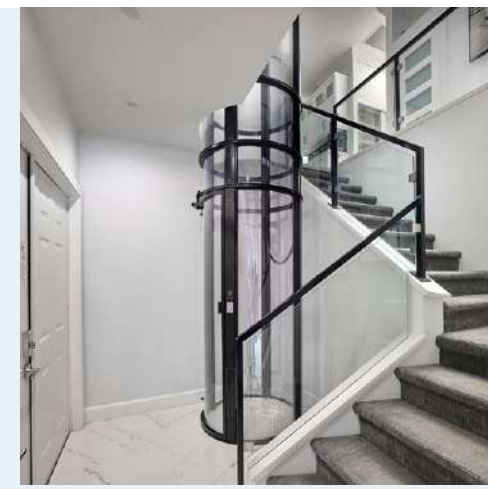
Elevating lifestyles

Morgan Ellis Lifts, a leading provider of bespoke home elevators, have been transforming homes across the UK and Europe for over 10 years. Specialising in stylish, luxurious and accessible lifts, they offer an end-to-end service that includes supply, installation and building works. Whether it's a through-floor lift, shaft elevator or the innovative Pneumatic Vacuum Elevator (PVE), Morgan Ellis ensures each project is tailored to meet the client's needs and take their lifestyle to the next level.

As approved suppliers of top brands such as Stiltz, Arico and Altura, the company provides a range of products that combine cutting-edge technology with sophisticated design. From sleek finishes to customised colours and sizes, Morgan Ellis delivers a completely

bespoke solution for every home. Their expert team works closely with architects, contractors and homeowners to ensure a seamless integration of the lift into the home's overall design.

In addition to their impressive product range, including car and commercial lifts, Morgan Ellis also offers exceptional



aftercare through servicing and maintenance packages. This commitment to customer satisfaction extends well beyond installation, ensuring that lifts remain in top condition for years to come.

With a showroom in Amersham where you can view and experience their products, as well as a nationwide reach, Morgan Ellis Lifts continues to be a trusted name in luxury home solutions. Whether you're building, renovating or simply enhancing your home's accessibility, Morgan Ellis promises to elevate your lifestyle.



For more information, email enquiries@morganellis.co.uk or visit morganellis.co.uk/thetimes

Beautiful stairs make beautiful homes



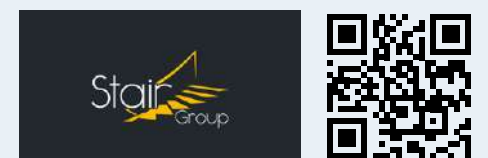
Opening a new showroom near Fakenham this summer, the Stair Group Ltd team invite visitors to experience for themselves the quality workmanship that is invested into every project. The new premises will display many examples of the diverse staircases, balconies, balustrades and composite decking they can create.

Visitors will be able to see the quality achieved in Stair Group Ltd's workshop first-hand, from precision joinery and bespoke steel manufacture to the final paint finish.

Stair Pro Group Ltd was established with ambitions to set a new standard in the design, performance and reliability of architectural metalwork. Since then, the team have developed an impressive portfolio across private and business customers.

Since no two projects are the same, they offer a fully bespoke service, including design, manufacture, and installation of tailor-made metalwork and timber staircases from start to finish. Stair Group Ltd crafts staircases that integrate charmingly and perfectly into the existing property interior.

Everything is handmade under their roof, which means they can promise every customer uncompromised fantastic, premium quality workmanship, whatever their requirements.



For more information, call 01760 751679, visit stairgroup.co.uk or scan the QR code to visit our virtual showroom.

Stabilise your washing machine or dryer for good

Steady Spin is the original and only washing machine stabiliser that works from the top of the machine, not the bottom. Better still, no lifting or moving your machine is involved, saving your machine and floors from damage.

This makes perfect sense, as it's like hiring someone to sit on your machine, holding it down 24/7. Just slip the vinyl bladder between the washer and the counter top, then inflate to a snug fit with the handy manual

pump, which can be hidden away so you can't see it. Forget old-fashion mats and rubber feet, this really does work better.

It is the perfect size and fits all machines. It will inflate up to six inches to fill that gap. Invented in the UK in 2016, with over 2,442 five-star reviews on Amazon — check the reviews to see for yourself.

Just £18.95 including P&P.

Find out more at steadyspin.co.uk or buy on Amazon and eBay.

Turn your dreams into reality



HB Oak Frames specialise in the design and construction of both traditional and contemporary green oak framed buildings.

With over 25 years of experience, the team boasts a diverse and extensive portfolio, including complete oak framed garages, garden rooms, outdoor offices, pergolas and outdoor entertainment areas.

Using premium-grade, sustainably-sourced oak with incredible strength, durability and character, their bespoke oak frames are tailored to your needs, ensuring you get a building that is unique and matches your vision precisely.

With a team of highly skilled craftsmen, HB

Oak Frames employ a mix of traditional carpentry techniques alongside modern design principles to create beautiful and high-performance oak framed buildings.

No matter the size of your project, HB Oak Frames has the expertise, skills and specialist knowledge to meet your requirements on time and in budget.

To find out more, call 01233 538339 or visit hboakframes.com



Introducing the Senses range

Upgrade your kitchen with the Senses range of high-pressure laminate (HPL) surfaces. From worktops and breakfast bars to splashbacks and upstands, Senses offers a versatile and affordable solution for creating stunning kitchen designs. With 24 décors to choose from, including realistic woodgrain, marble, stone and unique patterns, there's a style to suit every taste — from contemporary minimalism to rustic charm.

Crafted with precision in the UK, Senses surfaces are not only visually striking but also built to last. Made from durable, scratch-resistant laminate, they offer superior performance compared to natural materials like granite and concrete, all while being lighter and easier to install. The range is available in eight carefully curated textured finishes including matte, rock, urban and stone, to perfectly complement your chosen décor.

Senses worktops come in two edge profiles: classic rounded edges for a softer, more traditional feel, or sleek square edges for a modern, streamlined look. Each surface is easy to maintain, with a hygienic, antibacterial finish that requires only minimal cleaning — just a damp cloth and mild detergent. Whether you're preparing family meals or hosting guests, Senses kitchen surfaces stand up to daily use while maintaining their elegance.

Backed by a comprehensive five-year guarantee, the Senses range offers both peace of mind and long-term value. All products are PEFC-certified, making them a sustainable choice for your kitchen renovation.

With matching breakfast bars, splashbacks and upstands, you can create a cohesive, stylish design from every angle. Whether you're drawn to a minimalist, moody luxury, or nature-inspired retreat, the Senses range delivers the perfect surface to make your kitchen a space you'll love.



Discover the perfect look for your home with Senses — where beauty meets durability and practicality. Visit rearo.co.uk

