

Contemporary makeover for the typical sixties townhouse

Simple palette of engineering bricks and polished concrete combine to create light wraparound extension and upgrade



MORE HOMES
BETTER HOMES



LONDON Zoe Smith has completed this £195,000 revamp and extension of a late 1960s, three-storey, terraced townhouse in Hackney, east London.

The ageing exterior wall panels and windows of the ageing ex-local authority home were removed, leaving only solid brickwork to side and front elevations. The PVC panels were replaced by insulated cavity walls made of black engineering brick.

The 50m² extension, which wraps around the side and rear of the building, features two large,

aluminium-framed doors and houses a new entrance, playroom, kitchen, dining and living area.

Smith, who completed the scheme under the ZS Architects banner but has recently set up a new studio called ZCD Architects with Cordula Weisser and Dinah Bornat (see page 20), said: 'This project demonstrates how, through a process of removal, alteration and extension, the ubiquitous ex-council 1960s townhouse can be transformed into a unique and contemporary family home.

'A simple and honest palette of materials was chosen, some of which seemed appropriate to the original date of the property; industrial parquet oak flooring was selected for the upper floors of the existing house.'

She added: 'At ground floor level the articulated black brick walls extend inside, creating an unusual interior wall surface in contrast to simple white plastered walls.

'A light, polished micro-top concrete floor unifies the whole of the ground floor.' *Richard Waite*



PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHARLES HOSEA