

# Big Brother, we're still watching you

## INTERIORS

Big Brother is back on our screens, but is the real star of the show the house itself?

Sharon Dale looks for inspiring ideas.

WHEN the *Big Brother* housemates are boring you, turn down the sound, tear your eyes away from Mario, Lisa, Mohammed et al and take a good look at the decor.

The Big Brother House is designed to be eye-catching and contemporary and there are some great design ideas.

You probably wouldn't want to copy it wholesale and the bright colours are obviously a psychological ploy to create unrest, but there are aspects that work well and are inexpensive to recreate.

Take the living room floor, which has a single circle of zebrano laminate flooring (£12.98 per sq metre from B&Q) for the dining area. It adds interest and it's practical.

The super-size mosaics make a great feature wall, though it is debatable whether the *Footballers' Wives*, gold-plated-tapped, Romanesque bathroom will be widely copied.

The furniture is always interesting and this year the suppliers feature a strong Yorkshire contingent.

Hull-based Ideal Standard supplied the corner wet

room shower, the loo, basin and the Cristal bath filler.

Leeds-based Naughtone created the amazing two-tone dining table.

This is one of the most important features in the house and is going to be significant in a forthcoming episode, though designer and Naughtone co-founder Kieron Bakewell is sworn to secrecy about that.

He says: "The table is my design and was made to suit a brief that Big Brother gave us. It was tricky because the table has to be flexible in its arrangement, so it is in two pieces.

"The form was inspired by a farmhouse table, but the legs

aren't traditional in style and the top curves down to the floor at one end, which makes it look easy, but in

fact that's very hard and expensive to achieve."

The long, rectangular black and white table is made from glue laminated plywood and mdf with high gloss veneers and although not on sale, a bespoke version can be commissioned.

"It's enormous, so it would probably be more suited to a boardroom. It would cost about £9,000 for the full size or £5,000 for one half the size," says Kieron, who is working on a similar design that may be put into full production soon.

Meanwhile, check out Naughtone's innovative Trace dining tables by Stefan Bench from £1,285 on [www.naughtone.com](http://www.naughtone.com).



BIG BROTHER'S CONTACTS

- **Naughtone, Leeds** (dining table) [www.naughtone.com](http://www.naughtone.com)
- **Furniture Village** (New York dining chairs) [www.furniturevillage.co.uk](http://www.furniturevillage.co.uk)
- **Ideal Standard** (wet room shower) [www.ideal-standard.co.uk](http://www.ideal-standard.co.uk)
- **Ochigo** (contemporary homeware and homeware gifts) [www.ochigo.co.uk](http://www.ochigo.co.uk)
- **Formahouse** (mugs cutlery and tableware) [www.formahouse.co.uk](http://www.formahouse.co.uk)
- **Sagaform** (egg cups and hamburger press and oven mitts) [www.sagaform.co.uk](http://www.sagaform.co.uk)
- **Deep End Pools** 01494 671787, [www.deependpools.co.uk](http://www.deependpools.co.uk)
- **B&Q** (zebrano flooring) [www.diy.com](http://www.diy.com)
- **Joseph Joseph** (kitchenware) [www.josephjoseph.com](http://www.josephjoseph.com)
- **Goldgenie** (specialist gold platers and suppliers of luxury gifts and services, including gold plating of



**PRACTICAL:** Zebrano flooring from B&Q.

- bathroom fittings) [www.goldgenie.com](http://www.goldgenie.com)
- **Japangarden** [www.japangarden.co.uk](http://www.japangarden.co.uk) (Japanese interiors and exterior products used in a recent task)
- **Ethical Garden** (teak and weave outdoor garden furniture that has been ethically produced) [www.ethicalgarden.co.uk](http://www.ethicalgarden.co.uk)
- **Decored** (Supply natural wall coverings) [www.decored.com](http://www.decored.com)



GET THE LOOK: New York chairs from Furniture Village, above; bright colours are the theme outdoors, top; Guzzini 24 piece cutlery set £55 from [www.formahouse.co.uk](http://www.formahouse.co.uk), inset below.





FOCAL POINT: The living area features a table from Leeds-based naughtone, [www.naughtone.com](http://www.naughtone.com).

