I know what I like

lovely mug ugly mug

Oddly enough probably, I drink out of that one (stripey) most of the time. I really like tea out of that one, - , but I do like coffee out of that (white one)

So I have coffee out of that one but tea out of that one , which seems odd really.

I've been thinking about it. I think tea, for me, is more of a cosy sort of drink and I think that that's sort of cosy and kind of more homely and that (white one) that's more like elegant?

I think of coffee as a slightly posher kind of drink. I didn't think about it until.. well, actually I did. I used to wonder why do I like coffee out of that and tea out of that? I think It's almost I like builders tea, or workmens tea or something. Whereas coffee is like coffee shops- it's kind of 'Costa', and it's more of an indulgence. So I think (the white one) it's indulgence, and a bit more stylish and (the stripey one) that's homely comforts ~?

I've got another one that I like - I think they're similar because they are kind of chunky, and the colour - slightly coloured and they're jolly ..

I quite like stripey things. I tend to wear T-shirts, and I quite like stripey T-shirts. I don't know why, just - a bit more jolly I think, sort of cheerful. Like the sailors or something, I don't know, and - there's something about it is more cheerful you know.

The one with spots is quite cheerful because it's just it's just bright and a bit of fun.I wouldn't say that I am a green person but it's a kind of, quite a bright warm green.

PORSCHE
STUTTGART

Do you have any mugs you particularly don't like?

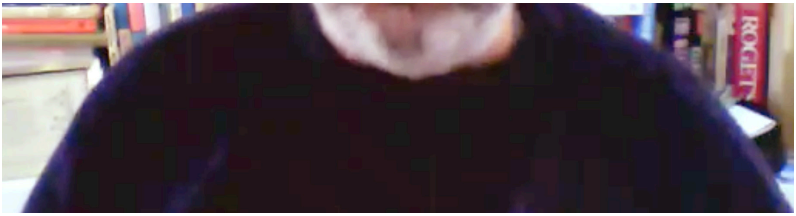
They're really the only ones that we have in the house. Or S has got rid of them and I haven't even noticed. I'm a clutter person and S likes to get rid of stuff. She's got a lower tolerance for clutter than me I suppose, but it's intermittent. She'll put things in a sack and I will find things in them and put them back

We might have some with writing on but we don't use them. If someone bought (me) a mug, if it had a logo on it, or a company I didn't like or something-because I'm in marketing, so I am quite anti-marketing really, because I understand how it works, and the manipulation, so it really drives me bonkers.

So if someone gave me a mug with something like Porsche on it, that would be straight out the door. Or Tory party probably! I've been to quite a lot of exhibitions - through work, exhibitions and trade shows, and things and people give you mugs and stuff. But then they don't really mean anything to me. So I don't know where they go, but they're probably in a drawer somewhere, or in a charity shop.

We have some sort of special coffee mugs - they're kind of like shaped like that and they're really chunky they're very bright colours. You wouldn't want to drink out of that (everyday).

We can't put them in the dishwasher that's why we don't have those very often. So we're pretty kind of functional people I think


ROGET

I think I'm quite an independent person, so I suppose that might be another reason why I don't have things for writing on. - or clothing with any writing on. Even Marks and Spencers . .I don't like it. It's just that I am not trying to say something with my clothes. I know S would say that she hates all my clothes- because I wear the same ones every day pretty much..

I've got this jumper (I'm wearing) - it's a really crappy colour. It's actually purple but it looks black on the screen. It's dark but it's got purple bits in it. It's nylony and it's indestructible -(it's) very comfortable and it's just the right kind of warmth. So I think I am quite a functional dressing sort of person.

The cast iron pan I seem to cook all my meals in

I bought it back in the 1970s (Sunday Times special offer for a set of three) – I've still got all three but middle sized one gets the most use as just the right size for meals for one/two.

Can take handle off after you've browned ingredients and then put it in the oven. Indestructible. I like the fact it's not fancy and is a bit rustic and traditional.

I worked at this top advertising agency

Everyone in advertising - most of them- they've got an image, a self image. At that time everyone used to wear black. Black jeans and black T shirts and that's what the boss wore..

One day, someone said to me:" *Why do you wear the clothes that you wear? What you're trying to say with your clothes?*" They couldn't figure me out. I said - well I get dressed in the dark, because I live in Bristol, to get the train to London and I just pull on whatever, in the dark, I feel like pulling on. That's why they couldn't figure me out because it was just completely random - and I wasn't trying to have a message, so they couldn't they couldn't read me because there wasn't anything to read!

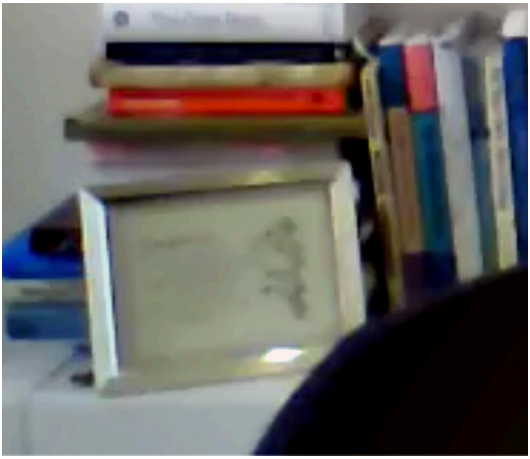
(My wardrobe) - it's all over the place. I quite like stripes and checks: quite bright things really. But it's just all of those things are things I like. You wouldn't necessarily notice any kind of pattern there I don't think. - I couldn't tell you the logic of that (what I choose to put on) but well it's not a logic is it? Just emotion. I definitely, some days, think - Oh- I'm going to put that jumper - but it's for me. It's really not for anybody else at all.

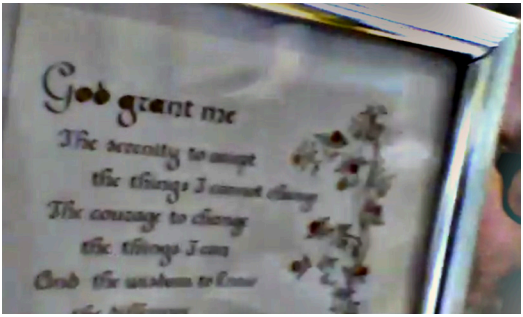
I think - because of the marketing stuff, - professionally, it's all about people telling stories or brands telling stories. It's all made up and I just kind of hate it really in a way, because I can see through it? I think it's sort of almost - not dishonest, but I just don't want to be - I'm not like that, as a person. I'm just like: it's all a game and I'm not going to play it.

The world is full, at the moment, of people who are influencers isn't it? You are what you buy and you've really got to have your own story - I mean not having a story is a story isn't it? You can't escape it. But I am not putting on a story. It's definitely (about) just being myself.

It just happens, you know. I just feel like another day with my purple jumper on! Or I feel like going down the pub in a suit or something . Because I've got suits from work, I never wear them.- you know I just think oh I'll give the suit a go? (I've never done that)

I think, looking back that's just that I've always been probably a bit difficult really not very good at yeah i'm quite easy going, but if people to boss me around that's already very don't work very well. I could never have worked for like big corporate




God grant me
The serenity to accept
the things I cannot change
The courage to change
the things I can

I think I am quite adaptable really

I think a lot of things- if you can't change something I kind of go: okay well, just work with it, rather than fight it.

When I worked at Saatchi and Saatchi I did this personality analysis - I was the kind of push over kind of doormat type person - always accommodating and supportive and nice and helpful. I said to the guy: but then there comes a point when I'm much worse than most people. If I lose my temper I'm much worse than any of them. He said well that's because you've backed up so so much. You've been so accommodating you suddenly get to a point, you think, you know, they're taking advantage of you? I've got this prayer here (behind me) :

God grant me
The serenity to accept
the things I cannot change
The courage to change
the things I can,
And the wisdom to know

I wanted to be an illustrator

I was always drawing at school was a kid that's really what I wanted to do. My parents said well why don't you get a degree, because it's probably - a better career choice, so I did an English degree. They set up loads of interviews for me

At one point in each interview I just said something, and you could just see they were just really quite horrified. I remember Marks and Spencers they said.: " *You seem quite creative and artistic*" Then they pointed to this picture on the wall and they said:"*What do you think of this picture? .*" - I said, well - it's really not very good.
They said: " *Why - is it that you don't just don't like it ?*" I said it's not I don't like it. As a work of art it's really not very good . In fact it's very poor. The perspective is all wrong. The person just cannot draw. You know it's really poor piece of art work. I'm not being subjective I'm being objective! - And they said:" *Oh well it was done by our head storeman and we really like it*" ...!

But I wouldnt have wanted to work there anyway..

Consciously non conforming

I did this Birkman personality test - I just came out completely off the scale on the- creative. - I suppose if you're creative you're not going to fit into (being) regimented.

I'm aware - it probably comes across as quite extreme to other people really - I have quite strong views on things -which may surprise people because- at the time, I don't come across like that. But then sometimes, when I come out with things I can see people are really quite shocked by me saying those things. Only because within the context of everything else I've been saying you wouldn't think I'd be that bothered by it.

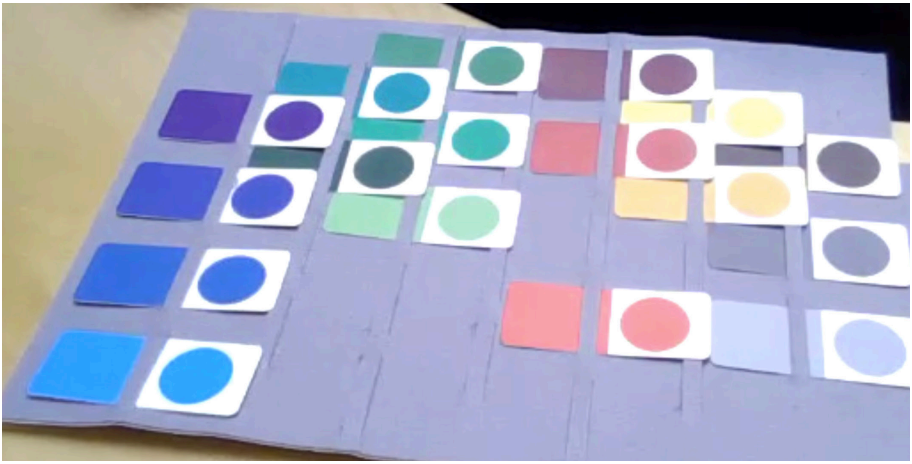
I am thinking I am being so free and easy but it's a reaction - not conforming but consciously not conforming. - So I am just part of another group - I'm not really independent at all! I'm just part of that non-conformist group!

Colour

I like colours but I'm quite lacking in confidence about how they work together. I've looked at colour wheels and stuff and sort of tried to study it a bit but I think I'm not really understanding it. I can't remember it enough.

I think you get a feeling with clothes what colours would work and for S as well. You know if you're buying her something (well probably it's safers not to buy her something actually !) but I would know what she definitely wouldn't wear.

I think our colour choices are pretty similar really.



The colours I like are all of these - other ones.

I think I'd wear all of those colours.

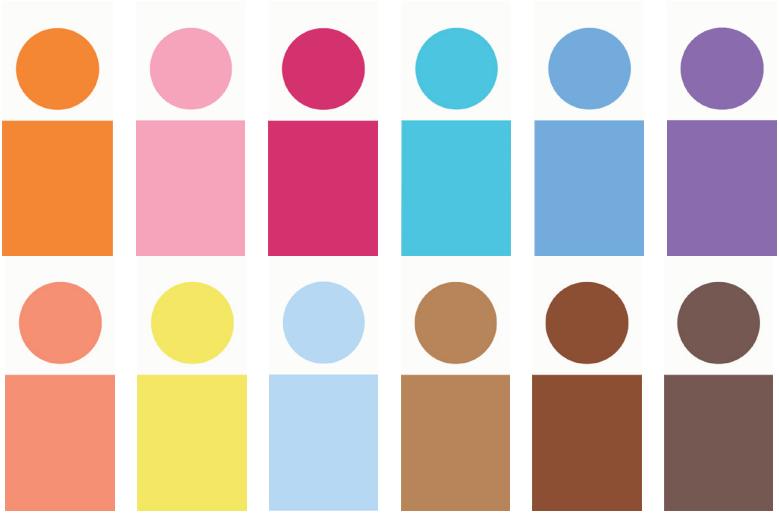
In fact, I do wear all of those colours

Maybe - not the two yellows actually, - but I do quite like them because they're sunny - But they're kind of strong enough,

When I used to wear ties- they were always bright colours.

I don't think there is anything in my past that I am reacting to.

I do go into some peoples houses and I really like the way they've used the colour but often it is because there's not many colours.:They've got a real sense, you know? And so it might be like like - it will be a combination of sort of very light grey, and a shade of green or something – and I think that really works well but I'd never have thought of them together, you know ?



I'll go for ones I don't like first of all

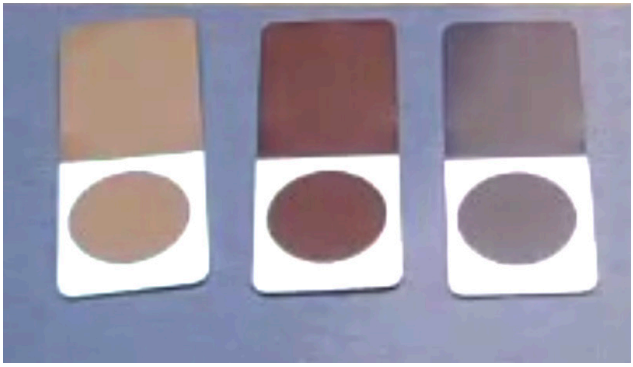
I think I like certain colours in different contexts so that's slightly a bit of a problem.

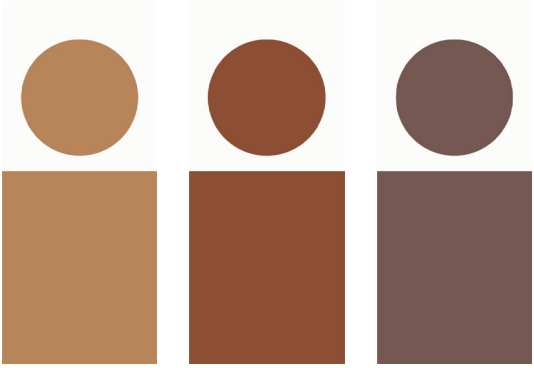
Also for clothes - wearing clothes. There's a whole other thing about (- S got into a while ago) - 'colour therapy', if you like. What colour suits your hair colour and your skin colour, or your skin tone? For me personally, the light ones - none of those ones suit me. Although - I'm not particularly bothered how I dress. But S and I would both look terrible in those colours.

Some of these are a bit too weak, I think wishy-washy, you know.

I don't particularly have bad associations with any colours - I don't think there is anything in my past that I am reacting to.

The colours I don't like - you actually wouldn't find any of those in our house - actually looking at it, I don't think.





I just don’t like browns at all

Funnily enough - I don’t know why !

I don’t like muddy colours.

I don’t like that one much - that’s pinky orange

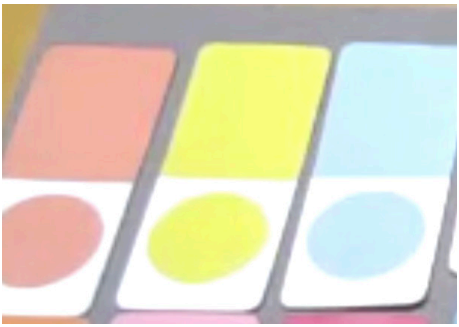
I don’t like orange much - (and) that’s sort of a bit like that one (above) actually.

I don’t like pink. I was going to say it’s like girly or something - but I’m not allowed to say that am I !?

I don’t like - that’s goe a bit of a pinkishishness to it as well, actually.

I don’t like wishy-washy colours either

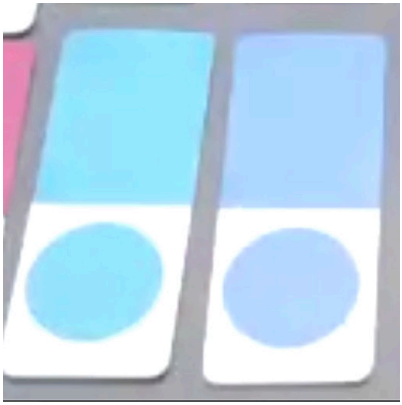
But having said that, - oddly enough, my mug - my favourite mug is a slightly wishy-washy colour. But I don’t know. I think I like certain colours in different contexts, you know? So that’s slightly a bit of a problem, but. - I just don’t like the wishier washier (colours).

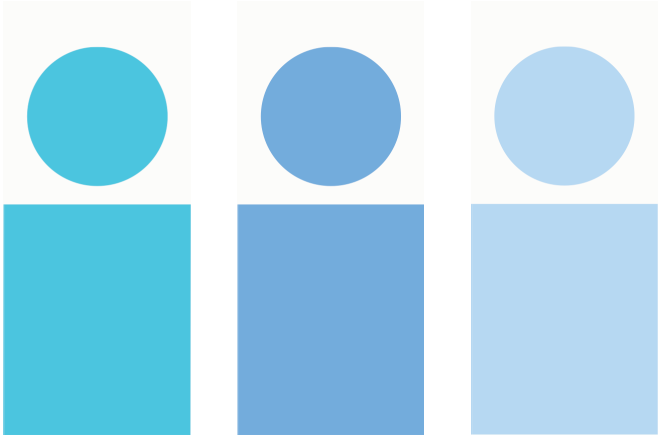


So I think if they were stripes, it's all right

But if I just wore a T shirt that colour or that one, it would be just - it would look completely *wrong*, you know?

But I think some people who are blonde - some of those colours would work really well with them, you know.

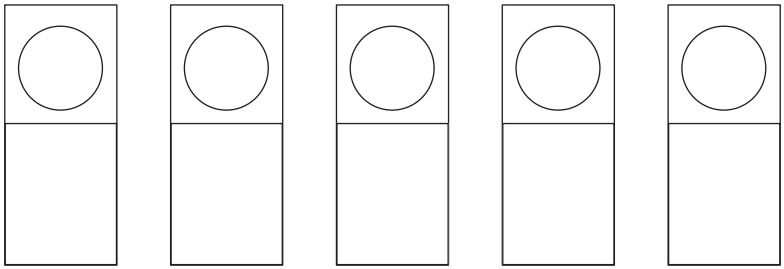


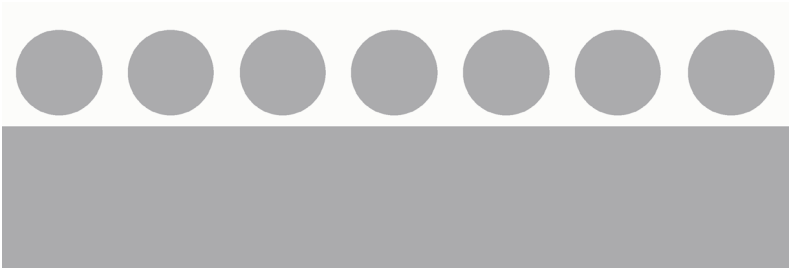


These two blues - are again a bit wishy-washy

But having said that, when we were in this holiday cottage in Mousehole last weekend ... there is this whole thing about - you know the TV show *Coast* ? - and there's a magazine called *Coast* . There's a whole trend, a sort of lifestyle trend around *Coast* that I'm sort of quite aware of because I work a bit with an exhibition company - trade exhibitions. They do a trade show every year in Exeter where all the gift shops and hotels and everything - from Cornwall and Devon, and the West Country, go to get all their kind of knick-knacks, giftware. So, - the museum shop in Exeter will go and buy various things. Or - if you have six holiday cottages you might buy some seagulls to put on the wall, or something. They have a whole section of this show called *Coast*. There's this whole kind of aesthetic around *Coast*.

There's (also) this thing about younger millennials or even the generation Z - to do with cottages? - This whole trend of - younger people just love cottages and everything to do with cottages and country living. I think that it's just a huge trend really So these colours like this blue, that blue and that blue - you get them in these holiday cottages by the sea. I quite like that actually, because by the seaside it kind of works, you know?



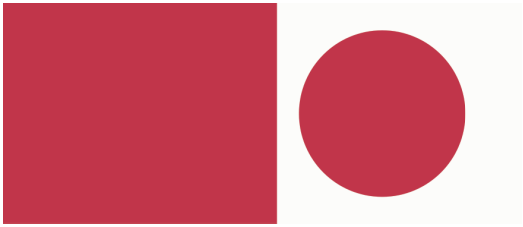


I think we tend to have lots of white walls actually, because I think we've got so much clutter in our house. if you had a colour behind it, it might jar with something?

Picture frames tend to be black ..

On the whole most rooms are white really. And actually the carpets are that colour (grey) . So maybe we are a bit timid about colour?

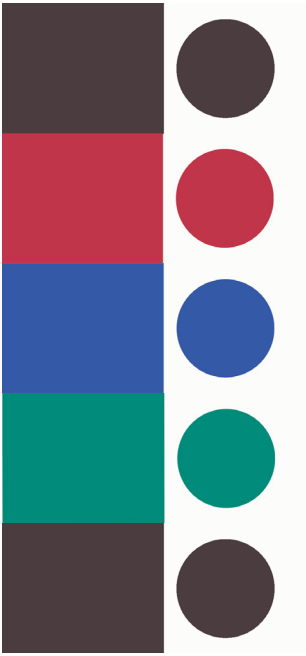
We've got so much stuff and books and things - if you had a colour - it would clash.



I've got a few things of that colour. Not brown, but just sort of reddish.

Funnily enough in the library next door, - we've got that one as a feature kind of wall. It's really quite a small room and we want it to be like really snug. So that works well there

And curtains in the living room are probably that colour.

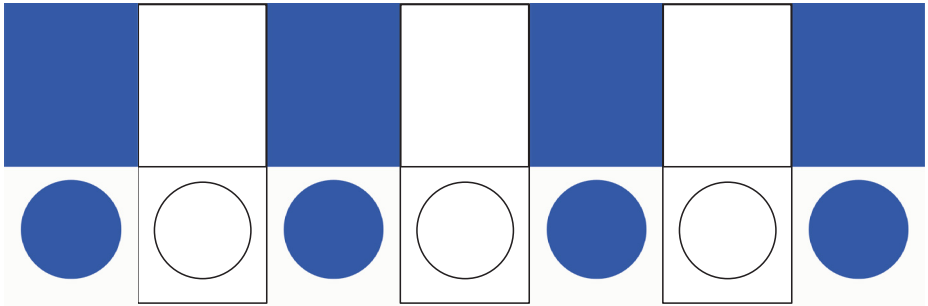


We've got a big Turkish rug - or several rugs that tend to have these sorts of (colours): the strong red, the blue and a little bit of the green and quite a lot of the black. So we've got – yeah, you could find one of all of those.

Years ago, I painted a whole floor that colour, (I don't think I would do it now) but it was like, it was just a really sunny kind of colour. - the whole floor - it just really lit everything up, you know?

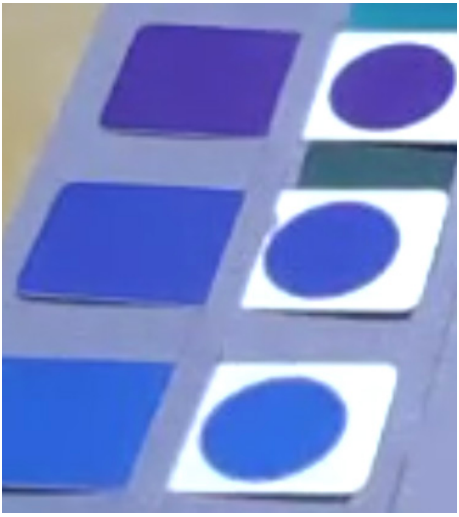
But I suppose it was the 70s, so different. I think we had different fashions then ....

I actually like greens, because I thinl it's a sort of fresh colour really ..



Do you have any preferred colour combinations ?

Well, I think the navy blue just because I think if you looked at my wardrobe yes, probably navy blue. That'd be blue and white, I think. (and) the stripes.



I wear jeans normally so I'd be wearing that (blue) trousers.

My jumper kind of -looks black, but it's actually probably closest to that (dark purple).

I quite like gloomy paintings

I like so many different artists, but - the gloomy ones. Just sort of dark sort of landscapes. I think I went through a phase of really not liking the Impressionists because it was also bright . But again, I think it might be because everyone likes them – it's just that they're in fashion, you know? I quite like gloomy landscapes I think, where there is almost no colour it's almost monochrome - It just shades of grey really.

But having said that, you know I quite like Jackson pollock - he does just grey but he also does loads of loads of colours so I don't know if there is much in that really.

- Some colours, what can I say ? That one sort of jars slightly. But again in the right context, - that could be brilliant, you know ?

There's a picture of - I think it's Monet, with a sunrise over a harbour at dawn, and the best bit of it is this little tiny spot of sun, which is exactly that colour. So you can't say - it depends how you use it really I think you know.

Personal Space

Microsoft

Do you have a favourite place - or places in your home?

I quite like the office actually, which sounds really odd. But it's just that we work from home, and I think I'm the sort of person (and probably S is the same) but we like achieving things, we like doing things.

So it's not that I like the way the office looks, it's just that I feel comfortable in the office - it's kind of where I get the most satisfaction – ?

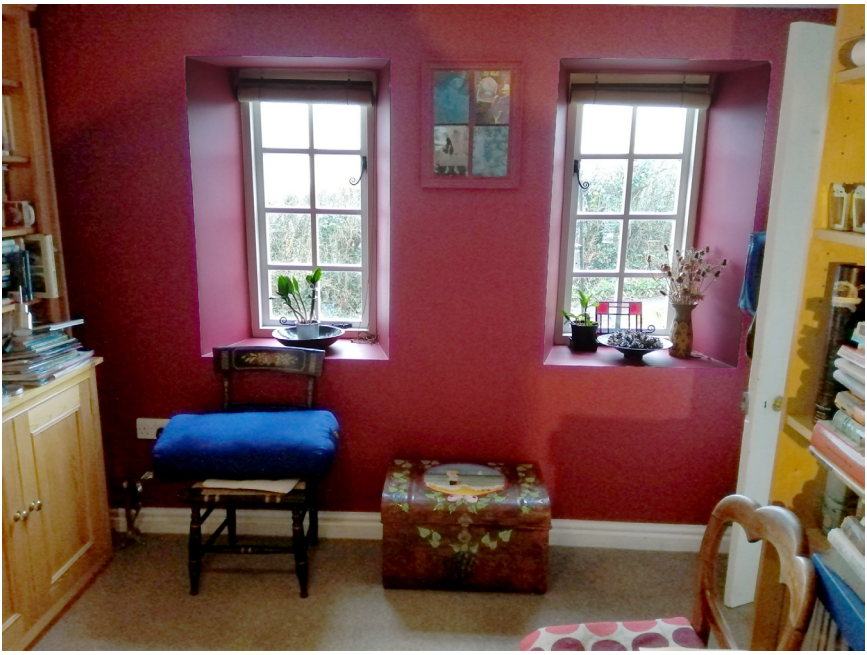
BREAD

- and the kitchen, is a bit like that, because again, cooking you've got the sense of achievement or pleasure, if you like, from cooking.

THE BOOK
THE GOLDEN CENTURY
THE STORY OF ART
ADVERTISING
THE ART BOOK
Spain

- Oddly enough yesterday I was sat on the sofa in the little snug sort of library, - and we've just bought a bigger tent because we can't really go abroad or whatever. - Everyone else is buying camper vans and we thought, oh no, let's just buy a bigger tent.

It's on the sofa in there, because we've sort of unpacked it, but we haven't actually put it up in the garden yet. I was sat on the sofa, which is mainly covered in this unpacked tent but it's just like a little nest - S was going: "*Why don't you move that tent? It's just a pile of fabric.*" And I'm like – actually - I really like it!



We've got this little kind of snug between the office and the kitchen and that's sort of lined with books. It's like a little kind of burrow really you know? So I quite like being there. Just somewhere to read.

- (and) the bedrooms got really nice view .We've got a balcony looking out over fields, and I mean yesterday, I went - I was just feeling a bit tired. I sat up there – we have a sofa right in front of the french doors and I just sat there reading a book, you know.

So I quite like lots of parts of our house really.

For some reason - I'm just aware that I just don't go into the living room much - I don't know why - it's just I don't feel comfortable in there, somehow. I think it might be, I don't know, almost that I feel lazy in there or something or – It's just a really odd thing? I'm just aware I wouldn't miss the living room if we didn't have it really, you know?

It's quite a big room, you know and it's a really nice room and it opens onto the garden in the summer. But then in the summer - i'd rather be in the garden.

We do use it when we have friends round – but we always have to make an effort to go in there - You have to encourage them out of the kitchen because it's a really nice space. We've got to go into the living room with them because we've lit the fire you know. It's almost a redundant room really.

But the thing is actually at the moment the living room – half of it is full of seed trays and gardening stuff so I have turned into an active space anyway, you know so - certainly half of it -