



Lofty Ideas

With Craig Wilkinson, of Re-style Loft Conversions Ltd. www.restyleloft.co.uk



ART OF RENOVATION

Margaret Duke asked Re-style Loft Conversions to turn the murky loft of her Dore home into an art studio. On the opposite page are photographs she took showing the renovation work



Lofty art: Margaret Duke

Some people look up and see the stars. Margaret Duke looked up - and saw a mucky roof space. She rang *Re-style Loft Conversions*, and they set about transforming the dusty, uninhabited upper reaches of her three-bedroomed semi in Dore.

Margaret had read in *Grapevine* about *Re-style*, and asked them to turn her roofspace into a workshop/studio. She is a retired teacher of art, design and technology, and a keen artist, textile designer and photographer. The pictures opposite are hers - showing the loft transformation in progress. Her idea was that the studio could become a fourth bedroom should she ever decide to sell her property, where she has lived since 1980.

The renovation involved installing a cloakroom with a sink in the loft, and a walk-in wardrobe.

Says Margaret: "I wanted an area of the house where I could work - somewhere that I could shut the door on at the end of the day and

not worry about clutter.

"I was very impressed with *Re-style's* professionalism and organisation. Every aspect of the work was timed perfectly and finished to an incredibly high standard in only six weeks.

"I especially liked how clean and tidy the workmen were. They used sticky-backed plastic sheeting to protect my carpets. When they were fitting door frames they worked inside a plastic 'tent' to prevent dust escaping into the rest of the house."

Re-Style offer a complete design and construction service, from planning permission through to all joinery, plumbing, plastering and electrical work. Their in-house architect and structural engineer will work to your requirements.

Says Margaret: "I wish I had converted the loft years ago. *Re-style* were fantastic. They are a blueprint for how other building companies should operate."



Margaret's dusty loft before work began. The area is used to store boxes



Four steel girders are hoisted into the loft by workmen. The girders formed the frame of the new room



The girders are lowered into the loft via a small hole cut into its roof. Six Velux windows are fitted

Re-Style Loft Conversions will organise your project's planning permission. The company's qualified joiners, plasterers, electricians and plumbers ensure that every loft conversion is completed to the highest standard



The back bedroom was protected by a plastic covered frame while the new staircase was fitted



New support frame for the new room's roof and floor. Old roof supports were removed to take advantage of space in the eaves



First layer of insulation is fitted. Electrical wiring is installed, as well as pipework for the sink and central heating



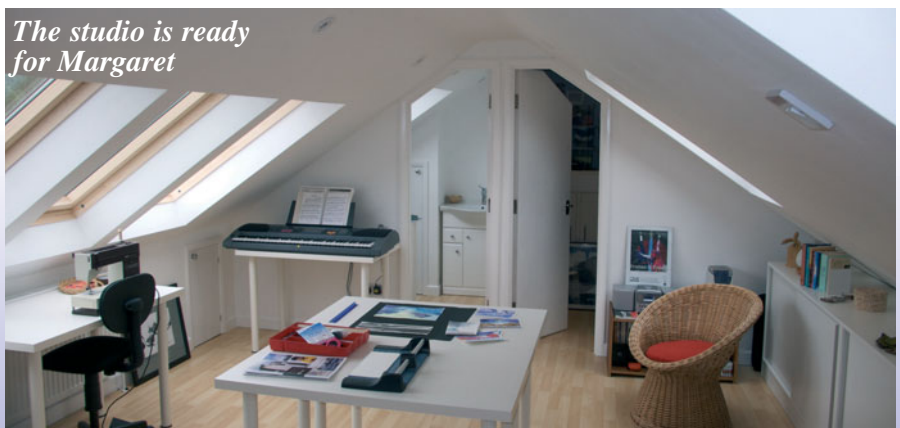
A secondary quilt of insulation is then fitted. Re-style work to the highest standards, and comply with all building regulations



Plasterboard is fitted to walls and floor. Frame for the bathroom and walk-in wardrobe is erected



The staircase balustrades are completed and the room is plastered



The studio is ready for Margaret



To find out more about converting your loft visit Re-style's website

www.restyleloft.co.uk

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