

Enjoy the process  
Rebecca, Cornwall

# COTTAGE INDUSTRY

In Rebecca’s family, life is about clearing distractions to focus on what matters – creative work and each other

Photography Debi Treloar Styling Abigail Edwards Words Andrea Hunt



**‘Andrew and I both work from our garden studios, eat every meal here and the kids go to school nearby,’ says Rebecca. ‘To live so locally, with everything happening at home, is an unusual choice. But we’re committed to it.**

**Share responsibilities** Andrew and I split the parenting equally, working part-time on our illustration and pottery around each other’s deadlines. It’s a juggle but it means Wren (five) and Fred (three) get to be with both of us – they love being involved in activities like cooking and gardening. And we can both follow our dreams.

**Eat together every day** We always have dinner as a family at 5.30pm, which is early for us. But it’s a nice way to catch up, it opens the kids up to new food and means we don’t double up on cooking.

**A small home saves time** There’s less to clean. We’re always de-cluttering because we don’t want to outgrow our space. Why move to a bigger house just to keep more stuff you have to look after?

**Invest in yourself...** When I started pottery classes seven years ago, I remember thinking, “I’ll do this forever.” I wasn’t good, but I was determined. There’s value in saying no to distractions.

**Don’t get hung up on the end result** We renovated this cottage ourselves from scratch, so some things are a little wonky. But we learn as we go, and the kids grow up with the confidence to use their hands. Look for possibilities, not perfection.’





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'Our kitchen is very well  
used. It's where much of  
our life together happens'



**OUR COUNTRY KITCHEN**  
'We wanted our kitchen to fit the rustic feel of our home, so we planned it around the cottage's low ceilings and windows – there's no room for wall cupboards. Then we painted the doors and added our own door pulls.'  
• Vintage IKEA kitchen (painted). Try **METOD/SÄVEDAL**, white



'When the kids come home from school, we take a break from work and switch to time for play'

Prints Andrew Wightman andrewwightman.com Storeware moderncraftworkshop.com



**CELEBRATE CRAFT**  
'Materials are important to us. Our home is mostly a mix of handmade and vintage, plus treasures we've found along the way. I'm really into textiles and love mixing different fabrics and patterns.'  
• **RÖDARV** cushion 40x65cm, multicolour [803-264-86] €xx