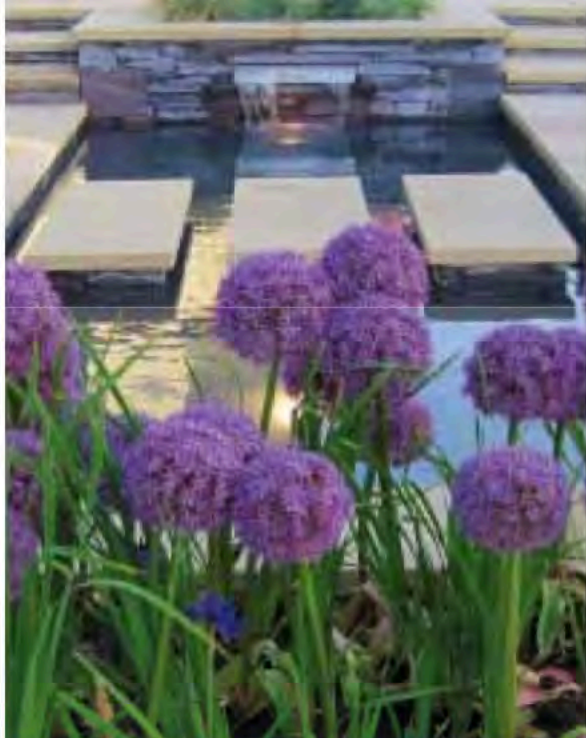


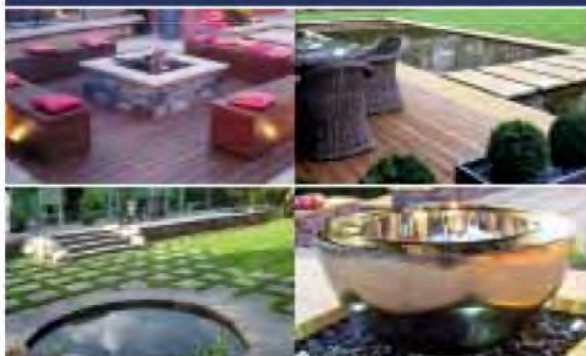
HOMES & INTERIORS



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HEIRLOOM

KEEP IT IN THE FAMILY



Pulling power

IF YOUR FAMILY had its own coat-of-arms, it might be tempting to emblazon it across every surface in your home, to remind visitors of your proud ancestry. (And if you don't have one, why not? A mere £2,000 will be enough for a heraldry expert to compose a coat-of-arms for you.)

The humble doorknob may not be the first object that springs to mind for the crest-emblazoning treatment, but the ones pictured above (by Haute Déco, a London-based company that styles itself the "haute couture of doorknobs") are worthy of a generational gift. Haute Déco's range of contemporary handles were already luxurious-looking items, fashioned from bronze and copper among other quality materials, but the firm wanted to take doorknob design one step further. This was achieved at Decorex 2015 with the launch of the bespoke Monogram Doorknob, which can be personalised with the addition of initials, names, coats-of-arms and family crests.

The idea of emblematic furnishings is not a new concept – heck, even the Beckhams had their new crest carved into the thrones they sat on at their wedding – but Haute Déco is providing an update on the idea and creating an interesting take on the family heirloom in the process. Specialists, skilled in the fine art of traditional hand-engraving, create the artwork, and are able to replicate almost any subject. The doorknobs are crafted by hand in a small atelier at a dedicated production site in south-west England. So from start to (cristalle resin) finish, the doorknob is made bespoke to your specific requirements. Bequeath it to your descendants, and future generations could literally be opening the door to the past. ■

Words Caitlin Clements

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