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Revealed! Home & garden must haves according to Brits

- **A tenth of Brits now think a home cinema is a ‘must have’**
- **Garden sheds or outbuildings important outdoor features for a third of people**
- **Lack of grass one of the biggest outdoor turn offs**

Halifax research of over 4,600 UK adults has shown what people want when it comes to their homes and gardens.

While sensible choices on a good Wi-Fi connection and energy efficiency top the table, the rise of certain home trends on social media look to be playing a part in Brits’ interior preferences.

One in 10 people now think that a home cinema is a necessity, alongside a wood burner to stay cosy, while a similar proportion (9%) suggests some people think a kettle is old (and slow) news, with a boiling water tap a must have.

A small proportion of people continue to need their relaxing bubbles time, with 3% seeing a hot tub as essential.

UK home must-haves	
Good Wi-Fi connection	62%
Energy efficient	58%
Utility room	40%
Study space	27%
Open plan kitchen/diner	23%
Pantry	13%
Loft extension	11%
Home cinema	10%
Wood burner	10%
Boiling water tap	9%
Dressing room	7%
Home gym	7%
Hot tub	3%

Important garden features for UK adults	
Grass (rather than artificial or paving)	46%
Large space for children, hosting	44%
Pleasant front garden/curb appeal	42%
Well-kept	41%
Greenhouse or shed	33%
Water feature	12%
Additions such as a swimming pool or tennis court	6%
Treehouse for children	5%

Great gardens

People know what they want when it comes to gardens as well.

Grass is a stand out, with almost half (46%) of people preferring the natural look, to artificial options or paving.

The garden shed and other outbuildings remain a firm favourite also, with a third (33%) considering them to be important features for their outdoor space.

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In fact, a garden is incredibly important for some, with over a quarter (26%) of people saying a beautiful garden would convince them to buy a house they would otherwise discount.

Tricky trends

Certain garden trends are failing to impress for some. Keeping things simple is important for Brits, as almost half (47%) of people aren't impressed with a high maintenance plot.

Further, while they might be few and far between in the UK, for a quarter (26%), a swimming pool is a big no.

More generally, a wood cladding exterior and loud wallpaper selected by almost a third (30%) of people as some of their least favourite home fads.

Least popular home and garden trends	
Monochrome (e.g. grey everything, cream everything)	34%
Wood cladding exterior	30%
Feature walls / loud wallpaper	30%
Re-wilding (i.e. letting your garden grow naturally without human intervention)	26%
Hyper-organisation (e.g. everything sorted into plastic boxes/containers)	24%
Dormer loft extension (e.g. a box shaped structure added onto a roof)	16%
Open plan kitchen / diner / living spaces	15%
Conservatories/garden rooms	8%

Off-putting garden features	
Communal garden rather than private	66%
Lots of upkeep/high maintenance	47%
Artificial lawn	46%
Paved over with little greenery	42%
Messy/unkept	36%
Swimming pool	26%
Hot tub	25%
A pond or other water	16%
Shepherd's hut or other large outbuildings	13%
Eco features like solar panels or composters	7%

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New year, new home resolutions

According to the Halifax research, almost half of homeowners (46%) are considering making improvements to their home within the next few years.

Kim Kinnaird, Halifax Mortgages Director said: "In today's climate, it's possible people may stay in their current home for longer, putting home improvements higher up the agenda, including adding long-term value to future proof their property."

"Our research shows that top of people's home wish lists are good Wi-Fi and energy efficiency. However, some people are looking for something a little different – with two fifths citing a utility room as a must-have while almost a tenth see a hot water tap as essential."

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Press Release



Dream Home

The dream home for over a third of people (34%) is a large, modern detached with all the contemporary conveniences – such as a new kitchen and built-in wardrobes – with a quarter (24%) fantasising about a Georgian, Edwardian, or Victorian period property with high ceilings and windows.

ENDS



Notes to Eds:

This information is intended for the sole use of journalists and media professionals.

All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 4621 adults. Fieldwork was undertaken between 13th - 15th July 2022. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all UK adults (aged 18+).

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For more information on making a home more energy efficient: [Green Living Hub | Home By Halifax | Halifax](#)

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