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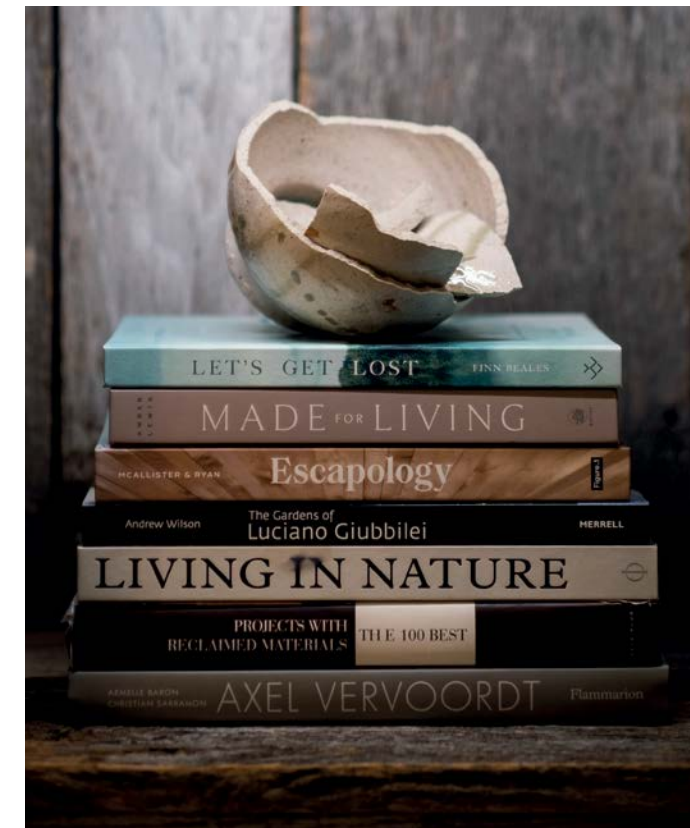# ACTION

Charlotte Findlater writes about the joy of bringing the movies home and offers up some top design tips too

Discover the allure of having a cinema room within the comfort of your home – a haven away from the hustle and bustle of daily life. Bid farewell to bothersome movie theatre crowds and uncomfortable seating, and say hello to pure indulgent luxurious relaxation. Picture yourself sinking into sumptuous seating, savouring freshly buttered popcorn, immersing yourself in your favourite films without any disturbances. Could anything surpass the bliss of having your own personal space for the ultimate cinematic journey?

Yet, a cinema room is more than just a private retreat: it's a delightful venue for entertaining family and guests. Invite friends over for a memorable movie night or host an exclusive screening of the latest blockbuster. Within your cinema room, you wield complete control over the ambience, allowing you to craft the perfect viewing experience. Trust us when we say, this is a must-have addition to any home.

Whether it's a luxurious rug that feels soft under your feet, comfortable seating that beckons you to relax, movie posters or art to give a real cinema feel, when it comes to creating a space that feels like your own, it's worth investing in quality pieces that will elevate and personalise your décor, making your room feel extra special.

Alternatively, you may wish to make your cinema room a fun-packed space with a popcorn machine, bar, pool table, or perhaps an air hockey table. If you are an avid gamer you might want to incorporate some gaming elements into the design, with gaming chairs and themed decor. Whatever you decide, your cinema room should ultimately be a space that feels immersive, personal and divinely comfortable.

We recently created a cinema room in a barn conversion in Lancashire. The brief was to create a sanctuary for audio-visual entertainment, combining the rustic charm of the barn with the immersive experience of a state-of-the-art cinema room. This space was to become an escape within the home, a place to indulge in films and music with a design that enhances every moment.

As part of the comprehensive barn conversion within a historic Lancashire farmstead, we aimed to create more than just a cinema room; we envisioned a space that reflects the soul of its owners. Our commitment to luxury interior design and barn conversion guided us in shaping a room that stands as a testament to craftsmanship, history, and personal expression.

In line with our biophilic design ethos, the design focuses on the inherent beauty and character of natural materials. We believe in embracing the imperfections found in aged textures and finishes, finding inspiration in the authenticity and story each

element brings to the space. This approach aligns with John Muir's philosophy that 'the clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness' which guided our selection of materials and decorative elements that echo the elements of wind, water, and flora.

The result is a cinema room that goes beyond conventional design, serving as a canvas for the homeowners' unique artefacts, sculptures, and artworks. Each piece, curated from their travels and personal experiences, adds layers of depth and narrative to the room, creating an environment that's as much a gallery as it is an entertainment hub.

A home cinema room offers more than just a space to watch movies; it's an invitation to immerse oneself in the artistry of film and sound within the comfort of one's own home. Our design ensures that every screening is an event, with luxurious seating, optimal acoustics, and exceptional visual setups.

This cinema room encapsulates our dedication to merging home renovation with luxury interior design, ensuring that each space we create not only meets the aesthetic and functional needs of our clients but also resonates with their personal stories and lifestyles. To create your own ultimate entertainment zone, consider these seven cinema room design ideas:

Dark and moody colour palette
Opt for dark and muted colours to replicate the ambience of a movie theatre and enhance the viewing experience. Charcoal grey, navy blue, or moody green create an ideal backdrop, while lighter tones of brown or blue can add a relaxing touch. The cinema room is a space to be daring and to experiment with your dark side.

Acoustic-enhancing carpeted floors
For a fantastic acoustic experience, carpet the floors. This not only adds sophistication, but also absorbs sound and reduces echo.

Ambient lighting
Set the perfect mood with ambient integrated LED lighting. A lighting control system can automatically adjust the lights when the movie starts, while coloured light bulbs set different moods for various movie genres.

Comfortable and stylish seating
Choosing the right seating is vital. Opt for comfortable and stylish options that complement the decor. Consider traditional rows of seats, large modular sofas, or reclining corner sofas for an immersive viewing experience. Luxurious fabrics like velvet add a touch of elegance.

Ottomans or pouffes for added comfort
Accommodate the whole family with additional seating options like ottomans or pouffes. These versatile pieces provide extra legroom when placed next to sofas or reclining seats, ensuring everyone enjoys maximum comfort.

Curtains or blinds for a true theatre experience
Blackout linings create an intimate ambience by enhancing darkness. Soundproofing curtains can also insulate noise from outside, enhancing the immersive movie experience. Electric curtains and blinds add convenience to the setup.

Get the sound right
Investing in a proper surround system is vital, this truly makes the difference from the usual home TV set up and is why we love going to the cinema. ◐

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