



## A Grand Transformation to a 1970s Bungalow

Martin Bell of Transform Architects explains how he worked with one couple to transform a tired bungalow in Leicestershire into a dramatic contemporary home

Photographs: **Transform Architects**

**T**he owners of this bungalow approached our architectural practice, Transform Architects, with a brief to create something contemporary (they'd previously completed several self-build projects). We worked up a design proposal to introduce a large wrap-around extension – part two-storey, part one-storey – to encase the existing bungalow. This would cut a dynamic, modern shape.

The old conservatory was demolished to make way for the new extension. The modernisation continues with an updated palette of materials,

which includes cedar cladding and white and grey through-coloured render and brick slips. The original roof tiles have also been replaced.

The initial plan was for the new extension to be of masonry construction. But in order to open up some of the internal spaces and to help with affordability, the extension was constructed in timber frame. This necessitated the removal of additional original walls to provide a fully integrated two-storey timber frame structure. It also required the substandard purlin/rafter roof to be replaced with attic trusses. This, incidentally, provided usable and accessible attic storage.



The clients project managed the extension. They were on site daily, and as such could monitor the progress of the subcontractors and the condition of the site. During the works, which took 12 months to complete, rubble from the demolished portion of the original building was reused to minimise the amount of material leaving the site, and all waste was recycled or reused where possible.

Part of the design was to maximise solar gain from the new large expanses of glass incorporated into the southern elevation, and to over-specify the amount of insulation installed to compensate for the original part of the build-

ing, which was retained. A new oil-fired boiler running radiators, with individual thermostatic radiator valves, provides heating. Meanwhile, high-specification doors and new aluminium windows, plus triple-glazed rooflights, were installed, and together with a well-constructed timber frame, air loss has been minimised.

The project was completed on time and budget and the house now provides a light, comfortable environment, with an open plan living area that is adaptable to the clients' needs. What's more, the unashamedly contemporary design has been accepted by the neighbours too. **H**

### **A Modern Makeover**

A wrap-around two-storey extension clad in a cedar cladding, white and grey through-coloured render, and brick slips has transformed this once tired bungalow into a contemporary home that meets the clients' needs.