

“THE SECRET TO A LAID-BACK HOME IS LARGE BEDROOMS FOR THE CHILDREN. THAT WAY, THEY DON’T SPILL OVER TOO MUCH INTO THE REST OF THE SPACE”



Main picture The building dates from 1931 — “a very beautiful period in architecture”, says Combréas. “The apartment has great proportions and a good layout. There was a terrible carpet throughout that we took up. We then used garage paint to paint the concrete floor.” The colourful rug in the hallway was made by Combréas’s mother-in-law in the 1970s. Find Panton chairs at the lollipopshoppe.co.uk, and a daybed, similar to this Mies van der Rohe Barcelona version, at bluesuntree.co.uk. **Left** Combréas’s approach to family living is “informal and eclectic”. The secret to keeping her home laid-back, yet a suitable showcase for her “important design pieces” — which date from the 1930s to the present day — is large bedrooms for the children. “That way, they don’t spill over too much into the rest of the space,” she says. The wall sticker in Aliocha’s bedroom is by Tado (madeindesign.co.uk). A similar skull cushion is available from Noodoll (noodoll.co.uk). **Below** Hiroko’s hobbies include “rabbits, dancing, dressing up and playing the piano”. The table is from Red Edition (rededition.com) and the plastic chair is a vintage Casallino — buy new ones from posturepeople.co.uk

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WORDS: JENNY DALTON

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1 GT5 pendant shade, £251; rume.co.uk. 2 Great Stag iron hanger, £52; emeryetcie.com. 3 Vase, £3.20 for three; dunelm-mill.com. 4 Beta3 bed, \$1,045; woodempire.co.uk. 5 Hoxton sofa, £2,700; darlingsofchelsea.co.uk. 6 Knoll Bertoia Bird chair, £1,599; spacecraftint.com

