

Bazaar

Harper's

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Hot
summer
style

BIANCA BALTI
PHOTOGRAPHED BY
SATOSHI SAIKUSA

www.harpersbazaar.co.uk



MY BIG IDEA

LONDON-BASED INTERIOR DESIGNER FIONA BARRATT REVEALS THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES OF HER COMPANY

CONTROL I love being totally in charge. When you design everything yourself, it creates continuity and fluidity. In my first year, I worked all by myself. I designed everything for the Lodge, Richard Branson's boutique hotel [in Verbier in the Swiss Alps] – from the layouts to the lighting plans, furniture, carpets and even the monogrammed bed-linen.

DRIVING FORCE Business is in my blood [her grandfather started Barratt Homes; her parents ran a garden-centre business for more than two decades]. My parents are level-headed mentors who taught me that you don't achieve anything without hard work.

BALANCE It's easy to go wild creatively, but you need to be realistic. Each project has different parameters and challenges.

A SIGNATURE STYLE I'm into touch and texture, natural products and contrasts, like woven leather mixed with glossy velvet.

www.fionabarrattinteriors.com

LIFE SAVER

BRITISH AIRWAYS' ELEMIS TRAVEL SPA AT HEATHROW TERMINAL 5 OFFERS FREE TRAVEL THERAPIES AND STEAM/SHOWER PODS FOR FIRST, CLUB WORLD AND EXECUTIVE CLUB GOLD MEMBERS FLYING LONG HAUL.

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HELPDESK

BY HEATHER MCGREGOR

Q: I am confident and hard-working, but my career isn't advancing. How can I find an office mentor who'll help me move up?

A: I would never advise you to find a mentor within your own organisation, unless they are in a position a long way from your own: you'll be attached to that person in the eyes of the management – so if their career falters, yours will too. Identify someone who works elsewhere, and write to ask them if they would mentor you. Suggest meeting them for an hour, four times a year, to discuss your job and career – they should find this flattering.

Heather McGregor is director of executive-search firm Taylor Bennett (020 7580 4300; www.taylorbennett.com).

POWER POINTS

WORKING ADVICE.
BY NAOMI WEST

THE RULES: BEING POPULAR IN THE OFFICE

BY GUY BROWNING

- 1 Talk to the people no one else talks to (they're hiding behind the computers).
- 2 Know who takes sugar and who wants their coffee placed on their tasteless coaster.
- 3 Run efficient meetings that end early and have good biscuits.
- 4 Listen to what people have to say, and even try to remember it.
- 5 Be someone from whom stress never comes but good gossip does.

AT WORK NEWS



3 OF THE BEST... ORGANISER PHONES

1 SCREEN PRESENCE

NOKIA'S N96*

www.nokia.co.uk

2 TACTILE HTC'S

TOUCH DUAL*

www.htc.com

3 SLEEK LG'S

ERGONOMIC KF600*

www.lge.com

*Prices vary according to contract and supplier.



INSTANT STYLE UPDATE

THIS EASY, LIGHTWEIGHT COAT IS IDEAL FOR A FRESH SUMMER LOOK. THE SOFT-STRUCTURED BELT IS KEY – IT LOOKS SMART WITH A DRESS FOR WORK, OR RELAXED WITH SKINNY JEANS AT THE WEEKEND.

Cotton canvas belted coat, £489, Millie, available at Harrods (020 7730 1234).

BY MARIGAY MCKEE, GENERAL MERCHANDISE DIRECTOR FOR FASHION AND BEAUTY AT HARRODS

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