

# Pilon

Studio \_\_\_\_\_ Helft & Pinta  
Location \_\_\_\_\_ Paris, France  
Square footage \_\_\_\_\_ 60m<sup>2</sup> (646ft<sup>2</sup>)

A ground-floor apartment in an old Paris building was given new life and light through an energizing renovation by local practice Helft & Pinta.

Working in close collaboration with the clients, a pair of graphic designers, the architect reconfigured the space, demolishing a central wall to allow light to flow into every corner of the apartment from the courtyard on one side and the garden on the other.

One of the client's requests was for a large glass wall featuring oak wood arches. This feature became the wall of the bedroom, keeping the private space separate from the rest of the dwelling while still allowing daylight through to the living room.

The bedroom is designed to be a haven, with a reeded wooden wall holding a storage recess, and thick curtains that can be pulled across for privacy.

Arches are a repeated motif throughout the apartment, repeated on doorways, storage niches, curved mirrors, even sink basins.



Top Left The arched entry alcove creates space for cabinet storage.  
Bottom Left Foxed mirrors bring texture and reflections to the bright kitchen.  
Right Arches proliferate throughout the space and are echoed in the curves of the furniture.







Left The oak-framed glass wall allows light to flow from both sides of the apartment. Right White zellige wall tiles and porcelain fixtures are warmed by the terra-cotta floors.

While the dominant color is soft white, other tones and textures have been incorporated to draw the eye and demarcate different zones, such as the rich red on the living room entrance arch and the hexagonal tiles in the shower.

The fully integrated kitchen has IKEA units paneled in BauBuche wood and cupboards covered in foxed mirrors, which bring a gentle abstraction to the functional space while making it feel larger. The living room furniture is tactile and rounded, echoing the arches in the design and adding to the sense of comfort and ease. The apartment is filled with cleverly concealed storage, ensuring the space remains peaceful and uncluttered.

"The project strives to enhance the impression of country life," says Helft & Pinta, which used natural materials like terra-cotta, wood, and whitewashed stones to cultivate an elegantly rustic spirit in contrast to the frenetic urban energy outside the walls.