



**Brush job:** Women need a pamper sanctuary like men need sheds

PIC: CAMERA PRESS

# Turning the tables in a clamour for glamour

Dressing tables aren't just for Downton dames. Here's the best way to make the most of your precious boudoir space, says **Jenny Stallard**

FOR many ladies, the ritual of toilette (aka putting on your make up) has become a rushed, morning affair. In the evening, it's usually done on the sofa or in front of the bathroom mirror. But things could be set to change – it seems the dressing table is making a comeback.

Dressing tables are one of made.com's best-selling sub categories, while Laura Ashley reports a rise in sales too. We're investing more in our bedrooms as we increasingly see our boudoirs as our own personal retreat, a place where we can rest, relax and pamper ourselves.

In Hollywood's Golden Age, a dressing room was a lightbulb-surrounded affair but 2015 styles are much more pared back. Think light wood, mirrors and plenty of drawers.

Jordan Cluroe, one of Metro's House Doctors along with his partner Russell Whitehead (2lovelygays.com), agrees we're all craving some dressing table glamour. 'Shows like Downton

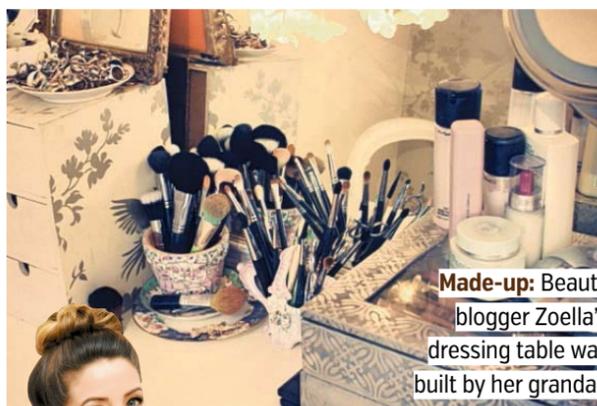
Abbey and Mad Men have a lot to answer for! The idea of sitting calmly and preening oneself in front of a glamorous dressing table is somewhat appealing,' he says.

Check out any beauty blog worth its salt and you'll find a well-stocked and (usually) beautifully arranged dressing table. Zoella (right), aka Zoe Suggs, who does online

make-up demos from her home as well as having her own beauty line, wrote a post about her dressing table, which was made by her grandad and upcycled by her – think shabby chic white with rose-shaped handles.

And blogger Couture Girl has a white Ikea Malm table with one long drawer along the front, which is a masterclass in make-up storage.

Liz Mouat, head of buying at Laura Ashley, agrees we're smitten. 'Similar to the man and his shed, the dressing table is every woman's



**Made-up:** Beauty blogger Zoella's dressing table was built by her grandad



sanctuary. When choosing the perfect piece, make sure you think about how much space you have at home and position it with as much natural light as possible.' Plus, dressing tables also double up nicely for those with less space, adds bedroom buyer at made.com, Rob Hudson.

'People are using dressing tables as desks too – multi-function furniture is very popular as it also saves space. Some are even using them as bedside tables. It's an affordable way to create a very chic bedroom look.'

## TOP FIVE DRESSING TABLES

- Aldo dressing table** £259, made.com
- Ransby dressing table** £125, ikea.com
- Milligan retro multi-drawer desk** £398, atkinandthyme.co.uk
- Chichester dressing table** £570, neptune.com
- Sonoma light dressing table and stool** £799, marksandspencer.com