

# Alison Cork

*Entrepreneur, Interior Design Presenter, Writer – Britain's Answer to Martha Stewart*



## BIOGRAPHY

Alison Cork is a British home expert, writer and broadcaster. After graduating from Newnham College, Cambridge, with a degree in Classics, Cork launched herself as an entrepreneur, publishing restaurant guides in university towns throughout the UK.

She then co-founded *Carnell Ltd*, a mail order publishing company, which was subsequently floated on the London Stock Exchange in 1994, making her one of the youngest ever board directors of a publicly quoted company. Whilst running Carnell plc, Cork wrote her first book, *Profit Through The Post* (Piatkus), about how to set up and run a mail order business, which was voted Book of the Month by Mensa.

She followed this with *The Streetwise Guide to Renovating Your Home* (Piatkus), at which point she left Carnell plc to pursue a career as in writing and broadcasting. In 1996 she presented her first TV series, *The Christmas Show*, for Carlton Westcountry Television. 1997 she wrote and presented her first network TV series, *Home In The Country* (ITV), a lifestyle series that spanned cookery, creative inspiration and interiors. This was followed by several other series, including *Countdown To Christmas* (Five), *Domestic Magic* (Five), *Don't Move, Improve* (ITV), *60 Minute Makeover* (ITV) and *Help I Hate My House* (ITV).

Parallel to this, Cork published several more books, including *Home In The Country*, *Special Occasions*, and *Beautiful Baking*. She also started writing weekly shopping columns for The Evening Standard (2000-present) and the Daily Telegraph (2005-present), and founded two lifestyle websites [www.homesandbargains.co.uk](http://www.homesandbargains.co.uk) (2005) and [www.problemsolved.co.uk](http://www.problemsolved.co.uk) (2007). In 2011 Cork launched her first furniture range with [Made.com](http://Made.com).

Within, her home interiors company, ([www.withinhome.com](http://www.withinhome.com)) now spans columns, supplements, books, websites and homeware products, and is based in Central London.

Known for her creative inspiration and savvy ideas, Cork admits she is entirely self taught and simply passionate about home and all it represents.

Alison has most recently been seen as the home interior experts on Channel 5's daytime show *Cowboy Builders and Bodge Jobs* (2015)

## TELEVISION

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY
2015	Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs (Expert Presenter)	Channel 5
2012	Secret Removers (Expert)	Channel 4
2012	Live with Gabby (Contributor)	Channel 5
2011	Get The Look For Less	This Morning
2009-10	Help! I Hate my House	ITV
2004-09	60 Minute Makeover	ITV

2007-08	Homes & Property	ITV
2005-06	Don't Move, Improve	ITV
2004	Domestic Magic	Channel 5
2002	Countdown To Christmas	Channel Five
1997-99	Home In The Country	ITV
1996	The Christmas Show	West Country Television
1994-96	Carlton Food Network	Carlton

## BOOKS

PUBLICATION (ROLE)	COMPANY
Profit Through The Post	Piatkus
The Streetwise Guide To Renovating Your Home	Piatkus
Home In The Country	Carlton Books
Special Occasions	Alison At Home
Beautiful Baking	Alison At Home

## JOURNALISM

COMPANY
The Mail on Sunday
The Evening Standard
The Daily Telegraph
The Times
Woman and Home
Period Living
House Beautiful