



## Silver Light & Copper



### Inspired architecture in a new-build in Okehampton

**F**eaturing a copper roof, a reflection pool and worktops and a sink made entirely of black textured basalt, 'Beeches' is a poetic response to nearby Dartmoor's terrain and light.

"We wanted the house to capture as much of that fantastic silvery light from the moor as possible, and the igneous rock that forms Dartmoor was an important inspiration for the project," says architect Paul Vick.

"We built a reflection pool that throws a dappled light back into the living area, and we included slots in the overhang of the copper roof so the building was private, but allowed sunlight through."

The main living area is a light-flooded pavilion.

"The aim was to take the form of a medieval hall and recreate it in the modern idiom," he explained. High ceilings and floor-to-ceiling windows provide an elegant stage for family life. The windows slide back to allow effortless

movement between living space and the outdoors, and the main bedroom features a view of Okehampton Castle across the valley and of the moor.

The open-plan kitchen has a striking solid black basalt worktop, bar and sink, and as well as an Aga - the heart of any Devon home - there is an induction hob and Miele oven.

The house is designed to consume little energy. Built on one level, it comprises a 50sq m living/dining room which is 3.8m high, 3 bedrooms, 3 bath/shower rooms, a study, pantry, cookery facilities in the annexe, and a utility room.

A family home with generous light and space, Beeches can be used at any stage of life. This house is designed to Lifetime Homes standard which means that it can accommodate a wheelchair, and the layout is such that a carer could live there as well. "I didn't know design could do this!" said the delighted client when he went round the finished house. ■

[paulvick.co.uk](http://paulvick.co.uk)

