

# YOU

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## 'I KNOW JAMIE WON'T HAVE AN AFFAIR'

Jools Oliver

TEN ITEMS = SIX LOOKS Autumn's capsule wardrobe  
ARE YOU A WAITY KATY? Why you shouldn't rely on Prince Charming  
COME OUTSIDE Five women share their open-air sanctuaries



'My window boxes cheer me up and put me in a positive frame of mind'

Martine Davis, 41, is the owner of Balcombe Street Window Box Company. She lives in a 1900s town house in Marylebone, Central London

Just as accessories make an outfit, so window boxes make a house. I'm in the centre of London in a house with no garden and a street with no trees, but my boxes of greenery give me an ever-changing picture to look at and a nicer view than just staring across a street.

Right now they're planted with bright red and pink geraniums, fuchsias, impatiens, serafinas and

rosemary. I started doing my boxes six years ago when I moved here. I couldn't afford a place with a garden but hated the lack of colour around me, so I planted up my first boxes in the car park outside my house. I felt so inspired while making them up that it gave me the idea to start a company selling ready-filled window boxes.

I change my boxes every season. It's hard to choose my

favourite because at the start of a season you're excited by what you have, but by the end you can't wait for the next season to start. My next boxes will be for winter and I'm already looking forward to my new view of berries and ivy.

When I'm creating my displays I become so absorbed that my mind completely clears and all worries disperse. I especially love my boxes first thing in the morning when I open the window and have breakfast next to them. No matter what mood I wake in, they always cheer me up and put me in a positive frame of mind. > [window-box.co.uk](http://window-box.co.uk)