



**CREATING A KATHERINE O'SHEA LAMP SHADE**  
 Handmaking lampshades from scratch is a rare profession in this machine-driven age, so Katherine has let us in on a few trade secrets.

1. After considering the main factors (size, shape and budget), Katherine will visualise the idea and sketch it in thumbnail form.
2. Once decided on a design, she will work on the drawing and print this onto fabric.
3. When the printed artwork is finished, Katherine will lay out the fabric ready to become the outside of the lampshade.
4. Carefully rolling the fabric onto the frames takes time and concentration. Once this is done the lampshade is finished and taken to its new home.
5. As a final touch, she adds a handsewn Katherine O'Shea label onto every shade.

# Light up your life

Bring beautiful artwork into your home with these gorgeous lampshades

Wanting to bring artwork into the home in a unique and unusual way, fuelled Katherine O'Shea's desire to create beautifully bespoke lampshades.

Thinking creatively and not wanting to make standard frame prints, Katherine now believes that these lampshades are a great medium for showcasing her work.

Katherine admits that she is always surprised at the end of completing a commissioned lampshade. "A commissioned piece is not always what you expect, but it is always going to be unique," she explains.

"The most exciting moment is always the point where I plug it in and turn on the light for the first time. There is something about a glowing light that is really magical."

A lampshade can be a key statement in any room. For example, Katherine notes that a large, lushly illustrated lampshade placed in a hallway,

can make a wonderfully bold statement.

She believes that lighting is incredibly important when creating a warm atmosphere within a room and that the type of shade within each room can make a huge difference.

Since training as an illustrator, Katherine has always admired the traditional drawings from the 1800s, the 'golden age'.

"I find myself very inspired by our historical past," explains Katherine. "For instance, my Orangerie collection came from learning about grand Victorian greenhouses, such as the ones at Tyntesfield."

She continues: "At present, the landscape around North Somerset is inspiring me greatly. I would love to create some more landscape lampshades. All those lovely Mendip hills dipping in and out of the setting sun's rays are making my fingers itch!"

W: [katherineoshea.co.uk](http://katherineoshea.co.uk)