

Case Study: Sacha Cole

NATURAL POND DESIGN



Sacha Cole lives in Hertfordshire with her husband James and two young children. "I first saw the concept in a lifestyle magazine," she says. "The article pitted the natural swimming pond against conventional swimming pools and, for me, there really was no contest..."

BEFORE



"I wanted to be able to sit and look out from the garden and see nothing unnatural. I wanted the pond to be part of a view that flowed seamlessly from the garden to the countryside beyond."

"Gartenart were extremely professional and I knew at every stage exactly what was going on. If I had a question the foreman explained everything in layman's terms. I was expecting a lot more mess and, frankly, more delays, but it was slick, quick and clean."

DURING



"A few friends thought I was mad. They said it would be freezing cold and would cost a lot to keep clean and maintain. Even my husband was worried to start with, but he loves it now and my kids absolutely adore it."

"Temperature is not an issue – they just jump in and so do I. I love the idea of swimming with plants and, frankly, they do a fantastic job of keeping the pond clean without chemicals."

Bearing in mind her friends' initial doubts, we asked Sacha what one argument she would use to convert a stranger.

AFTER



"Oh, the natural beauty of it. The way it grows and becomes part of the garden. But of course I couldn't stop there: I'd have to tell him about the lovely clean feeling of the water and the joy of swimming without chemicals like chlorine that we really shouldn't be allowing near our skin."

"This whole summer we've been in it all the time. It's absolutely fantastic."