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Velcome

to the April issue

Unless you have nerves of steel and a never-ending budget to match, few can put together a radically new interiors scheme with complete self confidence. Whether it's that nagging voice reminding you of resale value and over-capitalisation, or the fact that there are too many options out there to consider, when it comes to new design projects the experience of a professional is almost always golden. Our case studies in this issue all reflect this. From the tale of an East London family who extended their kitchen in order to make space for an added bedroom (Light and Inviting, page 46) to the three sets of couples who



successfully reconfigured their houses in order to open their kitchens to the garden and views beyond (**Island View**, page 26, **Front to Back** page 36 and Another Level page 56), all of this issue's schemes were greatly enhanced by the design experts and kitchen specialists who advised.

On that note, how many times have you sat with friends in their new kitchen and they have bemoaned the fact that they didn't leave enough room at the island for all the bar stools they needed, or that their dining table is just a smidge too large for their newly created open-plan space? With so much focus on the cooking engine of the kitchen, too often are the all-important seating arrangements left until last, which is why we've called on the professionals for their design advice again in our Take a **Seat** feature (page 84). We also interview hotel interior designers **Toni Chi** (page 112) and **Kit Kemp** on (page 162), and if that wasn't enough design inspiration for you all wrapped up in one magazine, turn over to page 116 for our round-up of the current top 10 bathroom trends and for bedroom lighting inspiration in **Bright Ideas** (page 138).

It's certainly a stylish spring for interiors and we hope you enjoy the issue.

ACTING EDITOR

Contributors this issue



Gareth Gardner Gareth is a photographer and journalist specialising in architecture and design. He regularly shoots luxury bathroom specialist TOTO's projects in the UK, including the Rosewood hotel which

is featured in this issue on page 112



Victoria Rolison 'I loved writing about the beautiful DesignSpaceLondon kitchen this issue (page 68)' says freelance writer Vicky. 'As a mum, it combined two elements at the top of my own wish list; cool quirks with clever ideas for concealing clutter.



Anthony Parkinson Anthony developed his passion for photography in Africa, South America and Mongolia on assignment for expeditions and as a photojournalist. He took the photos for our **Interior** Designer Kitchen feature on page 68.





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Contents

CKBB APRIL 2015 ISSUE 228



essential kitchens

- 17 KITCHEN NEWS
 Exciting new products, showroom launches and key diary dates
- 26 ISLAND VIEW

 This newly extended home in the

 Devon countryside bathes in natural
 light, offering space for the whole family
- FRONT TO BACK Inspired by a new garden, this kitchen was reconfigured to the rear of the house to maximise the view
- 46 LIGHT & INVITING
 A new home extension makes room
 for an open-plan kitchen featuring
 painted cabinets and accents of oak
- ANOTHER LEVEL Inside this Victorian home a large extension, soaring glass wall and apex roof offer modern flair and function
- 68 INTERIOR DESIGNER KITCHEN
 This bright kitchen-diner ticks all
 the boxes for fast-paced family life
- 75 ESSENTIAL STYLE

 Refresh a cream palette by teaming with natural materials and sweet patterns
 - 80 FACTORY FLAIR
 Inject industrial style into a country kitchen with vintage metal accents
 - 82 A DECORATIVE FEAST
 Jazz up your place settings with our favourite patterned dinner plates
- 84 TAKE A SEAT

 Be inspired by this selection of on-trend kitchen seats, stools and benches



on the cover Flat fronted Shaker cabinetry in soft grey and a hidden utility area by Bryan Turner. See page 56. PICTURE PAUL CRAIG

■ cover stories

essential technology

TECHNOLOGY NEWS Let us inspire your shopping choices with the newest home technology

102 AHEAD OF THE GAME Discover the future of kitchens as we show you the latest combinations of design and technology now available

essential bathrooms

BATHROOM NEWS Our round-up of the latest bathroom tiles, basins, tapware and furniture

INTERIOR DESIGNER BATHROOM **1**12 See how an internationally renowned designer has transformed the private suite in London's Rosewood hotel

116 DESIGN DIRECTIONS Take a look at these inspiring ideas in our top 10 bathroom trends feature

CLEAN SLATE Make an impact with a monochrome bathroom and minimal styling

130 SILVER LININGS Keep everything neat and tidy with our choice of chrome accessories

essential bedrooms

BEDROOM NEWS Our edit of the latest bedroom furniture and new-season textiles

138 **BRIGHT IDEAS** We help you choose a lighting scheme for the bedroom, with luxury pendants, wall lights and also floor and table lamps

LIGHTING DIRECTORY Our round-up of go-to lighting specialists to inspire your décor

FRESH FINISH Dress a wooden bed with velvet and silk textiles, using a spring colour palette

■ 150 NATURAL WORLD Our selection of on-trend, richly patterned fabrics with a botanical theme

essential interviews

KATHARINA EISENKOECK Katharina creates objects with sculptural simplicity from concrete and leather

100 JAMES MARTIN This popular TV chef picks his favourite appliance and tells us about his new cookbook and latest restaurant opening

162 Interior designer Kit chats to us about her ambitious Ham Yard Hotel project and her design influences

essential regulars

COMPETITION 153 **SUBSCRIPTIONS** 154 STOCKISTS









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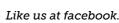
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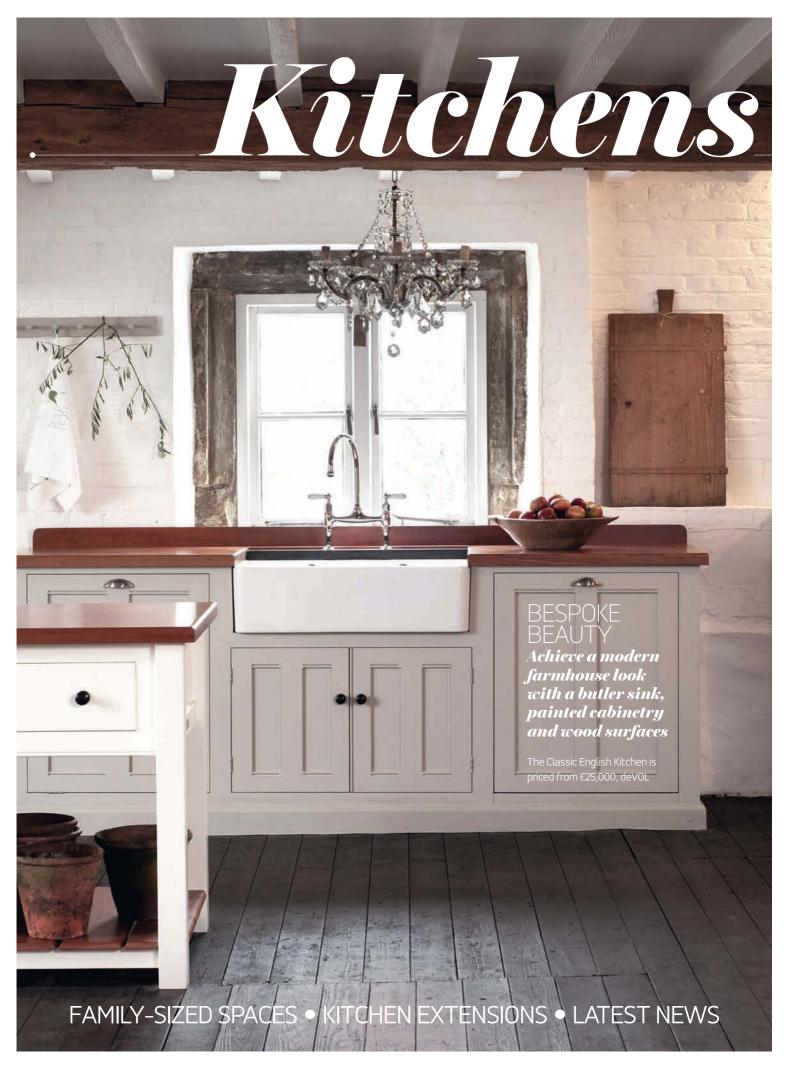
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Kitchen News

The latest launches and inspiration-packed events

WRITTEN BY EMMA FOALE





More than just a tap, the 3N1 tap from InSinkErator gives you filtered steaming, hot and cold water. The design is now available in three new finishes including Natural Stone, Orange and Pearl White. This tap is also available in chrome and brushed stainless steel finishes. From £799 each. insinkerator.co.uk.

At the top of many a wish list these days is a seamless space that incorporates kitchen and living areas. Key to this look is sleek cabinetry which blends with your furniture and also closes to hide away any clutter. The new sliding door storage system available from Leicht does just this – it offers plenty of easily accessible wall storage for crockery and glassware and also looks great in a wood grain finish. *leicht.com*.

Style INFUSION

If you're looking for beautiful ceramicware, check out the online Japan Store which is part of the latest collection by British-Japanese designer Reiko Kaneko. The ceramics in her first collection are sourced from Mashiko, North of Tokyo, where there is a long tradition of ceramic craftsmanship. From £14 for the rectangular plate.





ALL IN THE SHINE

A square main bowl and SteelArt satin polish finish are distinctive features of the new Jaron XL 6 S-IF SteelArt sink from Blanco. It's a great choice if you want to achieve a sleek look as it has a flat rim that will ensure it sits almost flush to your work surface. A handy food board with a walnut finish and drainer with wide tap ledge in the centre are also appealing and practical features. The Jaron XL 6 S-IF SteelArt sink (shown) is priced from £1,104. blanco.co.uk.



Combining inspired British design, ingenious storage solutions and a wealth of options and styles, The Very British Collection makes it easy to create a kitchen that fits your space, and your way of living, beautifully.

 $\label{thm:problem} \mbox{Visit } \textbf{the very british collection.} \textbf{co.uk} \mbox{ to find your local retailer.}$







ESSENTIAL kitchen news

Modern **TWIST**

Clever technology and design innovations mean kitchens
are becoming more adaptable to
contemporary living. This is true of
the newly launched Cadre kitchen from
Rational. Shown here in Ash heartwood
veneer and Artic white soft lacquer, it has 13mm slim framed door, a pull-out worktop and black glass wall unit doors. Kitchen prices start from around £10,000. rationalgb.com.

Adding to her adorable Animal collection of ceramics and stationery, Fenella Smith has yet again won over our hearts with her latest design featuring a rather obedientlooking Golden Retriever. Now the only tricky decision is choosing whether you want to get the coordinating set or mix and match with some of the other quirky animal designs. Prices start from £14.50 for the mini muq. fenellasmith.com.

WOOF WOOF



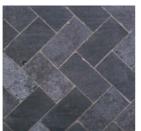


BREAKFAST

Expanding on his Dressed collection, Dutch designer Marcel Wanders has added a line of breakfast pieces which are available from Alessi. The egg cup (shown) is made from thermoplastic resin in yellow and it comes with a small, stainless steel spoon which has a hammer on the other end to help crack the egg. £17. alessi.com/en.







The dark side

Practical and unlikely to ever go out of fashion, black is a great choice for walls and floors. In terms of natural stone, Lapicida offer a range of bespoke services with new and reclaimed stones including granite, limestone and slate. The nature of the tone and texture adds to the beauty of this surface material. From £72 per sq. m. lapicida.com.



Well DRESSED

Bramley Blue by Laura Ashley was launched last year and now six new cabinet pieces have been added to the collection. Inspired by salvaged cottage furniture, we love the distressed finish and this display cabinet, £1,200, offers plenty of space to show off your finest glassware and tableware. There's also an armoire, bookcase, bureau and storage unit. lauraashley.com.



DINNER O'CLOCK

The Dinner Time plates were originally designed as a playful approach to teaching children to tell the time. Keeping it simple in black and white, the plates are available in four designs including Zurich, London, Vienna and Moscow. It's £62.50 per set. aboveandbeyond.london.



INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE

New to Bancroft Road in Reigate, Surrey, RDO Kitchens and Appliances has launched its muchawaited Stoneham Kitchen Studio. Inside there's not simply the kitchen set-ups but also allocated space for design consultations and cooking demos. Kitchens start from £20,000. stoneham-kitchens.co.uk.



On-trend and versatile, the Emotions® collection by Gamadecor has a palette of finishes that will suit various styles and spaces. From smooth or textured laminates, matt or shining lacquer and natural wood, your kitchen can take on your favoured appearance. Laser technology is also used for the panel edgings for durable and seamless joins. Prices on application. porcelanosa.com/gb/.

Exotic INFLUENCE

Inspired by the shape of Egyptian date palm trees, these decorative hand-painted wall tiles are sure to catch your eye. They're made from ceramic and hard stone and they come in blue and turquoise colours that give them a very luxurious finish. They're priced from £2,000 per sq. m. deferranti.com.



Eclectic styling

Fresh from the spring summer collection at Toast, we've picked out the Kara stools as our favourite. In a choice of Lemon, Blue, Jade and Pearl Grey shades, they'll add a guirky look if placed around an island or dining table. £119 each. toa.st.







LIGHT & SHADE

To celebrate 10 years since its launch, Louis Poulsen has updated the Collage pendant with a series of new colours and a new matt velour-like finish. The three-layer shade creates interesting shadow patterns and light is diffused to create a welcoming ambience. From £610 each. louispoulsen.com.

DIARY DATES

Make Yourself Comfortable at Chatsworth House

Chatsworth, home to the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, will showcase the best in contemporary chair design at this exhibition. Items from this prestigious family's collection will be showcased alongside furniture by internationally acclaimed and innovative designers. There will also be the opportunity to get involved and to make the most of the visit while you sit, take part in and enjoy this design exhibition. chatsworth.org. WHEN? 28th March - 23th October WHERE? Chatsworth, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1PP



Ceramic Art London

Celebrating its 11th edition this year, this fair will take place at the Royal College of Art. 80 ceramic artists from across the world will be presenting their work and you'll be able to buy pieces directly from the makers. Prices will range from £30 to £10,000. A lively programme of free events will also be staged on each day of the fair. ceramics.org.uk. WHEN? 17th - 19th April WHERE? The Royal College of Art, Kensington Gore, London, SW7



The National Homebuilding **&** Renovating Show

This year the show will have a record number of over 15 self-build, renovation and home improvement specialists who will be on-hand for advice. Celebritu names to look out for include sustainable architectural designer Charlie Luxton and interior design expert Julia Kendell. homebuildingshow.co.uk. WHEN? 26th - 29th March WHERE? NEC, Birmingham

OPENING SPACES

Tom Howley has just opened the doors to its latest showroom in Bristol. It is showcasing a range of bespoke and hand-painted designs with a mix of both modern and traditional kitchens. The Hartford (shown) is a focal point with the introduction of an island painted in Dewberry, a deep grey hue. It is combined beautifully with dark oak and Lyra polished Silestone. Kitchens start from £35,000. tomhowley.co.uk.



ALL THE ESSENTIALS

From storage containers and measuring jugs to chopping boards and utensils, you don't want to start cooking at home without these essential accessories for your new kitchen. You'll find a beautiful selection from Scandinavian brand House Doctor. Prices start from around £3 for the wooden spoons. en.housedoctor.dk.



PAWS FOR **THOUGHT**

This adorable pooch is Billie and he makes his début in the first ever plain china range from Cath Kidston. He sits atop a cake stand, versatile jars and a butter dish and also has his own figurine salt and pepper £12 for the toast rack. cathkidston.com.















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ISUCULUI TECOL Mary-Anne and Michael Driscoll

Mary-Anne and Michael Driscoll extended to create a spacious and streamlined kitchen – as well as to make the most of the spectacular views of the Devon countryside

PICTURES PAUL CRAIG | WORDS AMELIA THORPE





ESSENTIAL *kitchens*

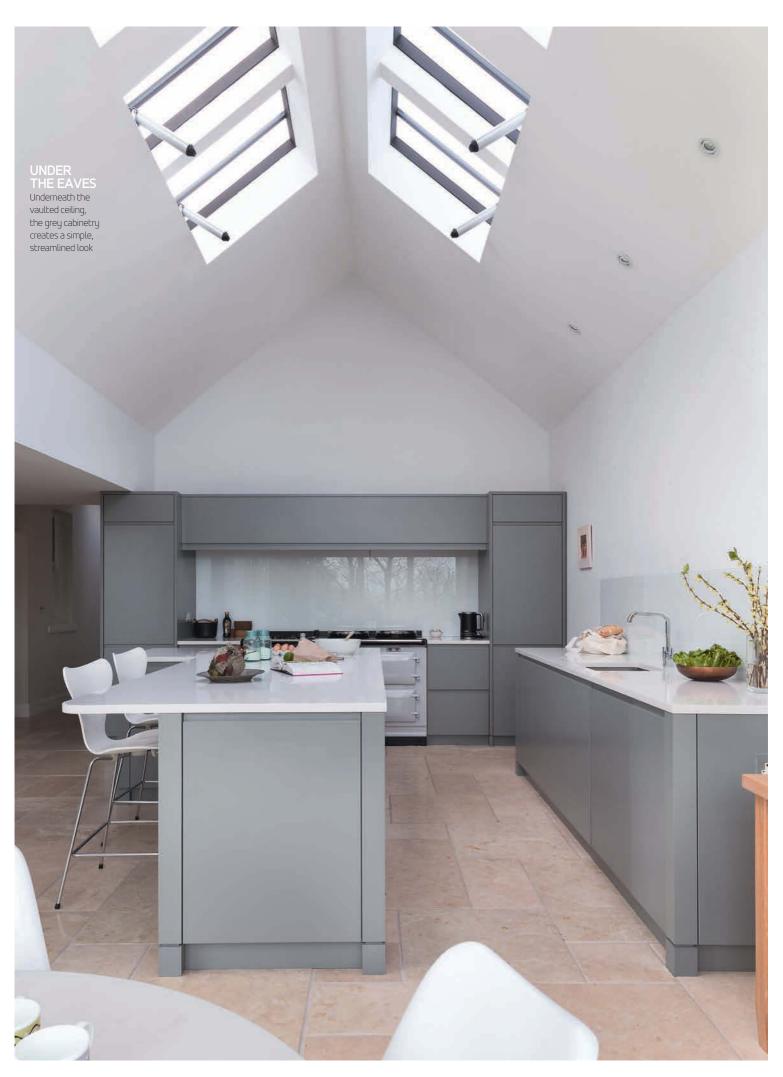




SUGAR AND SPICE

Iris and Sylvie, daughters of Mary-Anne's friends, enjoy their weekend in Devon with some baking. Sylvie readies the ingredients, above, while Iris reaches into the solid oak provisions rack, below





ESSENTIAL kitchens

SIDELINED

Mary-Anne bought this painting from a gallery in Kuala Lumpur. Here, it rests on a bespoke sideboard, made by Guild Anderson in white oiled oak with contrasting wenge handles



I wanted to make the room a social space where we could all chop, stir and wash up at the same time'



ESSENTIAL kitchens







SIMPLE PLEASURES The back-painted glass splashback and gentle off-white quartz worktop provide simple, light contrast against the Teal Grey painted cabinetry



Kitchen profile

Bespoke handleless lacquered cabinetry in Little Greene Grey Teal 226 features smart, linear and flat-fronted design and traditional construction. Topped with Silestone Blanco Norte quartz worktops, the furniture sets a modern mood which contrasts with the three-oven, electric AGA, perfect for this country setting.

GUILD ANDERSON

Berwick Hill, Berwick St Leonard, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP3 5SN. Tel 01747 820449. guildandersonfurniture.co.uk Kitchen prices from £25,000



NICK ANDERSON DESIGNER AND DIRECTOR, GUILD ANDERSOŃ



Can you tell us about the design of the furniture?

The cabinetry is simple and clean, in keeping with the brief from Mary-Anne and Michael. It is flat-fronted and handleless, creating a modern, streamlined look, which is accentuated by the crisp quartz worktops. Painted in a mid-tone grey, the cabinets are finished with corner posts to define each piece and accentuate the traditionally made feel of the furniture.

And the design of the cabinetry around the

traditional, electric AGA?

It is very important that an AGA has a home - it can look out of place in a long run of furniture, without a frame. Traditionally, an AGA is built into a chimney breast, so I wanted to create a modern take on that idea. Here, the AGA is flanked by two cabinets, then taller ones and a top run across the wall, creating a statement look.

And the island? The length of the island, sink run and its splashback are all the same, creating a precise and contemporary look. The

L-shape of the island allows for maximum prep surface, so several people can cook at once, and we were also able to include an overhang of the worktop on one side to create space for a couple of bar stools. I like to make a clear distinction between the kitchen and dining areas in a room, so here, the kitchen cabinetry comes to a definite stop. Then we switch height and material in the design of a sideboard to begin the dining/breakfast area. Together, the room feels open, light and modern - and nothing fights with that incredible view.

Stockists

APPLIANCES

AGA. CM112 microwave and grill, £228, Caple. KI82LAF30G integrated **fridge**, £1,344; SN66M031GB fully integrated **dishwasher**, £590, both Siemens. DA2270 built-in **cooker hood**, £725, Miele.

FIXTURES AND FURNISHINGS

Edge mixer in chrome, £245, John Lewis. Mode55 undermounted stainless steel sink, £235, Caple. Silestone Blanco Norte worktops, about £5,900; Back-painted splashbacks, priced to order, all Guild Anderson. Similar floor tiles, Seashell Mandarin Stone. Knoll Tulip **chairs**, £960 each; Knoll Saarinen round **table**, from £1,560, all Skandium. Series 7 **bar stools**, £534 each; Wardour **dining table**, £4,795; Wishbone oak **chairs**, £588 each, all The Conran Shop. Victo **pendant light**, £630, Holloways of Ludlow. **Wall paint** Grey Teal

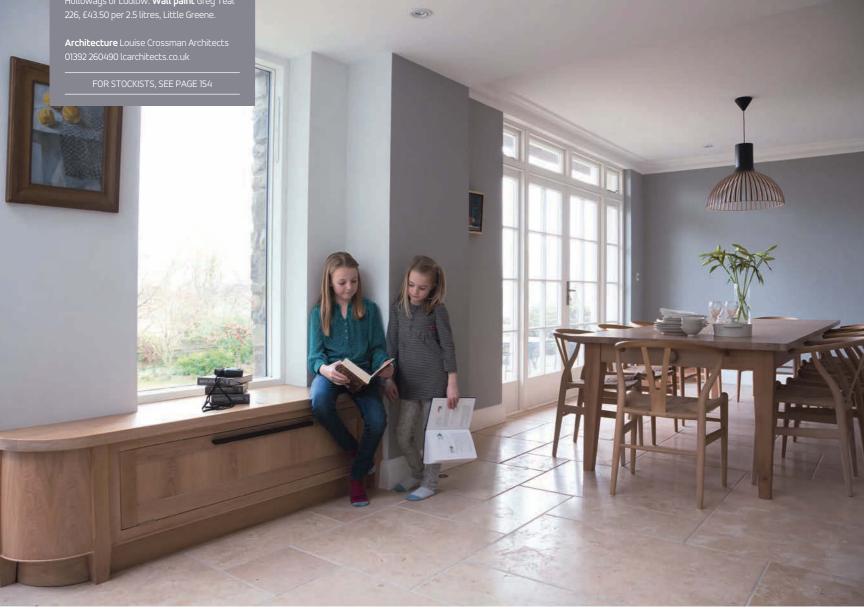


PERFECT HARMONY

Above The kitchen leads on to a more formal dining area, which is housed in the original part of the old Edwardian house. Here, the walls are painted in Teal Grey, to tie in with the kitchen cabinetry as well as to create a harmonious effect

NOOKS AND CRANNIES

Below The window seat, made by designers Guild Anderson, creates a place to enjoy the view through the picture window, and links the dining and kitchen areas. It's constructed of the same white oiled oak as the sideboard by the breakfast table



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Jennifer and Jim weren't afraid to swap things around to create an inviting new space in which to enjoy the best views of their beautiful garden

PICTURES DARREN CHUNG | WORDS AMELIA THORPE

VERSATILE LAYOUT

the room functioned as well for entertaining as it did for cooking, and also that it had easy access to the garden







trange as it might seem, it was the garden that prompted Jennifer and Jim to create their new kitchen. 'We had been talking to a designer about relandscaping, and that made us think about how nice it would be to enjoy the view from our kitchen,' recalls Jennifer

enjoy the view from our kitchen,' recalls Jennifer. But, with the garden at the rear of their Victorian home in South West London, and the kitchen at the front, that presented a challenge.

'The kitchen was on the lower ground level of the house and it was always dark,' continues Jennifer. 'So we decided to move it to the rear, replacing a rather tired conservatory with an extension, so that we could make one large, lightfilled room with beautiful views over the garden.'

She and Jim are parents to three sons, 24, 22 and 19 and a daughter, 17, and they all enjoy welcoming friends into their home. Extended family members are frequent visitors too – Jennifer is from Ireland and Jim is American. 'We love entertaining, so we wanted to create space for a couple of people to be cooking together while someone serves drinks and others are at the dining table,' she says. 'And when the double doors are open in summer, we also wanted there to be an easy flow out to the garden.'

With the work on the new extension underway, Jim spotted a picture of Davonport Furniture by Moneyhill Interiors in this magazine, and contacted designer Richard Stillman. 'We are only the third owners of this house, so we felt it was important to create a kitchen that was sympathetic to its history, but at the same time bringing the design into this century,' says Jennifer. 'Richard understood that at once – and I love the way he has blended classic wooden painted furniture in the kitchen with a stylish and modern mix of materials.'

But for Jennifer, the outstanding feature of the new kitchen is the sweeping, wave-shaped breakfast bar, its dramatic curves echoed in the ceiling feature which houses the flush-fitted extractor. 'As you enter the room, the bar is high enough to conceal the sink and prep area,' she says, 'but most importantly, the beautiful walnut wave creates an instant wow factor.' **CKBB**









'When the double doors are open, we wanted there to be an easy flow out to the garden'



CURVE CONTROL Kashmir White granite is 30mm thick and features a gently curved profile

WORKING IT

The Olympus mixer with separate spray makes light work of the washing up



RICHARD STILLMAN SENIOR DESIGNER, MONEYHILL INTERIORS

What was your brief?

This kitchen needed to sit comfortably in a traditional, Victorian house, but have a contemporary edge. Jennifer and Jim also had a list of American-sized appliances to be included in the room, including a large double oven, rangetop and fridge-freezer. They enjoy entertaining, so it was important that the room functioned well for cooking and serving meals to a party of guests, with everyone involved in the conversation.

Can you tell us about the layout? While the cabinetry sweeps around two walls to provide storage, including a large larder, and housing for built-in appliances, with separate drinks station and TV area by the dining table, the island serves as the focal point in the room. The walnut curves of the breakfast bar create a

feature, which is echoed in the suspended ceiling bulkhead. We designed this to house the extractor (basically a hanging chimney model would have obstructed the views of the garden) and add some character to the room. It flows from the cooking zone towards the dining table, at which point the room opens up to the vaulted ceiling with roof lantern.

And the mix of materials? The classic

in-frame cabinetry is painted in a soft grey, with a slightly lighter shade used for the base cabinets to add some subtle interest. The walnut breakfast bar is a rich and warm contrast, picked up again in the choice of handles. And for the worktops? Jennifer chose Kashmir White granite, which is flecked with warm-coloured tones.











ESSENTIAL kitchens









Previously, the ground floor was made up of a series of little rooms - now we have an open space with a light feel'

t all started with a bed. Not a large dining table, new oven or urgent need for more cupboard space - the things that so often trigger the quest for a new kitchen - but an extra bed space needed for a growing family. Explains Rachel Sylvester of the early Victorian house in East London that she shares with husband, Patrick Wintour, and their four children aged 19, 17, 11 and 8: 'We wanted an extra bedroom, so that each child could have their own space.'

The couple ended up adding a double-height extension across one half of the back of the house, creating the new bedroom and, in the process, making room for the kitchen-dining space downstairs. 'This was a wonderful bonus,' says Rachel. 'Previously, the ground floor was made up of a series of little rooms - and now we have a much more open space with a light and distinctly modern feel.'

The highlight of the extension is the super-size frameless window, which wraps around two sides, blurring the boundaries between inside and out. It was architect Jelena Cousins who designed the new configuration, cleverly reusing the old bricks from the original structure in construction of the new. Even the existing kitchen cupboards, produced by Roundhouse a couple of years before the extension, have been incorporated into the new space. 'We loathed the idea of throwing them away, so we decided to recycle them and have reused almost all in the new space,' says Rachel. They went back to Roundhouse to commission additional units to fill the larger room, plus a new island and worktops. 'It's a room where we like to cook and entertain, so the island works well - I can be cooking while friends are having a drink sitting on the bar stools,' she says.

The classic cabinetry is painted in a light green-blue, teamed with accents of oak. 'Together, they set a calm, restful mood that makes the most of the beautiful natural light in here,' she says. 'For a project that started off about needing the room for an extra bed, the result is so very much better than ever expected. **CKBB**

SOFT AND SERENE

Above Classic Shaker-style cabinetry features a simple cornice and Frog Leg handles in brushed steel







Kitchen profile

Roundhouse Classic Painted bespoke furniture painted in Farrow & Ball Teresa's Green sets a tranquil scene in this light-filled kitchen. Teamed with a work surface of Silestone Tigris Sand and centre island topped in Wholestave oak, with reclaimed oak floor and weathered oak bar stools, the natural colours echo those of the garden, the views of which are enjoyed through the frameless picture windows.

ROUNDHOUSE

11 Wigmore Street, London, WIU IPE. Tel 020 7297 6220. roundhousedesign.com Roundhouse bespoke kitchen prices start from £35,000.

Architecture by Cousins & Cousins, Linton House, 39-51 Highgate Road, London, NW5 1RT. Tel 020 7482 4009. cousinsandcousins.com



PERFECT BLEND

A worktop of Silestone Tigris Sand quartz surface for the sink area is non-porous and hardwearing. Its shade was chosen to blend in with the colours of the room

BRIGHT IDEAS

Modest Toldbod white glass pendant lights by Louis Poulsen are each hung on a teal coloured fabric cable





'We reused many elements from the original framework of the home such as window frames and bricks, and also repurposed the existing kitchen cabinetry'



JELENA COUSINS DIRECTOR, COUSINS & COUSINS **ARCHITECTS**



How did you begin the project? In order to

create the new bedroom on the first floor, it made sense to extend out at the back of the house. This then created an opportunity to introduce much more light into the ground floor and open up the space to make it better suited to modern busy family life. We agreed with Rachel and Patrick to knock down the wall between the existing small, galley kitchen and separate dining room, combining and extending the rooms to create a

single, larger, open-plan space which let in the maximum light.

Can you tell us about the large window?

We wanted to create a room that was as bright as possible. A column is slightly set back from the corner to take the load from the floor above, assisted by a system of concealed beams. This allowed us to design a large window to wrap around the two sides, for a frameless look. A sliding door on one side, offers access to the garden.

And how did you choose the materials?

We reused many elements from the original framework of the home, such as the window frames on the first floor and bricks throughout the structure. We also repurposed the original kitchen cabinetry. We used the same reclaimed oak flooring throughout and chose a timber to match other areas of the ground floor: it is reclaimed pine, which has been whitewashed and oiled for a natural, semi-matt finish.



ESSENTIAL kitchens **SEAMLESS STYLE** A sliding door affords easy access to the garden from the new glazed dining area Stockists APPLIANCES Similar **oven**, B14P42N3GB, £613; Similar **gas hob**, T62S26S1, £300; S51E50X1GB fully integrated **dishwasher**, £398, all Neff. Cube 90 **extractor**, £529, Elica. Similar freestanding **fridge-freezer**, KG34NVI3OG, £657, Siemens. FIXTURES AND FURNISHINGS Eiger tap, £209; Kubus KBX 110-55 undermounted stainless steel sink, £371; both Franke. Wholestave oak island worktop; Silestone Tigris Sand worktop and upstand; White glass splashback, all priced to order, Roundhouse. Whitewashed and oiled pine reclaimed floor, priced to order, Reclaimed Flooring Company. Weathered oak stools, £145 each, Cox & Cox. Toldbod glass **pendant lamps**, £210 each; PH4/3 pendant lamp (above dining table), £350, all Skandium. Many lighting suppliers sell decorative cable and braid for hanging pendant lights, or try Lamps and Lights for a good selection of colours. Eames DSR **chairs**, £223 each, The Conran Shop. Try After Noah for a similar vintage oak refectory **table**.





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TOUCH TECH

Above Touch a button, and the Fisher θ Paykel CoolDrawer temperature settings can be changed from fridge to freezer, or wine cooler to pantry

GETTING FLEXIBLE

Above right Natasha chose two luxury Gaggenau ovens; each one has 13 different heating methods to provide flexibility for cooking everything from pizza to bread and cakes e may be a pharmacist by training, but Tony Prendergast admits to a secret passion: building. 'I love it,' he laughs. 'I've done a couple of property development projects, including building our own home, but I've never got it quite right.' So he persuaded his wife, Natasha, that they, together with six year old daughter Eva, should move again to give his love of building another go. 'In my mind, I had developed an idea of a room with a huge glass

wall and a gallery, and we started looking for a suitable plot to develop,' he recalls.

Eventually, they spotted the ideal property – a Victorian house in a half acre plot, not far from Lowestoft on the Suffolk coast, close to the beach and conveniently located for Eva's school. At its rear, the house had a rather dilapidated extension, built in the 1950s. 'We knew we could knock that down and replace it with a larger extension to create our dream room,' explains Tony. 'Both Tash and I love the old look of the front and the idea of contrasting it with a very modern space behind.'

After spotting a kitchen produced by Bryan Turner Kitchen Furniture in this magazine, the couple went to meet designer Jonathan Turner. Together, they began to develop plans for a clean-lined, modern kitchen, its proportions designed to suit the scale of the super-size new room and its soaring glass wall and apex roof.

And while Tony loves building, Natasha loves cooking, so she also had strong views about the design. 'I'm mad about cooking,' says Natasha (who chose the Gaggenau ovens after enjoying using them on a course at The Raymond Blanc Cookery School). 'We wanted the kitchen to work perfectly from a practical point of view, with lots of work surface and built-in appliances, but also to feel relaxed and spacious when friends and family are here. Jonathan was brilliant at combining these elements – and I love the way he has created the cool, calm look with such a workable layout.'

And is Tony's buzz from building now satisfied? 'This house gives us a great feeling, so we haven't got any plans to move again,' he says, with Natasha nodding fiercely in agreement. Then he says after a pause, 'But, never say never.' *CKBB*







HIDDEN DEPTH

A larder cupboard is lined with oak shelves, and a 'secret door' opens to reveal the utility room



JONATHAN TURNER DESIGNER, BRYAN TURNER KITCHEN FURNITURE

How did you begin the project? I like to begin by sketching in perspective, which is how you see things as you walk into a room. It also helps me visualise where the focal points should be - in this case the bespoke extractor hood draws the eye, together with the large island in the foreground. As you move further into the room, the huge glass windows make such a strong feature, I felt it was important to provide a counterbalance by building a series of tall cabinets opposite, wrapping them in a frame of solid oak.

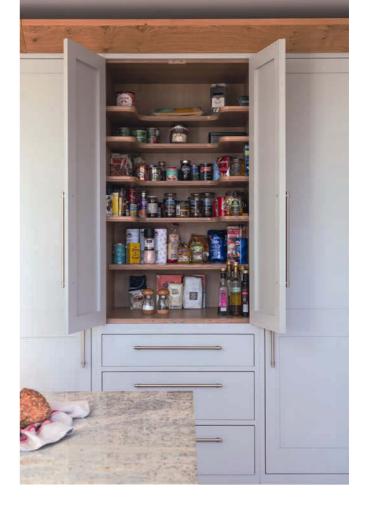
Can you tell us about the 'secret door' between the kitchen and utility area? I thought it would be fun to hide the door in the style of

a Queen Anne secret room.

So we built a door in the tall

cabinets, indistinguishable from the doors on either side. You really can't tell that it's an entrance to another room. It was tricky to engineer especially the plinth which had to match perfectly with the rest of the run, but so worth it for the end result.

And the colours and materials? The soft grey of the simple, flat-fronted cabinetry creates quite a neutral backdrop, while the River White granite introduces different texture, as does the oak used for the frame around the tall cabinets and the breakfast bar. The steel handles and extractor are all part of the gradient of materials that are interesting to the eye, yet also soft and calm, and reflective of the natural tones of the garden beyond.

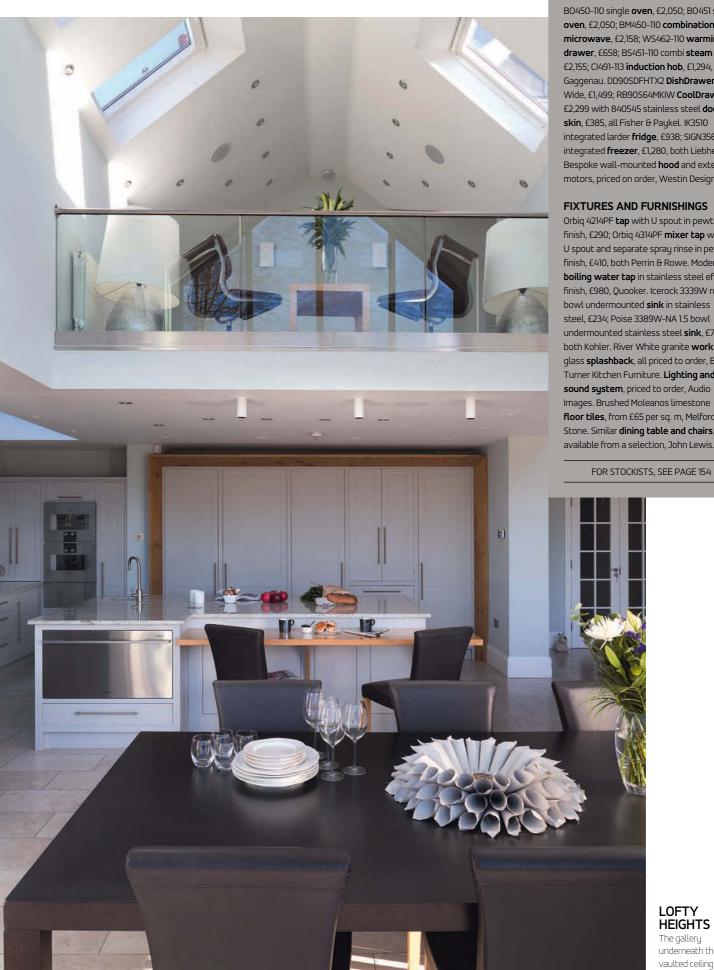












Stockists

APPLIANCES

B0450-110 single **oven**, £2,050; B0451 single oven, £2,050; BM450-110 combination microwave, £2,158; WS462-110 warming drawer, £658; BS451-110 combi steam oven, £2,155; CI491-113 induction hob, £1,294, all Gaggenau. DD90SDFHTX2 **DishDrawer** Wide, £1,499; RB90S64MKIW CoolDrawer, £2,299 with 840545 stainless steel door skin, £385, all Fisher & Paykel. IK3510 integrated larder fridge, £938; SIGN3566 integrated **freezer**, £1,280, both Liebherr. Bespoke wall-mounted **hood** and external motors, priced on order, Westin Design.

FIXTURES AND FURNISHINGS

Orbiq 4214PF **tap** with U spout in pewter finish, £290; Orbiq 4314PF **mixer tap** with U spout and separate spray rinse in pewter finish, £410, both Perrin & Rowe. Modern **boiling water tap** in stainless steel effect finish, £980, Quooker. Icerock 3339W round bowl undermounted **sink** in stainless steel, £234; Poise 3389W-NA 1.5 bowl undermounted stainless steel **sink**, £785, both Kohler. River White granite worktops, glass **splashback**, all priced to order, Bryan Turner Kitchen Furniture. Lighting and **sound system**, priced to order, Audio Images. Brushed Moleanos limestone **floor tiles**, from £65 per sq. m, Melford Stone. Similar dining table and chairs, available from a selection, John Lewis.

LOFTY HEIGHTS

The gallery underneath the high, vaulted ceiling looks out over the new room



INTERIOR DESIGNER

Kitchen

In a streamlined new-build, Luke Beveridge of DesignSpaceLondon combines clean lines, hidden aspects and interesting materials

PICTURES ANTHONY PARKINSON | WORDS VICTORIA ROLISON

n first glance this kitchen is a simple, sleek affair with pops of colour here and there. But look again (or start opening cupboards), and you'll find everything a busy family with two teenagers could need fitted within its glossy Modulnova cabinets.

Working with a new-build house nestled in woodland, Luke Beveridge of DesignSpaceLondon, tells how he was tasked with a dual-design brief of creating a practical kitchen which would be streamlined enough for an open-plan layout.

'The house itself is subterranean with the children's bedrooms all on the basement level and the kitchen, diner and living area making up one massive open space on the ground floor, he explains. It was

important to the client for the whole family to have a space they could share, with someone prepping or cooking while other friends or family were perched at the breakfast bar or around the table. It was also neccessary to be able to conceal any messy areas.'

This meant a sink, stainless steel worktop and shelving space all tucked behind pocket doors which the family could close and hideaway before leaving the house or opening the door to guests. 'Almost like sweeping things under the bed,' he adds.

The bonus in this design is the time devoted to personality-filled details, like the bright splashback and bar stools which reveal the owners' sense of style. and the thick walnut breakfast bar which nods to the woodland right outside. Bright and beautiful. eKBB



Luke Beveridge

SENIOR DESIGNER, DESIGNSPACE LONDON Luke specialises in Italian kitchen design from the company's new Wigmore Street showroom, where forward-thinking Italian designs by Modulnova are exclusively showcased. He prides himself on being involved with his projects from the initial consultation and design process right through to the final completion.



PROJECT DETAILS

CABINETRY Tall cabinets, Fly and SP29 kitchen collections in Corda satin lacquer; Island cabinets, Twenty Collection in Tornabuoni Kerlite porcelain, all Modulnova BREAKFAST BAR Wenge wood with oiled finish ISLAND WORKTOP Tornabuoni Kerlite porcelain SINK Nero Assoluto granite, all by DesignSpaceLondon. Kitchens start from £25,000 OVENS Two Generation 6000 PureLine H6660 BP ovens, £2,399; Generation 6000 PureLine H6600 BM microwave combination, £2,349; WARMING DRAWER Generation 6000 PureLine ESW6229 SousChef, £1,049; INDUCTION HOB KM6357, £1,800, all Miele FRIDGE Built-in larder fridge, RC289202, £2,420; FREEZER Built-in RF287202 Vario Cool 200 series, £1,760, Gaggenau FRIDGE UIK1550, £1,005, Liebherr DISHWASHER G4960 Vi, £975, Miele WASTE DISPOSAL UNIT Evolution 200, £399, InSinkErator TAPS 13193 Telescopic tap, £432 and 00909 Oxygen tap, £468, Gessi BOILING TAP Quooker Basic boiling water tap, £940, Quooker BREAKFAST BAR STOOLS Calligaris Jam barstool, £191 each, London Designer Furniture Ltd DINING TABLE Try similar Hilton extending dining table, £890, Go Modern CLOCK Try similar Brixton wall clock, £85, Newgate Clocks DINING BENCH Try similar Cherry corner bench, £3,500, Wharfside DINING CHAIRS Hans J. Wegner Wishbone chair in oak with natural cord seat, £588, The Conran Shop











HIDDEN SECRET

Pocket doors reveal a bright and bold breakfast cupboard with an orange glass splashblack, stainless steel worktop, shelves and sink

FLAWLESS DESIGN

Three different Modulnova kitchen systems were used, with aspects of each of the Twenty, Fly and SP29 ranges, providing the perfect jigsaw puzzle

SEAMLESS STYLE

Below The flooring is made up of concretestyle porcelain, with the island designed to look like a continuation. The clean lines of the walnut breakfast bar and granite sink offer stark contrast as well as an extra design dimension



How did you create the kitchen layout? The entrance to the kitchen is through the

boot room door in the top right corner, so the family can bring in the food shopping and load it straight into the fridge and freezer to the left or the larder on the right-hand side. The ovens are in a clean linear design with

a triangle between them, the sink and the hob. Then there's another tall larder close to the dining area for plates and crockery and all other kitchenalia.

Tell us your favourite parts of the design? The kitchen is contemporary with cheeky little details thrown in; the orange splashback behind the pocket doors is akin to opening up a suit jacket with a nice lining. Other dynamic elements, like the stone sink and

timber breakfast bar, offer statement shapes which lift the design from being simple and give more interest.

How did you choose the materials?

The island is made from porcelain which is a bulletproof material perfect for a working kitchen with children, while the walnut breakfast bar is much more tactile to sit at and will grow with the family, creating its own character even if it gets scratched or knocked.





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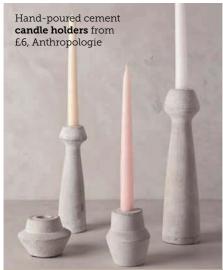
Image: WC177 triple zone in-column wine cabinet, RiL179 in-column larder fridge and RiF178 in-column freezer with SSDOOR stainless steel furniture doors.







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S.b. 01 porcelain plate by Scholten & Baijings £35, SMUG



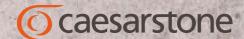


Cracked Ice cushion by Angela Johnston £65, Flock

Crackle planter pot £15, French Connection

FOR STOCKISTS, SEE PAGE 154





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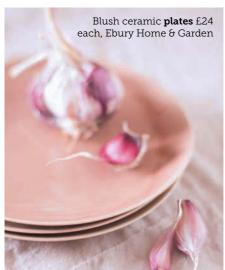
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A decorative feast

Bring spring to the table with a selection of bright, patterned plates

COMPILED BY KIRSTEN JONES



1 People Will Always Need Plates coal mine platter, £80, Unique & Unity 2 Florentine indigo plate, £110, Wedgwood 3 Seletti Hybrid Ipazia dinner plate, £46, Amara 4 Royal Albert Polka Rose vintage plate, £18, Occa-Home 5 Suns dinner plate, £9.99, Zara Home $\bf 6$ Oak & Acorn dinner plate by Donna Wilson, £27, SMUG $\bf 7$ PiP royal pasta plate, £15, Pip Studio 8 Audun promenade salad plate, £30.95, Villeroy & Boch 9 Royal Doulton Fable Tree dessert plate, £7, John Lewis

FOR STOCKISTS, SEE PAGE 154

Secut







hen it comes to planning a new kitchen we spend so much time thinking about the cabinetry, appliances and worktops that the seating can often be an afterthought. Peter Humphrey, founder and design director at Humphrey Munson Kitchens, says that it's a good idea to decide on kitchen seating at the same time as the units, particularly islands in an open-plan scheme. 'Typically, island units range from 910mm to 920mm in height,' he says, 'so if you factor in the height of the seating, you can ensure they are the perfect fit. Seating of an incorrect size around an island will render the space unusable, as the island will be either too high or too low to be comfortable.'

Islands are the hub of any kitchen, providing a central role in everything from food prep to using laptops and other wireless technology, organising paperwork, catching up with friends over coffee and keeping an eye on children doing their homework. 'The recent trend in kitchen seating has seen a move away from backless stools to those featuring a back, however high or low, to provide additional support,' adds Peter. 'These can still be tucked in underneath the island when not in use, so extra space is not required. These sturdier options also provide added back support for younger or older members of the household.'

Some of these new designs include stools covered in a woven twisted paper - an innovative take on a natural rattan finish from Lloyd Loom. The Athene stools are available in any Farrow & Ball colour, making it easy to incorporate into your chosen colour scheme. They are also easy to clean, which is always a key factor when it comes to kitchens.

'I have seen more of a demand for natural products,' confirms Julia Brown, senior designer at Mowlem & Co. 'Limed rustic oak, distressed timber and a neutral palette of stained oak are always popular.'

Jonathan Stewart, owner of Wharfside, agrees. 'I always go for wood,' he says. 'Light wood, dark wood, but always natural and always hard woods. Mix them with glass, steel, marble or Corian and quartz. Choose light woods when the room is small and tough coverings for the seats.'

If you don't have enough space for an island, there are plenty of other options to choose from, ranging from fixed window seats and a couple of stools beneath a peninsular to benches, banquette and booths. For more formal dining, opt for a large dining table and chairs and, if space allows, finish with a sofa for relaxing with the family. *eKBB*

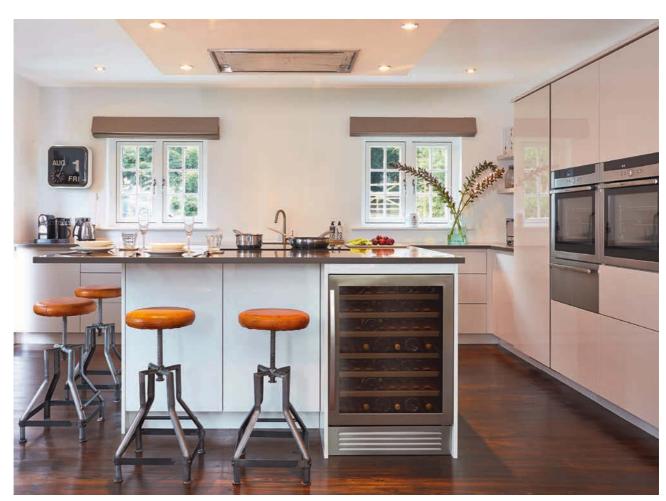
ESSENTIAL **seating**

LEATHER LOOK

Right Create a vintage feel with leather-topped bar stools from Rockett St George, priced at £120 each. Their adjustable height makes them ideal for all ages. The bespoke high gloss kitchen is designed by Barnes of Ashburton, where prices start from £25,000

BENCH STYLE

Below This oak and matt lacquer kitchen from Mowlem & Co, priced from £30,000, includes a built-in dining booth big enough for a large family. The fixed bench seat is made from tulipwood and hand-painted in Farrow & Ball's Bone with Taupe vinyl cushioning. The bespoke bench and table are made from European Oak









PARTY PLANNING

Left Place Neptune's Limehouse Buckland bench against a flat wall or in a corner to create a sociable dining area ideal for entertaining. Priced at £1,720, it can be teamed with the matching Limehouse kitchen collection for a co-ordinated look. The Montague Lloyd Loom chairs are £195

PRETTY IN PINK

Below This in-frame Original Artisan kitchen, from £17,500 at John Lewis of Hungerford, features an island with sink and tap on one side and small booth on the other. Add a circular table and extra chairs for family mealtimes

'Multiple seating arrangements offer maximum flexibility, creating opportunities for everyone to be together as a family, even when doing different activities'







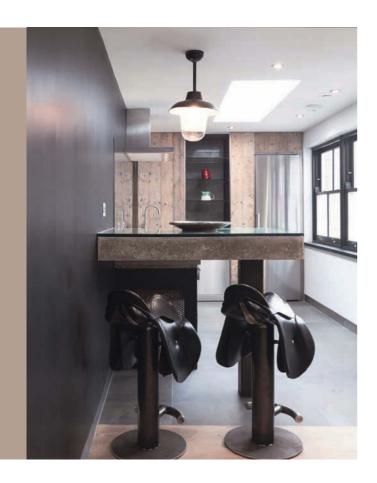
ELEGANT TOUCH

Above The Second Nature Broadoak Almond painted kitchen, from £20,000, features a multi-functional island with lower level banquet seating. You can find similar chairs from Made.com where the Flynn range is £99

ROOM WITH A VIEW

Left deVOL's handmade window seats can be created for any window, in any size and painted in the colour of your choice. An added benefit is that the seat lid lifts up, providing extra storage. Prices start from around £1,800

- If you're having a custom-made kitchen, it's best to create your seating at the same time, as your cabinetmaker can design something perfectly suited to your needs. This way it will also coordinate with the rest of the kitchen for a finished look.
- Banquettes are currently popular and are an excellent space saver, as generally you won't need as much room to accommodate them as you would a separate dining table and chairs. A bespoke design can ensure continuity between the cooking and eating areas and can be upholstered to match other furnishings. Ask your designer to include storage beneath the seats to add even more value.
- Another option is to have an island unit with raised breakfast bar, which is great for hiding cooking prep and clutter from guests seated on the other side. Consider using different levels or heights of worktop, and mix materials to add further interest and texture.
- Some bespoke manufacturers also offer to design and make matching dining tables and chairs as well as sideboards and entertainment units, which are ideal for uniting a large open-plan space.
- Your kitchen designer can advise you on everything from style, size and shape, to which surfaces and finishes are low maintenance and easy to care for. Families may prefer something that's quick and easy to clean while those who entertain a lot may look for additional comfort.
- If you are adding upholstery, cushions or seat pads, consider using the same pattern, print or colour for window dressings to create a fully coordinated scheme. Alternatively, stick to varying tones of the same colour for a more cohesive finish.





DESIGNER, HARVEY JONES

What are the most popular kitchen seating options now and why?

Creating seating within an island space is proving to be very popular at the moment. It provides somewhere to eat in a hurry but is also a sociable option. Bench seating is also on trend, as it not only gives wow factor but can be cleverly designed into an island section.

What's best for each extreme - a small space and also a large kitchen?

A breakfast bar, which also has the versatility to be used as an extra work surface, is ideal for smaller kitchen spaces but also works well in larger areas. However, the current trend for bench seating tends to require

a larger surface area to be successful in making a statement, as well as being comfortable.

Is formal seating coming back into fashion or is casual the way to go?

If you have enough space in your kitchen then the current trend is to have both casual and formal seating. This means that you can have your guests nearby while you cook in the more casual setting, but it also creates an area for a more formal gathering. If you have a separate zone for seating, and perhaps are enjoying a more formal dinner, getting the lighting right within the kitchen can mean that the work area becomes a subtle feature in the background.



'Creating seating within an island is proving to be very popular at the moment. It provides somewhere to eat but is also a very sociable option'

SADDLE UP

Above The bespoke Saddle chair is the first piece of furniture created by Cubic Studios, a Notting Hillbased architecture and design group. Priced at £900 each, the saddle perfectly supports the body when seated

SURFACE VALUE

Right Use a peninsular as a handy breakfast bar or even a home office if space is tight. New York bar stools in white, black, taupe or coffee are priced at £521 each at Calligaris





ESSENTIAL seating



INDUSTRIAL EDGE

Above The Nox extending dining table by Team 7 is shown here in walnut but is also available in oak, beech, cherry and maple. With a palladium gloss chrome-plated steel frame, it's priced £9,780 at Wharfside. The matching bench costs £4,350

OLD SCHOOL

Below A traditional wooden table and bench set is great both for families and for casual dining with friends. It is the perfect sociable seating as there's always room for one more. Reclaimed timber dining table and benches, £5,800 from Cue & Co of London

SEATING STYLES

- Before you buy, consider the layout of the kitchen and the lifestyle of you and your family. Multiple arrangements offer maximum flexibility, creating many opportunities for everyone to be together as a family, even when doing different activities. A breakfast bar is ideal for guests to sit and chat while you get on with the cooking or for children to sit and do their homework. The ideal mix would be bar stools around an island, a separate dining table and a couple of comfy armchairs.
- To make the most of a limited space, opt for a small dining table or booth seating attached to an island unit. Bespoke designs can be tailored to suit the room dimensions. Alternatively, choose a drop-leaf dining table or a simple bistro table and chair set.
- Window seats and tables with benches are good for long, narrow kitchens. Their linear look draws the eye towards the end of a room, making it appear larger.
- Think carefully about the practicality as well as looks. It's all very well having ultra stylish seating but it's no good if it's not comfortable to sit on. Try before you buy wherever possible. If you do need some extra comfort, cushions and seat pads can soften seats up in an instant.
- Make sure the seating complements your kitchen scheme. Contemporary settings suit stainless steel, chrome and crisp white bar stools while a rustic look is ideal for wooden or black metal designs. Go for wicker, rattan or an upholstered seat in a more classic kitchen.







When did you decide you wanted to get into design? I grew up in a very creative environment as my parents are both architects. I spent my free time out in the garden with my siblings; we built tree houses and made sculptures with whatever we could get hold of. We'd often spend days laying out paper in the courtvard to create larger than life. abstract Jackson Pollock-style paintings in the hope that our father would hang them next to his prized art collection.

Where do you look for inspiration?

Firstly, people and places around me but secondly I'd say problems inspire me. They encourage me to try and think of new ideas. I feel that this is part of a designer's job, to work out solutions to a constantly changing lifestyle that creates new requirements. What do you always hope to achieve every time you set your mind to a new design?

I guess I always try to achieve something unusual and intriguing; something that is visually stimulating but also functional and challenges the user to rethink the traditional idea of a piece of furniture.

Tell us about your studio workshop.

My studio is in East London and only a five-minute cycle ride away from where I live. The space is a shared workshop where I work with four other designers and cabinet makers. We get a lot of energy and positivity from working alongside each other. Whenever there is a problem we try to help each other out as much as possible. I really believe that the key to a good studio environment is to never take yourself too seriously, and to always try to have fun in what you're doing.

TOP The Wander lamps, £800 each, can be used indoors as well as in the garden. They are made using leather and concrete and have different options so you can adjust the light condition as you need, from soft and ambient to more intense task lighting for reading

MIDDLE A mirror is the main feature of the Sunrise table, £2,720. and what makes it intriguing is that you can roll the mirror from side-to-side or pull it out to hang it on the wall. This interaction adds subtle interest to the minimalist design





I always try to achieve something that's intriguing and visually stimulating but also functional too'

Can you describe your work in a sentence? My company EKDESIGN aims to create contemporary objects with a sculptural simplicity by merging craft techniques with advanced technology.

What's interesting about using different mediums and textures?

Rather than the material itself, I'm more interested in developing new techniques and also understanding its behaviour in certain environments. There are so many exciting materials out there and each one has manifold facets.

Where do you source these materials from and why? I try to source locally: most materials I use are from the UK. I recently also started to work together with specialist craftsmen in the UK, such as Leigh Cameron who makes the lightweight concrete housing for the Wander lamp and Nomadic light.

Why have you chosen to use concrete for a few of your designs and what makes it a good material to work with?

Concrete is actually a rather difficult material to work with. It reacts to its surroundings such as humidity, heat or cold. Interestingly, when you produce a piece of concrete, 90 per cent of the making process doesn't involve working with the material itself. A good piece of concrete work is all in the perfection of the cast. The concrete is poured in the cast at the end and then left to dry. A really good cast means the concrete should only need some final polishing.

What is your favourite part of your job? In general, I'd say I most enjoy the making part. I love being in the workshop and creating new work. Exhibiting my work at trade fairs is also always very rewarding, it is the best way of making sure you're on the right path by getting direct feedback from customers.

Can you tell us what you're currently working on and how it's progressing?

I'm currently just in the beginning stages of working with stone - it's very exciting to work with. Although, to completely understand a material it can take years of working with it. I would be interested in perhaps creating my own materials in the future, but we'll see when I will find time for something like that.

Can you tell us something about you or your work that we'd be surprised to know? Customers often wonder where I get my work produced and they're usually quite surprised when I tell them that I still make most of my leather work at home in my own kitchen. The process of boiling leather is very smelly... I wait until everybody has left the house then I go down into the kitchen and start 'cooking' some leatherwork.

What do you have planned for the rest of 2015? I'm working on a few secret pieces that I'm planning to launch during Milan Design Week in April. Keep a look out for any hot-off-the-press news which will be announced on my website first. **EKBB** katharinaeisenkoeck.com

BELOW The lightweight Concrete bowls are durable and have a smooth surface texture which is made through a specific polishing technique. A single bowl is £72 or you can choose a set of two for £140

BOTTOM The handmade Stacking candles with leather handles are an example of how Katharina always thinks about how we use and work with everyday objects. Prices from £48



Katharina Eisenkoeck

Katharina began her career at the Art and Design School Ortwein in Graz, Austria. She studied architecture at the Technical University in Vienna and a year later completed her Bachelor at Central Saint Martins College in BA Arts Design and Environment in London. In 2011 she set up her studio while finishing her Masters degree at Camberwell College of Arts, graduating in 2012.



Please see website for full terms and conditions







TECHNOLOGY

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR HOME WITH THE LATEST INNOVATIONS

COMPILED BY LUCY MACDONALD

Small but **POWERFUL**

Take the chore out of doing the vacuuming with the Samsung POWERbot VR9000. This robot vacuum has a Digital Inverter Motor which makes the suction up to 60 times more powerful than other similar models

on the market, as well as a Visionary Mapping™ Plus System, which creates a complete map of the home to calculate the most efficient cleaning path. Priced around £700 from John Lewis. samsung.com/uk.







ON THE SHELF

New from CDA is the unique 3B10BL glass shelf extractor design. Perfectly suited to a more contemporary kitchen scheme, this model features four different speed settings, an extraction rate of 586m³/h, noise level rating of 65dB and is ideal for ducted and recirculating installation. Priced at around £595. cda.eu.



Rising heat

Frontline Bathrooms has added to its 2015 collection with the Warmup 4iE thermostat. It's able to adjust its settings based on the temperature outside, give you travel and weather updates and even provide energy saving advice which can help reduce your bills. As it can be controlled using a smartphone or tablet you also have the freedom to adjust it wherever you are. The Warmup 4iE WIFI Controller in Onux Black is £195. frontlinebathrooms.co.uk.



ALL-IN-ONE COOKING

Keep control over your cooking with the new multi-functional AKZM 8790/IX induction oven from Whirlpool. The 6th Sense® technology monitors and adapts the process as needed, resulting in more efficient baking, roasting and grilling functions. It also uses induction technology (which is based on magnetic field generation through a shelf in the oven) but can also be a conventional oven if needs be. It has a 73-litre capacity and is priced at £999. whirlpool.co.uk.

Caffeine Fix

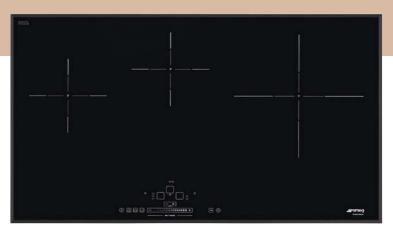
Nespresso and KitchenAid have joined forces to create a brand-new espresso machine. With a powerful 19-bar pressure pump it ensures that the maximum amount of flavour is extracted from the coffee, and the 1.4-litre water tank is easy to fill and keep clean. Available from John Lewis and priced at £309 for the non-milk version and £349 for the milk version with Aeroccino. kitchenaid.co.uk.



Smart sounds

Be blown away by the BeoSound Moment intelligent wireless music system from Bang & Olufsen. The smart PatternPlay feature adapts to your listening patterns and suggests music or radio shows that fit with the relevant day of the week and the time of day. The MoodWheel function also finds the perfect song to match your mood – a single touch on the multicoloured MoodWheel activates a playlist defined by your finger's position on the wheel. Connect to some speakers and you're away. Priced at £1,795. bang-olufsen.com.





IN THE ZONE

Smeg has unveiled its latest induction hob - the SIH5935B Slider Touch Control. This 90cm hob has three full power induction zones, which handily all have their own individual timers. Other useful functions include auto boiling, simmering, and a melting/low temperature cooking feature which is ideal for melting chocolate or butter, as well as just keeping food warm. There are nine power levels with quick settings and three independent boosters that allow each zone to work at full power when intense heat is required. Priced at £869. smeguk.com

BAKE AWAY

Rangemaster has released it's new cooker, the Nexus Induction, which is available in both 90cm and 110cm versions. The 90cm (pictured) has five burners and a whole host of conventional oven functions. The 110cm model also features a proving drawer, ideal for the budding baker. It comes in a choice of black, stainless steel, white (shown) and slate colours. It's from £2,474. rangemaster.co.uk.



MY FAVOURITE KITCHEN APPLIANCE

ames

Well-known TV chef James Martin chats about his latest cookery book, go-to comfort food and his favourite recipe-testing kitchen appliance

FEATURE LUCY MACDONALD

You've got a new cookery book out called 'Home Comforts' - what's the inspiration behind it? The book comes off the back of the TV show, and the first series went extremely well, so because of that we then did a second series, which we filmed in the summer of last year. The book was shot in my house, in the same place as the TV show, so it all connects together. The important thing was that the book was accessible for everybody, it's not something where I'm putting in guava berries from some random place on the internet! It's all stuff that I like to cook at home and it is hopefully full of recipes that people would like to cook at home themselves, which I think is why the TV series proved to be such a success in the first place.

Out of all the recipes in your book, what would you recommend for a dinner party? There's a quick smoked salmon recipe which is really nice with cucumber, also ribs in BBQ sauce, pavlovas... There's lots of different recipes for all dinner party occasions including summer and family celebrations - you can pick and choose.

What's your favourite comfort food when you're cooking for yourself at home? I use chicken quite a lot – stews, pot roasted chicken and that sort of thing, you just can't beat it in my opinion.

What ingredient have you been you using the most recently? I would say more than anything it has been game as we used so much of it at the restaurant during the winter season, like pheasant, partridge, grouse and lamb. I know that people think lamb is for in the spring, but it's

at its cheapest during the winter, as the lamb farmers have been really struggling to sell it. I've been cooking with lamb a lot.

What is your favourite appliance to use in the kitchen? I have got the Pacojet appliance, which is the one that I use more than anything. We already had one at the restaurant so I've now bought one for myself at home so I can use it to practice recipes for the restaurant. It makes amazing pâtés, as well as ice creams. You do need to know what you're doing, but once you have it the Pacojet makes the best ice cream that money can buy.

You've released cookery books, had your own TV shows, owned a restaurant - what has been the most rewarding project you have worked on in your career so far? Honestly it would be a BBC1 programme that was on in December last year called 'Meet The Street'. It was a totally different thing for me as it was nothing to do with food - it brings up issues such as loneliness, isolation and suicide. I think it is the best thing that I have ever done. Documentary programmes should be inspiring and make people think - I would say that making this show changed the way I am as a person.

Have you got any exciting projects or news coming up this year? I've got a new venture in March on a big cruise ship called Britannia, and I also have a new restaurant opening up at Stansted airport, which will be a massive fast food takeaway outlet. Last year was a busy one for me and I worked basically seven days a week, so for 2015 my aim is to try and have a day off every now and then! **EKBB**

CLASSIC COOKING Create a dessert packed with flavour with this passion fruit crème with coconut and cherry biscotti (below left). Images from 'Home Comforts' by James Martin, Quadrille, £20. Photographer: Yuki Sugiura

MEAT-FREE MEALS Try something a bit different with this salt crust dough-baked celeriac with crème fraîche and chive dressing (bottom right)

MIX IT UP The Pacojet food processor allows you to 'micropurée' fresh. frozen food into amazing mousses, ice creams and sauces. The P1140002 Pacojet 2 System is priced at £3,882 for the machine and accessories







James Martin

Starting his training at the Scarborough Technical College, James went on to be head chef of the then just-opened Hotel and Bistro du Vin in Winchester at just 22. Two years later he began his career in TV with appearances on both The Big Breakfast and Ready Steady Cook. He has gone on to present several of his own shows including the popular BBC show Saturday Kitchen. He has also released numerous cookery books and has opened three of his own restaurants around the UK.





'It has been the best thing I have ever done. I would say that making this show changed the way I am as a person'







THE FUTURE OF KITCHENS IS HERE, WITH THE LATEST INNOVATIONS FEATURING SPACE-SAVING ELEMENTS, FULL AUTOMATION AND CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY

FEATURE LUCY MACDONALD

SLIDE AND HIDE

The stunning ON-OFF kitchen by Boffi allows you to keep the worktop area concealed when not in use to maintain a minimalist effect. Upward folding doors open as if by magic using the electronic controls, which also feature safety functions. This kitchen comes in black Lasermat – a nanotechnological matt soft-touch surface – but is also available in Ecolak, wood or Silcover. Prices start from around £48,000

ESSENTIAL innovations



hen it comes to our homes the kitchen really is the central hub - it's the place for cooking, entertaining and spending time with friends and family. So it's no wonder that with all the current developments in technology that the future of kitchens is looking bright. Companies are pushing the boundaries with the latest ideas and innovations, and bringing forward-thinking designs to the market that are more customisable to your needs than ever before.

Take Evolution from Gamadecor. It is a compressed cube-shaped design that aims to save space when not in use but, at the simple touch of a button can slide out to a full-length fully equipped kitchen. Or there's the S1 from SieMatic which incorporates all the gadgetry you could ever want so you can control the appliances, lighting and even sound systems all from one source. With new innovations making their way onto the market all the time, the sky really is the limit when it comes to creating your dream kitchen. Read on to see the possibilities with our round-up of some the most amazing new designs. \mathcal{CKBB}



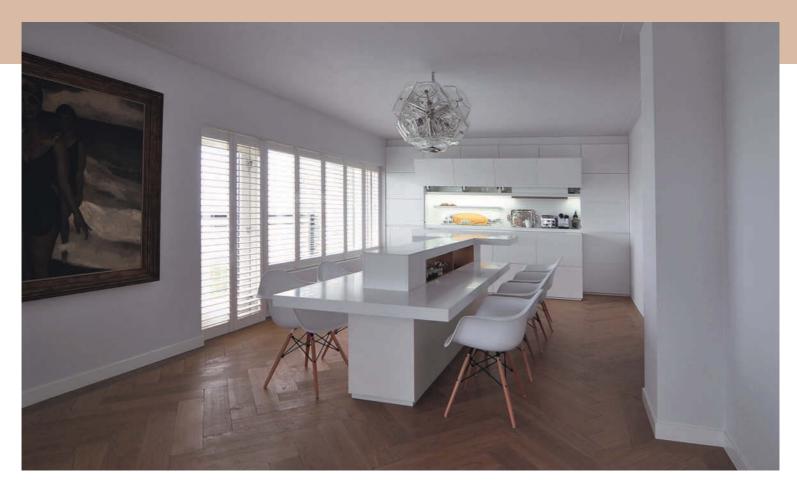
ELEGANT DESIGN

The product of a collaboration between Georgio Armani and Dada is the sleek Slide kitchen. It's made from panelling in Sassafras wood and a marble worktop, which glides open using a horizontal sliding mechanism to reveal a thick stainless steel work area, complete with hob, sink and cutting board. The concept also includes wall units with sliding electric doors which keeps the oven out of view until needed. Price on application





The compact cube-shaped design conceals the appliances within, and then at the touch of a button it activates two mechanisms driven by an electric motor and slides out to become a fully equipped kitchen. The white worktop is made from Krion® and the wood used is hand-crafted natural striped oak veneer. Price on application



HIDDEN TREASURE

The Wall design from Miyo Studio is a fully functional kitchen where by pushing a switch - which can be done manually or remotely - the kitchen unit *(pictured* background) slides out from the wall and the fronts above the worktop open up to reveal the full work area, complete with sink and appliances. Whatever the kitchen scheme, the Wall can be customised to suit your needs, as you can choose the materials and the size. Priced from around £29,000, excluding appliances 'The Evolution kitchen is designed to occupy the least amount of space and to bring great aesthetic quality when not in use. At the push of a button it becomes a kitchen with all the features in an optimum workspace'

Javier Bastán, from Gamadecor, part of the Porcelanosa Group

ON THE MOVE

The Silent Move kitchen by Neil Lemer is a hi-tech island unit. It can be used as a standalone island and workspace, but with a slight push of the hand the work surface converts into a more complete kitchen, revealing a sink, tap and induction hob underneath. The 12cm thick worktop is clad in composite stone and comes in a choice of 10 different colours. Priced from around £20,000





TAILOR-MADE TECHNOLOGY

SieMatic is able to provide hi-tech bespoke kitchen designs complete with integrated audio, video and internet functionality. Pictured is the S1, which features a built-in screen placed into the splashback which can be used as a TV or computer, as well as the S1 SmartBoard strip which lets you control all the electronic gadgets in the kitchen including the appliances, lighting and sound. Priced from £50,000

FLEXIBLE LIVING

The AdaptLiving concept is the result of a collaboration between the Poliform Group and the SkillPoint Health Care Design Centre at Politecnico di Milano University. Created using HI-MACS® Alpine White material, it's designed with wheelchair users in mind, and is a height-adjustable, multi-functional island divided into two work areas for increased flexibility. Operated using the APPCore™ system, developed by Tazzari Design, it's activated using a double touch slider and controls the flow and temperature of the water in the sink, while six LEDs in different colours tell you variations in temperature. Price on application









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Bathroom News

The latest launches and our favourite bathing beauties

WRITTEN BY KIRSTEN JONES



LOOK EAST

Mandarin Stone has introduced a shapely addition to their decorative tile range. Casablanca is based on traditional encaustic designs in square and hexagon forms. 12 designs pair with base shade tiles and are available in monochrome and terracotta colourways. Patterned tiles cost from £40.80 per sq. m. mandarinstone.com.



a tiled limestone enclosure and priced from £2,394 each, the showers are a complement to the cast iron,

hand-painted Spey bath, from £3,570, and mixer, from £1,434.

drummonds-uk.com.



REFLECTION

Store your accessories in style and keep your appearance in check with the Memoria mirror range from VitrA. Designed by Christophe Pillet, the mirrors boast a sleek exterior. There are two models with different mirrors and a choice of external trim in chestnut, metallic grey or metallic mocha. The Memoria illuminated mirror cabinet with sliding door is priced from £1,434. vitra.co.uk.



Vipp's new bathroom range provides all the essentials for you to wash, clean and dry. Items include the Vipp441 sectioned laundry basket with perforated lid, £359; Vipp9 soap dispenser, £85; Vipp109 organic towels, £85 for a box of four; and the Vipp982 bathroom module with integrated sink, Vipp tap and three drawers, from £3,195. vipp.com.

SET IN STONE

If you're looking for a contemporary basin with statement features, look no further than the Modern basin from Lapicida. The stone specialist has achieved a refined and distinctly architectural design, hand-carved in limestone with a matt, honed finish. It's available in two natural colours, grey and white, and bespoke designs can be made in other stone and semi-precious materials. The Modern basin costs £594. lapicida.com.



APRIL SHOWER

Add a traditional element to the bathroom with the new Henley showering range from Roper Rhodes. Boasting a number of practical features, the two models, exposed and concealed, operate on a minimum pressure of 0.5bar and have additional single function brass handsets. The SVSET52 Henley dual-function concealed diverter shower system pictured is priced from around £500, while the SVSET50 exposed model starts at around £550. roperrhodes.co.uk.



Crystal CLEAR

Decorate your basin with the award-winning Axor Starck V mixer tap from premium bathroom brand Hansgrohe. Formed from organic crystal glass, it features an open, rotatable and detatchable spout and a water-saving flow rate of four litres per minute. Prices from £1,080. hansgrohe.co.uk.

Elegant combination

C.P. Hart has introduced a new and exciting addition to its contemporary bathroom collection, providing a touch of elegance to minimal, clean-lined design. Available in an oak or white finish, Artelinea's I Borgia innovative furniture combines old-world craftsmanship with modern taste to achieve a fresh take on classic styles. The Artelinea IBorgia furniture collection is priced from £3,861. *cphart.co.uk*.

INTERIOR DESIGNER

Bathroom

Internationally renowned designer Tony Chi creates opulence and luxury in this lavish private suite at London's Rosewood hotel

PICTURES GARETH GARDNER | WORDS AMELIA THORPE

s the traffic zooms by in busy Holborn, grand gates swing open to a little piece of calm: the Rosewood London hotel. Built as the headquarters of the Pearl Assurance Company, the Grade II building dates back to 1914, and still features a magnificent Pavonazzo marble staircase which rises up through all seven storeys of the hotel beneath its 166ft cupola.

The entire building has been recently refurbished by internationally renowned designer Tony Chi and Associates to become this luxurious hotel. It is the only hotel wing in the world to have its own postcode and and nestled here is the Manor House suite, a private sanctuary including sitting room, dining room, library, master bedroom and Italian marble bathroom.

'The Edwardian architecture of the building is stunning and dramatic and we wanted to mirror that throughout the interiors,' explains Tony. The drama of this bathroom is first evident from the master bedroom, which reveals a glimpse of the grand Calacatta Oro marble bath, taking centre stage.

Marble steps lead into a black lacquer and mirrorclad entrance and to the sanctuary beyond. 'The bathroom reflects the identity of the building,' he says. 'I like to bring a sense of design that is also 'invisible' and subconscious - what you feel and sense - to deepen your experience of the space,' he says.

It's true: within the quiet of these gently lit, marbleclad walls, the mood is luxuriously peaceful and the roar of London traffic a million miles away. **CKBB**



Tony Chi TONY CHI & **ASSOCIATES** Head of his New Yorkbased interior design practice, Tony Chi has an internationally outstanding reputation for the elegance and sophistication of his hotel and restaurant interiors around

the globe. tonychi.com





PROJECT DETAILS

MARBLE BATH Similar bespoke Calacatta Oro from £28,104, Calacatta MARBLE WALL AND FLOOR CLADDING from £564 per sq. m VANITY CHESTS Similar bespoke marble-clad from Simon Orrell Designs DRAWERS in shagreen, priced to order, De Ferranti BASINS Normandy Octagonal in hammered copper with polished nickel finish, £3,710 each, Waterworks SHOWER MIXER BL1144 Classic black lever bath with standpipes, from £1,217; BASIN MIXER BL 1220 Classic black lever three-hole, from £384 each; THERMOSTATIC VALVE BL 8801 Archipelago and black lever flow control, from £800; BLACK HANDSET BK 1727 Classic RAIL AND HOSE from £292; SHOWER ROSE LB 1774 Classic 8" from £244; PAPER HOLDER LB4945 Edwardian dog bone from £86, all by Lefroy Brooks from Original Bathrooms WASHLET Neorest LE including installation frame, remote control and flush push plate, £9,142, Toto DOOR PANELS Verre églomisé priced to order, Lisa Stimpson WALL PANELS finished in black lacquer were produced by the hotel construction company. Try a local joinery company for similar FLOOR TILES Similar Carrara honed marble hexagon mosaic, £166 per sq. m, Mandarin Stone WALL LIGHTS from a selection, Chelsom





SWEPT AWAY

Near right A Verre églomsisé door opens to the Toto Neorest washlet, with its sensor-basedl id that opens and closes automatically. It also has a heated seat, and well as remote controlled shower and dryer technology

TOUCH TECHNOLOGY Middle The remote

control panel for the Toto Neorest washlet offers the ultimate in private comfort

IN THE BLACK

Far right Classic fittings by Lefroy Brooks feature black porcelain detailing











It is fun, entertaining, extravagant, luxurious and comforting, all sensed as you wander from room to room'





How did you begin the project? The challenges of Rosewood London were also its advantages. Because of the heritage and history of the

building, there was a great variation in the configuration of the guest rooms and suites. Typically, this would be seen as a great budget and material challenge. However, it was an opportunity to create an enriching experience for guests, unique to Rosewood London, and now each suite has a different design story.

Can you tell us about the design?

The Manor House suite is fun, entertaining, unashamedly extravagant, luxurious and comforting, all sensed as you wander from room to room. Two large feminine stone statues greet

you upon the bathroom entrance, then you step inside for the full decadence of the bathing experience. The bath is the centrepiece, set in front of black lacquer, marble-framed walls, with His and Her dressing chambers on both sides. Two rooms, opposite the dressing chambers, house a private WC and spacious shower. It is the ultimate in luxury living.

And the materials? Each of the materials was chosen for its exquisite craftsmanship, from the marble bath and honed Carrara marble hexagonal mosaic floor to the beaten copper basins, bevelled mirrors and dark shagreen drawers of the His and Her vanity chests. The doors to the private shower and WC rooms are made of Verre églomisé by artist Lisa Stimpson. They add a very beautiful, opulent and elegant finishing touch.



The top ten: Our pick of the hottest new style trends in bathrooms now FEATURE AMELIA THORPE





























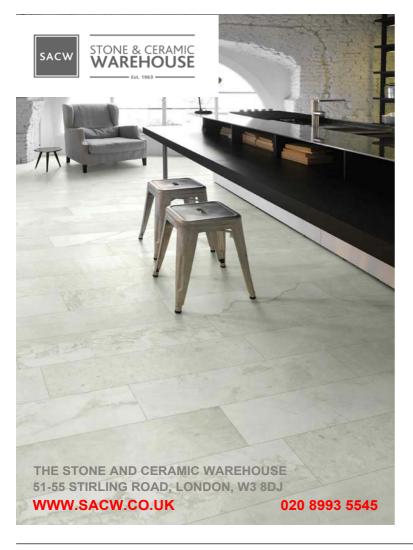
Silver limingsChoose from these chrome accessories to hold, store and dispense

COMPILED BY KIRSTEN JONES



 $\textbf{1} \, \text{MOOD roll holder with cover, from £252, Porcelanosa} \, \textbf{2} \, \text{SELV tumbler holder, from £218 in polished}$ chrome, Dornbracht **3** Media glass tumbler, £36.10, Roper Rhodes **4** Deck-mounted mirror in chrome, from £198, Drummonds $\bf 5$ Wall-mounted shaving mirror, from £306, Perrin $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ Rowe $\bf 6$ Plain and magnifying pivotal mirror, £303, Ripples **7** Nest liquid freestanding soap dispenser, £83, VitrA **8** Gessi Cono freestanding soap dispenser holder, £298, C.P. Hart 9 Ellington wall-mounted soap dispenser, £107, Bagno Design

FOR STOCKISTS, SEE PAGE 154









essential

KII CHEN BATHROOM BEDROOM



Download the new mobile edition of *eKBB* on your iPad, iPhone, Android device, PC, or Kobo eReader!











Bedroom News

The latest launches, trends and inspiring things

WRITTEN BY EMMA FOALE





Reminding us of Modernist art, the Kelim range from Ferm Living features cushions and rugs with bold block colour. The handmade cushions are available in a variety of geometric-style designs. We'd love one of each to scatter over our bed or sofa. The statement semi-circular cushion shown here

MADE IN INDIA

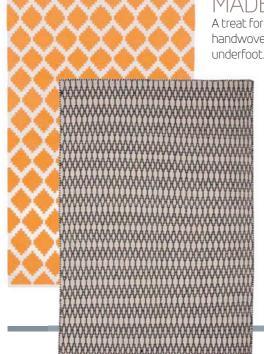
A treat for your feet and your eyes, the new handwoven rugs from Urbanara offer warmth underfoot. They're made in India from 100 per cent

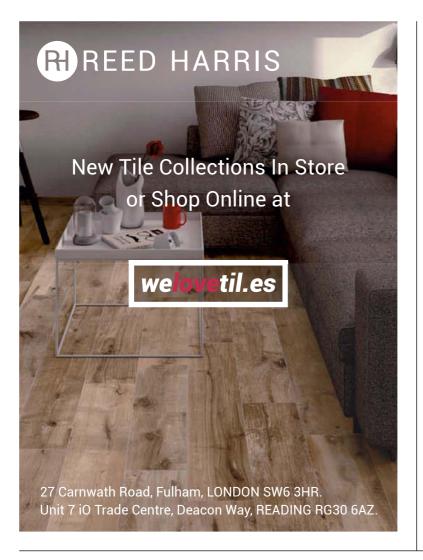
natural materials and we love the simple patterns that will make a talking point for any floor. The Satara rug in Warm Orange is from £169 and the Sisai rug in white and black is from £149. *urbanara.co.uk*.

Let's GET COSY

is from £50. *fermliving.com*.

Make room in your master suite for the 1950s-style Metro sofa – it has deep seats with high arm rests as well as cushions with extra bounce. It's designed and made by Delcor who specialise in British made-to-measure sofas. Priced from £1,384, you can choose from four sizes and 10,000 fabric options.



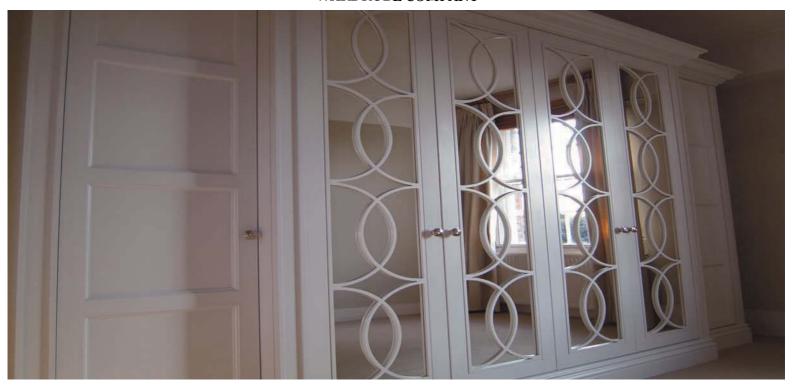




THE

— HERITAGE —

WARDROBE COMPANY

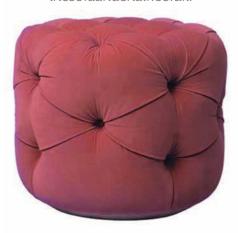


Luxury Crafted Wardrobes - Dressing Rooms - Walk-in Wardrobes

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ColourCONFIDENCE

Taking its cue from the Pantone Colour of the Year for 2015, The Sofa and Chair Company has added Marsala to its fabric colour options. It's a seductively rich shade which creates a confident impact, especially on the Windsor ottoman (shown), £645. thesofaandchair.co.uk.





We're getting a strong Indian summer vibe from the new-season fabric collections from the John Lewis Design Studio. The Fusion range offers an array of patterns from Ikat to zig-zags and a mix of warm and cool colours such as Smoke, Putty, Indian Blue and Claret red. Fabrics are printed in the UK and prices start from £15 per m. *johnlewis.com*.

A DESIGN PIECE

In an exciting collaboration with well-known fashion designer Paul Smith, Joined + Jointed has revealed a limited edition version of its bestselling Willow chair. Upholstered in Paul Smith fabric, it has a comfortable seat woven with dense, semi-lustrous yarns and comes in oak or walnut. From £395 each. joinedandjointed.com.



Bright 10000 In your bedroom the right combination of lighting will create the perfect atmosphere to relax and unwind. Here are some dreamy considerations FEATURE EMMA FOALE 1930s STYLE Use the adjustable arm on the Bestlite BL5 wall-mounted lamp to direct light where you need it for bedtime reading. Shown here in matt white and brass, it's available from around £412 from Gubi 138 ekbbmagazine.co.uk





ENCHANTED DREAMS

The Ivy Shadow wall light in Forest Gold with a semi- cylinder Dune Grass linen shade is priced at £1,108. It has been designed by Tord Boontje for Porta Romana as part of the Enchanted Forest collection



CELL DIVISION

Designer Tom Dixon's Cell wall light is made from etched polished brass. It filters light rays to create intricate shadows on ceilings, walls and floors



DELICATE SHINE

The prismatic glass shade of the Circus wall light refracts light to provide an even, glare-free illumination. It's £105 from Original BTC

ATTRACTIVE DETAILING

Right With a beautiful decorative glass finish, the Medina Smoke antique brass wall light is very opulent. The tassels are exclusively designed in collaboration by leading international furnishing trimmings designer, Wendy Cushing, It's £365 from Heathfield & Co

MODERN CLASSIC

Below The Caravaggio
wall light by Cecilie
Manz is made of steel
and die-cast zinc and
is finished in a stylish
semi-matt lacquer.
You can tilt or rotate it
180 degrees and it emits
a soft, gentle light. It's
£209 from Light Years



'If you do a lot of reading in bed, look for designs which can be angled as you require'



Wall lights

Think of this type of lighting as your bedside companion; it should provide you with the focal light you need to get lost in a good book at the end of the day but not be too harsh so as to be uncomfortable to live with. Co-founder of Skinflint, Sophie Miller explains: 'Wall lights work especially well in a bedroom, particularly when space is at a premium as they eliminate the need for a bedside table or cabinet. Look for designs which can be angled, such as our machinists lights, so you can direct the light. Choosing shades which point downwards rather than uplighters helps create a softer glow, which makes for a far more peaceful atmosphere.' In terms of design there's a lot of choice, whether you want something simple and unfussy or if you want a decorative style that will embellish your bedroom wall.

BOLD AS BRASS

Right You can suspend this sleek light from your ceiling to create direct spotlight where needed. The Cask pendant light in turned brass has a shape inspired by the barreled silhouette of a brewing cask. It's £338 from Bert Frank

MADE BY HAND

Far right Made using handwoven oak, this hanging Swill light is the result of a collaboration between Lorna Singleton, the swiller, and Sebastian Cox, furniture designermaker. They're made to order and prices start from £195 for the trio. You can find them available from The New Craftsmen and Sebastian Cox



Pendants

Pendant lighting is often the most fun to experiment with and there are many different types and styles. Bert Frank founder and head designer Robbie Llewellyn says: 'Use multiple pendants to illuminate specific areas rather than only one main central pendant. This is effective if you're trying to achieve the current trend for zonal lighting. The Cask pendant offers a gentle and warming light ideal for reading in bed and removes the need for bedside table lamps. This method requires some prior planning and thought as these lights will need to be controlled in different areas of the room too, for example light switches by the bed if using bedside pendants.' Depending on whether you go for a glass, metal or wood lampshade, for example, you'll see a variation in the emittance of light and the ambience is creates.



'The current trend for zonal lighting is achieved by using multiple pendants for specific areas rather than one main central pendant'







DESIGN ICON

Right The iconic Gräshoppa lamp was first produced in 1947 and it still holds a place in modern homes. This floor lamp in jet black has a tilted tripod stand in tubular steel and a aluminium conical shade. It's from £579 at Gubi

CONCRETE SOLUTION

Below Embracing an industrial style, the Concrete floor lamps by Dutch designer Renate Vos are from Clippings.com. Concrete is combined with silicone rubber for an interesting fusion of soft and hard. The lamp emits a warm light which will brighten any dark corner. Priced from £150



Floor lights introduce task and mood lighting and make a visual statement all at the same time'



Floor lamps

If you have the space, don't be afraid to go bold with your choice of floor lighting. The interesting trend for natural and mixed materials all over the home has filtered into lighting and we're now seeing designers experiment with materials like concrete, glass and wood as well as metallics.

'As floor lights need no installation they're an easy way to introduce both task and mood lighting into your bedroom and make a visual statement at the same time. Adjustable arm floor lights are great for an empty corner, and can even make dramatic bedside lights. Alternatively, an elegant bone china shade will gently diffuse light to create a soft intimate glow, ideal for creating atmosphere,' advises Peter Bowles, founder and managing director at Original BTC. It's also important to note that before buying or going shopping, it's a good idea to measure your room from floor to ceiling to ensure you get the height just right.

SOFT GLOW

Overlapping tiers of fine bone china are a feature of the Pembridge floor lamp which will allow light to gently diffuse into your room. It's £999 from Original BTC

WARM AMBIENCE

The Louise floor lamp by Tobias Grau features a mouthblown glass shade combined with concrete and polished aluminium. It's £1,250 from Chaplins





Table lamps

Dressing your room involves careful consideration of table lighting. You can rest assured that you'll find something to your taste as there's so many options out there. A lampshade should complement the lamp base and it really comes down to your personal preference whether you choose a more traditional rounded shape base or go for one of the geometric-style designs with a contemporary edge. Design director Donna Gridley from Heathfield & Co says: 'The design of the lamp very much depends on its purpose. If purely decorative, and to create a wow effect, find something that complements and enhances your scheme. The lamp needs to be at a height that allows you to read without being blinded by the glare of the bulb.' Consider the size and scale of your table lamps alongside any other lighting you plan to include and decide on what to make the focal point.



SHORT STATURE

Far left The Dori lamp spreads its light in different directions for a relaxing ambience. A mix of materials, with a marble base and metal diffuser, add to the opulent feel of these lamps. Tommaso Caldera has created this design for Contempo Italia, which costs from £570 and is available from Chaplins

SIMPLE ELEGANCE

Left The Lupin lamp is handblown in blue and grey glass as shown but it's also available in brown. Its name draws on its similarity in shape to the tall flower which also creates a feeling of beauty. It comes with the asymmetric card shade and is priced at f1.512 from Ochre

If your purpose for choosing a light is purely decorative and for a wow effect, find something that complements and enchances your scheme'





LIGHTING DIRECTORY

The next in our collectable directory guides; this month our round-up of companies specialising in lighting









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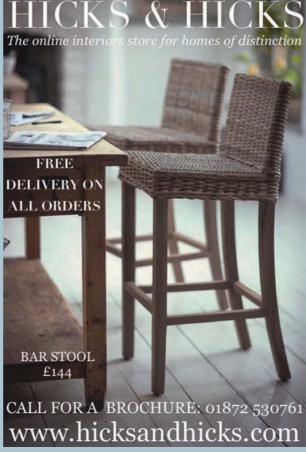
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Interior designer of Firmdale Hotels and mother to three daughters, Kit Kemp tells us all about her signature style and design inspirations

INTERVIEW SUSAN SPRINGATE | PHOTOS COURTESY OF FIRMDALE HOTELS

Self-taught interior designer Kit Kemp started her career with her own graphic design company, Barnacle, before meeting husband Tim and opening their first upmarket hotel, Dorset Square, in 1985. The couple now own a total of eight luxury boutique hotels in London including the Covent Garden Hotel and the Charlotte Street Hotel, while their New York property, the Crosby Street Hotel will be joined by a second on 56th Street later this year. Their most recent project, Ham Yard, opened to much acclaim last year in Soho. Kit has also designed ranges for Chelsea Textiles and Wedgwood. The couple live in a 1920s double-fronted townhouse near Hyde Park and have three grown up daughters.

Tell us about the Ham Yard Hotel. It has been our most ambitious project yet with 91 rooms and suites, 24 apartments, 13 shops, a spa, rooftop garden, theatre and a bowling alley which was imported from Texas. The hotel surrounds a public area where we planted oak trees for greenery, and it also has a 12ft Tony Cragg sculpture. Light and airy, the scale allowed us to create very different styles making it an adventure for all the senses.

What is central to your style?

Comfort, colour and a carefree attitude - there should always be intrigue and fun.

What inspires you most? I love organic pieces and my inspiration will always be nature, but of course travelling ignites the senses for ideas on colour and texture.

Who are your major design influences? I love design. It doesn't matter if it's Egyptian 17th century or John Pawson, if it is well done, I love it. Hopefully you have your own central core and are not too influenced by anybody or anything.

Your own home must be amazing?

Actually, I'm so busy working on our hotels, I never get around to my own house. My house has a bit of a homemade look, which I like. I don't think homes should be too tailored. It's like baking a cake: I don't want it to look like I bought it - I want bits falling off the edge! A home should tell a story about who lives there and that's what my house is like.

Which textiles are you loving right now? I think things are getting slightly more grand and tailored - there's a feeling of luxe at the moment. But that doesn't have to mean everything is gold and the sofa or bedding fabrics are so slippery you fall on the floor. You can use wonderful tailoring and fabrics like boiled wool, which is luxurious without being over the top.

Which up-and-coming artists have really caught your eye lately? Hermione Skye O'Hea. She made beautiful art work for us for the reception at Ham Yard Hotel.

Any tips for dinner parties? Candles. It has to be romantic. If the lights are low, everything looks amazing. At home, if you keep people waiting slightly, they drink a bit more and enjoy the food more! I like meals where you can just pick at things like avocado, tomato, mozzarella, and roasted peppers. Simple is always best.

What is it like working with your

husband? We work quite autonomously. He couldn't bear to have me around all the time. We have the same sort of ideas at the end, but the way we arrive at the end is a different way. We do squabble over design. Now, I know when I can give way. But if you are working on something you are obsessing about, at least there will be a lot of soul. **CKBB** firmdalehotels.com





Above top Each bedroom suite has its own mix of art, pattern and colour Above Floor-to-ceiling Crittal windows let the light flow in to the foyer Below Floral upholstery and quirky wallpaper adorn the library of the hotel. Kit's fabric designs — both silkscreens and digital prints designed for Christopher Farr and embroidered fabrics for Chelsea Textiles – were used for wallcoverings and upholstery throughout. All at the Ham Yard Hotel



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