

Essential

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# KITCHEN BATHROOM BEDROOM

THE ESSENTIAL KITCHEN BATHROOM BEDROOM MAGAZINE **THE UK'S NO.1** £3.75

## ELEGANCE!

REAL-LIFE HOMES FULL OF PURE STYLE

### STAR ATTRACTIONS

- SOPHISTICATED BASEMENT KITCHEN
- BESPOKE HOUSE OF OPULENCE
- NAPOLEONIC FORT IN CHANNEL ISLANDS
- MONDRIAN-INSPIRED KITCHEN
- TWO HOUSES BECOME ONE

34-PAGE SPECIAL  
**THE SHAPE OF  
THINGS TO COME**



**KITCHEN TEXTURES • CHIC BEDHEADS • CITY BATHROOMS • WASHING MACHINES**





Alice wanted to retain her existing kitchen from next door and, with the help of her builder, was able to add on more cabinets in exactly the same shaker style.



garden, whatever the weather. 'I wanted to create a sense of bringing the outdoors in,' she continues, so the exterior is flush with the interior floor – I find even the tiniest of steps creates a barrier – and the glass doors slide away into a pocket in the wall, so that we really do have the greatest sense of space.'

And when it came to the kitchen itself? 'We had only recently put a new kitchen into our original house, so I didn't want to throw it away, especially as it had been done to a high standard,' says Alice. 'The builders were great at preserving all the parts I wanted to keep, and even managed to turn the island around

to suit the new space.' As the original kitchen company had since closed, Alice found a local joiner able to cleverly make some matching cabinets to extend the island, and to add a large solid walnut breakfast bar, making the furniture more in proportion to the size of the newly enlarged room. ➔





Porcelain floor tiles are kept within the kitchen area, while wooden flooring creates a practical divide to distinguish the kitchen from the dining area.



**Above** The large island features a Nero Impala granite worktop which has a honed surface for subtle texture.  
**Right** Stylish hide-covered bar stools make an impact at the informal breakfast bar.

*'I wanted to create a feeling of bringing the outdoors in, so the exterior is flush with the interior floor.'*





*'Pops of bright colour add a cheerful note, and inviting textures, including faux fur throws, are cosy in winter.'*

'I wanted the kitchen to look sleek and modern, but not cold,' says Alice of her choice of a crisply linear design made in rich walnut for warmth and character. The sweep of wall units provides plenty of space for integrated appliances and storage, including a larder cupboard and tambour unit, with pull-down roller shutter to tuck things quickly out of sight. Elsewhere in the room, pops of bright colour add a cheerful note, and inviting textures, including the hide-covered bar chairs and faux fur throws, are cosy in winter.

Although the 'two-into-one' conversion involved a substantial amount of structural work, the family lived in the home throughout, swapping from one side to the other as the work progressed. Despite the size of the project, from the street, it appears as if nothing has changed. 'There are two front doors just as before, so people are always very surprised when they come inside,' says Alice. 'I admit that it was a complete upheaval, but it's been totally worth it to create an ideal family living space – and we didn't have to leave our friends.' ➔

#### STOCKISTS INFORMATION

##### APPLIANCES

Similar appliances: B46C74 single ovens, £1,185 each; C67P70 combination microwave, £1,110; T67F76 gas hob, £903; K4254 integrated fridge freezer, £660; S71M63X1GB integrated dishwashers, £539 each; D89G45 chimney hood, £512; all at Neff; American-style side by side fridge freezer RSH7UNPN, £834, at Samsung.

##### FIXTURES AND FURNISHINGS

Olympus mixer in chrome, £209; Ariane ARX 110-35 undermounted sink, £220; Ariane ARX 110-17 undermounted sink, £170.30; all at Franke; Honed Nero Impala granite worktops, priced to order, at Roma Marble; Similar porcelain floor tiles, Arkesia Grey Polished, from £44 per sq. m, at European Heritage; Driftwood wood flooring, from £216 per sq. m, at Top Floor UK; W/Less bar chairs, £799 each, at The Collection; Similar dining table, chairs and pendant lamps, from a selection, at John Lewis.

\*Prices are approximate.  
For stockists, see page 160.



The colourful seating area provides an inviting space for the family to relax. Phoebe the Burmese cat enjoys some attention from Alice.





The two houses have been imaginatively knocked into one to create the new double-size kitchen-living space.

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