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House Beautiful

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'This vibrant Scandi-style kitchen is ideal for family life'

Clever use of colour and materials has resulted in a welcoming multifunctional room

WORDS CAROLYN BAILEY



A young couple with two children asked kitchen design company Papilio to create a new bespoke space in their Victorian townhouse in Fulham, south-west London. Papilio's MD Matt Prall explains the process



Before

'The space had previously been used as a living room overlooking the garden and hadn't been renovated for some time'



LIGHT AND BRIGHT

The roof lantern has been cleverly positioned over the island

CLASSIC DESIGN

Wishbone-style chairs complement the understated lines throughout the room

What look did you aim to achieve? Our clients' brief was to create a multifunctional space – kitchen, dining and living room, with a dedicated work area – in a Scandi style with a modern twist.

How did you get started?

We always begin by looking at the layout of the room. The architecture of the space is very important in deciding how furniture is laid out, as is the position of the appliances, which is key to establishing how the homeowner works and how the room flows. For this project we worked with the architect to ensure the roof lantern was positioned centrally over the island, but this could only be decided once the exact location of the cabinets had been agreed.

Were there any challenges?

As we were moving the kitchen into a completely different room, there were some structural issues

that impacted on the furniture layout, and we had to accommodate these within the design.

What were the must-haves?

The fact that this is an open-plan space meant that a secret pantry cupboard that can hide away clutter was a key feature. We also incorporated oak slats into the design, which give the walls texture and also help with the acoustics in the room.

Are your clients pleased with the outcome?

Yes, they're very happy with the result. We all felt that a pop of colour was essential for this kitchen; without it the room would have been too muted. And the Rebecca's Red shade on the walls was the perfect choice. Its earthy tones bring out the warmth of the natural oak cabinetry and it teams beautifully with the grey Grigio Di Luna marble worktop and splashback to create a smart, multifunctional space the whole family can enjoy.

THE SOURCEBOOK Kitchen units, wearepapilio.co.uk. Rebecca's Red emulsion, francescaspaint.com.

All-in-One Arc tap, zipwater.co.uk. Dishwasher G 7150 SCVi, fridge-freezer.com KFN 37432 id, microwave.com H7240 BM, oven.com H 7264 BP, warming-drawer.com ESW 7010; all miele.co.uk. Worktop, stoneworld.co.uk. Light fitting, thelightsource.co.uk

NEED TO KNOW

'It's crucial to work out the layout and how the space will be used at the beginning of the process so that everything flows and items are in the most practical position'

COLOUR

An earthy tone works perfectly with the natural finishes and adds a vibrant highlight in the room

STORAGE

A run of shelves above the counter-top is narrow enough to be easily accessed, with decorative items and occasional-use pieces displayed above

NATURAL FINISHES

Cool marble worktops add texture above a slatted wooden island base, while leather-topped bar stools bring a touch of warmth

WHAT IT COST

BESPOKE KITCHEN
INCLUDING DELIVERY
AND INSTALLATION,
FROM £50,000
WORKTOP AND
SPLASHBACK £6,895
TOTAL £56,895