

UTOPIA

LATEST  
TRENDS

# KITCHEN & BATHROOM

LOVES... STYLE | DESIGN | TRENDS

£4.75 MAY 2017

REAL  
HOMES

UTOPIA  
LOVES

GREEN WITH ENVY  
THE PANTONE COLOUR  
OF THE YEAR 2017

# Step into Spring

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# Into the WOODS

For this bespoke kitchen, Rob Landeweerd, designer at Special Umbria had a very specific vision – to keep it as natural as possible, and let the beauty of the natural elements shine through. For this purpose, old pine wood was the perfect selection.

Concrete floors craft a perfect base for the tactile design, while their grey hue is nicely warmed through the depth of brown, bronze and honey tones within the wood.

Arabascato marble and grey Silestone worktops are fitted on the far cabinetry and the island, respectively. The worktops ensure that the raw wood is balanced with both practicality and luxury – hence, the perfectly quirky scheme is suitably stylish and functional.

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Edmondson Interiors 'Egeiro' kitchen employs recycled softwood planks to craft a creative composition which sits as the back of the island and borders the tall cabinetry. This intriguing pattern – that boasts a very rustic, artistic and earthy tone – contrasts against the purer golden hue of the oak wood cabinetry doors and furniture.

director of design company, Special Umbria. A reclaimed wood worktop could absorb stains from cooking, prep, even the accidental rings from a glass. Usually these incidences are considered inconvenient; but imagine the beautiful aged aesthetic these 'stains' will produce when combined with the marks and discolouring gained from its original home. Not only will your worktop exude rustic charm, but it will also tell a story. Though, equally, finding the correct finish for your wooden kitchen is integral; it will affect both the durability of the material and the aesthetic, equally. Opting for a simple, practical and transparent coating will allow the natural knots and graining to show through; giving a gorgeous rough luxe appeal.

Finally, placement (as always) is integral. The difference in aesthetic between a kitchen with a large tree trunk acting as the central island, will differ dramatically from a scheme with reclaimed wood cabinetry and stark surroundings. Also, consider how much light the material will receive – a mass influx of natural light will mean darker wood is an option, but light will also affect how wood wears – years bathed in a mass of sunlight can easily bleach and age the wood.

With a natural material like wood, there are a multitude of practical considerations, but the important thing is not to forget the primary element of these designs: fun! Character, quirkiness and originality are packed into every inch of these spaces.

The softwood planks on this island are each finished in a pale grey stain, which unifies them, to ensure the composition works together as one, rather than appearing too random. Kitchens from £40,000. [edmondsoninteriors.co.uk](http://edmondsoninteriors.co.uk)