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KITCHEN FOCUS

THINKING BIG

By knocking down the wall between his small galley kitchen and dining room, Roda Sulaiman achieved a beautiful cooking and living space

FEATURE MELANIE WHITEHOUSE | PHOTOGRAPHY CHRIS SNOOK



PROJECT DETAILS

OWNER Roda Sulaiman
PROPERTY A mock Tudor detached home in west London
WORK A complete rework internally, including new plumbing and electrics, a rear extension and replacement of the kitchen and bathrooms



Having bought his house in west London in 2018, architect Roda Sulaiman spent a couple of years planning a complete overhaul of the property. Central to the project was the brand-new kitchen and he approached designer Shehryar Khan, owner of Sheraton Interiors, to create a design with plenty of individual character that would be more suitable for him as he is a keen cook and likes to entertain.

THE BRIEF

The ground floor was separated into distinct rooms – kitchen, dining room and living room. Roda was keen to turn the dining room and kitchen – a narrow galley with dated cabinets and appliances – into an open-plan space more suited to 21st-century living. ‘I needed it to be the centrepiece of the house,’ he says. Shehryar explains: ‘The client wanted a modern take on an in-frame Shaker kitchen, with a unique look and feel to it.’

DESIGN SOLUTIONS

Roda wanted to have open shelving to break up the run of continuous units and open up the space. ‘To get the unique colour and give the kitchen a bespoke feel, it was hand-painted on site,’ explains Shehryar. ‘Roda chose a “half pencil and scalloped” kitchen made of alder wood by Sheraton Interiors, because he liked the intricacy of the door beading. We designed a corner larder unit to house the washer dryer as the property doesn’t have a utility room,’ adds Shehryar.

MATERIALS USED

The doors of the cabinets are made in alder wood; the worktops and splashback are in a marble lookalike material called Dekton Bergen, a tough, durable finish with grey veins and a sculptural pattern.

FINISHING TOUCHES

‘We added a solid oak chopping board and serving tray that pull out vertically from the side of a cupboard, and hexagonal handles to the wall units with the motif repeated on the bar handles to give a contemporary look,’ says Shehryar. A waterfall island provides a counter and space for blue velvet bar stools.

LESSONS LEARNED

‘Always ask for samples so you know exactly what you’re getting and are happy with it,’ says Roda. ‘We looked at a lot of colour charts before we found the exact blue we wanted. We love the bespoke nature of our kitchen, with its taller-than-standard units. The quality and attention to detail is excellent, so it will last a long time.’ 25

MODERN TOUCH

The units are a modern take on Shaker style and the cubbyhole shelving adds to the contemporary feel. Bespoke hand-painted Inframe Shaker kitchen, Sheraton Interiors; a similar kitchen would cost £30,000



RICH DETAILING

The blue velvet on the stools ties in with the colour of the units and adds a luxurious touch, as do the glass droplet pendants.

Similar Heather **bar stools**, £129 each, Cult Furniture. Bespoke hand-painted Inframe Shaker **kitchen**, Sheraton Interiors; a similar kitchen would cost £30,000. **Units** in Ammonite and Stiffkey Blue estate eggshell, £70 for 2.5ltr, both Farrow & Ball. **Work surfaces** in Dekton Bergen, price on request, Sheraton Interiors. Slide & Hide **oven**, £699; built-in compact **oven with microwave** function, £1,129, both Neff. 3N1 boiling water **tap** in brushed gold, price on request, InSinkErator. Voronoi **11 pendant lights**, £139.50 each, Tala. Herringbone rustic oak engineered **flooring**, £79.99sq m, UK Flooring Direct, has this look

STREAMLINED FINISH
A waterfall island unit clad in the same marble-effect material as the splashback creates a sleek, seamless look

