

KITCHENS BEDROOMS & BATHROOMS

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MAGAZINE

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How to create **A SUSTAINABLE KITCHEN**

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DRAWING BOARD

Shehryar Khan, owner of Sheraton Interiors, and Chad Cooper, design manager at The Myers Touch, solve a kitchen-diner dilemma in a poorly planned home

Words **Rachel Ogden**

The client

Steph Rowlands, 36, a copy editor, and her husband, Huw Rowlands, 42, a programme manager, moved into their detached 1980s home in Glamorgan at the end of last year. Currently it has a small kitchen with a partially glazed dining and living space, which the couple would like to make more usable.

The space

Steph and Huw are considering demolishing the conservatory and replacing it with a brick-built extension, with skylights, in the same footprint as the current space. They may move the kitchen into the new area or leave it in its current home. Both spaces will retain the same ceiling height of 2.5 metres throughout.

THE WISHLIST

- 1 The couple don't mind the style of their current kitchen units, but don't like the colour, the floor tiles or the dark worktop. They would like a simple design without clashing patterns or textures. Steph loves the idea of deep blue with bronze-coloured handles and fixtures, but is concerned this may feel quite dark.
- 2 Steph and Huw have a compact kitchen next to the dining/living space that is half conservatory, making it too hot in summer and too cold in winter. They would like to swap the space at the back of the house – perhaps putting a utility where the kitchen is now – but are unsure how it could work. They don't want an open-plan design but will consider metal-framed doors to separate the spaces.
- 3 The new kitchen won't be large, but they'd like clever storage, full-height cupboards, a pantry cupboard, more worktop space and an island where guests can sit.
- 4 A full-height fridge-freezer because the current kitchen only has an under-counter fridge (with a freezer in the garage). The couple would also like underfloor heating, if their budget allows for it.

Flute pull handle in antique bronze, £55, Clemo + Finch cleoandfinch.com



Milo pendant in dark bronze, £590, Heathfield & Co heathfield.co.uk

Aurora Calacatta Fiore Hi-Macs worksurface, from £300 per linear metre, Hi-Macs lxhausys.com/uk/himacs

THE MOODBOARD



Newburyport Blue HC 155 eggshell, £37 per 0.94 litres, Benjamin Moore benjaminmoorepaint.co.uk

Thaden bar stool in linen and ebony mango wood, £2,952, Arteriors arteriorshome.com

Solar Pine LVT flooring from the Signature collection, from £75.99 per sq m, Amtico amtico.com

THE BUDGET
£50,000, including installation >



MEET THE DESIGNER

Shehryar Khan is the owner of Sheraton Interiors. He has been designing kitchens for more than 20 years, picking up an award for Kitchen Designer of the Year (for kitchens up to the value of £30k) in the kbbreview Retail & Design Awards 2022, and was a finalist in the Kitchen Designer of the Year (over £50k) kbbreview Retail & Design Awards 2023.

NEED TO KNOW SOURCEBOOK

Design and furniture Sheraton Interiors
sheratoninteriors.co.uk

Worktops Dekton cosentino.com

Appliances Blanco blanco.com; Bora bora.com; Quooker quooker.co.uk;

Siemens siemens-home.bsh-group.com

THE COSTS

Furniture	£26,467.72
Work surfaces	£9,773.14
Appliances, sinks and taps	£9,051.08
Installation	£4,680
TOTAL	£49,971.94

SOLUTION *one*

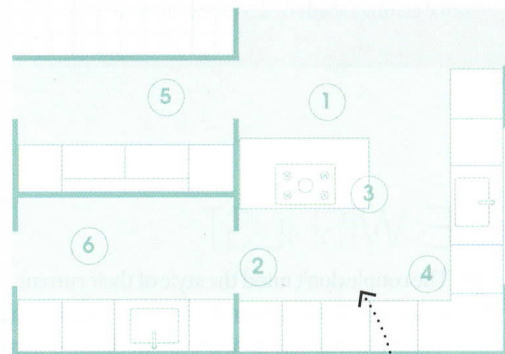
“I felt that the most important issue here was turning the kitchen – a room that felt more like a cramped corridor – into the heart of Steph and Huw’s home. With both of them cooking in tandem, space was limited. Moreover, there wasn’t even an inch for a seating area, let alone a utility.”

The primary challenge I faced was the flow of the house. As the kitchen was inconveniently located in a high-traffic area, it was essential to rethink the entire layout. Fortunately, the couple were enthusiastic about a full-blown transformation and it became clear that replacing the extension with one built of brick was our best bet. The new extension was designed to incorporate a utility space in place of part of the current kitchen and the remaining area repurposed into a boot room, offering storage for everyday essentials and connecting to the hall.

I decided to adopt an L-shaped layout for the new kitchen, optimising both functionality and aesthetics. It houses a pantry, a Siemens single oven, a microwave with a steam function and an integrated fridge-freezer. The counter, with its wraparound 20mm Dekton Awake worktop and matching splashback, complements the modern classic aesthetics.

While it seemed impossible to fit an island in, my design solution was an asymmetrically positioned peninsula that accommodates a recirculating Bora X Pure downdraft hob. The reverse side offers seating, transforming it into a social space, and the worktop continues down to the floor, adding a modern touch to the classic Shaker style.

I selected our Elswick slim, Shaker door in solid ash, painted in Indigo Blue. Although the couple didn’t want glass-fronted units, my decision to incorporate glass cabinets above the tall units was a conscious one: it eliminated the potential blocky feel of a wall of dark cabinetry and added a touch of luxury. All in all, Huw and Steph’s kitchen has been transformed from a passageway into a modern, efficient and inviting space.”



The PLANS

- 1 Kitchen** The proposed layout for the new extension.
- 2 Glass doors** separate the kitchen from the rest of the house, but let light flood through.
- 3 Cooking area** Four spacious pull-outs below the hob can be used for storing heavy dishes.
- 4 Pantry** A beautiful, integrated cupboard sited next to the oven.
- 5 Boot room** Ample storage and bench seating in the new room.
- 6 Utility** Space has been made for a utility room, which was lacking in the house.



Steph's VERDICT:

"This design is stunning. I love the contrast between the light and dark elements – the interior glass doors and window frames are so striking, while the white worktops mean the darker blue for the cupboard doors isn't overpowering. The glass doors on the upper cupboards work so well, too, softening that wall of cupboard units. The layout works beautifully – we would never have thought of putting the peninsula there, but it's great. As with the other design, we love the skylights and the flow between inside and out created by the big windows and the glass wall of the dining space. The utility area ticks so many boxes, as do the glass doors through from the kitchen; they're such a good way of letting in the light, and the new door into the garage will be so convenient. The boot room is exactly what we'd hoped for – the built-in storage is smart and the floor tiles are beautiful. Plus, the pocket door is such a clever solution to maximise the space. We love it!" >