

KITCHENS BEDROOMS & BATHROOMS

FRESH
NEW
LOOK

Perfectly placed

WHICH KITCHEN LAYOUT WORKS FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

All you need to know about kitchen lighting

KNOW HOW

Recreate your favourite hotel bathroom look at home

The latest wine storage solutions

Two designers work up ideas for a reader's new kitchen extension

ON-TREND UPDATE

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statement beds

"We cook every day so wanted the island to be as big as possible."



A dedicated wine room is a real focal point, especially if beautifully lit. This bespoke design by McCarron & Co has solid oak wine racks and drawers, a Sub-Zero wine storage unit (to the left), and a riven slate counter top. Prices start from £25,000.

Focus on Wine storage

The latest wine cabinets and storage solutions are designed to allow you to enjoy your collection whilst keeping bottles in optimum condition

Words: **Amelia Thorpe**

In days gone by, the best way to store wine was in a cellar – thanks to its perfect conditions, with constant temperature and humidity, and the lack of natural light. But today we want to show off our collection, rather than have it hidden from view. Whether you want just a few bottles to hand near the dining table or a more extensive collection to mature and taste in a dedicated wine room, there are plenty of solutions to suit your space, style, and budget.

Temperature-controlled wine cabinets are increasingly popular. They mimic cellar conditions by providing a stable environment, avoiding temperature extremes – wine's main enemy – with minimal vibration. Choose from smaller models, which can be slotted in under worktops, large freestanding designs, and those integrated into cabinetry as part of a cooling wall, usually alongside a fridge and freezer.

Four key factors can affect wine: temperature, vibration, humidity, and UV light. "Top-quality wine cabinets will ensure your wines are kept in tip-top condition by addressing all these factors, not just some," says Sub-Zero & Wolf's Craig Davies.

Models with two or three temperature zones allow you to keep red, white, and sparkling wine on separate shelves at just the right temperature. "Recommendations for optimum temperature vary, but we suggest 15.5 to 18.5°C for red, 10 to 15°C for white, and 7 to 9.5°C for champagne and sparkling wine," says Gaelle Thibaud at Siemens. A cabinet with UV-resistant glass will keep out sunlight and extend a wine's life, while a humidifier is designed to stop corks drying out and air getting in and spoiling the wine.

To store a more extensive collection, you may prefer a room with space for tasting. These are available from specialist suppliers and some kitchen companies who can offer a bespoke service to create a design to suit your requirements. ►



The right way to LIGHT your kitchen

Lighting plays a key role in how you live in and enjoy a space. We've asked six experts for their advice on how to get the best out of your kitchen's lighting scheme

Words: Sally Smith

↑ This Villa Minale kitchen is designed around the Buster and Punch hardware collection. The Caged wall light in a satin black marble, £435, works well with the industrial look. busterandpunch.com



Q “How can a lighting designer help make the most of the kitchen’s lighting, and why is it worth employing one?”



Melanie Shaw
Design director,
Brilliant Lighting
brilliantlighting.co.uk

A “There are a lot of crucial decisions to make, in terms of design and décor, that will impact on the success of your kitchen. Incorporating a comprehensive and well-thought-out lighting scheme is one of the most complex elements to get right. It can be a daunting exercise to choose a system that is going to work for you, especially without fully understanding all the possibilities available in terms of the latest technology. A lighting designer will advise on the ideal light fixtures and fittings that are going to optimise your kitchen and work within your agreed layout in terms of task, accent, and ambient lighting. Work with your kitchen designer to integrate the fittings into the furniture and units for the most discreet look. Remember, the under-shelving, cabinetry, and plinth lighting should always be consistent with the other lighting in the space.”



↑ This lakeside home uses 2700k warm white LED strips above the tall units and underneath the island bar. A similar lighting scheme would cost around £2500 to £3000, with a lighting design fee of around £1500.
cornflake.co.uk



↑ This McCarron & Co (mccarronandco.com) kitchen needed flexible lighting to account for the limited natural light. Contour LED tape by John Cullen Lighting, £117 per m, along the plinth provides a soft floating effect around the island.
johncullenlighting.com

