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FUTURE

JOINED-UP THINKING

Jodie and Peter Lasenby have discovered the art of flow by redesigning their dated kitchen to blend with the neighbouring dining and living spaces

FEATURE KAREN WILSON | PHOTOGRAPHY CHRIS SNOOK



COHESIVE DESIGN

The island and the bar created in the dining area have a similar look for a co-ordinated feel, while most of the appliances are hidden behind cabinetry (right) for a streamlined end result.

Similar bespoke kitchen, from £30,000, Sheraton Interiors. Island painted in Raccoon Fur aura eggshell, £92 for 3.79ltr, Benjamin Moore

PROJECT DETAILS

OWNERS Jodie and Peter Lasenby

HOUSE A five-bedroom detached Georgian-style new build in Buckinghamshire

WORK To replace the dated kitchen with a more practical modern Shaker style, as well as creating a bar and TV unit in the adjoining rooms



After 10 years in their home, Jodie and Peter Lasenby felt the walnut kitchen they'd inherited was in need of modernising. They brought in kitchen designer Mark Hasset of Sheraton Interiors to plan a new space that would suit their family including their two children, George, eight and Chloe, five, and form the hub of their open-plan ground floor.

THE BRIEF

The couple wanted a modern yet homely kitchen that was more in line with the rest of the house. 'Jodie and Peter didn't like the old-fashioned style, and the blue glass doors were all cracked,' says Mark. 'A particular bugbear was the location of the hob at the end of the island as there was no working space around it, and they hated the unsightly cooker hood that was hanging from the ceiling.'

DESIGN SOLUTIONS

Although the new kitchen has a similar layout, a pantry unit has been added with recessed doors and deep drawers beneath. 'This makes things easier to access and gives the tall run of units more character,' says Mark. 'As the space is open plan, a dresser on the sink run hides everyday appliances from view.' A key change was relocating the hob to the middle of the island and adding pan drawers below. 'Now there is more prep space on either side and a better view into the garden while cooking.' The cooker hood was replaced by a sleek Bora downdraught hob, while the existing ovens and fridge were incorporated into the new design.

MATERIALS USED

The couple chose classic Shaker-style cabinetry in tulipwood as it's perfect for a durable smooth painted finish. 'They considered a variety of shades, before finally choosing Benjamin Moore's Raccoon Fur,' says Mark. 'This dark shade of blue worked best combined with Farrow & Ball's Cornforth White on the tall units.' Having previously lived with white stone worktops, Jodie and Peter wanted a material with more character. They chose light quartz with a subtle vein pattern and child-friendly bevelled edges.

FINISHING TOUCHES

Antique brass handles give a timeless yet modern finish, while integrated lighting creates a nice ambience in the evenings. 'The owners chose the pendants as they matched the brass accents in the scheme,' says Mark. 'They're not too bulky, so they don't interfere with the line of sight either.'

LESSONS LEARNT

For anyone planning a new kitchen, Mark advises that the scheme needs to work practically not just aesthetically. 'Allow for ample workspace as well as concealed areas to hide clutter,' he says. 'Also, cater for the way you intend to cook and ensure the appliances work well for you.' Jodie and Peter feel this new kitchen perfectly suits the rest of their home. 'It's really brought the three rooms together and modernised the heart of the house,' says Mark. 25



HUB OF THE HOME

A modern palette, brass accents and light wood flooring create a sense of cohesion within the kitchen and with the adjoining living spaces. Jodie and Peter's favourite feature is the pantry as it provides so much practical storage.

Cabinetry painted in Cornforth White estate eggshell, £67 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball. Artscut Verona quartz **worktop**, £520sq m; Bora Puru hob, £2,616; Caple **wine fridge**, £768; Blanco sink, £576, all Sheraton Interiors. Blanco kitchen **tap**, £210, Building Supplies Online, is similar. Leiston **pendants** in antiqued brass, £188.20 each, Jim Lawrence. Button back stool with studs in Dark Grey, £199, Shakletons, is similar. Try Henderson gold **lantern**, from £50, Olivia's. Natural engineered oak **flooring**, £60sq m, Wood and Beyond, has this look. Similar TV unit (in adjoining room), around £5,000, Sheraton Interiors



NEAT SOLUTION

A bespoke bar area with a wine fridge and mirror splashback provides ample storage for glassware. Similar bar unit, around £3,000; mirror splashback, £680, both Sheraton Interiors. Balmoral round dining table, £2,925, Neptune

