

*essential*

THE UK'S NUMBER 1 SEPTEMBER 2017 £4.25

# KITCHEN

## BATHROOM BEDROOM

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AT HOME

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# TALL STORY

To avoid the need for another and potentially dominant tall unit to house built-in ovens, the couple chose a range cooker with induction hob, flanked by generous amounts of work surface

# PERCH UP

Simple but with a strong visual presence, these About A Stool bar stools are from contemporary Danish furniture brand, Hay

# Pure style

Kirsty and Bryan Mawhinney's new kitchen embraces the light and celebrates clean lines and Scandi-inspired simplicity

PICTURES DARREN CHUNG | WORDS AMELIA THORPE



## EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE

The tall larder cupboard  
(left) houses dry goods,  
while the French door  
fridge-freezer (right)  
stores fresh foods



## FRESH FEEL

A white quartz  
worktop and white  
ceilings enhance  
the light-filled  
atmosphere of  
the room

Forget deadlines and frantic demands, home is where the haven is, according to business entrepreneur Kirsty Mawhinney of the home she shares with software engineer husband, Bryan, and their four-year-old daughter, Ella. 'Work is so busy that we wanted to create a place of calm where we can relax and unwind,' explains Kirsty of the kitchen-dining-living space she and Bryan have created in their Surrey home. The story started when the couple bought the 1930s-built house in 2012. 'It hadn't been touched for 50 years, so it was in a shocking state,' says Kirsty. Even before the ink was dry on the contract to buy, they began planning the renovations, but chose to live in the house before beginning the work. 'I was pregnant with Ella, so we didn't want all the disruption around us with a newborn in the house,' she explains, 'and it also helped us plan carefully what we wanted to achieve.'

Both Kirsty and Bryan grew up in South Africa, so two requirements were top of their list, as Kirsty explains: 'Although we have lived in the UK for 17 years, we still miss the sunshine and wide open spaces, so maximising daylight and creating a spacious feel were very important,' she says. They removed an internal wall between the dated kitchen and dining room and built an extension across the rear of the house, adding floor-to-ceiling sliding glazed doors and a series of skylights so that the newly enlarged room is bathed in natural light.

They chose Higham Furniture to design and make the kitchen after meeting owner and head designer Tim Higham and visiting the Portsmouth workshop. 'We were so impressed with the craftsmanship and incredible attention to detail,' recalls Kirsty. She and Bryan chose clean-lined furniture, painted in soft grey to create a calm, uncluttered space, combined with matt white worktops and light wood elements inspired by Scandinavian design. 'We love the fluid layout of the design,' says Kirsty, 'and the result is a very tranquil room.' *EKBB*





#### CLEVER DETAIL

A 3cm overhang on the island worktop accentuates the table-like design, and also prevents any spills falling on the furniture



#### MULTI-TASK CARPENTRY

Dovetailed drawers can be pulled out to use as trays



#### EASY LIVING

Back-painted glass makes another easy-to-clean surface

#### Kitchen profile

The clean-lined and handleless design of bespoke handmade Shaker furniture, painted in Little Greene French Grey (113), creates a contemporary take on classic furniture. The layout centres around a table-style island, topped in Silestone Blanco Zeus Extreme quartz with a suede finish, echoing the bright mood of the room, while light oak accents and flooring add gentle warmth to the scheme.

#### HIGHAM FURNITURE

Flint Barn, New Barns Farm, Drove Road, Southwick, Hampshire, PO17 6EW.  
Tel 0800 047 0235. [higham.co.uk](http://higham.co.uk)  
Kitchen prices from £25,000.



#### MAIN EVENT

The Quooker Fusion tap dispenses hot, cold and boiling hot water as and when needed



**STURDY  
& STYLISH**  
Designed by Sir  
Terence Conran, the  
Clifton dining table  
is made from British  
grown solid ash and  
features traditional  
exposed jointing  
and an oiled finish



**TIM HIGHAM**  
HEAD DESIGNER  
AND OWNER,  
HIGHAM  
FURNITURE

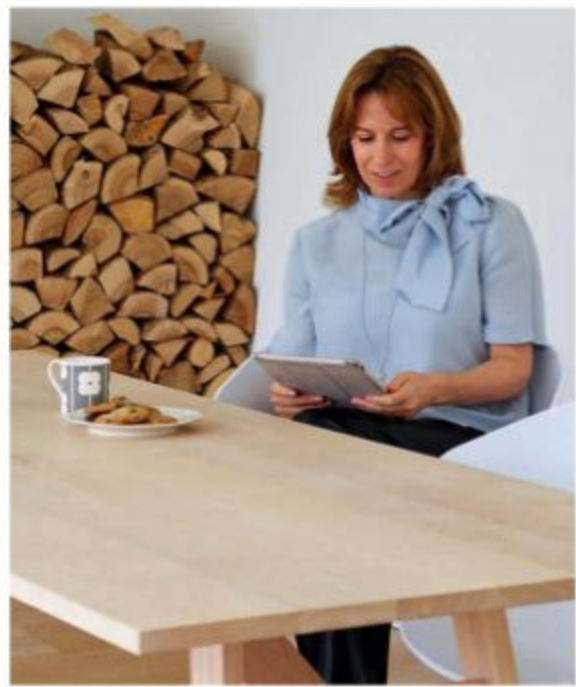
**Can you tell us about the design of the cabinetry?**

The Shaker-style furniture is handleless, accentuating its streamlined design, and the wall run is symmetrical to create a simple and balanced look. Base unit drawers are flat-fronted with scalloped pulls, complementing the contemporary design of the Mercury range cooker. While most kitchen cabinets have some kind of plinth or skirting panel, here the frame runs to the floor, highlighting the clean-lined appearance of the furniture.

**And the island?** To add interest to the design, the seating area has table legs. It is carefully planned so that the family can enjoy the views of the garden from the bar stools, with this area

of the island worktop away from the sink zone. To maximise storage, there are two full-depth and two shallow cupboards on the 'front' of the island, with three 'stuff' drawers that double as serving trays. The 'working' side of the island features an integrated dishwasher, bins and under-sink cupboard.

**How did you select the palette of materials?** The white quartz worktop has a suede finish which works well with the soft grey paint of the cabinetry, and it is a very durable material able to withstand lots of wear and tear. The island worktop features a quartz sink, which appears to be seamlessly integrated into the surface for the smoothest and most uncluttered finish.



*'While most cabinets have some kind of plinth, here the frame runs to the floor, accentuating the clean-lined appearance of the furniture'*



**GOOD  
WOOD**

Kirsty says her next project is to source some round logs and to arrange them like a work of art. 'Of course I'll never be able to burn them,' she laughs





**IN AND OUT**  
Large sliding glass doors on the extension open to afford easy access to the garden

« *Work is so busy that we wanted to create a place of calm where we can relax and unwind. The result is a very tranquil kitchen space* »



### Stockists

#### APPLIANCES

1082 induction top **range cooker**, £4,195, Mercury. Cache 900 **extractor**, £630, Westin. RF610ADIX4 French door **fridge-freezer**, £2,000, Fisher & Paykel. SN678D10TG fully integrated **dishwasher**, £889, Siemens.

#### FIXTURES AND FURNISHINGS

Fusion Round mixer and **boiling water tap** in brushed chrome, £1,240, Quooker. Silestone Blanco Zeus Extreme suede finish **worktops** and Integrity One sink, about £5,000; Similar bespoke back-painted glass **splashback**, priced to order, both Higham Furniture. **Oak flooring**, from a selection, priced to order, The Solid Wood Flooring Company. Caravaggio **pendant lights**, from £135 each, Skandium. Hay About A Stool **bar stools**, from £189 each; Hay About A Chair **dining chairs**, from £199 each, all Clippings.com. Clouds **corner sofa**, from £3,253; Simon lounge **chair**, from £515, both Camerich. Clifton **dining table**, £2,000; Clifton **bench**, £832, both Benchmark.

**ARCHITECT** Architect Your Home  
**LIGHTING DESIGN** MS Lighting Design

FOR STOCKISTS, SEE PAGE 148

# Get the look

COMPILED BY EMMA FOALE

## White works

Achieve a minimalist Scandi look that feels welcoming by combining cool hues with touches of stainless steel and add texture with natural wood.



1



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### THE KEY ITEMS

- 1 Sletten stainless steel **cutlery**, £125 for a 16-piece set, Broste Copenhagen
- 2 Form **bar stool**, £170, Normann Copenhagen
- 3 Eau de Nil **paint**, £23 per litre of Perfect matt emulsion, Designers Guild
- 4 Moya **vase**, £48, LSA
- 5 Flower enamel **mugs** by Orla Kiely, £12.95 each, Amara
- 6 Duttman **bench**, £500, Liam Treanor
- 7 VortecS® **blender**, £149, Dualit
- 8 PurePlank Anse Classic Grade wood **flooring**, £33.54 per sq. m, Havwoods
- 9 Dalton Puriti **tap**, from £323, Caple
- 10 Muuto Grain white **pendants**, £99 each, Rume