

CASE STUDY / **KITCHEN**

# BLUE MODE

Bold hues, brass accents and beautiful lighting bring a glamorous note to a busy family space



Photography / Rowland Roques-O'Neill \* Words / Emma J Page

A quartz-topped island links the kitchen and living areas

## INSIDE STORY

**THE PROPERTY** A Victorian terrace in Muswell Hill, north London.

**THE PROJECT** The five-bedroom property was remodelled and extended at the rear to create a larger, T-shaped footprint accommodating a roomy kitchen-diner/living space.

**THE DESIGNER** Tim Higham at Higham Furniture. **KITCHEN SIZE** 8x6m.

**DESIGN BRIEF** The kitchen redesign was part of a larger renovation aimed at improving the flow and circulation of this classic period terrace. Extending the rear of the property into a T-shape has successfully connected the kitchen to the dining and living areas. 'The family, which includes two children, wanted a more inclusive space that combined tradition and luxury,' says Tim. 'The key was to create a cooking area that allowed the cook to be part of the action.'

**FURNITURE** 'We chose cabinetry painted in a bold blue to anchor the space,' says Tim. The units are made of maple, with tulipwood frames and oak drawer boxes. The cabinetry is complemented by white walls, composite quartz worktops and pale oak flooring. 'There are plenty of drawers and a larder with substantial storage,' adds Tim. 'The sink is hidden, too, so that dirty dishes can be tucked away.'

**SURFACES** The white Bianca Massa composite quartz countertops offset the dark cabinetry and, at a depth of 30mm, they create a generous look. A brass splashback adds a glamorous edge and complement the handles, bringing a luxurious feel to the scheme.

**LIGHTING** A combination of mood, task and statement lighting makes this a flexible space. 'Overhead and countertop lighting allows for a range of moods,' says Tim. 'There is good task lighting for prepping food and softer, more intimate lighting for once the frenzy of cooking has finished.' Motion-sensor LED spotlights inside the larder are a practical addition and bulb pendants by Buster + Punch create a talking point.

**FLOORING** A pale, oiled engineered oak floor makes this room feel even more spacious and light. 'It also brings texture and warmth to the kitchen and provides an excellent counterpoint to the blue joinery,' says Tim. 'It results in a space that can showcase deep colour accents while remaining bright.'

**STYLE TAKEAWAY** The extension combines frameless glazing with glass box skylights and black metal-framed window panes, which all welcome in plenty of natural daylight and offer expansive views over the garden.



FROM BOTTOM LEFT / Brass taps and cabinet pulls add elegance; a T-shaped extension allows for different zones; the bespoke splashback ties in with the other brass accents



### [ Where to buy ]

\* **Furniture** Bespoke kitchen designed by Higham Furniture and hand-painted in Basalt by Little Greene. Expect to pay around £19,000 for similar (cabinetry only).

\* **Appliances** H 6260B integrated oven, £1,339; H 6200BM integrated oven with microwave, £1,742; KM 6366-1 induction hob, £1,644; PUR 98 Wextractor, £840; G6660SCVi dishwasher, £1,099, all Miele. RF540ADUSX4 fridge, £1,999, Fisher & Paykel. CDA FWC623BL wine fridge, £559.97, Appliances Direct.

\* **Sink & tap** Smart Divide sink 5838, £629, Kohler. Ten Ten kitchen bridge mixer tap

with levers in natural brass, £598, Lefroy Brooks.

\* **Surfaces** Bianca Massa composite quartz 30mm thick worktop, from £248 for a 1,250mm length, Beltrami at Affordable Granite. Bespoke brass splashback, Modum Worktops. Bespoke Istoria Athens engineered oak wood flooring, Jordan Andrews.

\* **Accessories** T-Bar handles (on doors and drawer under oven), £49 each; small pull-bar handles (on large drawers, dishwasher and bin), £47 each; Hooked 3.8 Nude/Brass pendant, £462, all Buster + Punch. Hairpin stools in Gunmetal, £55 each, Cult Furniture.