

UTOPIA

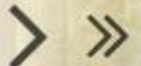
KITCHEN & BATHROOM

LOVES... STYLE | DESIGN | TRENDS

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REAL
READERS'
HOMES

UTOPIA
LOVES



Summer spaces



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Photography by: Rowland Hoque-O'Neil

REAL READERS' HOMES

THE owners

Lucie Freedman, a medical doctor, and her husband Simon, an investment banker, live in this six-bedroomed Edwardian home in Hampton, Greater London, with their two children, Rocco (aged five) and Livia (four).

ELEGANTLY INDUSTRIAL

An extensive renovation gave a family of four the space for a stylish Scandinavian-style kitchen that exudes industrialised simplicity

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The dining table, which was purchased by the owners on a wedding trip to Bali and imported back to the UK, adds an interesting dimension to the otherwise stripped-back scheme.

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A subterranean wine cellar with a practical electronic door adds a touch of playful luxury to the space without detracting from its minimal aesthetic.





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fter extensive renovations, including the construction of a large extension with a three metre-tall ceiling, Lucie Freedman and her family finally had the space for their dream kitchen; an attractive open-plan design that shares its space with an entertaining and dining area. Tim Higham, founder and director of Higham Furniture, was brought in to bring the Freedman's vision to life.

What was the brief?

Lucie: "The general feel we wanted was 'elegant industrial'. When we planned the extension we knew we were getting an open-plan space so we could have a social kitchen. My overall desire was to create an uplifting space that draws you in and invites you to linger!"



The room's tall vaulted ceiling provides amazing scale. A wood-burning stove adds warmth during the winter months while introducing an industrial vibe, which is accentuated by tall crittall-style windows and quirky pendant lights. The darker colour of the island unit brings some depth to the kitchen, which is otherwise very light in colour.



Tell us about the kitchen

Tim: "The cabinetry is a classic shaker style. The wall run features a range cooker beneath a concealed extractor hood. The drawers flanking the range offer plenty of storage and the cutlery is stored in a bespoke insert in one of the top drawers. There is a three metre-high larder cupboard with storage racks on the inside of its doors that can be used for bottles, spices and so on. There is also a subterranean wine cellar!"
Lucie: "The grand proportions and vast glazing give the kitchen an uplifting effect, and the industrial touches keep it accessible and liveable. Symmetry was very important to create a feeling of harmony – this makes the space relaxing and joyful. Features like the wood-burning stove and wine cellar keep it playful."

« « The kitchen is centred around a false chimneybreast, which conceals an extractor hood. Polished nickel finish cup handles adorn the cabinetry drawers while knob handles were chosen for the tall cupboards. The room at the end of the kitchen is used as a playroom, with sliding doors that allow the children to be seen while the owners cook.

THE designer

"Try to make the most of any original features. If you are using an architect, make sure it's someone that understands what you want to achieve and how you live."
Tim Higham, founder and director, Higham Furniture

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Why did you choose this style?

Lucie: "I love the simplicity of Scandinavian style, and with a growing active family I knew that I didn't want a 'polished' look."

Was this very different from your existing kitchen?

Lucie: "Our old kitchen was very disconnected from the rest of the house. Although it was spacious and a 'kitchen diner' it did not flow well with the rest of the house and did not suit the way we live. I wanted to connect it with the rest of the house and maximise light, taking advantage of its south facing aspect. We wanted to drop the level of the back of the house to meet the garden to create a better sense of flow and to connect the kitchen not just with the rest of the house but with the garden as well."

Are you happy with the end result?

Tim: "It looks fantastic! The scale and proportions in the room frame the kitchen perfectly but it has remained a functional working kitchen. The wood burner and lighting Lucie added have really completed the look."

Lucie: "The kitchen now communicates with the living spaces and enables us to relax, play and entertain in a way which was not possible before. There is not a day that passes where I don't appreciate the planning and thought that occurred to enable us to live in such an amazing space."

THE details

Kitchen design by Tim Higham, founder and director of Higham Furniture, including classic shaker cabinetry finished in The Little Greene Paint Company Scree dark grey (island), French Grey Pale off white (wall cabinetry), Carrara marble worktops and polished nickel ironmongery higham.co.uk

Elica Elibloc HT-80 built-in extractor hood elica.com

Stoves Sterling 1100EI range cooker with five-zone induction hob stoves.co.uk

Fisher & Paykel RF540ADUSX4 American-style side-by-side fridge freezer fisherpaykel.com/uk

Bosch SMV50C00GB 600mm-wide built-in dishwasher bosch-home.co.uk

Villeroy & Boch Farmhouse 80 double bowl ceramic Belfast-style sink villeroy-boch.co.uk

Perrin & Rowe Mimas single lever C-spout mixer perrinandrowe.co.uk

Quooker Design boiling water tap quooker.co.uk