



# mighty white

This contemporary kitchen with sleek lines provides the perfect backdrop for the owner's collection of characterful, vintage finds

Report: **Felicity Borthwick** Photography: **Van Swan**

**Previous page (p129):** Kitchen designer Vivienne Warman has done a tremendous job of incorporating all the storage and appliances Jeanne required into a relatively small space. The tall unit at the end of the run houses a microwave and small fridge as well as two wall units. In addition, large pan drawers conveniently flank the hob.

**Right:** An open-plan kitchen-living space has been created by knocking down an existing wall and by demolishing a small bedroom. Off-white cabinetry by Rational lends the room a lovely, fresh feel.

**W**hen Jeanne Flynn began her search for a small pied-à-terre in London, she already had a clear picture of what she wanted: a first-floor flat in a period property, ideally near the Notting Hill area. “We always look for a first-floor flat as it gives you more privacy than being on the ground floor,” Jeanne elaborates. So when she came across a run-down Victorian terrace in Westbourne Park, West London, she knew she had found not only her new apartment but a great new project to sink her teeth into.

The first thing Jeanne did was open up the interior by removing a wall between the kitchen and living area and then demolishing a small bedroom that the previous owners had created. She also decided to expose a lot of the flat’s brickwork, which involved removing the plasterwork and scrubbing the bricks before sealing them, painting them and sealing them again.

“Exposing the bricks created a bit of an industrial feel, which dictated the décor in the living area. For example, I found the whitewashed oak floorboards and much of vintage furniture on eBay,” Jeanne explains. “Moreover, I knew this cabinetry would work perfectly in here as we have it in our home in Oxford and you can either make it look very modern or quite warehouse-like and industrial.”

To design the kitchen, Jeanne called upon Vivienne Warman of Kitchen Coordination, who she has worked with a couple of times before and trusts implicitly. Here, Vivienne tells us more about the design.

#### What was the biggest challenge with this project?

The main challenge was that, as with many London flats, space was quite limited – especially as there was really only one wall against which to construct the entire kitchen; the opposite wall has a chimneybreast and the adjacent wall consists mostly of windows.

#### What was your brief from Jeanne?

She basically wanted something light and bright and fairly simple that would blend with the rest of the room. Also, given the space restrictions we were working with, Jeanne asked me to maximise storage as much as possible whilst also incorporating an oven, hob, fridge, dishwasher and microwave.

#### How did you achieve this?

I stacked the wall units up to the ceiling, so there are now double-height units all along the wall, effectively creating twice the storage. This is one of the reasons we opted for an induction hob, as with gas there is a certain clearance height you have to adhere to with the extractor – so the wall units would have needed to be higher and we couldn’t have fitted in two rows of units. We also went for a smaller fridge, a corner sink and a 45cm dishwasher, all of which leave more room for cupboards.

#### What cabinetry has been used in here?

We have used high-gloss laminate units from Rational’s Puro range. Jeanne had used this before in her home in Oxford and really liked it, plus the off-white colouring and integrated handles create a clean, simple look that blends well and ensures the kitchen doesn’t impinge on the living room design.

#### How did you decide on the worktop?

We have used Caesarstone quartz. It is very practical for work surfaces, but our decision was more of an aesthetic one as the colour of this Caesarstone perfectly matches the Rational cabinetry we used. It’s not just similar – it’s an exact match. [KBB](#)



**Left:** Jeanne found these table and chairs on eBay. “The chairs are the original fibreglass Charles and Ray Eames chairs from a dealer in Holland, while the table was an inexpensive purchase from a random seller who had been using it as a garden table,” she explains. “I love trawling eBay and looking for different things.”

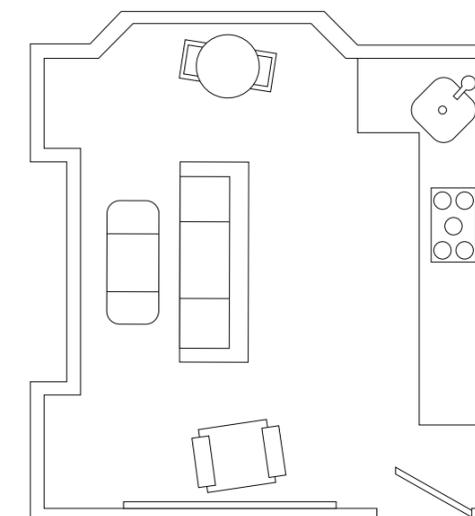
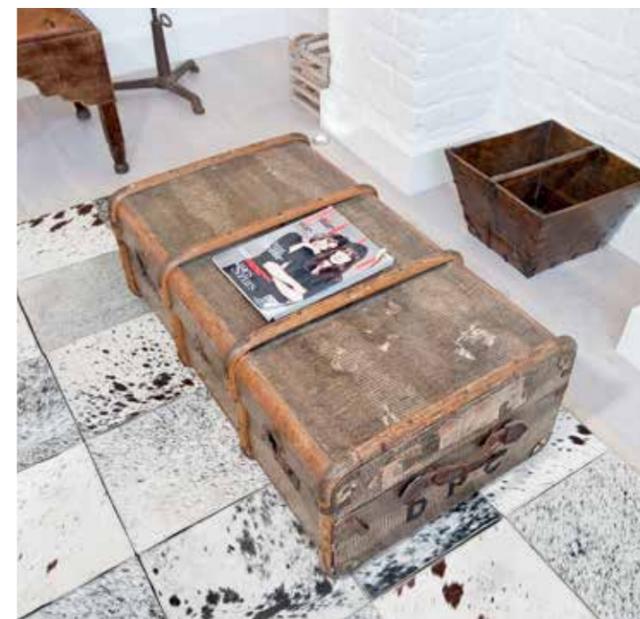
**Far left:** “The cushion I have on my sofa actually wasn’t for sale, but I saw it in a shop – as part of a display – and asked them if they would sell it to me and they did!” recalls Jeanne.

**Right:** Whitewashed oak floorboards were chosen to enhance the industrial vibe that was created by exposing the brickwork in here. Plinth lighting brings warmth to the room's pale scheme.

**Opposite page, top:** A compact sink makes good use of the corner of the kitchen, leaving more accessible areas free for storage and prepping. A dishwasher has been installed to the right of the sink, while an integrated bin sits to the left.

**Bottom:** This eye-catching light is the Innermost Kapow White pendant shade by Tina Leung, available from Heal's. "It looks like it might be a rigid sculpture, but it's actually quite a bouncy, tactile rubber material so you can change the shape if you like by moving the tubing around," Jeanne points out.





**Above:** This striking patchwork cowhide previously resided in a home Jeanne had in Ibiza, while the old steamer trunk, which doubles as a quirky coffee table, was again sourced from eBay.

**Right:** "I bought this mirror from Lots Road Auctions in Chelsea," recalls Jeanne. "It's not an original antique; it's something that's been made to look old, but it works well with the vintage theme. You can find similar mirrors at The Old Cinema in Chiswick."

**Opposite page:** A wooden planter decorates the fireplace, combining with the brown vintage trunk and armchair, and a matching sofa from The Sofa Workshop, to bring warmth to the space. "When people come over I usually put candles in the planter to mimic a fire," says Jeanne.



GET THE  
LOOK

**Below:** Steamer Harrow Trunk, from Heal's, priced £1345. (0870 024 0780 or [www.heals.co.uk](http://www.heals.co.uk))



**Right:** Innermost Kapow White pendant shade by Tina Leung, priced £45, from Heal's, as before.



**Below:** Cowhide PW01 from Funky Rugs, priced from £1199.99. (0845 838 7816 or [www.funky rugs.co.uk](http://www.funky rugs.co.uk))



**Above:** Huge Omate Gold Framed Chelsea Mirror from Exclusive Mirrors, priced £269.10. (01709 477701 or [www.exclusivemirrors.co.uk](http://www.exclusivemirrors.co.uk))



**Left:** Vitra Eames plastic side chair DSW from Chaplins, priced £320. (020 8421 1779 or [www.chaplins.co.uk](http://www.chaplins.co.uk))



**Above:** Bourbon Vintage cabinet in distressed grey, priced £199, Made. (0845 557 6888 or [www.made.com](http://www.made.com))

## SourceBook

## DESIGN

**Kitchen** Vivienne Warman of Kitchen Coordination (020 8958 6262 or [www.kitchencoordination.co.uk](http://www.kitchencoordination.co.uk))

## KITCHEN

**Cabinetry** High-gloss laminate, Puro by Rational, from Kitchen Coordination, as before

**Worktops** Caesarstone, from Kitchen Coordination, as before

**Appliances** Single oven, microwave oven, induction hob and dishwasher, all Siemens (0844 892 9044 or [www.siemens-home.co.uk](http://www.siemens-home.co.uk)); Fridge, Smeg (0844 557 9907 or [www.smeguk.com](http://www.smeguk.com))

**Tap** Fuji by Franke (0161 436 6280 or [www.franke.com](http://www.franke.com))

**Sink** LAX 110-45 by Franke, as before

**Flooring** Whitewashed oak floorboards. For similar try Homebase (0845 077 8888 or [www.homebase.co.uk](http://www.homebase.co.uk))

**Sofa** The Sofa Workshop (0844 249 9161 or [www.sofaworkshop.com](http://www.sofaworkshop.com))

**Coffee table** Antique steamer trunk. For similar try London Vintage Luggage (07850 936469 or [www.londonvintageluggage.com](http://www.londonvintageluggage.com))

**Rug** For similar try Doris & Boris (01491 822636 or [www.dorisandboris.co.uk](http://www.dorisandboris.co.uk))

**Pendant light** Innermost Kapow White pendant shade by Tina Leung, Heal's (0870 024 0780 or [www.heals.co.uk](http://www.heals.co.uk))

**Table** From eBay. For similar try Ambiente Direct (0870 005 2275 or [www.ambientedirect.com/en](http://www.ambientedirect.com/en))

**Chairs** Original Eames side chairs, eBay. For similar try the Vitra Eames plastic side chair DSW by Charles and Ray Eames, from Chaplins (020 8421 1779 or [www.chaplins.co.uk](http://www.chaplins.co.uk))

**TV stand** Bourbon Vintage cabinet from Made (0845 557 6888 or [www.made.com](http://www.made.com))

**Cushion** For similar try Not On The High Street (0845 259 1359 or [www.notonthehighstreet.com](http://www.notonthehighstreet.com))

**Mirror** For similar try The Old Cinema (020 8995 4166 or [www.theoldcinema.co.uk](http://www.theoldcinema.co.uk))

**Armchair** Liscious Interiors (01865 553111 or [www.liscious.co.uk](http://www.liscious.co.uk))

**Wooden planter** For similar try B&Q (0845 609 6688 or [www.diy.com](http://www.diy.com))

## COST

Kitchens from Kitchen Coordination start from around £10,000