

room.with a view

Feature by Amelia Thorpe Photography by Darren Chung

The Haynes' contemporary Surrey home is not only blessed with a stylish interior but is surrounded by some stunning countryside....a winning combination.



kitchen profile

Super-sleek best describes this handle-less glass and stainless steel Rational Neos cabinetry. Designed by Kitchen Co-ordination, its L-shaped layout features plinth drawers that give maximum storage while quartz worktops offer tonal contrast and emphasise the streamlined feel. Plus, a classic Aga adds a hint of homely warmth to the modern look.

**Kitchen Co-ordination, 81 Peshurst Gardens, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 9TT.
Tel: 020 8958 6262. www.kitchencoordination.co.uk
Expect to pay from £10,000.**



above Washing food or rinsing crockery is made less of a chore thanks to the industrial-like spray tap and views overlooking the Surrey countryside.

below The choice for many a hard-working cook zone, Silestone's quartz surfacing is extremely durable, scratch-resistant and simple to care for.



above right Despite the rich walnut flooring and black glass furniture, the reflective materials and ample amount of windows ensure a light, airy look.

below An essential in any home with entertaining enthusiast owners, the dishwasher will make life easier, leaving you time to be the host with the most.



What do you do if you love the location, but don't like the house? Knock it down and start again? Well, that's what Maria and John Haynes decided to do. Having identified an ideal plot of land in the Surrey countryside, it was the 1920's-built property in the middle of it that they didn't care for. "Even the estate agent told us he thought it was dingy and dilapidated, and should be razed to the ground," laughs Maria.

It was the beginning of a major project. Moving into a rented property nearby, Maria, a housewife, and Company Director John asked Lewandowski Architects to prepare plans for a contemporary new-build home, filled with natural light. "We'd been living in an old country cottage with lots of small rooms and decided that, this time, we wanted something very different with a more spacious feel," explains Maria. At the centre of the four bedroom house is the large open-plan kitchen and dining area, complete with wide glass doors which fold back, creating an indoor-outdoor appeal. "I didn't want a separate dining room which we'd hardly use. This layout was more convivial," she adds.

Following up a recommendation, Maria contacted Vivienne Warman at Kitchen Co-ordination. "We knew we wanted a contemporary kitchen to suit a modern house, and something which contrasted with the more traditional air of our previous one," says Maria. "As soon as I spotted the black glass design in Vivienne's portfolio, I instantly loved it and knew it would be just right for this room," she adds.

But while Maria and John were happy with their choice, others were less certain. "Every time I told a friend that we were planning a dark cook zone, they laughed and told me I was mad because it would seem so dusky," recalls Maria. "But there's so much natural light in here that I just knew they would be wrong," she adds. As Vivienne points out, "The fact the fronts are made from reflective glass ensures rays are bounced around the area."

To provide contrast, plinth drawers, used for stowing the likes of pots and pans, are made from sleek stainless steel and the worktops are polished quartz in a soft cream colour. These were chosen to add warmth to the contemporary scheme and to complement the rich walnut flooring throughout.

below Appliances are set into a bank of cabinetry to maintain that desired sleek and streamlined effect.



above A burst of brightness has been brought into the new room via vibrant contemporary furniture.



While the streamlined, sleek design is undoubtedly contemporary, there is one distinctly traditional element in the kitchen: an Aga. "I love the idea of a modern kitchen having an old-fashioned piece," says Maria. "I believe the blend of old and new works really well, and after 15 years of cooking on one, I wouldn't use anything else now," she adds.

It was Vivienne's challenge to incorporate it into the kitchen plan. Neat base units frame the oven, while a row of beautiful opaque glazed wall cupboards above conceal the extractor. "I just wanted everything in the room to function well and to provide Maria with ample room for cooking and storage, while making sure it all looked glossy and elegant too," says Vivienne, who was able to seamlessly integrate the dishwasher into the two drawer base-unit design – and to sleek effect.

The result is a spacious room, perfectly suited to Maria and John's lifestyle. "It's great to be in. We tend to do a lot of impromptu entertaining it's ideal because it always looks uncluttered and ready for action," says Maria, who especially enjoys cooking whilst chatting to and catching up with her guests sat at the dining table. "I absolutely love it – I really do," she concludes with a smile. ■

right Able to accommodate six to eight people comfortably, the sunny dining area is a pleasurable place to entertain whatever the occasion may be.

below What better way is there to relax on a lazy Sunday afternoon than sipping a favourite tippie whilst enjoying glorious garden views beyond?



above Extra storage space has cleverly been introduced by designing drawers into the plinth.



above Though contrasting in style to the adjacent units, the must-have Aga suits the scheme perfectly.



useful information

Architect

Lewandowski Architects. **Tel: 01753 620700.**
www.lewandowskiarchitects.com

Appliances

Four-oven electric range **cooker**, priced from £8760, at Aga. **Tel: 0845 712 5207.** www.aga-rayburn.co.uk

Similar combination **microwave**, H5040BM, £1376; CS12121 **hob**, £720; G2582 **dishwasher**, £1057, at Miele. **Tel: 01235 554455.** www.miele.co.uk

GC2225GEKB **fridge freezer**, £2029, at Maytag. **Tel: 0844 499 0101.** www.maytag.co.uk

Fixtures & furnishings

BlancoTube Twist **mixer tap** with spray rinse, £330; BlancoZerex 700-U under-mounted **sink**, from £412, at Blanco. **Tel: 020 8452 3399.** www.blanco.co.uk

Silestone Rhin quartz **worktops**, expect to pay £300 per linear m., at Stone Systems of London. **Tel: 0870 011 8788.** www.silestone.com

Painted glass **splashbacks**, prices available on request, at Crawford Glass. **Tel: 020 8520 4494.** www.crawfordglass.co.uk

Walnut **floor**, £76 per sq. m., at European Heritage. **Tel: 020 7381 6063.** www.europeanheritage.com

Groove **table**, £690, at Jennifer Newman Studio. **Tel: 020 7349 7222.** www.jennifernewman.com

Tommy **dining chairs**, priced around £171 each, at Heal's. **Tel: 020 7636 1666.** www.heals.co.uk

Similar rattan **charger plates** (on wall), from £5, at Dibor. **Tel: 0871 472 2322.** www.dibor.co.uk