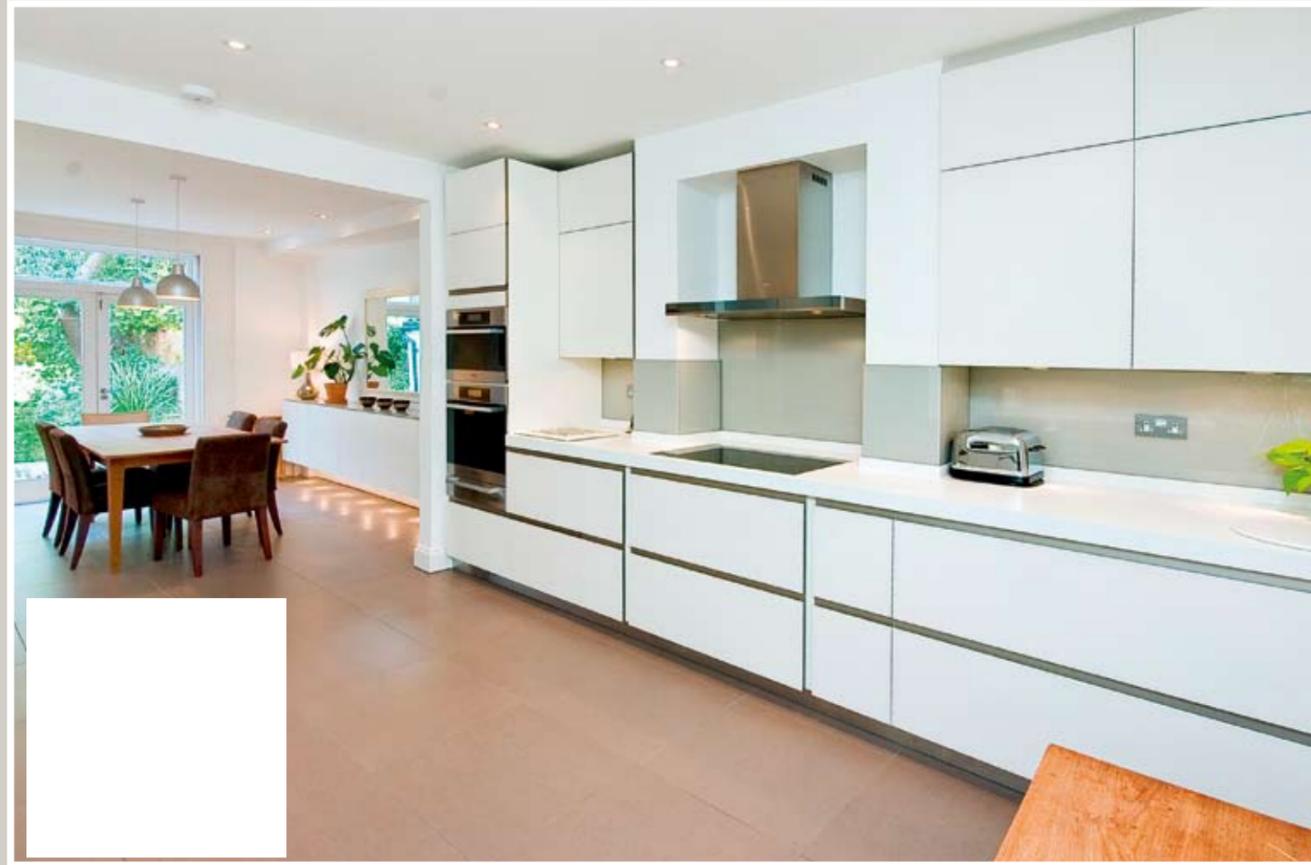




City slicker

Large swathes of Corian and glass flow throughout this Camden kitchen for an ultra-clean, contemporary look that veils vast amounts of storage and effortlessly captures a super-sleek urban look

Report: Felicity Borthwick Photography: Van Swan



Above: The gorgeous teak dining table, which was made by Zuleika's father, is sited at the rear of the long room allowing the couple and their guests to enjoy views of the garden while they eat. Lighting helps set the mood for evening meals, with two pendant lights suspended above the table and under-unit lighting built into the adjacent floating units

Opposite page, top: Although the units near the dining table feature the same satin-glass finish as the rest of the kitchen, a long slab of thick, grey glass replaces

Corian to create an elegant sideboard-like appearance. A white framed mirror sits above it to add to the dining room-like feel

Bottom: Vivienne briefly toyed with the idea of introducing an island to increase the amount of storage and prep space in here, but the long, narrow shape of the room meant that it would inhibit the flow of space. "An island would have created a bit of a chicane effect in here, with the couple constantly having to walk around it to access various units or appliances," she explains

From the outset they knew they wanted an all-white scheme for a modern yet timeless look

When Zuleika and Richard Hogan moved into their new home in London's fashionable Camden area the existing kitchen was fairly large, but poor planning meant there was comparatively little workspace and barely any storage. "The kitchen looked fine but it was just so impractical and, even though the house is quite big in terms of floor space, there's no attic or cellar so maximising storage was essential," says Zuleika.

The couple endured this dysfunctional design for just shy of a year before swiftly making arrangements to have a new kitchen built. From the outset they knew that they wanted an all-white scheme for a modern yet timeless look that would help keep the traditional Victorian terrace feeling light and bright, and so began visiting various kitchen companies to see what was available. After meeting with Vivienne Warman from Kitchen Coordination, which specialises in Rational kitchens and came highly recommended by a friend, they knew they had found the perfect person to execute the redesign.

"The Hogans stipulated that they wanted a streamlined, all-white kitchen, so I showed them the various styles available and they immediately fell in love with this beautiful satin-glass finish," Vivienne recalls. "They also wanted Corian worktops for a clean, seamless aesthetic. Hence, I used thick 65mm slabs to give them a luxurious, chunky feel."

To fulfil the couple's request for maximum storage, she then created floor-to-ceiling units along both sides of the room, with all the base

units comprising drawers rather than cupboards for instant, easy access to their contents.

"It's so nice having all drawers because you don't have to scuffle around on your hands and knees trying to find things," enthuses Zuleika. Moreover, all the drawers along one side of the room (those surrounding the hob) pull out to 70cm to offer even more space. Thanks to the new and vastly improved layout of the kitchen, it also accommodates an array of modern appliances including a flush-fitting induction hob and steam oven. The run of units beneath the sink incorporates a waste bin and dishwasher, allowing the Hogans to scrape, rinse and load dishes all from the same spot, while immediately next to this is an enormous butler's pantry complete with a slab of Carrara marble for storing food items that need to remain cool.

On the other side of the pantry, the sleek white doors conceal a large fridge-freezer. A steam oven, conventional oven and warming drawer, meanwhile, are vertically configured in the opposite run of units. "Both the induction hob and steam oven were recommendations from Vivienne and have proven really useful," Zuleika remarks. "We use the steam oven quite a lot and, with a baby on the way, it will soon come in handy for sterilising bottles."

Moving down towards the rear of the room is a gorgeous teak dining table, which was handmade by Zukeika's father in India about 30 years ago. "He went to a timber merchant in Madras back in the '60s, chose a teak tree trunk he liked the look of, and over a few





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Above: A large window at the front of the property allows natural light to spill through into the kitchen, which bounces off the beautiful glass-fronted units and splashback for a bright, airy feel. A charming teak chest, which was made by Zuleika’s father, sits at the perfect height beneath the window and adds a touch of warmth to the clean, minimalist design

years taught himself and his houseboy how to make furniture in his spare time,” explains Zuleika. “He also made a matching chest, which we have positioned under the window so that our two cats, Ruff and Tumble, can get outside on sunny days.”

The wooden furniture brings a lovely sense of warmth and character to the minimalist space and the table is ideally positioned next to the garden to create an alfresco feel when the glass doors are flung open. Pendant lights from Dwell further accentuate the stunning table and provide some ambient lighting for evening meals and dinner parties as well as defining this as a dining area within the kitchen space.

To enhance the dining room-like feel at this end of the room, Vivienne created some floating units resembling a sideboard along one wall with matching frosted-glass doors, and the same grey glass that forms the splashback (although in a thicker 12mm sheet) running across the top. She has also colour-matched the glass so that it’s one shade lighter than the porcelain floor tiles below and, as a finishing touch, installed some under-unit lighting, which casts a soft, decorative pattern on the floor.

The finished result is a clean, elegant space that’s relaxing to be in whether the couple are busy preparing meals or socialising with friends. With so much storage concealed along both walls, the space is also beautifully tidy at all times and a breeze to use. “Up until now we have always had kitchens that are full of clutter with lots of open shelving, which can look really nice, but I absolutely love this design and it’s so easy to keep clean,” Zuleika declares happily. [KBB]

SourceBook

DESIGN

Vivienne Warman of Kitchen Coordination (020 8958 6262 or www.kitchencoordination.co.uk)

KITCHEN

Cabinetry Atmos White in Satin Glass by Rational (www.rational.de) from Kitchen Coordination, as before
Worktops Glacier White, Corian (www.corian.co.uk) from Kitchen Coordination, as before
Appliances Steam combination oven, single oven, warming drawer and induction hob, all by Miele (0845 365 6600 or www.miele.co.uk)
Extractor Elica (01252 351111 or www.elica.co.uk)

Flooring Unpolished porcelain tiles. For similar try Porcelanosa

(0800 915 4000 or www.porcelanosa.co.uk)
Splashback Glass design, Kitchen Coordination, as before
Dining table and chest

Teak, custom made. For similar furniture pieces try Puji (020 8886 3000 or www.puji.com)

Dining chairs Lombok (0870 240 7380 or www.lombok.co.uk)
Pendant lights Dwell (0845 675 9090 or www.dwell.co.uk)

Mirror For similar try John Lewis (0845 604 9049 or www.johnlewis.com)

COST

A similar kitchen from Kitchen Coordination starts from £10,000