





Practical planning

Planning was the key to the success of a **show-stopping contemporary kitchen** that enhances the flow of this Hertfordshire home.

People say that planning is the key to a successful kitchen. Caroline and Daniel Koopman couldn't agree more, taking over two years to decide what would make it into their dream kitchen. When the couple and their two children moved in to this five-bedroom detached house in Hertfordshire, the interior offered a very basic design. This has now been modernised throughout in a contemporary style that also suits the children and features an extended kitchen with an entire wall of glass at one end leading to the garden and an abundance of wow-factor.

"We bought the house because it had real flow from room to room. We wanted a modern, functional kitchen that could cope with large numbers of people and 'big' cooking; a room that would enhance the flow of the house," says Caroline Koopman, who chose Paul Marazzi of *Living in Style* to design her unique kitchen after years of admiring his designs in magazines. "Other designers we approached suggested a rectangular island, Paul was the only one with the idea for an elliptical island to complement the flow of our house, which was so important. Paul had the same vision as us; his designs weren't just straight lines. He looked at the room differently and made the space work for us" ●●●●



The Koopmans spent much time with Paul and his portfolio, researching and taking inspiration from Living In Style's previous projects until the design evolved into a kitchen Caroline and Daniel were satisfied with. "I wanted a white kitchen and my husband wanted black. We were concerned we would go off a colour after time and so silver was the ideal choice. It is modern but won't date, as a stronger colour might do," Caroline tells Utopia. Paul has designed a bespoke kitchen in a gloss metallic silver lacquer, which gives a real depth of sheen and emphasises the curved elements of the kitchen's wall units and elliptical island. "The volcanic LG H-MACS on the sink run and the island creates a seamless worktop, which complements the sleek lines of the whole design. The Wolf double oven and hob, are real focal points, and show that the Koopmans are serious cooks," says Paul Marazzi of this design. The white LED lighting under the wall units provides good working light along the back wall, while the glass backsplash was fitted to present the illusion of depth. The blue LED feature lights recessed into the units add drama and theatre to the design when the homeowners require it ■ ■ ■







The kitchen designed by Paul matches the rest of the Koopman's contemporary and practical interior. "We don't have elegant dinner parties for four. When we have people over it's a lot of family so we needed big appliances and lots of storage that could cope. I've always wanted a Wolf cooker and large fridges – they look something special and are also highly practical," explains Caroline Koopman. The elliptical island, that is without doubt the centrepiece in this design, encourages space around it, while the entire room can be opened up further when the glass doors next to the open-plan dining area are thrown open to reveal the garden.

To achieve a kitchen such as this it is important to balance the practicalities needed with the aesthetics of the design. "After two and a half years of planning I wouldn't do anything differently. I'm so pleased we spent so long planning this kitchen because it works perfectly for us" ■





Details

Bespoke kitchen design by Paul Marazzi at
Living in Style
020 8450 9555
www.livinginstyle.co.uk

Architecture by Jeremy Steene of Steene Associates
01923 855 998
www.steeneassociates.co.uk

Worktop by LG HI-MACS
01892 543 008
www.lgchemieurope.com

APPLIANCES

Liebherr IKB 3454 Integrated fridge
Liebherr IKB3650 Integrated fridge
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www.liebherr.co.uk

Neff 554T09 integrated 600 dishwasher
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Wolf CT36g/s Gas hob 5 ring
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www.westyle.co.uk

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01484 421 585
www.synergyappliances.co.uk