

Kbbreview Industry Awards 2007

CATEGORY: Contract Designer Award for Kitchens

FINALIST: Parminder Singh Hunjan

The development and my role in it

Bloomsbury Mansions is a new build development based in Bromley consisting of 19 high spec apartments. The developers for this site are AMC New Homes.

My role within this development wasn't solely to design the kitchens. I had to overlook the whole project from start to finish. That consisted of site meetings prior to designing the kitchens. When I got an idea what the client wanted I designed the kitchens. When all designs were complete, I then put it together into a presentation.

Presentation consisted of kitchen schemes, appliance specs, an overall quotation summary and then followed by individual plans, perspective images and quotes. It does not stop there, as I then placed orders for the kitchens, placed orders with 3rd party supplier's e.g appliances and granite worktops. Once orders were acknowledged and I knew when they would be coming into us, I then had to arrange delivery and installation.

From that point I had made several site visits to insure everything was running smoothly.

Client's brief

AMC New Homes wanted these kitchens to be different and striking as these apartments were high spec in every way.

They informed me that there was three schemes in this site. Kingsbury, Chico and Aston (Pent-houses).

- They wanted different styles/colour schemes in each scheme type.
- They wanted to accommodate appliances such as oven, hob, extractor, microwave, coffee machine, dishwasher, washer dryer and fridge freezer.
- They also wanted me to accommodate boilers in these kitchens.
- They wanted under cabinet lighting.
- They wanted a focal point or a feature in the kitchens.
- They asked if we can supply granite worktops and if we do something different with them.
- They had budget in mind of £8000 - £10,000 for the Kingsbury & Chico Kitchens and a budget of £12,000 - £15,000 for the Aston (Penthouse) kitchens.

Final design

Kingsbury:

For this scheme I decided to go two tone. I used brasil (dark wood effect) for the base units and a high gloss cream for all the wall and tall units. To accompany the kitchen furniture I decided to go for Kashmir White granite worktops. To make it different I had designed Kingsbury kitchens using a 60mm block edge giving that chunky look and feeling. I then chose to have sinks with a recessed drainer instead of polished grooves. Which again I thought would be different. I had accommodated all the needs for this kitchen except the idea of having a focal point. So I spoke to my colleague Matthew Yeatman (Managing Director) if he had any thoughts to what we could do. He

said why not use some funky and edgy extractors from the Elica range. Looking at their brochure we decided what extractors to use. We thought these would make a nice focal point in the kitchens.

Chico:

For this scheme I had used high gloss black base units with high gloss white wall and tall units. To accompany the furniture I decided to use Pure White quartz and again I designed the kitchens with a 60mm block edge. Again having the sink with a recessed drainer. I wanted to keep a consistency through the site. I then used the OM (extractor) from the Elica range.

Aston (pictured):

For this scheme I wanted it to be different and also special as it was the penthouse scheme. So Matthew and I decided to use handleless kitchen from our range. To notch it up a gear we decided to use one of the wood veneer doors as we had the budgets. So I decided to use the graphite oak door. We then decided to be different on the worktops. So we decided to go for stainless steel worktops to match the stainless steel splash back, channel handles, plinths and appliances. I decided to use 50mm thick wood veneer panels to give it that extra wow look. After looking at the design, I thought of breaking it up by using a few frosted glass wall units. To be different again I used recessed under wall unit lighting instead the standard we had used on the rest of designs. We used the Elica range in this scheme again to keep consistency through out the whole site.

