

# **Kbbreview Industry Awards 2007**

## **CATEGORY: Designer Award for Kitchens - project cost up to £25k**

### **FINALIST: Kate Stanford**

#### **Brief**

Mr and Mrs Ruttley's Existing Kitchen was a white gloss cathedral style door with a laminate worktop. Although the kitchen was in quite good condition it needed to be updated and the space opened up. The way the family have used the space has evolved over the years.

Mr and Mrs Ruttleys home is full of traditional, antique furniture; she wanted to get away from this in the kitchen, where she wanted a complete contrast. Mrs Ruttley was not keen on flyover shelves, open units or cornice and pelmet. She wanted a very contemporary, clutter free kitchen, with WOW factor, but still being functional, practical and easy to use. She also wanted to make sure the kitchen design had longevity so it would not date quickly. The kitchen is the social hub of their home so they wanted a space to keep the existing breakfast table which they use daily for breakfast, morning and afternoon coffee and to escape too to read the paper but also have additional seating at the island for 2 people.

They are expecting their first Grandchild soon so wanted to make sure the design took this into account. We also had to make sure the frontals selected would compliment the Oak wood flooring to be laid throughout the house. Mr and Mrs Ruttley were also prepared to remove the walls to the existing utility room allowing the space to open up. The utility area would then be moved into the adjoining garage.

#### **Budget**

The budget given for the kitchen, appliances and fitting was £20,000 - £30,000

#### **Features**

- Island unit
- Large draws with pan storage
- Large induction hob
- Storage unit for silver service, china and table linen.
- Pull out larder
- Plenty of work surface
- Big double sink with double drainer
- Dishwasher
- Single oven

- Warming drawer
- Multifunctional oven
- Larder fridge
- Larder freezer
- Atmospheric lighting
- Magic corners

## **Ergonomics**

We took into account Mr and Mrs Ruttleys Heights and their roles within the kitchen environment. Mrs Ruttley's role is the majority of the cooking and therefore we designed the height of the hob to suit.

Mr Ruttley's role is to wash up so we positioned the height of the sink run to suit him.

## **Materials**

As the footprint evolved we found that the design lent itself to idea of mixing two frontals. We put together White Gloss Lacquer from the Mobalpa Gaia Range and the textured Asia Door in Black Grained. We used the white gloss on all of the base runs and the Asia on the tall units.

We found that the use of Everest Corian pulled the two frontals together. We used 38mm Corian on the sink run with 2 bowls also in Corian with a double drainer.

On the Hob Run we used 70mm Corian to help create the height needed but to also give impact when first entering the kitchen. The Island idea did not work well in this kitchen due to space constraints so we opted for a peninsular bar instead. The area house's large pan draws directly under the hob and draws for utensil either side making them convenient to reach whilst cooking.

The Peninsular Bar also acted as a symbolic barrier and protected the ovens to some extent from small children. The seating arrangement also allowed for a high chair to be positioned safely for feeding or cooking lessons as the child grows.

To create the clutter free look we put in 2 roller shutter units that can house the toaster, blenders and kettle.

We decided to clad the inside of the opening from the dining room to the kitchen in Asia panels to create a thick wedge to walk through. We also created a false wall above the units to give the illusion that the tall units are built into the wall.

Atmospheric lighting was achieved by using Light box shelves, LED Lights in the walkway and lighting from the extractor.

## **End result**

Mr and Mrs Ruttley were "overjoyed" at the final result and amazed at how easy the kitchen is to use. They also recommended us to friends of theirs. The final budget was £23,000.

