

OPPOSITES ATTRACT



High-quality finishes in elegant black and white shades ensure this kitchen will stand the test of time both physically and aesthetically

Report: **Felicity Borthwick** Photography: **David Still**

Previous pages (p136-137): LED lights have been installed around the plinth of the island, adding drama to the space and creating a soft, atmospheric glow.

Below: The Dornbracht taps used on both sinks were selected because they are similar in design to the Quooker boiling-water tap the couple wanted.



There was already a stylish Alno kitchen in place when Jackie and Jorge Beroiz bought this property, however it was too small to accommodate them and their three children, aged eight, 10 and 18. Moreover, they wanted to knock through the back of the house and build a large, rear extension so they needed a kitchen that would work with the scale of this new space. They did discuss the possibility of integrating the existing cabinetry into a new kitchen with Halcyon Interiors, which specialises in Alno kitchens, but it soon transpired this wouldn't work with what the pair had in mind.

Instead, they decided to start from scratch, working with designer Ashley Collins from Halcyon to create this striking black and white scheme with copious amounts of storage, prep space and seating. "My husband is an architect so he had strong ideas from the outset about what he wanted," Jackie explains. "He wanted something that would be timeless, which is why we went with black and white – we knew we could always add colour with accessories – and he also wanted a large, seamless island with a breakfast bar that would become the focal point of the kitchen."

"Indeed, Jorge had a very clear vision of how the island should look, with an organic, angled breakfast bar made out of Corian," Ashley elaborates. "So we had a lot of discussions with our Corian fabricator and they produced various drawings until we found one that would work. The colour is Glacier White, which is almost the same RAL colour as the Alno matt lacquer cabinetry we've used along the wall, so it all ties in really well."

To provide contrast and prevent the kitchen from looking too clinical, the Beroizes then opted for dark Carbon oak cabinetry on the island, which is echoed on the ►



Above: "We have used a matt lacquer finish on the cabinetry as the room gets a lot of natural light and gloss would have created too much reflection," explains Ashley.

Left: "The flush-fitting induction hob is great. It's very low maintenance and adds to the clean, seamless look of the island," explains Jackie.



Above: Jorge and Jackie knocked through the back of the house and added on a rear extension with generous glazing to create a vast, light-filled kitchen-dining-living area where the family can all spend time together.

Right: Black glass was chosen for the splashback to complement the doors of the Miele appliances. It also provides a striking contrast to the white cabinetry, creating the timeless look the couple wanted.

Opposite page, right: A tall drawer with internal drawers for bottles and jars ensures every bit of space is effectively utilised. Moreover, with its position beneath the hob, the Beroizes can easily access oils and spices whilst cooking.



framing around the wall units. Again, this was something Jorge had requested as he felt that, by framing the cabinetry, it would make more of a feature in this part of the kitchen.

However, it wasn't only the look of the space that the couple had such strong views on; they were also quite clear about how the kitchen should function. They wanted tall units surrounding a central sink area, with another prep sink and hob on the island to ensure the layout was sociable. All the finer details, though, such as where the appliances should go and how the storage should be arranged, were where Ashley proved invaluable.

"Ashley had lots of great suggestions in terms of how things would work within the space and this has made the kitchen really practical," Jackie explains. "For example, having the dishwasher and bin either side of the sink so that we can just scrape food waste into one side then place dishes straight into the dishwasher on the other is ingenious. Also also has some really great storage solutions – there are drawers for everything!"

Ashley also suggested using a built-in extractor by Westin, which is completely concealed within the ceiling and activated by a remote



control. One reason for this was so that it didn't encroach into the couple's eyeline and block the views of the garden.

The other was in response to their request for a timeless kitchen. "In my opinion there are three things that date a kitchen – colour, handles and the extractor." Ashley elaborates. "I can often tell when a kitchen was designed just by looking at the extractor."

Equally integral to the room's success is the lovely furniture the couple picked out. A Calligaris dining table is perfectly placed alongside two sets of glass doors to capitalise on the natural light, whilst the John Lewis dining chairs add a fresh burst of colour that complements the greenery outside, as well as the rug and cushions in the living area. The final flourish is the exquisite lighting, from the elegant glass pendants above the table and the dimmable spots in the ceiling to the LED lights surrounding the base of the island, which give the vast structure a floating feel.

"We are absolutely delighted with the finished result," Jackie enthuses. "I love having such a big space that we can use as a family. Now we can all be doing different things but still feel connected. It's wonderful!"

KBB



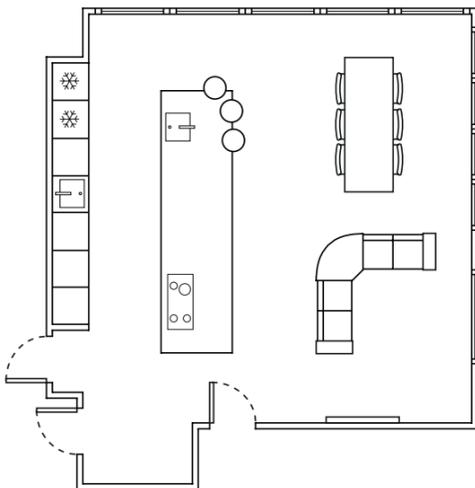
Above: The couple decided to go for a kitchen in shades of black and white and add colour with accessories such as these vibrant green dining chairs and a matching rug and cushions in the living area to tie the zones together. "The sofas are just from Ikea, but they actually work really well in here and are very practical when you have children and pets that visit regularly from next door," says Jackie.

Right: Using Corian allowed the couple to have a worktop with a raised, angular breakfast bar and an inlaid sink whilst making it appear like one seamless slab.

Opposite page: This stylish Calligaris table has been positioned in the far corner of the new extension, affording views of the garden from both sides. It also features another sheet of glass below the surface so that it can extend to accommodate guests.



Right: The kitchen and garden have been created on the same plane with identical tiles so that, when the doors are pushed back, the two areas fuse together to create one huge space.



SourceBook

DESIGN

Kitchen Ashley Collins of Halcyon Interiors (020 7486 3080 or www.halcyoninteriors.com)

KITCHEN

Cabinetry White matt lacquer combined with Carbon oak by Alno, from Halcyon Interiors, as before

Worktops Glacier White Corian (www.corian.co.uk), designed and made by Halcyon Interiors, as before

Appliances Induction hob, fridge-freezer, dishwasher and ovens, all Miele (0845 365 6600 or www.miele.co.uk); Extractor, Westin (01484 421585 or www.westin.co.uk)

Splashback Black glass, Halcyon Interiors, as before

Flooring Porcelain tiles. For similar try Porcelanosa (0800 915 4000 or www.porcelanosa.com/uk)

Taps Boiling-water tap, Quooker (0808 115 2442 or www.quooker.co.uk) and single-lever mixers, Dombracht (024 7671 7129 or www.dombracht.com)

Barstools By Conran (www.conranshop.co.uk) from Heal's (0870 024 0780 or www.heals.co.uk)

Dining table By Calligaris (www.calligaris.co.uk) from Heal's, as before

Chairs John Lewis (0845 604 9049 or www.johnlewis.com)

Sofas, coffee table and rug Ikea (0845 358 3363 or www.ikea.co.uk)

Pendant lights Heal's, as before

COST

Kitchens from Halcyon Interiors start from around £25,000

