

ROOM WITH A VIEW



For years the Keith family longed for something better than their dark and gloomy kitchen – and now they have it!

SANDRA SAYS...

'Our dining room was wasted space before, but now all our ground floor rooms are used.'

COOL OPERATOR

The Samsung fridge-freezer has an ice and water dispenser, which is great for parties and the summer holidays.

IN THE BLACK

Scamper is one of the family's two cats. Sandra jokes his black and white colouring inspired the theme of their new kitchen.



A PERFECT SPACE

Sandra has her own HR consultancy business, HRD Bristol, which she runs from home, so her spacious kitchen makes a perfect work area.

ISLAND LIVING

The island has well-designed storage for Sandra's glassware and an overhang where two people can sit for a drink – it's also where the children have breakfast.

M old kitchen faced east and was always gloomy and cold with an uninspiring view of the garden fence. So we decided to build a single-storey extension at the rear of our five-bedroom Edwardian house to accommodate an open-plan kitchen-dining area with a view of the garden.

Architect Elke Dittich from DHVA designed it, and we asked Boulevard Kitchens to supply and install the new units. This company designed and installed our first kitchen some 13 years ago and after looking around at what else was available we felt its product was the best quality.

We wanted a modern, contemporary look for the units with polished black granite worktops. We chose Moduleo flooring, a type of plastic tile that looks like wooden floorboards, which is hard-wearing and easy to look after. Then we spent a long time choosing the radiators and light fittings to get just the look we wanted.

As for the old dining room, it has now become a snug where our two daughters Isabella, who is nine, and Georgina, 11, can hang out together.

THE PROJECT

- Architect Elke Dittich (0117 914 8317, dhva.co.uk) designed bi-fold glass doors for easy access to the garden as well as the triangular glazing above the doors, which helps to bring in as much light as possible.
- A panel of aqua glass was chosen to act as a splashback, and black granite worktops were extended to form upstands.
- The Moduleo oak-effect flooring had filler strips added to make it look like authentic wooden boards.
- Three lights on an elegant rise-and-fall German-made rack were hung from cables rather than rods due to the new sloping roof.
- The room was heated with elegant Italian radiators.
- New appliances were installed, including a Neff single oven with a door that slides back into the oven when opened and an extra-wide Neff hob (80cm).

FOCAL POINT

Sandra spent a long time looking for lighting and bought two German-made Wofi Rhone lighting racks – one is above the island and the other above the dining table – as she likes their rise-and-fall features.

MAKE A SPLASH

Sandra is really pleased with the bright effect of the aqua toughened glass splashback behind the hob.



CUPBOARD LOVE

A useful utility room means appliances can be hidden out of sight and frees up cupboard space in the kitchen.



Shopping list

- High-gloss white kitchen units, £4,662
- Polished Bon Accord black granite worktops and upstands, £2,173
- Neff single oven, £589
- Neff compact oven with microwave, £829
- Neff extra-wide induction hob (ex-display), £476
- Neff extractor chimney hood, £452
- Neff integrated dishwasher, £594
- Franke sink, £292
- Franke Eiger tap, £138
- Samsung fridge-freezer, £1,089
- Aqua glass splashback, £300, all Boulevard Kitchens, 0117 962 9669, boulevardkitchens.co.uk
- Meteor black barstools, £170 each, Debenhams, 0844 561 6161, debenhams.com
- Wofi Rhone rise-and-fall matt nickel halogen pendants, £201.99 each, Castlegate Lights, 01642 714444, castlegatelights.co.uk
- Moduleo Classic Oak oak-effect flooring, £1,800, Disney Flooring, 0117 942 4949, disney-flooring.com
- Milano Aruba anthracite vertical radiators, £319.99 each, Best Heating, 0844 417 2563, bestheating.com
- Pine dining table and chairs bought by the family several years ago.

SEE THE LIGHT

Architect Elke Dittrich installed roof lights, full-height glass panels and even a glazed door into the dining space to flood the room with natural light.



SANDRA SAYS...

'A big factor was to let in as much light as possible while keeping the heat in too.'

FEATURE: VICTORIA JENNIS PHOTOGRAPHS: WILLIAM GOODARD