

Opposites ATTRACT

Dramatic black cabinetry and white worktops give the Guptas' extended kitchen a new lease of life

AS SEEN IN
BEAUTIFUL
KITCHENS
MAGAZINE



WINDOW DRESSING

Sally's **red and taupe stripy Roman blinds** are made from material sourced from Atmosphere Bath. For similar, try Remake Brique

SALLY AND KIM GUPTA LIVE IN A FIVE-BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF BATH WITH THEIR CHILDREN, JULIET, NINE, AND AMY, SEVEN

Sally and her husband Kim's detached home has changed beyond recognition since it was built as a two-bedroom bungalow in the 1950s. Extensions turned it into a five-bedroom property and, since the couple moved in almost 10 years ago, they've put their own stamp on the house.

Among their most ambitious projects was turning the worn kitchen, separate dining room and lean-to into a family-friendly kitchen-diner and living area. 'We put new kitchen doors on the existing carcasses to start with. It was a temporary measure that ended up lasting eight years,' remembers Sally, a physiotherapist.

Finally, the couple decided to remove the internal walls to make a single space, maximising the dining room's spectacular views. In keeping with the rest of the house, they had a sharp, contemporary look in mind that would include a co-ordinating home office and desk.

Inspired by a friend's kitchen, they settled on a smart black and white scheme before Sally started visiting suppliers to assess the options. She quickly realised that bespoke furniture would give them a far more satisfactory result than standard units. 'We knew it would cost more but we were starting from scratch, so we really wanted it to fit the space perfectly,' she explains.

An advert led the couple to contact Bath Kitchen Company and designer James Horsfall came to visit them at home. After listening carefully to their vision of a simple, linear style, integrated eating area and adjacent office and

BESPOKE CABINETY

MDF units by Bath Kitchen Company have been **spray-painted in BS Black**

FLOORING

European Oak engineered boards in Rustic finish from Build Center cover the floor

WORKTOPS

Blanco Zeus Silestone from Gloucestershire Granite & Marble forms an integrated table with storage space beneath

BK says

A worktop overhang is an easy way to create a casual dining space. Sally and Kim made a cardboard template, so they could work out the optimum size

SPICE STORAGE

Kim's Indian heritage means both he and Sally regularly cook using a wide variety of spices, which have been neatly accommodated in this **two-tier, pull-out rack**, located to the left of the hob



HOB AREA

The couple's **existing gas hob** has been incorporated into the new design. For similar, try Neff. A **glass splashback in Mint White** by Opticolour protects the wall from cooking mess and is echoed by a **chimney extractor hood** by Xpelair above



CHROME TAP

A **Talis S monobloc tap** by Hansgrohe has a pull-out spray that can be used for cleaning the sinks, washing fruit or in Sally's case, filling a paddling pool

'I GET THE MOST USE OUT OF THE TAP'S PULL-OUT EXTENDABLE HOSE. IT IS LONG ENOUGH TO REACH OUT OF THE WINDOW, SO I USE IT TO FILL THE GIRLS' PADDLING POOL'

computer zone, he proposed sturdy spray-painted cabinetry and Silestone composite worksurfaces.

As Sally's existing hob, dishwasher and double oven were all in good condition, she asked James to incorporate them in the new kitchen. A bank of tall units conceals storage and a new integrated American-style fridge freezer. 'The tall cabinets could have seemed a bit overpowering, so James advised putting them on the right, so that they wouldn't be immediately in front of you as you came into the room,' explains Sally.

An integrated table was key in the design. Although Kim, a consultant anaesthetist, and Sally already had a formal dining table, they wanted space for family meals. 'James suggested a small bar but we really wanted it to seat six,' reveals Sally. 'We found out how large the overhang could be, and then we made a cardboard template to get the optimum size, legroom and height.'

Sally and Kim stuck to their choice of black painted furniture, although James did point out that it might be a high-maintenance option. 'It is rather unforgiving with greasy fingers,' admits Sally. 'I still love it, though, and I'd have it again.'

Sally says she now spends most of her time in the kitchen. 'This is a wonderful room,' she smiles. 'I almost feel like I have a new house.'

FEATURE ANNABELLE GRUNDY PHOTOGRAPHY COLIN POOLE



DINING AREA

The couple bought their **sideboard** and matching **table** from John Lewis and added **dining chairs** from Multiyork

BAR SEATING

Iris bar chairs from John Lewis were Sally's best buy. 'They're easy to wipe and the frames don't scratch the floor,' she explains

GREAT IDEA

Use fabric to link different areas of a room. Here, the curtains match the blinds in the kitchen

PRICE GUIDE
Starting price
£25,000
for a Bath Kitchen Company design

THE KITCHEN AT A GLANCE

DESIGN & CABINETS

- James Horsfall at **Bath Kitchen Company**, 22 Hensley Road, Bloomfield, Bath BA2 2DR (01225 312003) www.bathkitchencompany.co.uk
- Bespoke, spray-painted MDF cabinetry

WORKTOPS

- 30mm Blanco Zeus Silestone, Gloucestershire Granite & Marble. Price per sq m **£395**
- 30mm Negro Tebas Silestone, Gloucestershire Granite & Marble. Price per sq m **£395**

FLOORING

- European Oak engineered boards in Rustic finish, Build Center. Price per sq m **£52.88**

SINKS & TAP

- LAX110-50 Largo undermounted single-bowl sink in stainless steel, Franke **£273**
- ARX110-33 Ariane undermounted half-bowl sink in stainless steel, Franke **£169**

- 32841000 Talis S top-lever monobloc mixer tap in stainless-steel optic with pull-out spray, Hansgrohe **£155**

APPLIANCES (shown)

- Existing built-in double oven, for similar try U15M62, Neff **£780**
- HMT84M651B built-in microwave, Bosch **£306**
- Existing five-burner gas hob, for similar try T26F66N0, Neff **£492**
- 90 Curved chimney extractor hood in glass and stainless steel, Xpelair **£672**
- Existing semi-integrated dishwasher, for similar try G1022ICLST, Miele **£728**

APPLIANCES (not shown)

- Fully integrated American-style fridge freezer, Liebherr **£2,171**

For stockists, see page 137
PLAN SCALE 1cm:1m

