



HOMES  
& GARDENS

# DREAM KITCHENS

**KEY LOOKS FOR 2017**

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Graphic architecture creates a natural centre point for a statement island unit clad in burnished brass.

# GOING FOR GOLD

*The glow of burnished brass and modern industrial materials cut a dash in this winning scheme*

## INSIDE STORY

**THE PROPERTY** A two-bedroom penthouse apartment in a Victorian townhouse, London.

**THE PROJECT** The kitchen of a double-height conversion with distinctive architectural spirit.

**KITCHEN SIZE** 5x2.7m.

**THE DESIGNER** Rhiannon Phenis, Sola Kitchens, 020 3004 0898, [solakitchens.com](http://solakitchens.com).

Soaring ceiling, concrete walls and steel beams – this may look like a Manhattan loft, but it's actually the top floor of a north London Victorian terrace. "The owners removed the ceiling to create a double-height living space," says designer Rhiannon Phenis. "Technically it's a loft conversion but the execution and materials make it so much more." The kitchen is similarly dynamic, reflecting the couple's zest for life.

## LAYOUT

A walk-in pantry hosts floor-to-ceiling storage, allowing for fewer cabinets in the open-plan living space. There's a table to come, and a sofa or two, so the couple didn't want to fill the room with "kitchen". The island is a statement piece, and there's a neat working area between hob and sink.

## FURNITURE

"The owners wanted something different and we spent hours poring over material samples and finishes before hitting on this combination of burnished brass and charcoal laminate," says Rhiannon. All the base units feature drawers rather than cupboards, making them far more practical. "They have lots of room for everyday crockery and pans."

## SURFACES

The burnished brass island is topped in vintage oiled oak. "We considered stainless steel but wood is so much nicer to lean on," says Rhiannon. Steel is used at the sink area, where a wide section of formed steel with integral bowl protects the wood from water.

## APPLIANCES

A steam oven, multifunction oven and wine fridge are lined up below the gas hob of the island. The dishwasher is integrated on the sink run and the fridge-freezer is in the pantry. "There are very few appliances on view from the living space," says Rhiannon.

## LIGHTING AND ACCESSORIES

Industrial-style spotlights, which match the gunmetal of the beam, direct lighting onto the island. There are also spots tucked under the shelving on the back wall, which can be angled onto the worktop for task lighting.

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**ABOVE** An extraordinary floating staircase leads to a mezzanine bedroom suite, with a snug/games room underneath. **BELOW LEFT** Walk-in access to the pantry, which accommodates the fridge-freezer and plenty of storage, makes it a practical extension to the kitchen. **BELOW RIGHT** The offset positioning of built-in appliances in the island leaves space for a full-width unit at the end and creates an interesting feature.



## WHERE TO BUY

**FURNITURE** Form 6 in Fenix with Black Stained Oak frame (kitchen cabinets); Form 2 in Burnished Brass (island cabinets); kitchens from, £35,000, Sola Kitchens, [solakitchens.com](http://solakitchens.com).

**APPLIANCES** HB678GBS6B IQ700 stainless-steel multifunction single oven, £939; HS858GXS6B IQ700 steam oven, £1,519; SN66L080GB 60cm fully integrated stainless-steel dishwasher, £549; all Siemens, [siemens-home.bsh-group.com](http://siemens-home.bsh-group.com). Officina 90cm-wide built-in gas hob, £821, Barazza, [barazzasrl.it](http://barazzasrl.it). Sense WC6114 integrated wine cooler, £629, Caple, [caple.co.uk](http://caple.co.uk).

**SINKS AND TAPS** Fusion Square boiling water tap in Brushed Chrome, from £1,240.

Quooker, [quooker.co.uk](http://quooker.co.uk). Zerox 6 S-IF stainless steel sink, £1,036 (plus additional steel sections), Blanco, [blanco-germany.com](http://blanco-germany.com).

**SURFACES** Vintage oak worktop, from £450m, Sola Kitchens, [solakitchens.com](http://solakitchens.com). Similar wood flooring, Woodland Roasted Acorn, solid oak, £89.94sq m, Fired Earth, [firedearth.com](http://firedearth.com). Similar wood-look tiles, Bark coffee wood-effect brown matt tiles, from £39.79sq m, Victoria Plum, [victoriaplum.com](http://victoriaplum.com).

**ACCESSORIES** Long Nose Spotlights in Black PAR16, £33.24 each, Mr Resistor, [mr-resistor.co.uk](http://mr-resistor.co.uk). Classic Eames lounge chair (with ottoman) in black leather with cherry frame, £5,230, The Conran Shop, [theconranshop.co.uk](http://theconranshop.co.uk).