

# A working KITCHEN

A statement kitchen designed to be the hub of the house hosting busy cooks, little children along with the rest of the family

PHOTOS *Lind & Cumings Design* | WORDS *Portia Lubbock*

**INSIDE OUT**  
With the kitchen being the biggest space in the house, it's a statement feature that seamlessly leads out to the newly landscaped garden





### NATURAL MATERIAL

Left The Piracemas granite is a striking piece of natural granite which offers various colours to pick up from to create a colour palette. 'It had to be real stone on the worktop – we wanted solid, natural products that would last,' Nicky explains

### NEAT AND TIDY

Right The larder shelves house spices on purpose made racks, with large drawers below. The stone slab workspace carries the design through, making it an extension of the kitchen when the doors are left open. It also includes sockets for small appliances such as the coffee blender



When Nicky and Alex found their four-bedroom Victorian terraced house in South West London, they saw it as a blank canvas with great potential despite the run-down and dated interior, not to mention the wonky floors. 'It was a shell, the whole house needed redoing, everything was rotten. However, the south-facing aspect of the property, combined with one of the biggest gardens in the area, lots of green space, and an abundance of light throughout the house was very appealing to us,' explains Nicky.

When it came to the kitchen, Rory Gordon of Good London Builders, who took on the task of this house with Nicky and Alex, recommended Sola Kitchens for their excellent service and attention to detail. The brief the couple gave to their designer, Pia Rosling, was to 'maximise the space and accommodate working cooks as both my husband and I love cooking,' Nicky explains. 'Although, most importantly it needed to be a family area as we've got two very little children, Lizzie, three, and Emilia, one, so it was really important that it was liveable as well as workable, without taking on a cold showroom feel. We wanted that beautiful tactile element but for it to still be functional and not so pretty you can't touch anything in case it gets damaged.' Solid products and longevity were key throughout this project.

The design solution Pia came up with is a tonal blue palette complementing the Piracemas granite on the worktop – a homely yet chic choice – meanwhile, compiling a selection of high end appliances, such as the Gaggenau oven and induction hob, to suit the cooks in the family. While an island had always been designed into the layout, they soon realised there was a lot of space left to work with. 'We added a third onto the length of the island, which meant there was room for everybody,' explains Nicky. 'One of us working at one end, someone making a cake at the other and then one of us doing something else in the middle.' It also offers so much more storage which is valuable with little ones and a big family who visit often. 'Now that it's complete, I absolutely love it! It's a statement kitchen – people walk in and they just say wow! If we did move and had to plan another kitchen, we'd definitely get Sola involved again as they were brilliant.' **EKBB**

'We wanted that beautiful tactile element included but to still be functional, not to be so pretty you can't touch anything'



### GATHER TOGETHER

The kitchen is now a family space where everybody can be together but do their own thing. Their daughter, Lizzie, even has a matching toy kitchen



DRAWER ORDER

'I love the stone, it's absolutely beautiful, and I find all the little compartments in the drawers really pleasing,' says Nicky



'We added a third onto the length of the island, which meant there was room for everybody'



Q&A  
PIA ROSLING

DESIGN DIRECTOR AT SOLA KITCHENS

**What was your clients' brief?**

They're a young family with small children, running a busy life. They love to cook so it was important that they were happy with the appliances.

**How did you decide on the layout?**

The large island was a natural focal point for the room; the stone and the deep colour of the cabinetry makes it the place for people to gather, cook and socialise. Incorporating as much light as possible and a good connection with the beautiful garden created by the project manager Rory Gordon and his team.

**How did you choose the colour scheme?**

The Piracemas granite is a

stunning piece of natural granite which complements and picks up the colours of the Dock Blue on the island cabinetry.

**Were there any obstacles to overcome?**

We had a steel along the sink run which was a challenge to work around so we decided to cut a cabinet around it, keeping the flow of cabinetry while offering maximum worktop space.

**Do you have any details which you're particularly proud of?**

It is a dream kitchen for anyone who loves to cook. It's spacious, has a timeless look with a contemporary twist, and the link to the garden completes the project with a seamless natural view.





#### COLOUR FEATURE

The neutral space complements the two-tone blue cabinetry and allows for different textures and materials to sit with each other

‘Now, that it’s complete,  
I absolutely love it!  
It’s a real statement kitchen’

#### KITCHEN PROFILE

This quality bespoke kitchen design features solid birch Frillen Shaker cabinetry handpainted in Little Green’s Gauze and the island in Dock Blue. The Piracemas granite features similar tones ensuring both the cabinetry and worksurface complement one another.

#### SOLA KITCHENS

121 MUNSTER ROAD, LONDON, SW6 6DH.  
TEL: 020 3004 0898.  
Kitchen prices start from £35,000



## Essential kitchens



### SMART GARDEN

*Below* The pod at the end of the garden was designed by Alex, instead of installing a traditional shed. Used for storage, it's become a feature amongst the personalised outdoor space

### ANOTHER LEVEL

*Right* Various materials are used across multiple levels of the garden, offering a zoning effect for different activities without it being too gung ho. The sophisticated design is by Kate Eyre



## STOCKISTS

**CONSTRUCTION** Good London Builders

**GARDEN DESIGN** Kate Eyre Garden Designs

**APPLIANCES** BO481111 oven, £4,375; BS484111 400 Series **steam combination oven, sous vide**, £4,607; WS482110 400 Series **warming drawer**, £1,447; VG232214 **gas hob**, £809; VI230114 **induction hob**, £1,216; VG231214 **gas wok hob** £871; all Gaggenau. G4990SCVIJUBILEE fully-integrated **dishwasher**, £915; M6032SC **microwave oven**, £729, both Miele. 2 x K181RAF30G **fridge**, £1,115; GU15DA50GB **freezer**, £438, Siemens. WSW-STRATUSCOMPACT **cooker hood**, £2,295, Westin. AVU54SXDA service **cellar**, £741, Avintage.

**FIXTURES AND FURNISHINGS** Frillen shaker solid Birch **cabinetry**, kitchens are priced on application, Sola Kitchens. Cabinets painted in Gauze; island painted in Dock Blue, both **Intelligent eggshell**, Little Greene. Granite polished Piracemas **worktop**, £11,167. Titan size 3 **pendant lights** in Black and Bronze, £329, Original BTC. Weathered oak **bar stools**, £160 each, notonthehighstreet.com. Bosphorus travertine **floor tiles**, £29.94 per sq. m, Fired Earth. Similar Wiltshire painted **dining table** and four **chairs**, £655, The Cotswold Company. **For stockists see page 144**