



END-OF-RUN

An angled cupboard door by the hob conceals seasonings and spices and is a signature feature of a Furniture & Design kitchen

LARDER

Proomy shelves allow Trish to see everything in the larder, even when it's full with food. On the back of the doors, storage racks are perfect for bottles. There is also space on the granite cold shelf for small appliances





TRISH AND DAVE GIBB LIVE WITH THEIR DAUGHTER BECKY, 14, IN A FOUR-BEDROOM, GEORGIAN-STYLE HOME IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

While many of us dream of moving to the country, three years ago, Trish and Dave

Gibb, a client manager, decided to do the opposite and relocate to a market town from their 1970s-built house in a village. However, when they couldn't find a property they liked, the couple decided to stay put and transform their current home instead. 'We wanted to extend the house and add some rooms,' explains Trish, a housewife. 'It was quite ugly to start with but a front extension was designed to give it more character.'

After the extension was complete, the couple felt that the original, dated kitchen looked quite small. 'We agreed to make a bigger kitchen by knocking through into the utility room and partitioning off part of that area for a smaller utility,' says Trish.

While the Gibbs knew they wanted a Shaker-style kitchen, Trish was keen to avoid a country cottage look and began researching styles. 'I bought a few copies of *Beautiful Kitchens* and tabbed pages of ideas that I liked. By the time we started looking for a kitchen company I knew exactly what I wanted to do,' she explains.

After seeing three kitchens in friends' houses that had been planned by Darren Wells at Furniture & Design, Trish was confident she'd found the right designer for her new scheme. 'I met Darren and we just hit it off. If you're working with someone that has the same sort of ideas as you, everything flows,' she reveals.

Briefed by Trish and her folder of ideas, Darren set about creating a kitchen with spray-painted, Shaker-style doors, framed by solid oak to echo the timber elements elsewhere in the couple's home. Trish was keen to have an island but sadly, the room wasn't wide enough to accommodate one. Undaunted, Darren designed a smart breakfast bar that would function as a place for the family to gather. 'The way Darren designed the breakfast bar, it feels like an island. I definitely have the next best thing,' beams Trish.

The kitchen has already transformed the lives of the Gibb family. It sounds like a cliché but I didn't realise what a difference the new design would make until it was done,' says Trish. We spend more time in the kitchen than we used to as there's space for three or four people to sit. As a family, it's been really good for us.'

BUILT-IN OVEN

The Neff oven has a revolving handle, so I don't jar my wrist as it opens,' says Trish. 'The whole door then slides under the oven out of the way. Dave says it's a gimmick but I love it'









APPLIANCES

sits among a bank of appliances, including a combination oven and warming drawer, all by Neff. 'Having the ovens at waist height is great, because I'm not bending over all the time to try to lift up a joint of meat,' says Trish

SINK AREA

A one-and-a-quarter bowl ceramic sink by Franke has been paired with a Mimas C-spout tap in nickel by Perrin & Rowe.
Next to it is a switch for the In-Sink-Erator waste disposal unit

THE KITCHEN AT A GLANCE

DESIGN & CABINETRY

Darren Wells at Furniture & Design, 7 Bankside, Stationfield Industrial Estate, Kidlington, Oxon OX5 IJE (01865 370222) www.furnitureanddesign.co.uk



 Bespoke, spray-painted MDF cabinetry with solid oak furniture and glass doors

WORKTOPS

■ 30mm Ubatuba Gold granite, Coulon Stone. Price per sq m, from **£170**

FLOORING

Cairo Natural porcelain floor tiles,
 The Ceramic Tile Company.
 Price per sq m, from

£12.90

£361

£189

£663

£778

£347

SINK & TAP

■ VBK160 undermounted one-and-a-quarter-bowl white ceramic sink, Franke £431

 4846NI Mimas C-spout monobloc mixer tap in nickel with separate rinse, Perrin & Rowe

al unit,

■ ISE65 waste disposal unit, In-Sink-Erator

APPLIANCES (shown)

B45E54N0GB built-in single oven, Neff£886

■ C57M70 built-in combination oven,

Neff
T43D80 extra-wide,
four-zone induction
hob, Neff

■ Luna Crystal 900 chimney extractor hood, Eurokappa at CookerHoodsForYou £467

■ N21H40 built-in warming drawer,

RSG5DUMH integrated Americanstyle fridge freezer, Samsung £910

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APPLIANCES (not shown)

Existing freestanding microwave,
 Panasonic
 Fully integrated dishwasher, Bosch
 £395

For stockists, see page 162
PLAN SCALE Icm:Im

