

KITCHENS BEDROOMS & BATHROOMS

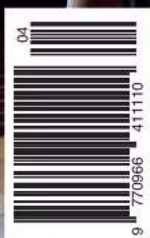
THE MAGAZINE FOR HOME REMODELLING, EXTENSIONS, LARGE RENOVATIONS, AND INTERIORS ADVICE

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Everyday luxuries

Lou O'Bryan discovers how this home balances an elevated design of warm neutrals, luxe materials, and exquisite joinery with practical family living

Photography Malcolm Menzies





Designed with storage and display firmly in mind, this south-London family home is a masterclass in practical yet beautiful living. Bespoke cabinetry throughout the kitchen-diner, entranceway, bedrooms, and bathroom is designed to fit seamlessly within each space, maximising storage while supporting the flow of everyday family life. Designer Hannah Stannard of Cor Domi was tasked with reworking the floor plan to improve flow, and elevating the interiors with bespoke joinery, which proved fundamental in the project's success. "Adding custom cabinetry allowed each space to be designed around the clients' specific needs, ensuring every element fitted naturally within the architecture and created a sense of continuity between rooms." The result is an

elegant yet functional home, closely attuned to the way the family lives day to day.

Located in an area of south London affectionately known as the 'Toast Rack' thanks to its sequence of parallel roads, this handsome Victorian terrace presented the perfect opportunity for a young family to create spaces that could evolve over time, even if it required considerable work to get there. "Originally the kitchen was positioned in a different part of the house, presenting a disconnect and lacking a sense of natural flow with the rest of the ground floor," says Hannah. "The family wanted to relocate it into the new extension at the back of the house, allowing it to become more integrated with the rest of the floor, and creating a space that feels lighter, more connected, and better suited to family life."

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left The open arched entry adds an architectural detail to the room, while keeping the pantry connected to the kitchen. Integrated fridge, *Fisher & Paykel*; appliances, *Miele*; herringbone flooring, *3 Oak*.

above The waterfall island's boldly veined *Arklam Paonazzo* porcelain has been extended across the worktops and splashback for a cohesive look, *Glazing, Thames Windows & Doors*.



At the heart of the brief was a desire for balance – a home that supports the practical demands of family life while remaining welcoming and relaxed when entertaining. A key consideration was creating a calm and intuitive kitchen living space that worked hard at different times of the day, transitioning easily from busy mornings and lively mealtimes into a sociable setting for evening gatherings.

“The main challenge was ensuring the kitchen flowed effortlessly when multiple people were using the space at the same time,” explains Hannah. “In larger kitchens, it’s easy for zones to feel disconnected, so we carefully considered everyday tasks during the planning stage, positioning distinct zones, such as the coffee nook, cooking area, sink space, and bar, so they could each be used independently.”

However, the most highly considered zone was the pantry, accessed through an open arch to soften the transition from the kitchen to this hardworking area. “The pantry was designed as an extension of the kitchen, with a variety of storage solutions tailored to the family’s needs,” notes Hannah. “Pull-out vegetable baskets, dedicated drawers for cutlery and plates, and well-organised shelving ensure

everyday tasks, from making breakfast to preparing drinks, are effortless and don’t interrupt the main kitchen flow.” This clear zoning brings a sense of order and refinement to the space, allowing the kitchen to feel calm, composed, and quietly elegant, even with the demands of everyday family use.

To maximise a sense of warmth and light in the kitchen living space, a predominantly pale palette was chosen as a foundation, with carefully placed deeper tones used to add contrast, structure, and definition. Dual-tone handcrafted cabinetry is central to the scheme: the chocolate-toned island and boldly veined porcelain anchor the space and create a natural focal point, while lighter surrounding cabinetry keeps the room feeling bright and open. “This considered contrast adds depth and visual interest while remaining timeless and understated,” says Hannah.

The renovation has completely reshaped how the family experiences their home. Thoughtfully crafted joinery has enhanced storage, functionality, and flow throughout, while improved organisation and efficient layouts ensure the house now works seamlessly for both busy family life and relaxed entertaining.



above Rich chocolate tones are offset by softer finishes, while layers of tactile detail bring character to the space. Shaker cabinetry in *Little Greene’s* Rolling Fog and Chocolate Colour, *Cor Domi*. Wall lights, *Visual Comfort*; pendants, *Hudson Valley*; handles, *Hendel & Hendel*; bar stools, *Marie’s Corner*.

right In this little bar area, layered materials such as an antique mirror backdrop and reeded glass cabinet doors introduce depth and texture. To maximise usability, the bar also incorporates two *Fisher & Paykel* drawer fridges and a discreet sink.

right From making coffee in the morning to relaxing on the bench (or under it, for certain family members), the kitchen was envisioned as a light-filled area that supports everyday living.

bottom right Catering to both family life and entertainment, the open-plan space's different areas are defined through subtle visual cues, including carefully positioned lighting and a rug that anchors the seating area. Armchairs, *Ferm Living*; dining table, *Area 8*; chairs, *Porada*; pendant light, *J. Adams & Co.*





above The fully bespoke joinery was designed to the shape of this guest room. The addition of a built-in bench maximised a harder-to-reach area, while by adding drawers beneath and creating a pretty reading nook, the full length of the wall was utilised.



left In the baby room, *Cor Domi* designed the bespoke cabinetry and bench around the centrally located window. Both painted in *Paint & Paper Library's* Sprig II, with the walls in Sprig V. Blind fabric, *Jane Churchill*. Bench cushion fabric, *Romo*.



right and below In the ensuite, solid oak and oak veneer cabinetry by *Cor Domi* is paired with marble, mirroring the kitchen design. Antique brass handles, *Harri & Ware*; Calacatta Viola marble, *Imperial Stone*; Pelham antique brass taps, *Porter Bathroom*; Hoxton Olive Gloss porcelain tiles, *Mandarin Stone*; Monaco tub, *Lusso*; Mid-Century metal frame mirrors, *John Lewis*.

bottom left The dressing room feels like a natural continuation of the master bedroom, while flowing seamlessly through to the ensuite. Bespoke Shaker cabinetry in *Little Greene's* Portland Stone Light, *Cor Domi*. Armchair, *Andrew Martin*, with *Yarn Collective* fabric.



THE FACTS

Who A professional couple with two young children

What A Victorian terrace with four bedrooms

Where Wandsworth Common, London

By Custom joinery, *Cor Domi*; architecture and interior design, *Project London* &