Clever use of colour and streamlined design give Jo and Chris Summer’s home a fabulous one-off look

Wendy Amelee-Torre | Photography by SBD Photography

Creative COLOUR

The FACTS

Jo and Chris Summer

Who Jo and Chris Summer, with their daughter Isla, aged five, and son Kit, aged two

What A new kitchen extension

Where South West London

Cost £80,000

Time One year

Facts

The bespoke Kali cabinets by Doc Tailor painted in Farrow & Ball’s Brinjal and Monkey House Blue with the island in Orange feature a mix of contemporary and classic elements.

The kitchen has light and dark wood, particularly because the slope of the garden means the gable windows lighten the otherwise dark, enclosed feeling. The new kitchen cabinets contrast and create an open-plan kitchen diner and pull back the feeling, adding wide steps to create extra storage capacity. Isla and Kit, aged five and two, love the feeling of light and space. A space to enjoy

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The large window above the kitchen counter allows the view to capture the garden, a view that the homeowners cherish. "We wanted to be able to enjoy the greenery of the garden from the kitchen every day, even when we’re not home," says one of the homeowners.

Within the space, the choice of materials and finishes is crucial. The kitchen features a combination of black and white elements, creating a modern yet timeless look. The cabinets are finished in a sleek black, complemented by white countertops and backsplash. "It’s a mix of black and white, which we think is very elegant," says the homeowner.

The kitchen island, positioned in the center of the room, serves as both a functional and social hub. "It’s a focal point of the space," says the homeowner. "We love having friends over and using the island as a place to gather and enjoy meals together." The island is equipped with a sink and additional counter space, making it a practical addition to the kitchen.

The finishes are of high quality, with materials chosen for their durability and style. The countertops are made of a solid surface material, which is easy to maintain and resistant to staining and scratches. The backsplash is made of glass tiles, adding a touch of elegance and reflecting light throughout the space.

"The overall design is very clean and contemporary," says the homeowner. "We wanted to create a space that feels modern but also warm and inviting. The black and white color scheme really helps achieve that balance."
The breakfast nook is beside the kitchen area. The owners designed the method to allow for an open space without a separate section which would obstruct the view.

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The PLANS

The PLANS

In designing the layout of the new home, we aimed to

1. **Island:** The central island in the kitchen creates a
  
2. **Breakfast area:** There's a small breakfast area
   
3. **Cabinetry:** The cabinetry is designed to
   

SOURCEBOOK

- **Kitchen:** John Louis Custom Kitchens
- **Handle:** Blum Tandem Blumotion
- **Appliances:** Fisher & Paykel, KitchenAid, Miele
- **Top:** Concrete floor tiles
- **Sink:** Undermount sink
- **Worktop:** Caesarstone
- **Bench:** Brick
- **Lighting:** Pendant lights, Recessed lighting
- **Faucet:** Moen

SHOP THE LOOK

- **1. Feature wall:** Modern hexagon tile
- **2. Mirror:** Oversized mirror
- **3. Cabinet:** Black hexagonal cabinet
- **4. Rug:** Bold geometric rug
- **5. Lamp:** Contemporary floor lamp