

Modern Hi-gloss lacquer and quartz composite

A PERFECT BALANCE

The Johnstons' innovative extension was the setting for a stylish, functional and precisely coordinated kitchen



The new extension in Layla and Tony Johnston's Victorian property in London

KITCHEN FILE

Design

- Chloe Bailey at Kitchen Clinic, 149 St John's Hill, London SW11 1TQ (020 7924 7877) www.kitchenclinic.com

Worksurfaces

- Stone Italiana Luce Bruna quartz composite, approx £500 per sq m, Classico Marble & Tiles

Flooring

- American black walnut, approx £44 per sq m for similar, Smee Timber

Appliances

- H7871N2GB combination microwave in stainless steel, £660
- Single Circotherm oven, for similar try B1641, £600
- T2766NO 70cm gas hob, £295 All Neff
- CUBE90SS 90cm extractor, £400, Elica
- Sovereign 60 fridge freezer, approx £2,500, Maytag
- G643V1 Plus 'Novotronic' integrated dishwasher, £600, Miele

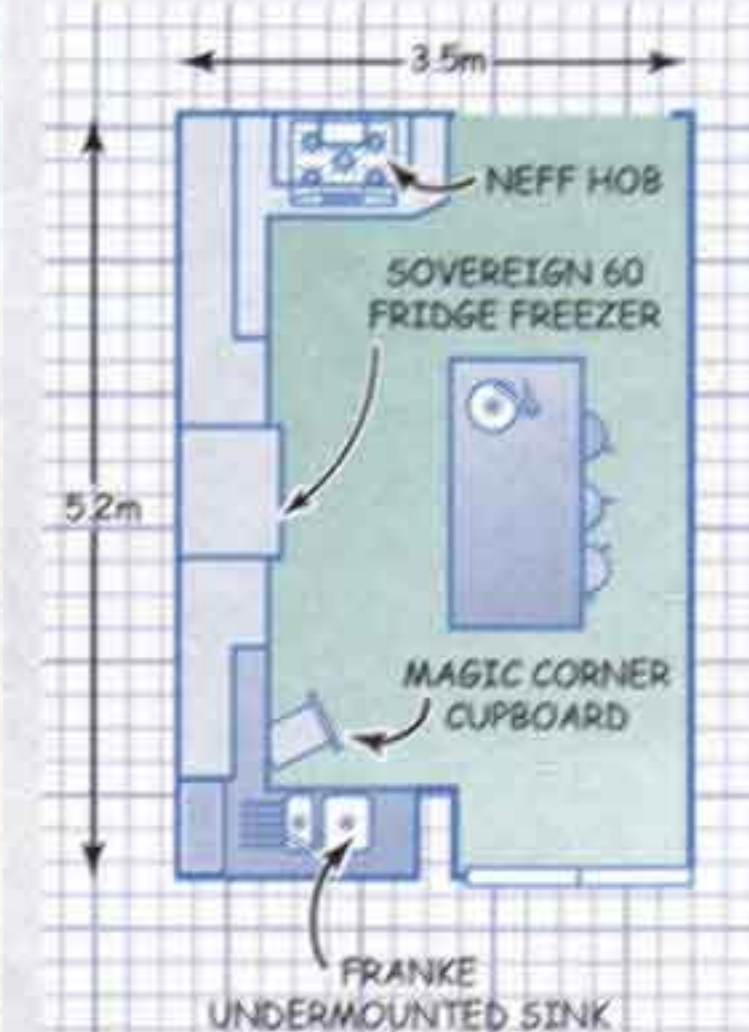
Sinks and taps

- Olympus SilkSteel tap, £161
- Pilatus SilkSteel lever tap, £235
- PCX160 undermounted sink, £340
- RUX110 undermounted sink, £152 All Franke

PRICE GUIDE

£22,000 Total cost

KITCHEN LAYOUT



Layla's kitchen has an airy feel thanks to a skylight, a glass splashback from Deco Glaze, undercabinet and ceiling spots, and pendant lights from Christopher Wray Lighting. The bar stools came from Furniture Craft International



The Euromobil cabinetry provides versatile storage with deep drawers for pans and crockery and long shallow drawers for cutlery and utensils. The island's central position is ideal and helps to separate the kitchen from the dining area beyond

'Our kitchen is a wonderful space that works on every level'



Layla Johnston's new kitchen is a wonderful melange of slick, modern design and no-nonsense practicality. With four young children (Sam, seven, twins Oscar and Patrick, four, and Sasha, seven months) to look after, she and husband Tony, a solicitor, felt it was imperative that it combine function and style in equal measure.

To accommodate the kitchen, an extension was built at the back of the Victorian property. It was given slide-and-fold glazed doors and a large skylight to ensure that the room always has lots of natural light. 'Once we decided how the extension would look we moved on to the design of the interior. We considered all sorts of styles, but knew we wanted something bright, modern and open plan with a large dining and living space,' says Layla.

To achieve this, the couple worked closely with designer Chloe Bailey at Kitchen Clinic. The design was laid out to a symmetrical plan, with the American-style fridge freezer placed in the middle of the main wall, and Euromobil units either side to create a sense of balance. 'Layla wanted a very linear look, with white, hi-gloss cabinets, roller shutters, stainless-steel appliances and an island with a small sink,' explains Chloe. 'The central workstation means that Layla doesn't need to have her back to the rest of the room all the time while she is preparing food. Plus, it's a really convenient place for the children to have their breakfast on school mornings.'

Quartz composite worktops in a glossy chocolate colour with tiny mirror flecks provide a chic accent to the scheme. Chloe then showed Layla samples of different-coloured glass for a splashback that would surround the main worksurface. 'Originally she was

considering a dusky pink, because she loves the colour, but in the end she went for a more subtle greyish blue, which is just gorgeous,' says Chloe.

A few small adjustments were required once the kitchen was fitted, as Layla discovered that the oven and microwave were set slightly high for her. Kitchen Clinic were happy to modify this by swapping around the storage units above and below, resulting in a more comfortable arrangement.

Black walnut flooring and gentle lighting complete the look. 'The kitchen is now a wonderful space that works on every level - as a practical family room, and a stylish venue for entertaining,' Layla smiles.

WHERE TO BUY Christopher Wray Lighting 020 7751 8701 Classico Marble & Tiles 01753 580044 Deco Glaze 020 8569 8585 Elica 01252 351111 Euromobil 020 7924 7877 Franke 0161 436 6280 Furniture Craft International 0870 770 2985 Miele 01235 554455 Neff 0870 513 3090 Smeo Timber 01606 555500

FEATURE RUTH CORBETT PHOTOGRAPHY TOM SCOTT

1 A circular prep sink and stylishly understated tap in the island are ideal for washing fruit and vegetables

2 Glossy chocolate-coloured composite worktops with sparkling mirror flecks add a touch of glamour to the room and accent the white cabinets

3 At one end of the main run of cabinetry, illuminated glass shelves edged with stainless steel display decorative items

4 The style of the extractor echoes the room's angular symmetry, while a tambour-fronted cupboard provides another storage option

