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Kitchens and Bathrooms



FAMILY UNITS

FOR A KEEN-ON-COOKING CLAN IN WIMBLEDON, MARTIN MOORE'S DESIGNER HAS DREAMED UP A WARM, INVITING SPACE IN WHICH STORAGE IS PARAMOUNT

TEXT CLAIRE BINGHAM | PHOTOGRAPHS DARREN CHUNG





ABOVE LEFT 'Holophane' pendants from Max Inc hang above the island – its Martin Moore 'Ink' paint is the perfect foil for antique-brass pulls. ABOVE RIGHT The larder lies alongside the fridge

When homeowner Mary Krott set about renovating her period house in Wimbledon, the brief was to create a large family kitchen that was well equipped and organised yet still warm.

Veering away from a previous stainless-steel-and-white scheme, she approached the bespoke English kitchen company Martin Moore, known for its classic designs, to create a space that is both simple and inviting.

Liaising closely with architects Haine & Co and lighting expert Kate Beard, kitchen designer Andrew Wartnaby devised the 'living kitchen' layout, which involved knocking down internal walls and introducing a vaulted ceiling. The newly open-plan room combines an L-shaped kitchen with island, living area and home office that relates to the period architecture of the property – while benefiting from lots of natural light. In a shrewd juxtaposition of old and new, daylight floods in from the sloping glass roof and sleek doors, while a parquet floor has been laid for continuity with the original oak underfoot elsewhere.

'When I'm designing a kitchen, the appliances often come first. That gives me a clear idea of what the clients would like to achieve – and the positioning,' Andrew says on the beginnings of the scheme. 'The client wanted something in keeping with the style of the property, rather than stainless steel. We also liked the look of the Lacanche cooker, which has a more classic feel.'

The dark navy-painted island in Martin Moore's 'Ink' is offset by the warm wood flooring and the softer-toned 'Grey Linen' paint covering the wall cabinets. The worktops and splashbacks are polished polar white quartz. 'The client selected this stone as it complemented the parquet floor,' Andrew explains.

For a family that is enthusiastic about cooking, the kitchen has been organised with convenience in mind. For example, the sink area is fitted with two dishwashers and the walk-in pantry is right next to a large fridge/freezer. The Lacanche range cooker is adjacent to the island and, as with all elements of the renovation, this creates as much storage as possible. Something every good kitchen needs. martinmoore.com □



The large island is circled by dark-wood 'Bloc' stools from Atlantic. An appliance cupboard keeps everything required for breakfast and drinks together in one place