

Industrial vibe

An ergonomic layout and contrasting natural and man-made finishes create a strong design statement in the kitchen of this Surrey home

PHOTOS *James Balston* | WORDS *Emily Peck*

UNIQUE SETTING
The island is wrapped in a charcoal-grey concrete top, which adds an industrial feel

'A combination of oak, painted cabinetry and softly industrial accessories creates an eclectic look with a hint of glamour'



IN DETAIL

The breakfast bar is made from sealed solid oak in a bare finish – the same material as the dining room table top



URBAN STYLE

The Compact Carina worktops provide a smooth surface for an array of kitchen tasks, while small Hereford pendant lights by Fritz Fryer hang above the island. These are matched with simple wall lights by Olive & the Fox



While renovating their seven-bedroom Victorian home in Surrey, the priority for Philippa and Alistair McFarlane was to retain as much period charm within the interior as possible. 'The rooms have large proportions and there are lots of original features, such as high ceilings, tall skirtings, ornate corning and traditional fireplaces,' says Philippa, who runs Dorking-based antiques and interiors company Sandrock House. 'These details are the welcoming soul of this house, which set it apart from all the others we looked at. When it came to the kitchen design, we wanted a look that complemented these elements, but which also felt industrial in style – eclectic, glamorous and ultimately timeless.'

To help them create their ideal family kitchen, the couple called upon the help of designer Tamsin Collier of bespoke kitchen company Armored. 'The existing kitchen, old dining room, living room and the orangery were previously separate rooms and on different levels to each other, while the kitchen felt disproportionately small,' explains Tamsin. 'The house has only been extended out by a metre, but the space has now been used more effectively. The dilapidated Victorian orangery was rebuilt and the existing floor levels evened up to bring the kitchen back into the body of the house. The refurbished orangery has transformed how they use their kitchen and dining area.'

Philippa had a strong idea of elements she wanted to include within the kitchen design, and was keen to mix materials such as wood and concrete, while also contrasting dark and light tones. Tamsin then brought these features together in the design. 'The couple wanted to combine both classic oak and painted cabinetry finishes, so cool greys and soft blacks were used on the kitchen walls, units and larder cupboard, while a deep blue was used for the dining room dresser, which features a luxurious brass cladding that offsets the interior.' The main body of the kitchen comprises cupboards with solid-oak plank doors finished with a natural grey tint oil, while the wall cabinets and larder cupboard are painted in Mullet by Marston & Langinger.

Philippa is delighted with how flexible the space is. 'We really wanted to create a welcoming open-plan living space that would be sympathetic to the period of the house, but also work for our family, both while they are still young, and as they grow up. The definitive areas now allow us to be together as a family, while also doing different things. I love the fact that our new kitchen can now comfortably cater for large gatherings with family and friends, including the odd sizeable house party!' *ENB*



PURPOSE BUILT
Strong forms in mixed materials create a bold, yet fluid design. The concrete-wrapped island serves as the anchor and provides a counterpoint to the warm oak and white tiles and worktops.

'From what was previously three disjointed rooms, we've achieved an adaptable space that's ideal for the growing family'



WARM HUE
The brass-lined dresser glows beautifully at night-time, reflecting the globe lights

KITCHEN PROFILE

Bespoke classic oak and painted cabinetry teams here with a range of worktop finishes, an island with concrete wrap, and units finished with Compac Carrara. A brass-clad dresser in the dining room provides a stunning contrast.



STYLISH SETTING

Above Armorel designed and made the dining room table to match an industrial-style table base that Philippa sourced

CLASSIC ACCENTS

Stylish Eames dining chairs from Vitra elegantly complement the dining table



Q&A

TAM SIN COLLIER
DESIGNER AND CO-FOUNDER, ARMOREL

Can you tell us a bit about the style here? To add interest, we wanted the kitchen to look as though it had been added to over time. The colours were key to Philippa as she is used to working with bold hues and she wanted the kitchen to feel fresh, but she also wanted there to be darker elements that tie in with the rest of the house.

What feature do you think stands out in the overall design? The dining room dresser came after the kitchen cabinetry and adding this took time - we didn't want it to be an extension of the kitchen but rather a standout piece that sat comfortably in the room while also having something different to say. The sun shines beautifully in this room in the late afternoon and adding the brass cladding to the glazed interior means this cabinet really comes alive and showers the kitchen and dining area in a dusky glow come evening.

Were there any particular challenges to overcome in the design and renovation of this space? We were very keen to work with the kitchen, dining and soft areas as a whole, interconnected space and not have any clear, definitive ends to the cabinetry where the kitchen stops and another room continues. Also, Philippa was very keen that the oak doors were solid and not a veneered oak. This, of course, has its challenges as you would expect in a kitchen with varying humidity levels and temperature fluctuations.

What's more, while the SubZero fridges are fabulous and enormous, we wanted to avoid them dominating the room. Integrating them alongside the oak cabinetry lessened their size and provides a lovely, large oak backdrop for the rest of the kitchen, but due to the substantial size of the fridge doors, we needed to make sure the oak doors remained stable.



Essential Kitchens

STORE ROOM

Left: A larder cupboard is painted in the same grey as the kitchen units

LIGHT SOURCE

Above: The large glass roof of the orangery, which serves as dining room, allows sunlight to flood in



PROJECT DETAILS

DESIGN Armorel. A similar kitchen would cost around £60,000.

APPLIANCES ICBIT-36C11D Fridge freezer, £10,199; SubZero, White Aga range, from £12,785; Aga, SN678D101G dishwasher, £1,049; Siemens, supplied by BDO Kitchens & Appliances, 10152-423-000FL ONO rinse tap, EPOA; 10151-413-000FL ONO tap, EPOA, both KWC; Nordic Square boiling water tap, £950; Quoooker.

FIXTURES AND FURNISHINGS

Bespoke classic oak and painted cabinetry, by Armorel. Cabinetry in Mullet 56 intelligent matt emulsion paint, £60 per 2.5L, Marston & Langinger. Dining room dresser painted in Basalt, £50 per 2.5L, Little Greene. Walls

in Blackened, £69 per 2.5L, Farrow & Ball. Compact Carrara worktops, around £5,000; concrete wrap, around £9,000, both supplied by Surrey Marble and Granite. Kitchen area rustic oak parquet flooring, £48 per sq. m, supplied by Armorel. Polished concrete in Natural Light, EPOA; Lazenby, Nest wall lights, £69; Olive & the Fox, Trimless square fixed downlights, £24; Mr Resistor, Medium Hereford pendant lights, £153; Fritz Fryer, Small opaline Parisian globe lights, £595. Puro White Lines Dining table base, EPOA, DT-69, Freedom black stool, £7999; Atlantic Shopping, Double-glazed timber framed sashes, EPOA, Armorel Joinery. For stockists and contact details, see page 144