

Kitchensmiths – Helene Negre



The brief:

Helene's clients had recently added a small extension to create a more open plan space that would function as a kitchen, living room and dining area. One of the main criteria was for the family to have a breakfast bar, which would enable them to sit down together and catch up over breakfast or dinner without the formality of the dining table. The clients also had strong ideas on colour, as they had chosen some red bar stools and wanted to continue the theme throughout the rest of the room. Plenty of concealed storage was also a must, as the kitchen was going to be on show the whole time.

The solution:

"My first suggestion was to take down a wall that was supposed to stay in the new scheme, to open the room up even more. This gave us the space to include a large island in the centre, which is the main focus of the kitchen. The clients chose Stoneham's Elan walnut very early on so, to contrast with the cabinets, I added granite worktops in a creamy Panna Fragola colour and designed a stepped upstand to break up the look. I answered the client's need for discreet storage with a corner carousel, tambour shutter unit, pan drawers, pull out larder unit and integrated appliances."

What the client thinks:

"This room is very much the centre of the house as anything and everything can be done in here now. The walnut looks really spectacular and we love the glass-fronted cabinets and the roller shutter. Kitchensmiths were very professional and they left no stone unturned. They were really patient with us and did a great job."