



LEFT Porcelain floor tiles cover the indoor and outdoor spaces. Cortina String tiles, £90 per sqm, Stone & Ceramic Warehouse (stoneandceramicwarehouse.co.uk)

RIGHT It took a month to fit the kitchen. SieMatic SC10 laminate cabinets in Provence Oak, island faced in Corian Fragrant textured pattern, Silestone worksurface in polished Eternal Calacatta, The Myers Touch (themyerstouch.co.uk)

BELOW Until 1903 the house was a pub. The glazed extension is by AR Design Studio



The benefits of living in a converted public house include having lots of space and characterful features. But there are drawbacks too, as homeowner Zoe Cave Hawkins discovered. 'The layout at the back of the house was impractical and lacked easy access to the garden because of the small extensions and a conservatory that had been added over the years,' explains Zoe. She and her two teenage children, Josh and Lilly, were in need of a bright kitchen-diner with doors leading outside.

As their 18th-century home is Grade II listed and in a conservation area, Zoe, 46, asked local architectural practice AR Design Studio for advice (ardesignstudio.co.uk). The firm consulted with the council and conservation officers and came up with a plan to replace the previous additions with a steel-framed glazed extension with timber infill. The project required planning permission and listed building consent, and the applications for both went through without objection.

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'The design includes a rooflight that takes up the full width of the extension, between the original back wall of the house and the new-build,' says Andy Ramus, AR Design Studio founder and director. 'It lets daylight in and creates a distinction between the old and new parts of the building.'

On the recommendation of her architect, Zoe hired Keith Myers of The Myers Touch to design the kitchen (themyerstouch.co.uk). He suggested a single wall of cabinets and appliances running along a side wall with an island in front. It features an inset induction hob and an overhanging worksurface that creates a place to sit and eat. This arrangement left ample space for the dining table and chairs in the centre of the extension, with a family snug beyond.

The house's exposed rear wall complements the kitchen units. 'The timber-effect laminate cabinets look great alongside the stone and brick,' says Keith. For practical purposes, an undermounted sink and integrated appliances combine to create an uncluttered, streamlined look. 'I included the mirrored splashback to give an illusion of extra space, using it to reflect the opposite side of the room,' he adds.

The island is a big hit with the family. 'It lights up in the evening and is a lovely centrepiece for the space,' says Zoe. 'Our new room is somewhere for us to all come together to cook, eat and just relax.' GD



ABOVE The island includes deep pan drawers and a wine cabinet. iQ500 induction hob, from £809, Siemens (siemens-home.bsh-group.com/uk)



PROJECT PROFILE

LOCATION Winchester, Hampshire
STYLE OF PROPERTY Detached Grade II listed house
DURATION OF BUILD 10 months
SIZE 37sqm
COST Extension £300,000, kitchen £45,000

A space to share

This contemporary kitchen-diner completes a listed home

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