

A bar area at the peninsula has created a space for additional seating, making it feel more sociable when Emma is cooking.

Black rattan stools, £220 each, Rose & Grey. Sheepskin seat pads, £35 each, Baa Stool. Raffia wall basket (right), £218, Tooka

PROJECT DETAILS

WHO LIVES HERE?

Emma Fishman, her husband, David, and children, Lottie, 23, Izzy, 19 and Sadie, 13.

THE PROJECT

A rear extension to their Essex home and new kitchen.

TOTAL COST

£35,300



KITCHEN PROJECT

Bursting with personality

REJIGGING A CRAMPED SPACE WITH CLEVER IDEAS AND PLENTY OF PATTERN HAS TRANSFORMED EMMA FISHMAN'S KITCHEN INTO THE HEART OF HER HOME



BEFORE



**PRACTICAL
WORKTOP**
The urban feel
Neolith worktop in
Steel Touch is not
only extremely easy
to clean but stain-,
heat- and chip-
resistant, too

THE PROBLEM

The kitchen was dark and didn't connect with the rest of the downstairs

THE SOLUTION

'Our kitchen was not only in dire need of an update but the space didn't feel connected to the rest of the house. We decided to update the kitchen, then the plans became more extensive. The space was not straightforward - the

staircase is in the centre of the house, which we didn't want to move, and our patio was small. My brother-in-law architect Martin Bradley (@martin.bradley123) suggested a window seat and skylights on either side of the house. With the new space worked out it was time to

think about the kitchen. I'm an interiors stylist (@emma.fishman_stylist) so I loved thinking about the style. I had my eye on Bert & May's Shift tiles combined with dramatic black units. The London Kitchen Company designed the wood grain doors, and a green striped floor adds extra interest.'



ABOVE The induction hob has an internal extractor so there's no need for a visible hood, which keeps the room feeling open and spacious.

The slick glass hob is easier to clean than Emma's old gas hob.

Neolith Metropolitan Steel Touch worktop, £6,975; Bora Pure recirculation hob, £2,616, The London Kitchen Company. Two-tone rattan pendants, £154 each, Maisons du Monde

RIGHT Martin Bradley, the architect, designed the window seat in iroko wood, to create a lovely place to relax with shelving for cookbooks underneath. The cushions are covered in Emma's favourite fabric to add more pattern.

Omega Prints Casper fabric in Seagreen, £77.90m, Linwood. Black square edge switches and sockets, from £45.85 for a single socket, Wandsworth Electrical

FOCUS ON SINTERED STONE

The perfect material for a maintenance-free worktop if you love the look of natural stone

- Sintered stone is man-made using natural materials. While marble and granite are 'natural' stone, Neolith and other quartz-based surfaces are 'engineered' stone. The technical process makes it very tough and almost impossible to damage, keeping your kitchen looking pristine for years. Sintered surfaces are extremely resistant to heat, stains and chips, making it ideal for a busy kitchen.
- Its non-porous quality makes it very easy to clean and food safe, too,

reducing germs and bacterial growth.

■ Neolith worktops are made by putting the raw materials found in glass, porcelain and quartz under extreme heat and pressure to create an almost indestructible material.

■ Neolith has a range of coloured and patterned worktops, including styles that mimic natural stones, such as marble, and come in satin, silk or polished finishes. Drainer grooves, sinks and splashbacks can be added to complement your design.





ABOVE 'I had my heart set on a black kitchen with contrasting tiles to add drama. One wall has shelving to display my collection of crockery.'
Shadow Black Egger cabinetry, £23,000, The London Kitchen Company. House Doctor wall lights, £73.10 each, Royal Design.

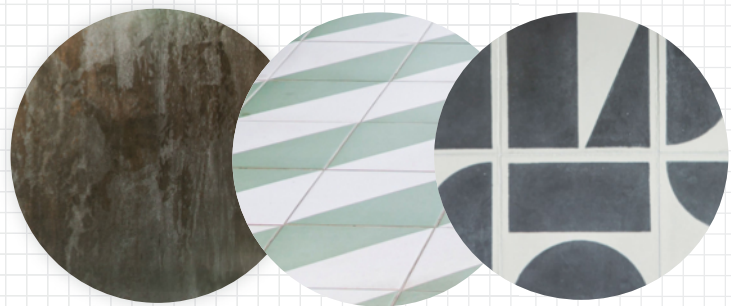
RIGHT Diagonal striped floors draw the eye into the kitchen and add a sense of drama to the space. The hard-wearing porcelain tiles have been sealed to make them easier to keep clean.
Green Alalpardo porcelain floor tiles, £78.43sq m, Bert & May



“At first I was worried about being too bold for when we come to sell in future but then I realised this is our house for enjoying now”

EMMA FISHMAN, HOMEOWNER

KEY SURFACES



LEFT TO RIGHT Worktop Metropolitan Steel Touch worktop, £6,975, Neolith **Tiles** Green Alalpardo porcelain floor tiles, £78.43sq m; Black Split Shift One, Two, Three wall tiles, £7.56 each, Bert & May

KITCHEN SOURCEBOOK

Cabinetry, worktop and hob, The London Kitchen Company (thelondonkitchencompany.co.uk). Tiles, Bert & May (bertandmay.com). Stools, Rose & Grey (roseandgrey.co.uk). Lighting, Maisons du Monde (maisonsdumonde.com); Royal Design (royaldesign.co.uk). Switches and sockets, Wandsworth Electrical (wandsworthelectrical.com). Paint, Farrow & Ball (farrow-ball.com)

STYLING AND FEATURE EMMA FISHMAN PHOTOGRAPHS LIZZIE ORME