

EASY LIVING

A blend of traditional elements, modern touches and Stateside style lend this reworked extension space a timeless feel

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When it came to renovating their detached Georgian-style home, the owners of this Oxfordshire property looked overseas for inspiration. ‘We have friends in the US and the idea of the classic American “great room”, a versatile open-plan living and cooking space, has always appealed to us,’ says owner Amanda Netherton. ‘That was the starting point for a new rear extension in which the kitchen, overlooking a west-facing garden and pool, is at the heart.’

The family wanted a practical and luxurious space that could accommodate generous storage, several ovens and a pair of wine fridges for entertaining. They turned to bespoke kitchen specialists Harvey Jones, whose Original range was adapted to create a streamlined look. ‘We eschewed some of the traditional elements such as tongue-and-groove and decorative end panelling in

favour of a cleaner finish,’ says head of design Melissa Klink. ‘The design grew around the location of the sink, overlooking the garden. To its left, a large bank of custom tulipwood cabinetry houses storage and appliances, while a generous, polished Carrara-topped island is a natural focal point.’

Above: A pared-back design lends this elegant kitchen a streamlined feel. The focal point is a generous island, topped with polished Carrara marble. It houses two Miele wine coolers, as well as an oven and hob. The cabinetry is painted in Farrow & Ball’s ‘Skimming Stone’

A blend of ergonomics and aesthetics are the hallmark of this deceptively simple scheme: Miele dishwashers are discreetly housed by the sink for ease; two removable chopping boards and a wooden storage drawer add a subtle touch of oak to the otherwise painted cabinetry, and a concealed drawer bin is incorporated into the island. Freestanding elements, such as a painted breakfast dresser, provide that all-important ▷



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Large 'Crystal Chandelier', by Timothy Oulton at Harrods, £2,300. harrods.com



'Elise' stainless steel and leather bar stool (cool grey), from Danetti, £149. danetti.com



'Iona Grand' mirror (walnut) from Russell Pinch at The Conran Shop, £3,750. conranshop.co.uk



From top: Integrated oak trays and a storage basket are a neat detail. A breakfast dresser, painted in Farrow & Ball's 'Railings', provides a link between the kitchen and dining area. This space is flooded with light thanks to a wide roof lantern. The island houses an extra-wide oven and hob. The adjacent living and dining area was designed by Vanessa Roff (vanessaroff.com)

multi-functional feel. 'The dresser is one of our favourite elements,' says Amanda. 'It links the kitchen to the dining area and houses our glasses as well as a customised wine rack.' Painted cabinetry conceals copious storage, including electrical sockets for small appliances. A large crystal chandelier over the adjacent dining table adds drama, while oak flooring throughout links the dining, living and cooking areas. 'Adding this extension has given the house a new lease of life,' concludes Amanda. 'We spend a great deal of our time here. Our daughter loves to cook when she is home from university, and we enjoy hosting Sunday lunches or drinks in the summer, which inevitably spill into the garden. It's a relaxed yet supremely comfortable way of living which suits us perfectly.' harveyjones.com □



Glass-fronted cabinet, from Harvey Jones, price on request. harveyjones.com. 'Classic' white wine glasses, from Summerill & Bishop, £8.95 each. summerillandbishop.com