

Media Outlet: *Living Etc*

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Choose your **KITCHEN STYLE**



MIRROR, MIRROR

THE IDEA What better way to make a solid island unit disappear than by cladding it in a mirror finish? Doing so creates an optical illusion where the island reflects the surrounding room and so subtly recedes into it. It also has the added benefit of making the work surface look less kitchen, more sculptural statement.

GET THE LOOK Bulthaup's B1 kitchen, priced from £30,000, has similar clean lines. Corian will make bespoke work surfaces, from £310 per linear m.



ARTISTIC LICENCE

THE IDEA In this unusual kitchen, MDF doors have been hand-painted with a chinoiserie-influenced design, making the room look more like a decadent dressing space than a practical working area. If you're not a confident painter, you could achieve the same look by wallpapering then matt varnishing flat-front units.

GET THE LOOK Songbirds wallpaper in Cream and Pale Blue, £70.10 for a 10m roll, from the Wild Flora collection by Anna French, is a fine chinoiserie print.



TIMBER TREATMENT

THE IDEA Forget about trad, country-style kitchens – natural materials can be put to use in a more unusual way. Here, textural vertical planking forms the door fronts and plays against a polished concrete floor to create an updated rough-luxe effect.

GET THE LOOK For a kitchen with grain cabinets, try Smallbone of Devizes's Walnut & Silver, priced from £48,000. Alternatively, Piet Hein Eek's Scrapwood wallpaper, £199 for a 9m roll, at Rockett St George, can create the look.



IN THE FOLD

THE IDEA This contrasting white/red scheme helps hide a bold kitchen behind a minimal bank of white. The floor-to-ceiling doors concertina back to reveal the working area, then can be closed off to create a floating-wall effect.

GET THE LOOK An experienced carpenter found via ratedpeople.com can custom-make concertina doors. For coloured flooring, try The Resin Flooring Company. Dulux's Red Stallion 2 emulsion, £24.29 for 2.5l, is a punchy red.

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DESIGNProject



REMAKE, REMODEL

THE IDEA To avoid a classic fitted-kitchen look, choose pieces of freestanding furniture and have them adapted to accommodate your appliances. Complete the scheme with statement lighting you wouldn't normally expect to see in a kitchen.

GET THE LOOK *Retrouvius* and *Lassco* are both great sources of vintage and reclaimed storage and shop fittings. More locally, *SalvoWeb* can help you locate an architectural salvage dealer in your area.



EASTERN PROMISE

THE IDEA This Japanese-influenced island houses all the working parts of the kitchen, including the oven, hob and sink. The wooden trims on the custom-made sliding doors are a purely decorative feature and make the cupboards look less utilitarian and more the kind of storage that would work throughout a home.

GET THE LOOK This isn't an off-the-shelf design, so you'll need to find a builder who can do the work. *The Federation of Master Builders* is a good place to start.

Livingetc LOVES



WHITE OUT

THE IDEA A minimalist design is the way to go for the ultimate, modernist hidden kitchen. It's all about handleless doors, flush-fitted cupboards and clean straight lines. Go for a one-note colour scheme to maximise the impact and remember to keep all the surfaces uncluttered.

GET THE LOOK For similar units, try *In-toto's Firenze* kitchen, or the *Hi-Line* kitchen by *Dada*. Expect to pay from £20,000 for a comparable scheme.



BLACK MAGIC

THE IDEA Try zoning the different parts of the room. A wall of black units will effectively disappear into the background, while the warm, wooden dining set creates a smooth transition to the open-plan living area.

GET THE LOOK *SieMatic's SE 4004* kitchen has a similar finish to this, from £25,000. Alternatively, try *Ikea's Gnosjö* black wood-effect design, £20 for a H92 x W60cm door, which comes in a high-gloss black finish.