

The spectacular colour of the amethyst glass worksurfaces in Rosemary Claxton's kitchen will come as no surprise to anyone who knows her well. For as long as she can remember, Rosemary has loved all shades of purple, so when she and her husband John were planning a new kitchen scheme, she knew she wanted the colour lilac to play a leading role in their design. 'When we bought our 1930s home, the layout was very old-fashioned, with a narrow kitchen and a small adjoining breakfast room. The house was very spacious, though, so we decided to convert the kitchen into a utility area and extend the breakfast room to create a large space for a kitchen,' recalls Rosemary, who works in HR.

The couple had a clear idea of the style of furniture they wanted. 'We'd already decided on simple, cream hi-gloss cupboards,' remembers John, a retired engineer. 'Then we spotted some orange glass worktops in a department store. We didn't like the colour, but thought it would look great in lilac instead.'

With these ideas in mind, Rosemary and John visited a number of kitchen companies, including Bradbury's Kitchen & Bedroom Centre. 'We were very impressed with the Alno ranges in the showroom, so we asked one of its designers, Terry Partridge, to come up with some layouts and we loved them,' says John.

The new kitchen has three runs of wall units and a central island with a built-in induction hob. The rest of the appliances are grouped together on one side to form an impressive bank of stainless steel, flanked by tall doors concealing the fridge and food storage.

Having spent the best part of a year working out what they wanted from their new kitchen, Rosemary and John are more than pleased with the room's looks and practicality. 'The different shades of purple work together so well,' smiles Rosemary. 'We have a 1930s house, but a fabulous 21st-century kitchen.'



'We've both been pleasantly surprised by the induction hob. We were used to gas and took some convincing that electricity could be as controllable, but it's fantastic. Spills don't get burnt on, because there's no heat when you take the pan off, and it's so easy to clean'

ROSEMARY CLAXTON

'We have a 1930s house but a fabulous 21st-century kitchen'

Rosemary and John elected to have deep drawers, rather than cupboards, to store their pans and small kitchen appliances. Many of these are in the island, which is also home to their induction hob and spacious worksurface

Walls painted in Dulux's Lilac White pick up the soft lavender shade of the worktops and splashbacks. To keep the larger appliances together, the microwave has been neatly slotted in at eye level, near the bank of Neff ovens. The Venetian blinds were custom-made by Stylehome



The glass wall cabinets incorporate clever lighting in the base to illuminate both the interior and the space beneath. Stylish aluminium D-handles by Alno finish the clean, minimal look



The flatscreen TV is part of an integrated audio-visual system, supplied by Sevenoaks Sound & Vision, that continues throughout the house. Bradbury's built the glass-topped dining table that is teamed with cream leather chairs from John Lewis

The two-bowl sink and stainless-steel worktop are part of a single, made-to-measure unit from Blanco with a sliding glass chopping board as an optional accessory. Water volume is boosted by the Grohe tap's built-in aerator system



THE KITCHEN FILE

DESIGN & CABINERY

- Terry Partridge at **Bradbury's Kitchen & Bedroom Centre**, Denbury Court, Matford Park, Exeter EX2 8NB (01392 825940) www.bradburysltd.co.uk
- Hi-gloss Vanilla units with glass doors from the AlnoSign range and frosted glass units from the AlnoTech Pro range all by Alno

WORKTOPS

- Back-painted toughened glass, Alno. Price per sq m **£420**
- Vinessa Beech laminate, Alno. Price per sq m **£160**
- Steel Art stainless steel, Blanco. Total cost **£2,320**

SINK & TAP

- Inset one-and-a-half-bowl sink as integral part of Steel Art worktop
- Minta 32917 single-lever monobloc mixer tap with C-spout in chrome, Grohe **£149**

APPLIANCES (shown)

- B1644 built-in single oven, Neff **£806**
- B6774 built-in multifunction oven, Neff **£806**
- B8722 built-in steam oven, Neff **£626**
- H5470 built-in integrated microwave, Neff **£453**
- T4383 four-zone induction hob, Neff **£753**
- Custom-made extractor unit, excluding glass, Domus Ventilation **£95**
- N7290 built-in warming drawer, Neff **£332**

APPLIANCES (not shown)

- Fully integrated fridge, Liebherr **£750**
- Built-under wine cooler, Miele **£902**
- Fully integrated dishwasher, Miele **£1,139**

 For stockists, see page 153

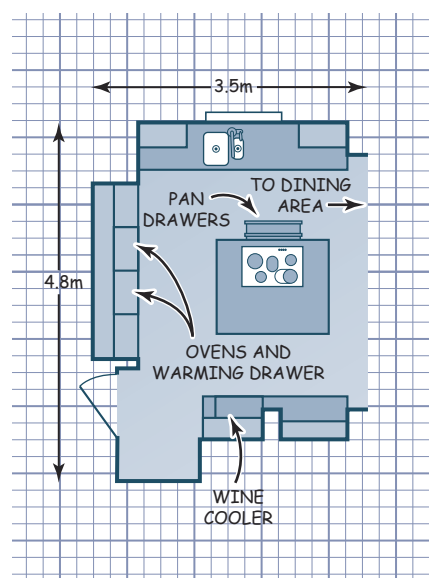
Shelves sited inside an old chimney breast display some of Rosemary's favourite glassware. Below, the worksurface is made of hardwearing laminate, while the glass worktops have been painted on the down side in Dulux's Purple Sage 4



▼ Pull-out drawers for the couple's foodstuffs ensure that everything stored in the larder is clearly visible. The cupboard sits on the left side of a bank of ovens. On the right of them, behind a matching door, is the Liebherr fridge



▼ Pans stay in their place thanks to these adjustable beech pegs within the drawer. Rosemary invested in a new set of Judge stainless-steel saucepans, from Gourmet Cookware, that is suitable for use with her induction hob



GUIDE PRICE

- Total cost, approx **£37,000**