

Life in mono

Roger and Helen Jones have paired black hi-gloss cabinetry with white appliances for a dramatic and distinctive new style

MODERN

White appliances and frosted glass doors from the AlnoTec range serve to break up the banks of AlnoGrand black hi-gloss furniture. Bethel White granite worktops and creamy porcelain floor tiles from Chapel Flooring further brighten the space. A breakfast bar constructed from a drawer unit topped with a piece of granite is paired with Tamago barstools from John Lewis

“We love the sophisticated look that’s been achieved without compromising the functionality of the space”





Roger loves the large white Viking fridge, and not just because of the striking contrast it makes against the black gloss cabinetry. 'We can store everything we buy on a big shopping trip in here, and there's room to spare for bottles of wine,' he enthuses

Some appliances and accessories, such as the white Lacanche range cooker and hood and the deep ceramic sink, were chosen to contrast with the hi-gloss Alno cabinetry. Others, such as the Miele built-in microwave and the countertop coffee machine from Krups, were chosen to coordinate with it. Designer Steve Parsons has installed the microwave at eye level so it's easier for Roger and Helen to see and to gain access to what's cooking inside

'I really wish we'd accepted Halcyon's offer to rig up a temporary cooker. We lived on takeaways for five weeks, which wasn't good for our waistlines!'
Roger Jones



Roger and Helen Jones bought their Hertfordshire home as a new build in 1985, and have made changes to its layout down the years. However, they waited until their children left home before carrying out the disruptive tasks of replacing the stairs and installing air conditioning. 'The house was sure to be in chaos, so it seemed an ideal time to renovate the kitchen, too,' says Roger. 'After all, we'd lived with the existing kitchen for 21 years, so it was tired and due for a radical update.'

The Joneses knew that a traditional wooden scheme was not for them. Instead, they were drawn to the clean lines of the black hi-gloss AlnoGrand furniture that they'd spotted in kitchen design company Halcyon Interiors' showroom. 'It looked great and was of such high quality,' says Roger. 'You could tell that it would stand the test of time.'

Roger and Helen discussed their ideas with designer Steve Parsons, who offered to manage the entire project. 'It was

a godsend to have him plan and source everything,' says Roger. 'He liaised directly with our builder and we were only consulted when absolutely necessary. We had total confidence in Steve. He tackled problems head-on and was always willing to chase around for us.'

Steve's design uses every inch of available space to the full, but despite the use of black cabinetry, the kitchen doesn't feel cluttered. This is thanks in part to the pale walls, white appliances and pale granite worktops that create a striking contrast with the furniture. Steve has also installed various types of lighting to add drama and to ensure that the room is bright and welcoming at all times of day and night.

So, are the couple happy with their kitchen? 'Undoubtedly,' says Roger. 'We love the sophisticated look that Steve's achieved without compromising the functionality of the space. We wanted a kitchen that would last as long as the old one, and we're sure this will go the distance.'



Where to buy Alno 0870 043 3742
Chapel Flooring & Ceramic Tile Centre
 01525 234141 **Dualit** 01293 652500
John Lewis 0845 604 9049 **Krups** 0845
 602 1454 **Lacanche** 01202 733011
Miele 0845 330 3666 **Perrin & Rowe**
 01708 526361 **Prima Stone Worktops**
 020 8201 5857 **Viking** 01787 224921
Villeroy & Boch 020 8871 4028



Deep drawers with soft-closing mechanisms allow Roger and Helen to store tall glass storage jars inside. Long bar handles emphasise the width of the drawers and the scheme's linear look

Spotlights set into glass have been fitted beneath the wall units to provide stylish and efficient task lighting. They also highlight the glamorous grain of the Bethel White granite worksurface and splashback. The toaster came from Dualit



THE KITCHEN FILE

DESIGN & CABINERY

- Stephen Parsons at **Halcyon Interiors**, The Alno Store, 120 Wigmore Street, London W1U 3LS (020 7486 3080) www.halcyoninteriors.com
- AlnoGrand black hi-gloss and AlnoTec frosted glass cabinetry

WORKTOPS

- Bethel White granite, Prima Stone Worktops. Price per linear m £475

SINK & TAP

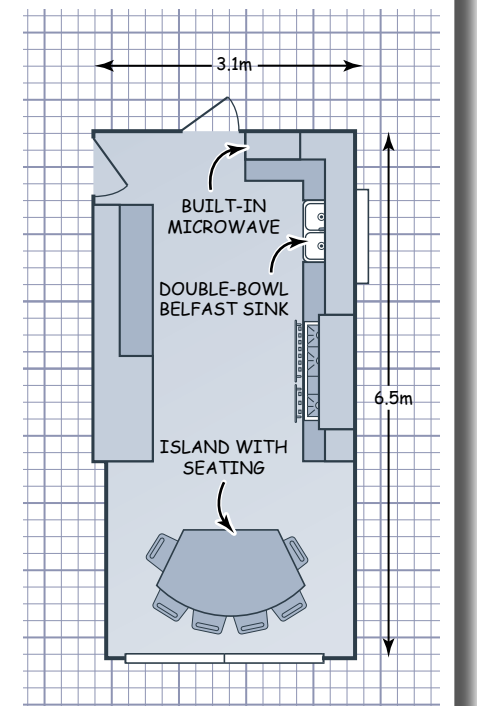
- Classic double-bowl ceramic sink, Villeroy & Boch £350
- IO two-hole mixer tap with lever handles, Perrin & Rowe £243

APPLIANCES (shown)

- LG1432ECT Chalonais range cooker with Classic three-burner hob and LAE020VTR Vitroceramic rings, Lacanche £8,779
- M8161 microwave with grill, Miele £497
- Cooker hood, discontinued, for similar try FCE1400, Lacanche £1,299
- VCRB Professional Series fridge in white, Viking £6,499

APPLIANCES (not shown)

- Fully integrated dishwasher, Miele £1,198



GUIDE PRICE

- Total cost £62,000