

Kitchen Extensions



IMAGES: C/O CUE & CO

THE URBAN EXTENSION

DESIGNER: CUE & CO (CUEANDCO.COM
020 7731 4728) | LONDON

When designer **Charlie Brothwick purchased his property in 2007**, the kitchen left much to be desired. "The existing galley kitchen felt pretty poky and oppressive," explains Charlie, who planned to extend the end-of-terrace from the outset. "I made a conscious decision to live in the property before I started work though, so that I could get a real sense of exactly what I wanted and how I could make the most of any existing features," he adds.

The resulting house features a remodelled layout with a contemporary extension providing

space for a larger kitchen/diner. "By opening up the house, I managed to get light pouring in from both the front and the back," says Charlie. The extension is stepped down from the existing house — this not only provides definition between the old and new, but enabled Charlie to create a level threshold between inside and out. "I particularly wanted to have an open plan ground floor that led onto a garden," he says.

The kitchen, like the striking grey extension exterior, is contemporary in style, but exudes a timeless air. "In-frame cabinetry gives the



kitchen an enduring quality, while the addition of concealed hinges — rather than butt hinges — gives it a contemporary twist," explains Charlie, who founded Cue & Co, a company specialising in the design and handcraftmanship of furniture, lighting and kitchens.

Finer details such as the traditional-style bridge tap, from Perrin & Rowe (ABOVE), which sits upon a polished concrete worktop, again continues this elegant mix. "Perrin & Rowe make such beautiful taps and I adore the pewter finish because it's incredibly subtle," Charlie concludes.



Neutral Palette

This new kitchen features a mix of contemporary and traditional elements. Of the soft grey chosen for the kitchen units, Charlie says: "It was important to create a sharp contrast with the light, bright garden — and dark grey seemed a good backdrop for this. To me it is a restful, contemplative colour." The focal pendant lanterns, also from Cue & Co, lend a rustic edge (so too do the chunky timber dining table and benches)



IMAGES: C/O THE OAK DESIGNS COMPANY

THE NATURAL ADDITION

DESIGNER: THE OAK DESIGNS COMPANY (01273 400411
OAKDESIGNS.ORG) | EAST SUSSEX | APR 2011 - APR 2012

Robin and Julie built their home in 1976; it was originally an old barn which had been dismantled by a developer who planned to rebuild it. The couple consequently purchased the historic structure and transported it some 15 miles to a site they'd purchased. The project took six years; with the couple living on site in an adjacent asbestos-built shack.

But some 30 years on, when the family required extra space, an oak frame extension would prove a sympathetic addition. The Oak Designs Company – with whom they were familiar – were approached to design the new addition and erect the frame. Planning permission proved straightforward, and the only

requirement enforced by Building Control was the need for 3m-deep foundations to protect the structure from the roots of a nearby oak tree.

The characterful frame was erected in quick time, leaving Robin and Julie to complete tasks such as adding insulation and hiring a roofing contractor to tile the pitched roof, as well as knocking through to the existing kitchen to create this spacious new room.

"Our previous kitchen was of 1970s design; the only item we kept was the AGA," says Robin. The new kitchen features painted timber units from Mounts Hill, topped by a granite worktop, with engineered wood flooring complimenting the stunning frame. New French doors open out to the mature garden. ■

