



**STYLING TIP**

*Add depth to a predominantly white kitchen with a border running around the edge of the room in a darker colour to the flooring. It will give the units definition and help to break up the join*



**BEFORE**

**KITCHEN DETAILS**

**HOMEOWNERS**

Linda Steer, a retired institutional manager, and her husband Philip, a semi-retired doctor

**LOCATION** Surbiton, Surrey

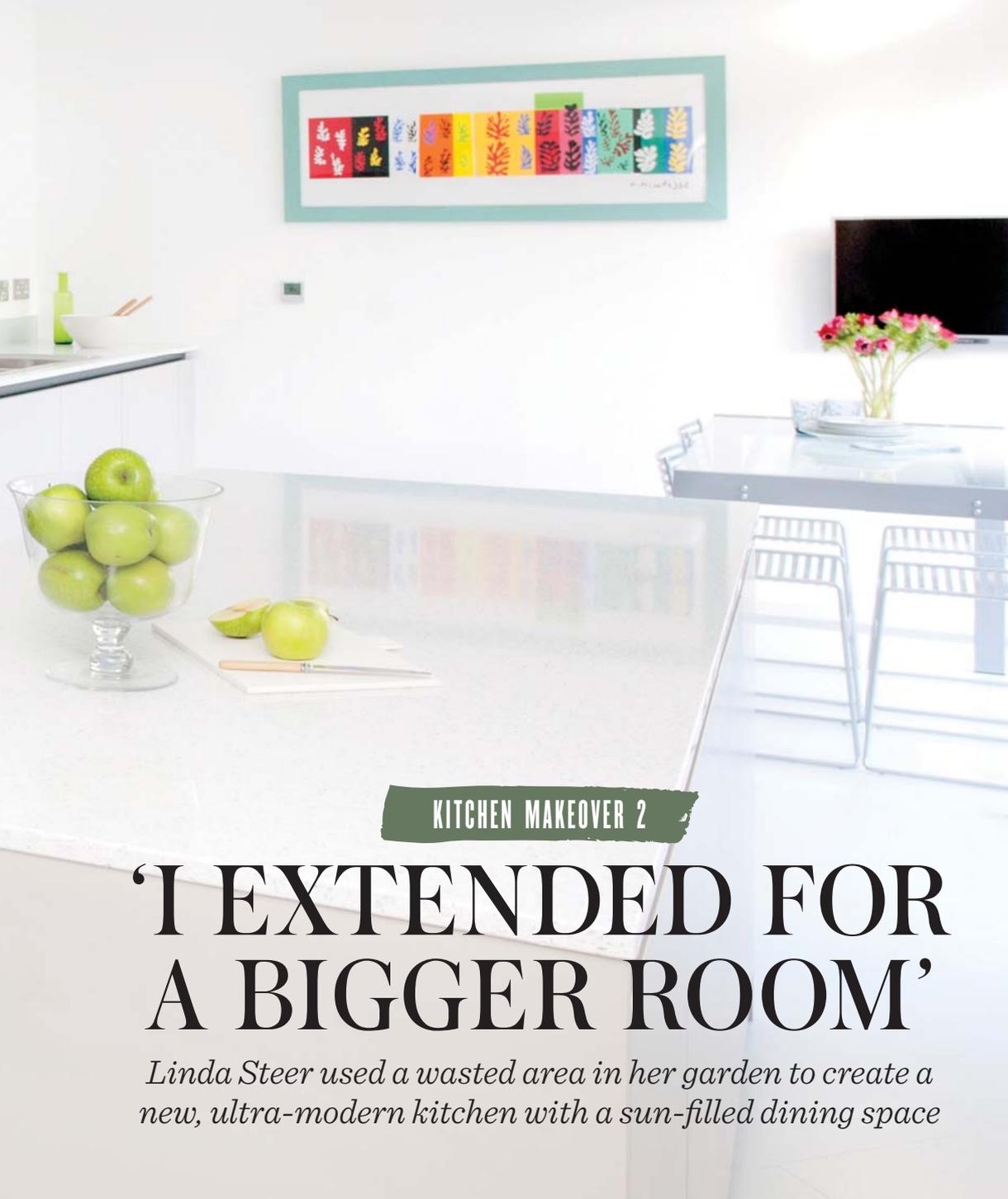
**PROPERTY**

Fifties detached house

**COST OF NEW KITCHEN**

<b>Cabinetry</b>	£15,000
<b>Worktops</b>	£4,876
<b>Splashback</b>	£1,359
<b>Appliances</b>	£5,869
<b>Sink &amp; tap</b>	£1,386
<b>Flooring</b>	£1,750

**TOTAL** £30,240



**KITCHEN MAKEOVER 2**

# 'I EXTENDED FOR A BIGGER ROOM'

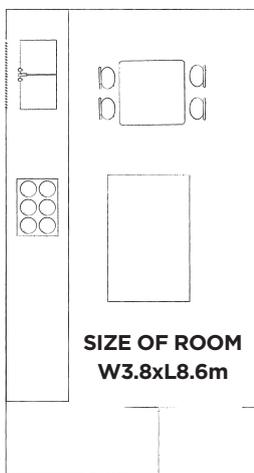
*Linda Steer used a wasted area in her garden to create a new, ultra-modern kitchen with a sun-filled dining space*

**← FLEXIBLE CHOICE**

An uncluttered island unit takes centre stage, offering plenty of room for food preparation and a social hub at family gatherings

**↓ CLEAN LINES**

Slimline worktops in pale shades and handleless units contribute to the light feel of Linda's kitchen



**← VIEW THE FLOORPLAN**

The central island is the focal point of the room and divides the kitchen space from the dining area, where there is a vaulted ceiling. Bi-fold doors lead to the new decked patio and landscaped garden

**WORK CARRIED OUT**

A small extension has created room for a dining area with garden access. The new kitchen was designed with a light-filled, open-plan layout and plenty of space for storage



## IDEAS TO STEAL

Copy Linda's understated and modern style for your space



### ↑ OPT FOR OVERHEAD STORAGE

Lift-up wall units make access easy and create clean lines when closed



### ↑ STREAMLINE YOUR FIXTURES

A mixer tap with a boiling water feature is ideal for food preparation



### ↑ ADD SPLASHES OF COLOUR

Introduce vibrant accessories to bring your scheme to life instantly



**T**he little patch of grass that ran along one side of Linda and Philip Steer's house wasn't much use for anything, except for the washing line, so they decided to use it to extend their kitchen to include a dining area and incorporate doors out to the garden. 'Our home was built in the Fifties and is very architectural in design, so we decided to employ the services of a professional to ensure the project was sympathetic to the style of the house,' explains Philip.

Beatriz Bianchi from Effectiveness by Design suggested the bespoke window and distinctive vaulted ceiling in the dining space to echo the tall, sloping roof at the front of the property. As they wanted the room to receive as much natural light as possible, Philip and Linda decided that bi-fold doors, as opposed to French windows, would be the best option.

As the footings had to be extra-deep due to the roots of the trees in the back garden, the build took longer than anticipated. This meant that, instead of taking weeks, the screeded floor took months to dry out before the Amtico stone flooring could be laid.

'It caused plenty of upheaval,' recalls Linda, 'but we used this time to plan the scheme, and we chose units ▶

### ↑ LIGHT AND AIRY

The vaulted ceiling creates an architectural feel to the dining space with a bespoke window light above. Steel and glass furniture adds to the stylish look



*'On a sunny day, this is just the loveliest room in the house to be in'*

we had seen at local showroom Kitchens Upon Thames.' The kitchen company's designer, Kate Diss, helped them plan the layout. 'We found it hard to visualise the space during the build,' Linda admits, 'but Kate suggested a subtle two-tone scheme with white units at the end of the kitchen where there's no natural light, to contrast with the pale grey in the main part of the room. I love the tonal shades – they are very restful.'

Linda wanted plenty of cupboards, and a bank of tall units, sited where their old dining table had been, provides storage for everything from brooms and cleaning products to small appliances not used on a regular basis. 'My ideal choice was an island with a sink, but the plumbing would have been awkward, so we decided to keep the surface clear,' she explains. 'It gives us greater flexibility – we use it for preparing food and it's a useful space for serving at parties.'

The couple are delighted with the end result. 'We used to have to go through the living room to get to the back garden, but now we can just fold back the doors and enjoy the view. On a sunny day, this is just the loveliest room in the house to be in.'

**↑ BEST OF BOTH WORLDS**

A traditional range cooker with an induction hob mixes classic and contemporary styles for an up-to-date feel



**SHOPPING LIST**

**UNITS** Pyram handleless units in satin-finish light grey and white lacquer, from £313 for a 60cm one-door hi-line unit, Kitchens Upon Thames  
**WORKTOPS** Silestone 20mm Eco tops in white diamond, from £655 per sqm, Kitchens Upon Thames  
**SPLASHBACK** Polished glass in dove grey, from £450 per sqm, Kitchens Upon Thames  
**APPLIANCES** Britannia L Line 90cm range cooker, £2,578; Westin bespoke Kari cookerhood, £1,290, all Kitchens Upon Thames. Bosch Advantixx KAN62V41GB fridge-freezer, £1,099, Currys  
**SINK & TAPS** Franke GAX 621 stainless-steel undermounted sink, £270; Franke Minerva boiling-water tap, £1,116, both Kitchens Upon Thames  
**FLOORING** Amtico stone flooring in composite calcium with border in composite pumice, both £70 per sqm, Jeffries Carpets & Flooring  
**FURNITURE** For a similar dining table, try Glivar, £250, Ikea. For similar dining chairs, try OH Vintage in aluminium, £198 each, Houseology  
**ACCESSORIES** For a similar Henri Matisse silkscreen print, try *The Velvets*, £99.95, King & McGaw