

# Bringing a kitchen back to the future

If your kitchen hasn't been decorated in a while it may be time to bring it stylishly up to date. But you don't have to stop there. Why not create a kitchen space that is modern enough for the future?



ordinary set of double French doors but we immediately fell in love with the sliding doors when we saw them."

*"I was really impressed by the quality of L&E's work"*

With ideas taking shape on the size and direction of light into the kitchen, it was then time for Paul to choose his kitchen fittings. "L&E work with Howdens Joinery who only design and sell kitchens to members of the FMB to fit into client's homes. The kitchens are sold at a discounted price and what really impressed me about L&E is that they pass this discount on to their customers. Other builders use this as part of their profits but with 70 percent saved on the kitchen fittings, I was very happy," Paul said.

Paul opted for sleek, white cupboards with curved corners giving the room a modern, clean look. Black and red cupboards on the oven and on one side of the room add timeless blocks of colour, which Paul explains can easily be swapped should he fancy a colour change. The side return into the alley down the side of the house was filled in to provide extra width to the room and two high windows and a door would flood the room with natural light.

## The hard work done

The build began in February of 2011 – during one of the coldest winters that London had faced in decades. "The team was amazingly hard-working and worked through the weather. They arrived at 8am and worked until 7pm each day, stopping only for a 30-minute lunch break," Paul

said. Despite the gritting cold, one of Paul's neighbours even commented on how polite the team was as they were coming and going.

Throughout the build Paul explains L&E project manager was on hand to keep them informed of each decision. The build was completed on budget and the manager even came back three months later to check there were no extra amendments or cleaning finishes that need to be done.

Paul's new kitchen is now a versatile, bright and modern dining space. "Recently we were able to have seven people around for a dinner party which wouldn't have happened before," he said. "It's also very easy to clean and to keep clean."

And what would Paul's advice be for anyone else considering a kitchen transformation into something contemporary and sleek? "I would be happy to recommend L&E."

**L&E (Lofts and Extensions)**  
Suite 5, The Old Office Block  
Elm Tree Road, Teddington, TW11 8ST  
Tel: 0800 326 5585  
info@dontmove-extend.com  
www.dontmove-extend.com

Time must fly when you're having fun. After 35 years living in the East Sheen, Victorian home that he loves, Paul Terry one day realised that his kitchen had "completely worn out."

"The last time that I had the kitchen decorated was in 1980. It was quite a narrow kitchen with a diner on a different level. It had started to look cluttered," he said.

Inspired by a TV programme and also by a neighbour who had incorporated her side return into her home to create more space, Paul decided it was time to bring his kitchen up to date.

Paul contacted five building companies that were all members of the Federation of Master Builders (FMB). L&E (Lofts and Extensions) quoted the lowest rates—although Paul admits he rarely opts for the cheapest option. "I was however won over when I was shown around some of their works in progress and some completed builds. I was really impressed by the quality of their work and their teams."

## Decisions, decisions

It was on one of these trips that the architect from L&E introduced Paul and his partner, John, to the idea of having huge, folding sliding doors at the end of the kitchen. The doors would open onto the patio and create one big 'inside - outside' space. "Originally we just wanted an



Paul and John are so confident recommending L&E (Lofts and Extensions) that they are even happy to show you round their new home. Contact them via L&E (Lofts and Extensions) to arrange a viewing.