

PROJECT DETAILS

WHO LIVES HERE?

Claire Totman lives here with her husband Dan and their children, Georgie, five, and Freddie, two.

THE PROJECT

An L-shaped kitchen extension in a four-bedroom Edwardian terrace in Surrey.

TOTAL COST

£130,000

KITCHEN PROJECT

Traditional with a twist

CLAIRE TOTMAN USED HER EYE
FOR DESIGN TO CREATE
THE PERFECT CLASSIC KITCHEN



'Having floor-to-ceiling frameless doors means we can see through to the end of the garden from the front door. It's fantastic'

Cortizo Cor Vision doors and fixed window, £5,581, Prime Glass. Parador Trendtime 6 laminate in Oak Mistral Grey, £33.37/sq m, Country Carpets

BEFORE

FOCUS ON WALL PANELLING

Decorative wood panelling is a cost-effective way to add character and interest to large blank walls

- Wall panelling is formed of rectangles or squares to half height or over a full wall with designs that suit a traditional or modern aesthetic. Look for ideas on Pinterest or Instagram then measure and sketch out on the wall.
- For a narrow profile, use decorative moulding strips that cost around £7 per 2.4m length and tend to be 15-31mm wide. For a flat, chunkier panel, buy a sheet of MDF (from £15) and ask the timber merchant to cut into strips. You can also buy a wall panel kit (£15-£25).
- Once you've cut the pieces to size, spread wood adhesive across the back and use a spirit level to check the piece is straight. You can also fix with small nail pins. Gaps and holes can be filled with decorator's caulk, then sand, prime and paint.



FACTORY FINISH DOORS
A lacquered finish is less likely to chip than a hand-painted kitchen

THE PROBLEM
We lived with a makeshift kitchen and no heating for two years after moving in

THE SOLUTION

'The Edwardian terrace had been empty for four years and it didn't have a proper kitchen or any heating. I own an architectural and interior design studio (clairtotmandesigns.co.uk) so I handled the drawings and planning permission.

My goal was for the north-west facing room to be as bright and open as possible with full height doors and large roof lights. Style wise I wanted a traditional design in warm neutrals with a few modern touches. As this isn't our long-term home and we had budget constraints,

I opted for a good quality in-frame Shaker kitchen. I upgraded the look with a faux chimney breast, joinery details and Armac Martin handles, Corston sockets, Jim Lawrence and Pooky lighting. They're the jewellery to the room and I'm really happy with the finished result.'

ABOVE 'Finding the exact warm neutral was key as I'd moved away from previously preferring cool greys,' says Claire. 'Little Greene's Portland Stone on the cupboards has a nice green undertone while Farrow & Ball's Hardwick White on the island is a greige that looks green in certain lights.' Regular Priscilla pendants, £215 each, Pooky

RIGHT 'I'm a minimalist and like plain walls but at the same time I didn't want them to look bare. The wall lights would have got lost on the blank space so framing them with wall panels has brought them to life.' Club wall lights in antiqued brass, £94 each, Jim Lawrence. Elkstone mellow oak spindle-back dining chairs, £150 each, Cotswold Company





ABOVE 'The sofa is ideal for us to snuggle up as a family and blends in with the wall and flooring, which is a high-quality laminate that looks as good as wood but is more durable.'

Isla sofa in Pumice House Basket Weave, £2,680, Sofa.com

RIGHT 'I could have had a window seat here but I wanted the room to be as open and light as possible and the dramatic floor to ceiling picture window really achieves this.'

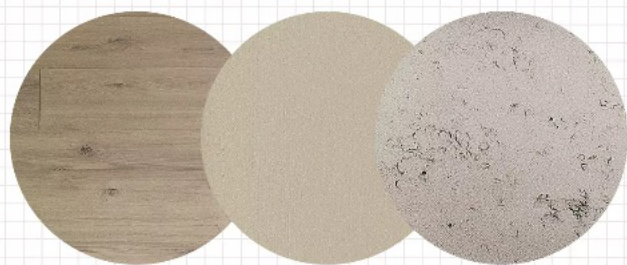
Faux plant, £80, Celeste Rose



“Although the contemporary doors would ordinarily go against my traditional taste, I love their wow factor, the light, and view to the garden”

CLAIRE TOTMAN, HOMEOWNER

KEY SURFACES



LEFT TO RIGHT Flooring Parador's Trendtime 6 in Oak Mistral Grey, £33.37/sq m, Country Carpets **Cabinetry paint** Portland Stone intelligent eggshell, £39 for 1L, Little Greene **Worktops** Bruno Carrara quartz worktops, splashback and shelf, £3,951, Asper Marble & Granite

KITCHEN SOURCEBOOK

Kitchen design, Claire Totman Designs (clairetotmandesigns.co.uk), Cabinetry, DIY Kitchens (diy-kitchens.com), Doors and floor to ceiling window, Prime Glass (primeglassolutions.com), Ovens, RDO (rdo.co.uk), Handles, Armac Martin (armacmartin.co.uk) Tap, Quooker (quooker.co.uk) Wall lights, Jim Lawrence (jim-lawrence.co.uk), Pendant lights, Pooky (pooky.com)

FEATURE JANE CRITTENDEN PHOTOGRAPHS ROBIN QUARRELL