

OLD HOUSE modern home

A pitched roof extension to a Victorian farmhouse sets a classic tone for Amanda and Scott Campbell's kitchen, but they've added a fun, up-to-date twist

Words Jane Crittenden | Photography Clive Doyle

Five years into searching for a new home, interior designer Amanda Campbell and her husband Scott, a project manager, finally laid eyes on the ideal house in their perfect location. The couple were looking for a period property in the countryside when they happened to find themselves renting in a village they grew to love. So when developers began doing up three adjoining Victorian buildings – a farmhouse, shop, and old bakery – they jumped at the chance to make one of them theirs. The period features in the farmhouse appealed to Amanda's love of old properties, and the renovated, turn-key finish pleased Scott. Buying early meant they could influence the flooring and internal doors, but the kitchen had already been installed. Amanda explains why years later they gave it a radical makeover...

What were your first impressions of the kitchen?

When I walked into the house, I loved every single thing – except the kitchen. It was new, but the cream Shaker units, chrome handles, and brown and cream checked tiles looked cheap and lacked style. Scott and I couldn't justify or afford ripping it out, so we decorated a few other rooms as we saved up for six years.

What were your initial ideas?

Long before we moved in, my dream kitchen looked traditional with dark parquet flooring, wenge worktops, a Belfast sink and cast-iron handles. As time went on, we got fed up of going into the dining room to eat and not being able >



Extending the room with plenty of glazing introduces light into the north-facing kitchen and creates space for an eating area. Parquet flooring, Ted Todd; kitchen, Colourhill; tap, Tap Warehouse.

The FACTS

Who? Amanda Campbell, her husband, Scott and their daughter, Molly, four
What? An extended kitchen-diner in a four-bedroom 1890s farmhouse
Where? Newark-on-Trent, Lincolnshire
Cost? £25,000
Time? Six months



The pitched-roof extension is in keeping with the property's age. Amanda continued the traditional style with refurbished metal factory lights from Owl and the Elephant. Table and a pair of chairs, Vintage Boat House.



A trio of bar stools, from Rockett St George, pick out the green and pink in the units, as do the pink Bert & May files with grey green grout on the breakfast bar.

to socialise in one space, so that became a key part of the redesign. The kitchen part of the house was dark as there was only one window looking onto a north-facing garden. These frustrations got us thinking about extending. We made the next move after I was made redundant from my job as a visual merchandiser – surprisingly it propelled us to start the remodel. By then we'd had our daughter, Molly, too so were in need of a more interactive family space.

Did you use an architect for the project?

No, it's all my design. We knocked down the external wall and added onto the existing kitchen. I'd seen a property with a pitched roof extension and felt this would be in keeping with our farmhouse. The most important element was bringing in the light so there had to be large doors, a picture window, and three roof lights. I particularly love the bi-fold doors we chose, capped with a glazed apex, across the back. It's made such a difference to how the room feels.

How did you decide on the best layout for the kitchen?

The new scheme broadly sits where the old one had been, although we moved the sink and cooker and put in a floor-to-ceiling pantry and breakfast bar. It's great for congregating around when we have guests and fulfilled the need for more work surface for food preparation. I'd planned to have wall units, but by the time I'd made a list of all my kitchen stuff and worked out where everything would go, I had more than enough space.

What were your ideas for the colours?

It had to be cheerful and bring the outside in – I chose green units because it's a peaceful and relaxing shade. I'd already decided on the key elements: one of the first samples was the wenge worktop, which I closely matched to the parquet flooring. I also had pale pink cupboards in mind after decorating the hallway in the shade. I have quite a lot of pink in the house and I like the rooms to flow.

Where did you go for the kitchen?

I'd gone along to Colourhill, a local kitchen studio, for inspiration and by chance began working with them to manage their retail set-ups. This led me to see their supplier, PWS – going into their showroom was like being a kid in a sweet shop. I fell for the 1909 range's classic in-frame painted cabinetry and got loads of samples, including for the dark green and pale pink doors. They were happy to work to my design and could supply bespoke sizes. The fronts were spray-painted in the factory and the flatpack kitchen put together on site.

Tell us about the statement tiles...

It was a happy accident. I wanted exposed brick, like in the extension, but when we took the plasterboard off, we discovered a doorway linking our farmhouse to the old shop next door. The developer had used breeze blocks to fill it so we put the plasterboard back on and had a rethink. The idea for the tiles was born. I saw a wonderful floor in a New York subway station online, but the price to ship the exact tiles was extortionate, so I was adamant to hunt down a similar look. I found Bert & May's Santona tiles and instantly loved them. When I told Scott I was going to tile all the way to the ceiling, he wasn't convinced – but I said it would look incredible, and he loves them as much as me now.

And the finishing touches?

Overall, the colours are quite contemporary so vintage factory lights above the reclaimed dining table and chairs, work with the traditional extension design. The modern pink and green bar stools link the old with the new. Overall, I love the look. The project took about six months and was 100% worth the effort. The lightness of this room is the biggest transformation and we have space to breathe now, with plenty of room for playing, family time and socialising. I love the combination of old and new, it's very 'me' – and the tiles were the best decision. They bring the room to life. >



The pantry was placed next to the family's existing fridge-freezer, from Hotpoint. Handles and knobs, Yesternome.



Amanda likes symmetry, so planned matching pan drawers on either side of the Belfast sink, from Colourhill. Pendants, Industville.

The lively Bert & May Black Santana tiles mimic wallpaper and provide an uplifting backdrop to the dark green cupboards. The extractor housing is Amanda's bespoke design to match in with the cupboards.



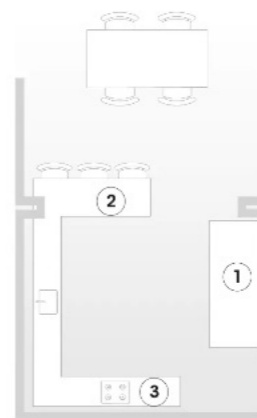
SOURCEBOOK

Design Amanda Campbell 07968 017347 amandacampbellinteriors.co.uk
Builder NIP Builders 01476 575054 nipbuilders-grantham.co.uk
Tiling Peter Drury Tiling 07970 869044
Kitchen 1909 from Colourhill 01623 869358 colourhill.co.uk
Worktop Colourhill, as before
Handles Yesterhome 01746 710 777 yesterhome.com
Appliances Range cooker, Baumatic 0844 6923605 baumatic.co.uk; fridge-freezer, 110point 03448 224224 hotpoint.co.uk
Tap Top Warehouse topwarehouse.com
Sink Colourhill, as before
Tiles Bert & May 020 3744 0776 berlanmay.com
Lighting Owl and the Elephant, 07870 869842 owlandtheelephant.co.uk; Industville 020 7971 7871 industville.co.uk
Flooring eco Todd 020 7495 6706 ecotodd.co.uk
 For full stockist information, see page 142

The PLANS

The back wall of the house was removed and the kitchen extended by 5m introducing a pitched roof ceiling, three east-facing roof lights, doors to the garden, and a large picture window

- 1 Food storage** The arrangement to the right of the door features a pantry, a large double fridge freezer, and a pull-out cupboard.
- 2 Breakfast bar** The back wall and window were removed to extend the kitchen, creating space for this unit in the middle of the room.
- 3 Range cooker** More worktop space has been created around the existing cooker by relocating it to this wall.



Amanda approached the pantry design from a visual merchandising angle, which means everything was measured so it fits perfectly. **Handles**, Yesterhome.



EDITOR'S PICK

design edit

- 1 Black vintage pendant light, £29.99, My Furniture. my-furniture.com
- 2 Double smoked oak brushed and oil parquet flooring, £47.49 per sq m, Woodfloors4u. woodfloors4u.co.uk
- 3 Get Plastered emulsion, £49.99 for 2.5 litres, Dowling & Reynolds. dowlingandreynolds.com
- 4 Colorado barstool in dark green velvet, £134.99, Lakeland Furniture. lakeland-furniture.co.uk
- 5 Maison Belle tiles, £40.50 per sq m, Porcelain Superstore. porcelainsuperstore.co.uk