

'I LONGED for purple IN MY scheme'

Keen to include her favourite shade, but not sold on an entire kitchen in the colour, Alice Smith chose a novel way to bring her design into bloom

FEATURE AND PHOTOGRAPHY BARBARA EGAN/REPORTAGE



Alice Smith's kitchen needed a visual lift and more room, but extending wasn't an option. A smarter layout and a dash of colour have made all the difference, as she explains...

Why did you want to replace the kitchen you had?

My existing one was only eight years old but I had never been happy with it, as the layout didn't work. The table was wedged into a cramped space and wasn't suitable for the big family gatherings that I love. A separate dining room was never used as it was too far away. Also, there were no clever storage solutions and all the units simply had internal shelves. All in all, it felt too small, but there were adjacent unused rooms and hallways, so I knew we could have a much bigger and brighter kitchen without extending.

How did you find your kitchen designer?

While watching a TV programme on interior design, I saw a kitchen project by Linda Moffitt from Vision Interiors. I loved its open style and knew immediately that I wanted to work with her. It was easy to find the company online and Linda's studio is only 20 minutes from here, so I got in touch and she came out for an assessment. She swiftly got a handle on the project and suggested which walls should go and how unused spaces could be integrated into one large kitchen-diner/living area. It was clear that the room would be much brighter and function well for both my family and



Kitchen FACT FILE



THE FAMILY Alice Smith, who runs her own business, and her children Eva, 21, and Brian, 18, plus Coco the Boxer

THE HOME Four-bedroom detached house in County Leitrim, Ireland

THE PROJECT Several rooms linked to create an open-plan space

PRICE GUIDE
£17,630

for a similar Scavolini kitchen, cabinetry only

Real inspiration Open-plan design

CABINERY

While Alice initially considered purple cabinetry, eventually she opted for this sleek white-glass design from Scavolini's Scenery range. Her love of purple has been indulged elsewhere in elements such as the blind in Kobe Inuk fabric and the wallcovering from Tektura



The LIGHTS over the island are among my FAVOURITE elements. When they're lit, the mirrored shade becomes OPAQUE and the crystals inside GLEAM

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