

REAL
HOMES

THE owners

Howard Stubbs, the joint founder and managing director of bespoke kitchen company, Heaven & Stubbs, lives with his wife, Adina, a TV presenter, and their children in this six-bedroom, detached house overlooking the Cotswold countryside.

Photography by: Harvey Ball

ALL IN THE DETAIL

When your husband runs a kitchen design company, it's only natural that you expect nothing but the best.

One end of the island incorporates a walnut chopping block featuring an impressive knife drawer with bespoke knife handles, while the opposite end incorporates an integrated seating area with a glass topped pedestal table.

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ike many in the trade, it took kitchen company boss Howard Stubbs more than a while to get around to tackling his own home.

With his wife, Adina, also busy working as a presenter for Gems TV, while juggling the demands of their young children, it was five years before renovation and extension plans for their home took shape.

But, once underway, the project to double the footprint of the property progressed at full steam, with the kitchen, bathroom and bedroom furniture made at Howard's Heaven & Stubbs workshops.

114 When it came to the kitchen, Howard and Adina wanted to make the most of their home's views to the garden and the Cotswold countryside beyond.

The large, extended kitchen and family living space, with its heavily glazed seating and dining area does just that, opening out onto a raised garden terrace. It also serves as an inspirational space for Adina, a talented musician.

The kitchen furniture is a blend of classical and contemporary design with its subtle, mirror-embellished, Shaker door design. The cabinetry's light colour shade, which reflects the abundance of light from the south facing garden, is defined with contrasting Titanium Black granite worktops and a heavily grained Armara timber, dual-radius end design to the large multifunction island.

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“My wife proved to be a tough task master; she knew exactly what she wanted and, more importantly, she knew exactly what Heaven & Stubbs are capable of. After many years of seeing all sorts of customer commissions, it's only right she got the kitchen she wanted!”

Howard Stubbs, designer and managing director, Heaven & Stubbs



THE designer

“Bespoke, custom-made furniture isn't just about working with the interior architecture in terms of cabinet scale and shape – it should also be about practical and often seemingly small details. Given this, don't be afraid to challenge your designer on any aspect of your bespoke kitchen design – however large or small – especially if you think something could work better for you.”



The coffee-making and wine storage cabinet features a gorgeous walnut interior and space-saving bi-fold doors.

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The design is not short on detail. For instance, the cupboard doors and drawer box fronts are set back and angled from the frame. Lighting has been integrated into the skirting that gracefully flows around the base cabinetry and the coffee-making and wine storage cabinet features a gorgeous walnut interior and space-saving bi-fold doors.

As the main cook in the family and, in reality, Howard's toughest critic, Adina's opinion is what really matters. "I love the look of the kitchen; I think it suits the interior style of our home perfectly. However, it also blends function with form making it easy and practical to use.

"The island, with its large sink and work surface gives me the perfect food preparation area – and I can talk to the kids sat opposite as I cook. The mirror splashback means I can still keep an eye on them even when my back's turned!

"The dual ovens and induction hob provide me with all the cooking capacity I require. Whether we are with friends, our children or simply by ourselves, it's the place in the home we most like to be."

THE details

Kitchen design by Howard Stubbs, managing director at Heaven & Stubbs featuring Shaker style cabinetry in Ocoya hardwood in a Farrow and Ball Elephant's Breath' factory painted finish and an Amara natural timber finish. Kitchens from £17,000. heavenandstubbs.com

Neff B47CR32NOB Slide & Hide ovens, N17HH10NOB warming drawers, D5855X0GB cooker hood and S515T80D0G dishwasher neff-home.com

Fisher & Paykel E522BLXFD4 fridge-freezer fisherpaykel.com

Bosch KUR15A50GB under-counter fridge bosch.co.uk

Perrin & Rowe 4866 Oberon 2 lever tap with spray tap perrinandrowe.co.uk

Zip Hydrotap zipwater.co.uk

Villeroy and Boch Dovecote sink villeroy-boch.co.uk