



## Open-plan living



Making the most of their large garden, Susannah and Gamil Magal commissioned architects Allied Design Associates to add a contemporary glass extension with panoramic views to their Edwardian home in Oxfordshire.

As well as providing an open-plan space for relaxing and entertaining, the extension has tripled the size of their kitchen. But the glass walls called for careful planning. "There are very few walls to fit furniture against," explains Crabtree designer Andrew Stone, who is a fan of this modern, sociable way of living. Despite the difficulties, he has made the most of every element of the room.

To maximise the full potential of the one uninterrupted wall available in the kitchen (behind the island), a large bank of storage has been created, with a capacious American-style

fridge-freezer at its heart. Stainless-steel panels and a retractable steel cupboard door on either side of this appliance help to reduce its impact and provide symmetry. The stainless steel theme is picked up at the front of the island, with its custom-made curved panel that projects into the room and offers both ample work surface and a breakfast-bar area.

Susannah was keen to achieve a smooth blend of old and new so that the modern glass extension would fuse effortlessly with the property's Edwardian architecture. By specifying traditional building materials such as oak and granite throughout, she has softened the blow of "old meets new", creating a warm and relaxing environment in a space that is frequently filled with family and friends. "There are lots of other rooms in the house but, since we built the extension, everyone gravitates naturally to the kitchen," she says. ▶

## THE DETAILS

**DESIGNER** Allied Design Associates, 01865 512968, and Andrew Stone at Crabtree Kitchens, 020 8392 6955, [crabtreekitchens.co.uk](http://crabtreekitchens.co.uk).

**THE BRIEF** To install a modern yet classic kitchen to suit the extension in materials that withstand sunlight.

**SOLUTION** The kitchen, in sun-resistant oak, is in a corner behind the island, while tall units provide storage.

**BUDGET** £50,000 (kitchen only).

**SOURCES Dining table, cupboards and worktops,** Crabtree Kitchens.

**Oven and microwave,** Neff, 0870 513

3090, [neff.co.uk](http://neff.co.uk). **Fridge-freezer,** Amana, 01737 231 000, [amana.co.uk](http://amana.co.uk).

**Sink,** Astracast, 01924 477466, [astracast.co.uk](http://astracast.co.uk). **Hob,** Bosch, 0870 727 0446, [boschappliances.co.uk](http://boschappliances.co.uk).

**Taps,** Atriflow at Franke, 0161 436 6280, [franke.com](http://franke.com). **Sofas,** Ligne Roset, 020 7426 9670, [ligne-rosset.co.uk](http://ligne-rosset.co.uk).