



Kitchen

Vast patio doors give way to an abundance of light

Let there be light...

Since moving to Kew in 2000 Mr Cotes and family have embraced the area, transforming a previously dark house into a light and airy space

The house was in reasonably good condition, having been refurbished ten years earlier,' says home owner Mr Cotes. 'It was, however a bit dark, mainly due to the fact that on the ground floor there were a number of wall divided rooms; typically a sitting room, dining room and a kitchen with an old-fashioned 'lean-to' at the back that had a door leading out to the garden. We wanted to open up the ground floor to bring light into the house and give it a fresh, open and contemporary feel with my own personal touches.

'I spent a lot of time looking at kitchen and interior magazines over the years,' he says, 'and I was clear that I wanted a kitchen

with a complementary living space that reflected a svelte, minimalist look; basically, the 'less is more' approach.'

Since opening up the downstairs, the family have been able to embrace the brighter space. 'I love the light, and the feeling of being able to walk freely through the ground floor of my home. The kitchen is wonderful and I have been able to entertain so much more now. The carpentry in the sitting room allows us to display my books and artifacts, which is great and the pendant lights over the island unit look stunning when lit at night!

For those looking to renovate their own property, there's even some words of wisdom; 'My advice before you start, is to

spend time focusing on the small details, it will pay off and you can enjoy the space without any regrets about design.'

And it looks like the family are here to stay; 'Kew is a fantastic place to live, almost like a undiscovered 'village-secret' in London. There are good schools for families and a real community feel to the area. We love the local tennis courts, strolling along the Thames-path, visiting Kew Gardens and the Kew Green pubs in the evening, all just a stone's throw from central London.'

❖ Holloways of Ludlow Bespoke Kitchen & Joinery,
36 Friar's Stile Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW10 6NQ;
020 8332 9442; hollowayskitchens.com



Living Room
Muted tones create a relaxed and decadent ambience



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Living Room
Simple creams teamed with dark wood give a luxury finish



Dining Area
Open spaces and plenty of light
give the home a centre point

LUXE LIVING

Touches of metallic,
white and bolts of colour
keep the house both
modern and sleek

Ideas to steal

(1)



(1) Tate, Herbert Bayer
– Chromatic Triangulation II
Framed Print, £120.

✦ Johnlewis.com

(2) Oliver Bonas
Lemongrass Cotton
Tub Chair, £395.

✦ 4 The Quadrant,
Richmond, TW9 1BP;
020 8940 9124;
oliverbonas.com



(2)

(3) Marks &
Spencer Maxwell
Medium Sofa, from £499.

✦ 13 George Street, TW9 1JY;
020 8948 0044; marksandspencer.com



(3)

(4) Holloways of Ludlow Caravaggio
Pendant, from £112.

✦ 36 Friar's Stile Road, Richmond, TW10
6NQ; 020 8332 9442;
hollowaysofludlow.com



(4)



Hallway
Sky-lights give smaller
areas depth and warmth



Dining Area
Back lighting emphasises
a well-loved collection