

INTERIOR DESIGN TODAY

THE TRADE ONLY MAGAZINE FOR INTERIOR DESIGN PROFESSIONALS MAR/APR 2013 £5.95



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ASK THE DESIGNER...

In our kitchen design feature this issue we ask, is kitchen design all about saving space or maximising on the hub of the home?



Photography by Rachael Smith



**Guy Matheson,
Associate
Director, SHH**

We are seeing an increasing division between private and entertaining spaces in high-end homes. Kitchens might be run by staff and hidden 'below stairs', with only a snacking kitchen visible, or else screened off by sliding doors. However, in an age of increasing isolation even within the home because of computers, kitchens remain the main family space to congregate in. Its social role remains paramount.

www.shh.co.uk



**Christine May,
Founder,
Christine May
Interiors**

Even the smallest kitchens are being opened up to encourage everyone to make full use of kitchen as a hub for home life and entertaining and to prevent the 'cook' from being isolated. Parents often want a play area or a homework station for older children. I believe this is so that an eye can be kept on their internet browsing and toys be kept out of the living room which is increasingly a more formal space.

christinemayinteriors.co.uk



**Clare Pascoe,
Founder, Pascoe
Interiors**

The popularity of male chefs means cooking for enjoyment is no longer considered a female past time. Moreover it is only a very small section of society that has a dine-out lifestyle. With men taking equal interest in kitchen design, we see high specification appliances coupling with open plan, multi faceted kitchen living spaces, that allow householders to naturally migrate together. As such, the kitchen has evolved, but it remains the hub of the home.

www.pascoeinteriors.com



**Lindsey
Rendall, Co-
Founder,
Rendall and
Wright**

In any home, the kitchen is a pivot point for the owner. Whether you nip in and out of it for a quick coffee or enjoy cooking elaborate meals we all need one in some capacity. I like to incorporate living areas into large kitchens or if only a bijou kitchen is required then I would discreetly smuggle this into the living area. Function is foremost, storage a must.

www.rendallandwright.com



**Roland
Hartmann,
Founder,
Hartmann
Designs**

It is vital to understand each individual clients requirements and lifestyle. Storage space has significantly changed by replacing cupboards with pull out drawers and extraction does not need to be unsightly anymore. In an open plan kitchen, always consider acoustics as all the hard surfaces can create a noisy and uncomfortable environment. Clients are also looking for the Wow factor.

www.hartmanndesigns.com