

Grain attraction

Claire and Joey Peters wanted the intricately designed burr oak kitchen in their converted dairy home to be at the centre of their family life



TRADITIONAL

“I love the burr oak panels, and the style of the whole kitchen. It’s a lovely feeling having a nice kitchen to go home to, and at this time of year, the honey colour of the cabinetry makes it feel so warm, cosy and festive”
Claire Peters

Claire chose solid oak cabinetry with unusual burr oak panels. The splashback for the range cooker is made from the same Star Galaxy granite as the worktops, bordered by tiles of travertine to match the Corinth antique tumbled travertine flooring supplied by Bassett Homes & Accessories





The microwave is placed so it is out of sight of the dining table but still in easy reach of the worktop. The open-plan layout means Claire can be busy preparing Christmas dinner without feeling left out of the fun in the room

‘I must have seen 50 colours of granite before settling on the Star Galaxy’

THE KITCHEN FILE

DESIGN & CABINETRY

- Glynn Bennett at **Bassett Homes & Accessories**, 367 Winchester Road, Bassett, Southampton, Hampshire SO16 7DJ (023 8077 7566) www.bassetthomes.co.uk
- Solid oak furniture with burr oak centre panels from the Haddon range by Charles Yorke

WORKTOPS

- Star Galaxy granite, Kelly Seamore Granite Kitchen Services. Price per linear m **£340**

SINK & TAP

- VBK 720 ceramic double-bowl butler sink, Franke **£365**
- 4771PF Alsace three-hole mixer tap with lever handles in pewter, Perrin & Rowe **£300**

APPLIANCES (shown)

- Sigma electric range cooker in stainless steel, Britannia, approx **£3,000**
- H5642 built-in microwave, Neff **£400**
- VF230 deep fryer, Gaggenau **£1,100**
- Canopy extractor hood, for similar try D5645, Neff **£180**
- American-style fridge freezer, for similar try Definition 628FIRS, Amana **£3,500**

APPLIANCES (not shown)

- Fully integrated dishwasher, Miele **£1,367**

Nine years ago, Claire and Joey Peters bought a farm in Hampshire. ‘We knew it would make a perfect home for us and our two boys, JJ, 13, and Charlie, eight,’ recalls Claire. Having rebuilt and sold off the farmhouse and a large barn, they turned their attention to converting the old dairy into a family home for themselves. ‘Joey oversaw most of the building work and I was left in charge of the interior design,’ Claire continues. ‘I couldn’t wait to start on the kitchen. I essentially had a blank canvas on which to work my magic. Although we prefer traditional styles, we wanted an open-plan design that flowed into a sitting and dining area, as we do also like modern family-friendly living. Plus it’s nice to have the kitchen as the centre of the home.’

Claire already knew which kitchen company she wanted to use, as she’d driven past Bassett Homes many times and had always admired their displays. ‘Designer Glynn Bennett told me there were no limitations to what I could have, which was nice to hear,’ she says. However, her original intention of having a maple kitchen changed when she saw it in the showroom. ‘I started looking at other woods, and Glynn showed me some lovely burr oak furniture from Charles Yorke; it had intricately carved turn posts, and that little twist made it really special. He also said that the oak could be finished to any shade I liked, which swung it for me,’ she smiles.

Claire had wanted an island, but the kitchen was too narrow, so Glynn suggested placing two stools at the end of the peninsula for JJ and Charlie to occupy while Claire prepares their dinner. ‘I knew I wanted a granite worktop because they’re very hardwearing and look smart, but I must have seen 50 different colours before settling on this black one with gold and silver flecks in it,’ adds Claire.

Amazingly, the grand kitchen design did not go over budget. ‘I’m quite level-headed and I wasn’t seduced by expensive gadgets. I kept totting up the costs as I went along,’ Claire says, ‘so the saving is a bonus to our perfect family kitchen.’ **BK**

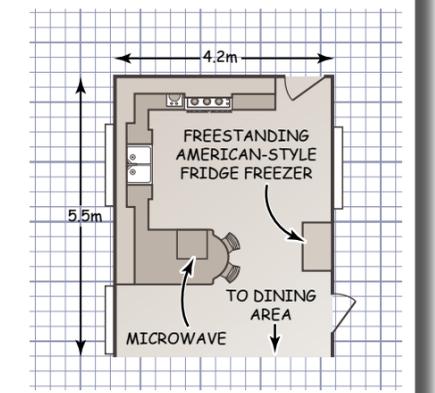


The smooth, bullnose-edged granite continues as an upstand, as well as onto the windowsill for a streamlined finish. A large, double-bowl ceramic sink fits in with the rustic style of the kitchen, as does the crook-shaped tap

◀ Claire chose the largest fridge freezer she could find – an Amana model – and positioned it to balance the Welsh dresser on the other side of the doorway. She kept it away from the main kitchen area so that its overtly modern style did not conflict with the traditional feel of the cabinetry. The high-backed bar stools came from Andy Thornton



◀ Claire finds the Gaggenau deep fryer positioned next to the range invaluable when she is entertaining. ‘This was definitely top of my appliance wish list, as it cooks things so quickly,’ she says. Amazingly, its small size can hold a capacity of 3.5 litres and it has nine different cooking settings. The oil container is located in the cupboard beneath for easy emptying after use



Where to buy Amana 01737 231000 Andy Thornton 01422 377314 Britannia 0800 073 1003 Charles Yorke 0870 428 1630 Franke 0161 436 6280 Gaggenau 0870 840 2003 Kelly Seamore Granite Kitchen Services 01489 860937 Miele 0845 330 3666 Neff 0870 513 3090 Perrin & Rowe 01708 526361

GUIDE PRICE

- Starting price for a Charles Yorke kitchen by Bassett Homes **£25,000**