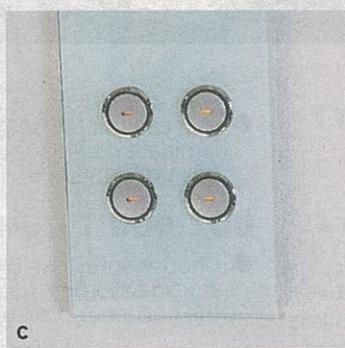
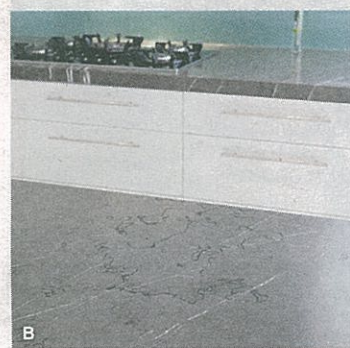


A Sleek lines are the hallmark of this design **B** The Pietra Grey marble benchtop **C** Light switches **D** Lift-up cupboard doors allow easy access **E** Pendant lighting complements the design **F** Custom-made stainless-steel handles were used throughout the open-plan kitchen area **G** Soft-close drawers **H** Lights are positioned over the rangehood **I** Double wall ovens



FACT FILE

THE BRIEF

To replace a galley-style kitchen with a generous integrated workspace without sparing the expense

THE COMPANY

Kitchen Trend

THE ARCHITECT

Liquid Architecture

THE BUDGET

About \$150,000, including appliances

THE BREAKDOWN

- Joinery \$37,000
- Pietra Grey marble benchtop \$15,700
- Stainless-steel handles \$2000
- Glass splashback \$1700
- Appliances \$17,000
- Other (wall removal, frameless sliding door, fittings and fixtures) \$76,600

The former kitchen in this Mosman home was highly functional but dated, and it had no connection with the rest of the house.

After selling the kitchen cupboards on eBay and the appliances to one of the building contractors, the work began in earnest.

First to go was the wall separating the kitchen from the rest of the house.

Blue-green glass was chosen for the splashback and an external wall, while Pietra Grey marble became the new benchtop.

Managing director of Kitchen Trend John Jovanic says the joinery included 35 drawers and custom-made, stainless-steel handles.

"It cost \$2000 just for the handles," he says.

In addition, the kitchen needed to house a double fridge, two wall ovens, a steamer and a microwave as well as a comfortable pantry and display shelves, to help the kitchen blend in with the rest of the

open-plan living space. A frameless sliding door separates the kitchen from the living area when required.

Apart from the size of the space, John says the biggest cost was the high level of finish required by the owner.

"I like the sleek look and the detail in this kitchen is really nice," John says.

Designed by architects Liquid Architecture, it took four weeks to manufacture and two days to install, which was overseen by John's partner at Kitchen Trend, Michael Dal Col.

Robyn Willis

MORE INFORMATION

Kitchen Trend 9756 1551, kitchentrend.com.au

Liquid Architecture 9958 7950, liquidarchitecture.com.au

Photos: Jim Trifillis



WHERE COULD YOU SAVE MONEY IN THIS KITCHEN?

- Buy standard handles.
- This marble was particularly expensive. Choose almost any other stone and reduce the cost of the benchtop by half.
- Finishes such as the fine shadowlines used instead of cornices are very labour intensive. Opt for something more traditional.

- Cut the cost of appliances by half by choosing one oven and one microwave.

BUT DON'T COMPROMISE ON ...

- Opening the kitchen to the rest of the house. Removing the wall was an expensive decision, but it was well worth the time and effort. It has made this top-of-the-line space the heart of the home and has benefits now and also at point of resale.



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