



Soft yellow hi-gloss cabinetry gives Sheila and Don's compact kitchen a radiant appeal, while every inch of space has been utilised. The room is finished with cream worktop appliances by KitchenAid and Dualit that complement the smart Häcker units

GOLDEN IS JUST DELICIOUS

The Henstridges gave themselves a glossy new kitchen for their 50th wedding anniversary that's truly scrumptious

Other couples may exchange rings or watches to mark a milestone anniversary but Sheila and Don Henstridge decided to treat each other to something far more practical for their golden wedding – a new kitchen. The couple moved into their two-up, two-down 1850s cottage near Worthing 53 years ago and have loved living there ever since. 'My father owned three houses in the road and when we bought this one from him it was almost derelict,' recalls Sheila. 'However, over the years we have gradually improved and extended it to make it our own.'

Don had installed their previous three kitchens himself but this time the couple decided to let someone else do all the hard work. A complete refit was needed after their old dishwasher flooded and ruined all the units along one wall. However, the last kitchen had been in since the 1970s and was due for an update anyway. 'The units sat directly on the floor, so they got soaked,' explains Don. 'We couldn't save them.'

The couple decided to splash out on something really special and headed off to one of Worthing's best kitchen showrooms,

Two segment-shaped carousels were installed in a corner unit to provide accessible storage. 'My days of rummaging in the back of cupboards are over,' says Sheila



Positioned next to the corner sink, the couple's dishwasher is fully integrated to continue the room's streamlined look. With space for up to 14 place settings, it has seven programmes, a delay-start option and a sensor to ensure optimum cleaning. It also features a quiet cycle, which has a noise level of just 43dB



“I wish we'd known what was involved. It wasn't just installing new units, the room had to be stripped back completely. We needed everything from a new ceiling and floor to heating and rewiring”
SHEILA HENSTRIDGE



Even though the kitchen is small, designer Jason was still able to find room for a breakfast bar. The Matterhorn Corian worktop continues to form an overhang and is partnered by a stylish Effezeeta bar stool that was sourced for the couple by Colliers



DESIGN & CABINETS

- Jason Collier at **Colliers**, 28 Teville Road, Worthing, West Sussex BN11 1UG (01903 210101) www.colliers.uk.com
- Shiny Sun Yellow SM2020 hi-gloss laminate units from the Systemat range by Häcker

WORKTOPS

- Matterhorn Corian. Price per sq m **£530**

SINK & TAP

- BlancoDelta inset one-and-a-half-bowl corner sink in stainless steel, Blanco **£586**
- BlancoRegent 8051 single-lever monobloc mixer tap in brushed stainless steel, Blanco **£208**

APPLIANCES (shown)

- Existing built-in electric double oven, for similar try HBN13M551, Bosch **£699**
- Built-in compact microwave, for similar try H5642, Neff **£410**
- T25T2 four-burner gas hob, Neff **£597**
- Chimney extractor hood in stainless steel, for similar try D8962, Neff **£549**
- G2383SCVi fully integrated dishwasher, Miele **£1,058**

APPLIANCES (not shown)

- Fully integrated fridge freezer, Neff **£768**

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◀ 'Our best buy was the six hot rods, sunk into the worktop. It's so handy to have somewhere to put down pots and pans,' says Sheila. The couple chose a matching stainless-steel splashback panel to catch any food splatters from their roomy four-burner, gas-on-glass hob

Designer Jason suggested an inset corner sink by Blanco and the couple agree it is one of the room's biggest successes as it saves space and is located in a sunny spot. The large bowl can accommodate Sheila's biggest pans and there is also a strainer sink and a drainer



Don's suggestion for cupboards over the window makes good use of 'dead' space while the plinth underneath has a row of integrated task downlighters

MY FAVOURITE DESIGN ELEMENT: 'The cabinets above the windows. They continue the design beautifully and are a great place for storing non-essential items. I'm also pleased with the corner sink, as it gives us more worktop space'

◀ Colliers. 'We went in with great trepidation, as there was a modern kitchen displayed in the window that we thought wasn't really our style,' says Sheila. 'It just goes to show you shouldn't judge a book by its cover as we were given a really warm reception and there were plenty of different designs to choose from,' she continues.

'As ours is a very small room we didn't want anything like dark wood, which would absorb the light, so when we saw some sunny yellow units I knew they'd make the perfect cheerful scheme,' smiles Sheila.

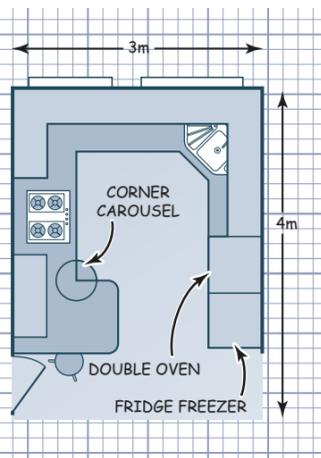
Designer Jason Collier helped the couple plan a layout to maximise every inch of space with integrated appliances and clever internal fittings. 'It was wonderful having a designer's input,' says Sheila. 'Jason suggested moving the fridge freezer away from the doorway, which opened up the room, and installing a corner sink to give us more worktop space.'

The kitchen needed to be user-friendly for all ages, as the Henstridges have four grandchildren from ages two to 15. 'We didn't want sharp edges or slippery surfaces and we insisted on easy-grip handles and units without nooks and crannies that we could clean quickly,' says Sheila.

Everyone is thrilled with the result, especially Sheila. 'My spirits are lifted every morning when I come down to make a cup of tea. The room just has a lovely warm glow to it,' she smiles. **BK**



'The Corian worktops were our biggest indulgence,' says Sheila, 'but we are delighted with them as they are seamless and really hygienic. They clean brilliantly, too, and Jason told us that if we scratched them the marks could be polished out.' The silver finish of the surface also matches the handles and appliances. The Cotillon fruit bowl by PO came from Absolute Form



GUIDE PRICE

- Starting price for a Colliers kitchen **£15,000**