



# Compact Beauty

The gluttonous notion that bigger is better certainly does not apply to this small space kitchen, whose strategic counter space and generous storage come together to make a functional and beautiful cooking area.





During a comprehensive home renovation, the owners wanted to reconfigure their kitchen so as to make better use of the available adjacent living and dining spaces. Though the kitchen needed to be compact, storage was a must as was the minimization of clutter.

Given that the owners had no desire to remodel again in the future, it was imperative that Ben Statkus of Statkus Architecture come up with a design that would not date and be mindful of the placement of appliances and ease of use of cabinetry.

Responding to the clients' desire to maximize storage and reduce clutter, Ben instigated the inclusion of cabinetry to the entire end wall of the kitchen, extending into the adjacent living area. The floor to ceiling cupboards enclose the extensions of the bench tops, forming appliance storage with multiple power-points, eliminating the need for appliances to sit in view.

Miele Cooking appliances were installed, including a 2 burner gas hob sitting alongside a 2 element induction cook top. This allows the owners to enjoy the best of both worlds, with appropriate cooking surfaces for whatever cuisine they wish to create.

Existing timber floorboards were sanded and sealed along with the boards in the adjacent living/dining areas. The floor finish of the entire area is consistent, which increases the sense of space.

The glowing Baltic Pine floorboards make for both a textured and coloured base for an all-white colour scheme. The choice to make the kitchen white was made so as to blend the space with the open plan living area and not allow the room to become dominating. Furthermore, the clean palette means the owners can introduce a myriad of colours week to week in the form of vases, bowl etc.

The stark bench top is lit by hand blown glass pendant light fittings from France.

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