

new & improved

City slicker

A once dark and cramped kitchen is now the heart of this home – complete with a braai room right next door.

By Marian van Wyk • Photographs Francois Oberholster



The old flat ceiling was removed and a new one that follows the pitch of the roof was installed, lending a light and airy feel to the kitchen. Farm-style pendants provide good task lighting above the island unit.

Bar stools from Block & Chisel; blanket from Woolworths

A wall-mounted dish rack maximises the space on the worktops.

Rack custom-designed by Xpericemakers; breadboard from Handmade with Love



Interior designers Renée de Waal and Janel Schorr of Xpericemakers.



The island unit with its built-in stove is both functional and sociable.

– Hans Coetzee

When Hans Coetzee bought his home in Vredehoek, Cape Town in 2006, the outdated kitchen was stuck away at the back of the house and the flow was all wrong for contemporary living.

Hans lived with the old layout for eight years before asking interior designers and *Home* contributors Renée de Waal and Janel Schorr of Xpericemakers to redesign the living areas to suit his lifestyle as a bachelor who travels regularly. This is how they transformed the space in 2014...

Q+A

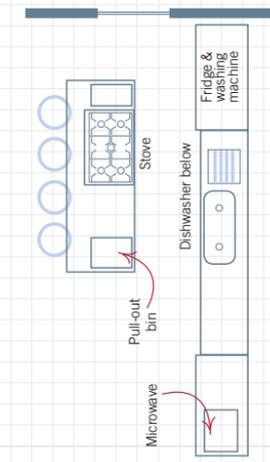
What did you want to achieve with your design?

"Hans wanted low-maintenance finishes for easy living and entertaining, as well as an undercover braai area," Renée and Janel explain. "We wanted to create an open space that would fulfill all these functions – cooking, entertaining, eating and braaiing." >>

BEFORE



THE NEW KITCHEN PLAN



Fine finishes

- Work tops** French oak on island unit and grey cement countertops from Stoneform (021 448 6480, stoneform.co.za)
- Cabinets** Spray-painted Supawood and a combination of solid and veneered oak
- Paint** Cabinetry painted in Midas 3BEG Philosophy and Midas 1AAC Steel Nail
- Wall tiles** Subway Tiles in Glossy White from The Tile House (021 506 3020, thetilehouse.co.za)
- Floor tiles** Porcelain in Galena Antislip from The Tile House (021 506 3020, thetilehouse.co.za)
- Stove** Fratelli Evolution YP192 from Euro Appliances (021 424 6688, euroappliances.co.za)
- Pendant lamps** Block & Chisel (021 712 5193, blockandchisel.co.za)
- Mixer tap** Hansgrohe Axor Citterio sink mixer
- CONTACTS**
Xpericemakers (021 422 5141, xpericemakers.co.za)
Cabinet construction Envirojoin (082 466 0809, envirojoin.com)



The bar stools are adjustable; they can easily be used under counters or at a bar.

The coffee machine fits snugly into the French oak cabinet.



The wicker drawers underneath the coffee machine provide good circulation, making them ideal for storing fruit and vegetables.



Custom designed Timber and Security Plantation Shutters



Utensil rack custom-designed by Xperiemakers; copper utensils and red splatter screen from @home



Q+A

Were there any challenges?
 "Space was limited, so we demolished all the internal walls to the back of the house in order to reconfigure the living area," explain Renée and Janel. The house came to an end after the original kitchen and we landfilled the backyard in order to add additional space for a braai room right next to it."

What did the renovation entail?
 "When we demolished the original ceiling, we discovered that there was a vast amount of vertical roof space that would lend a light and spacious feel to the new kitchen. Hans agreed with our suggestion to follow the slope of the roof instead of installing a flat ceiling. We insulated the new ceiling with two layers of Think Pink and used Oregon beams to create mock trusses. Then we turned our attention to designing a farm-style kitchen for easy entertaining."

What do you like most about this kitchen?
 "The added height and traditional yet contemporary elements lend a country feel to a compact city space. Textures such as raw wood and painted finishes marry contemporary and traditional elements, adding warmth to the space. The island unit with a built-in stove is both functional and sociable – a space where friends can share a bottle of wine while Hans is cooking. The wall-mounted dish rack and utensil rack are brilliant worktop space-savers." 🏠

STOCKISTS
 @home 021 938 1911, home.co.za
 Handmade with Love 074 360 2996
 Woolworths 0860 022 002, woolworths.co.za

