

The kitchen design needed to incorporate two cooking zones to accommodate the Sallons' religious observance, so they knocked through two dividing walls and removed a chimney breast to create the space they needed. The result is a family-orientated area, although it's the striking horizontal-grained olive ash veneered furniture that takes centre stage. The kitchen was completed in time to welcome the couple's daughter into the world

The striking bookmatched olive ash cabinetry in Michelle and Ben Sallon's dream kitchen has irresistible appeal

Magnetic stripes

INNOVATIVE





A large kitchen would usually mean little need for change but this wasn't the case for speech and language therapist Michelle Sallon and her husband Ben, a company director. The room had potential but it didn't offer the best use of the space and with two sons, Solomon, three, and Rafi, two, and their now six-month-old daughter Liora on the way, the couple wanted a family area rather than just a kitchen. 'As we are orthodox Jews, we have to keep

all meat and dairy products totally separate – not just the foodstuffs but also the crockery, cutlery, appliances and absolutely everything, so we needed two cooking spaces,' explains Michelle.

Following a recommendation from friends, the couple contacted Darren Pincus at Pincus Design to help them with their planning. 'We already had ideas of knocking through to the playroom to create a living area,' says Michelle. 'However, Darren was able to suggest changes, such as

moving a door, taking out the pantry and the chimney breast for the best use of space.'

Aiming to complete the kitchen by the Jewish New Year, only months away, the couple discovered the pantry's dividing wall was a supporting one. 'What we thought would be a small job ended up being a major project,' recalls Michelle.

Choosing the cabinetry was far easier as the unusual olive ash veneer caught Michelle's eye the moment she walked into the Pincus Design

showroom. 'The kitchen leads onto the garden so we already had in mind a natural finish that would link the two areas,' she explains.

The open-plan layout not only accommodates two cooking areas but also offers plenty of space for the couple's children to play while Michelle is preparing meals and they are delighted with the extra space they have created. 'We managed to get it finished just in time to welcome Liora and the New Year,' smiles Michelle. **BK**

To complement the stunning furniture, Pincus Design made an American Black walnut table that fits snugly against the units. Island Limestone vinyl flooring by Karndean, which was chosen for its striking similarity to Jerusalem stone, continues the earthy organic feel in the room while being kinder to Liora's knees. Overhead, spotlights create an informal ambience for cooking, entertaining or relaxing

▼ Sleek cabinetry in the Sallons' kitchen has been cleverly adapted to disguise the supporting pillars that remain from the building work while still making the most of the space. A slimline pull-out pantry unit next to the drum cupboard stores Michelle's oils and spices



INNOVATIVE

▲ As the couple entertain regularly, two 'meat' ovens were essential. One of these Neff models even has a Sabbath setting that keeps the temperature at a constant low heat for 25 hours, ideal for the Sallons' kosher kitchen. The splashback came from 10 Green Bottles

▶ The grain of the wood has been bookmatched to give an even, linear look that is echoed by the simple Eero Aarnio satin nickel handles by Valli & Valli. Michelle and Ben love the coarse texture of the Verde Bahir green granite, which was chosen to link with the nearby garden



‘The natural finish links the kitchen to the garden area’





◀ A striking feature in the room, the horizontal grain of the olive ash wood accentuates the shape of this capacious drum cupboard. Its rounded shape not only makes it suitable for storing the family's everyday items but also ensures that the children won't hurt themselves on corners if they accidentally knock into it while playing

“My top tip for anyone planning their own kitchen is to work with a company that understands your needs. Our designer Darren was really sympathetic with helping us to create a kosher kitchen”

MICHELLE SALLON

▼ The Sallons chose two full-sized sinks, one for meat products and utensils and the other for dairy foods, both positioned on different sides to keep them separate. For the same reason, each sink has a dishwasher integrated nearby. Smart under-cupboard lighting illuminates the smooth granite worksurfaces below



A bank of floor-to-ceiling cabinetry provides plenty of storage and is home to a built-in microwave as well as one of the kitchen's three ovens, which cooks only dairy foods. The other two sited opposite are used for meat. The walls are painted in Dulux's Natural Calico



THE KITCHEN FILE

DESIGN & CABINERY

- Darren Pincus at **Pincus Design**, 10 Woodfield Road, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 4EU (0161 941 6444) www.pincusdesign.co.uk
- Bespoke olive ash veneer furniture and frosted glass cabinetry

WORKTOPS

- Verde Bahir granite. Price per sq m £540

SINKS & TAPS

- 2 x GAX11045 Galassia undermounted single-bowl sinks in stainless steel, Franke £141
- 2 x Eiger monobloc mixer taps in Silk Steel, Franke £120

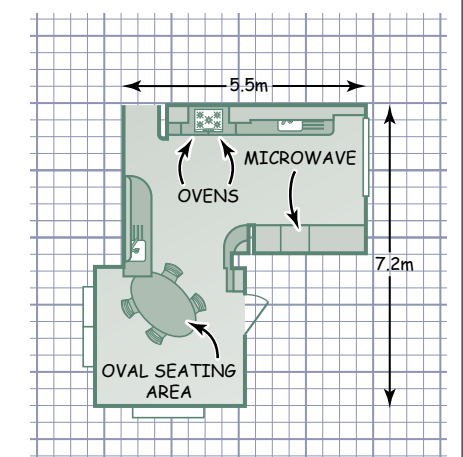
APPLIANCES (shown)

- 2 x B1442 built-in single ovens, Neff, each £448
- B1664 built-in single oven, Neff £965
- H5642 built-in microwave, Neff £430
- T2754 five-burner gas hob, Neff £236
- D91T7 chimney extractor hood in stainless steel, Neff £1,045

APPLIANCES (not shown)

- Fully integrated fridge freezer, Liebherr £587
- 2 x fully integrated dishwashers, Neff, each £473

☎ For stockists, see page 162



GUIDE PRICE

- Starting price for a Pincus Design kitchen £20,000