

✦ Key info

- Specially commissioned kitchen in high gloss white and matt wenge from Glenvale Kitchens Dynamically Different range
- 30mm quartz on island top and main worktop, with glass splashback
- Esto F80TS extraction system in white glass finish
- Ovens, induction hob, fridge freezer, dishwasher, all Siemens
- Sink by Franke
- Creme barca porcelain tiles



FORM MEETS
FUNCTION

Photography by rfc creative.

The home: A renovated 1980s detached in Malahide, Co Dublin.
Who lives here? Kieran and Eimear.



When they moved in, Kieran and Eimear's 1980s home had a small and rather dark country style kitchen. Feeling the need for a change, they began to explore the concept of creating a larger, open plan space. 'We have an eighteen month old baby boy and our second child is due in March so we felt that an open plan room would be the best option. With our little boy running around, this new layout would allow us to keep an eye on him, while also giving us a modern family living environment,' says Kieran.

Knocking four areas into one, the couple now have a fantastic space, with a kitchen, living and dining area. 'What was a small kitchen, utility room, sun room and dining room has been made into one. It's great, on both practical and aesthetic levels. It's very child friendly and is also a fantastic entertaining space.' After visiting four or five showrooms, it was the skills and ideas of Darren at Glenvale Kitchens who stood out from the others. 'Darren was the first designer who really thought out the design. He turned our ideas on their head and caught us by surprise. His ideas and plans for our kitchen looked fabulous from the outset. He was genuinely interested in what we were looking for and was extremely responsive. Other kitchen companies failed to



solve the issue of integrating the structural pillar along the back wall. Darren left this pillar visible, creating a built in wine rack between it and the tall units. His unique ideas and enthusiasm to work with us really impressed us.'

The couple were so pleased with Darren's design that they had their architect adjust the plans to suit the new kitchen. Working with Kieran and Eimear, Darren took their ideas on board as well as offering his own suggestions, until they came to their ideal layout. 'We wanted a contemporary design with an island and breakfast bar, eye level oven, handleless design and a wow factor.' Kieran and Eimear had originally wanted a white high gloss kitchen but weren't sure how well this would wear with a toddler in the house! A compromise was reached with a combination of white high gloss

tall units and a wenge veneered finish, which is less likely to show up scratches. The contrast of light and dark is extremely effective and ties in perfectly with the porcelain tiles and glass wall cladding.

There's superb attention to detail in this design. Handleless effect units in the form of a recessed grip handle that runs around the kitchen, unbroken. Each drawer and cupboard is fully loaded, fitted with easy access magic corner to ensure there's a place for everything. This kitchen has been designed from the inside out; functionality has driven the plan to its final design footprint. Imagining how the kitchen would be used on a daily basis, Darren has created an extremely easy to use, practical design while also ensuring it's visually stunning and reflects this young family's personality.

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