



Whether you're starting from scratch or working with an existing kitchen, there are several key factors you'll need to consider in order to achieve the result you desire.

Firstly, ask yourself a few questions, and depending on your answers, this will help you determine what kind of budget and parameters you have to work within:

Do I want to utilise the plumbing and cabinetry layout which is already in place? Are there any key items I would like to retain?  
Or, Am I after something new that still manages to compliment the existing surroundings?

Your budget will need to cater for necessary costs such as; materials, tap-ware and trades - which will most likely include carpenters, plumbers and electricians, and depending on how involved you want to be, it will dictate if you need to allocate budget for designers or custom joinery makers.

As a general rule with any kind of construction project, a budget tends to stick to a ratio which is 1/3 for manufacturing, and the remaining 2/3 to cover labour. If you're working with existing elements within the space make sure you make considerate choices with what you're bringing in and taking away.

It's important to make sure your design decisions don't become a statement for the wrong reasons. Harmony is a principle you should always stick to. If you have decided to start from scratch or do a complete renovation, the biggest factor to consider is making sure your kitchen works with the rest of your interior. Ensuring there is a sense of continuity, otherwise you're left with a disjointed feeling.

Consider your surroundings and how much space you have to work with, and remember that functionality and aesthetic need to work hand in hand. Throughout the rest of this Tip Sheet, we show you some of our favourite kitchen designs, and highlight some key design decisions.



## MELBOURNE RESIDENCE BY FLACK STUDIO

Clean lines and a crisp monochrome palette define this bright and modern kitchen space in Melbourne. With meticulous attention to detail, the beauty of this design is in the refined material choice, combined with articulated and thought-out carpentry. A seamless Italian carrara marble slab lines the splash back wall, with black shadow lines articulating the white textured cupboard doors and marble counter top. In subtle quantities, brass accents are used throughout to give the space an extra element of depth and interest, while the black tapware gives another element of contrast to the sink area. How this scheme would work for you: If you're a true classic at heart, but enjoy a modern twist, this space is the embodiment of that. Opt for a monochrome palette with thought out details, black tapware and high quality materials.

“If walls could talk, the rooms of this Victorian terrace could tell a story or two about the house’s incarnations over its lifetime. Moving on from a 1990s renovation, we focused on the bathroom, lounge and bedrooms, with the kitchen to be transformed in due course when the demands of welcoming a newborn to the family have settled.”

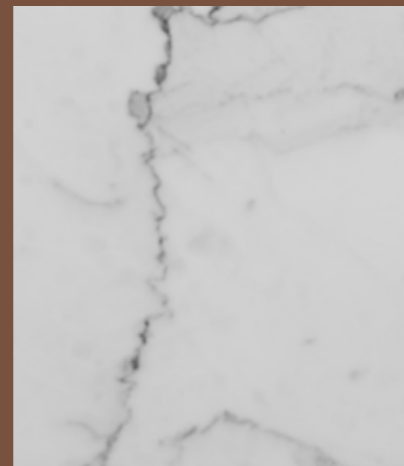
– Designer David Flack



RECREATE THE LOOK



Phoenix Vivid Slimline  
Side Lever Sink Mixer  
The Blue Space



Honed Italian  
Carrara Marble  
Signorino



Polar White Riven  
Finish Panels  
Laminex



Clark Double Bowl  
Undermount Kitchen sink  
The Blue Space



## UK RESIDENCE BY MCLAREN EXCELL

This beautiful minimalist kitchen designed by London firm McLaren Excell ticks all the boxes for us, with a unique combination of almost-dusty pink birch plywood cabinetry and floors, combined with natural and unsealed brass sheeting, the combination of materials is unique and incredibly striking. How this scheme would work for you: If you aren't afraid to play with material combinations which are a little more uncommon, - or if budget constrained, and you have a blank canvas or loft-style kitchen space, this combination could work for you.

“Birch plywood, concrete, wood, wool and brass are used through-out, and recycled wood/concrete blocks create a structural spine wall which forms the stairwell to the bedrooms above... The materials used are honest, hardwearing and low in cost. They have all been left in their natural state – ‘as found’ – and, together with the pleasing rhythms of the original building, combine to make a scheme of conceptual simplicity and spatial purity.”

– Designers Luke McLaren & Robert Excell





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Brass sheeting and  
angles – unsealed



Birch plywood  
cabinetry with cutout  
handles

RECREATE THE LOOK



Quinoa Joy Slim  
Kitchen faucet in Brass  
Aquabrass



The Caravaggio Matt Hvid  
Pendel Lamp  
Light Years

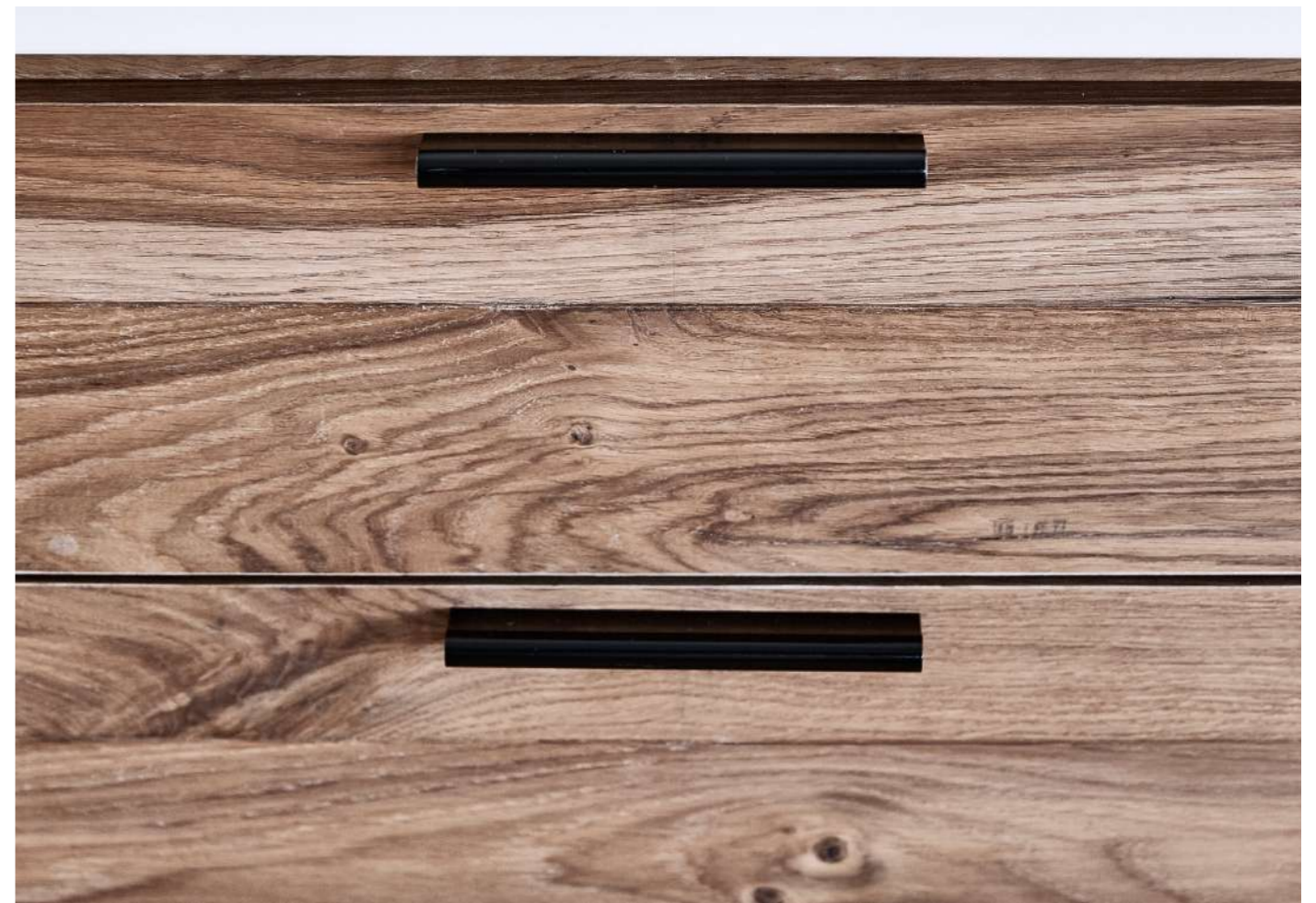


## SYDNEY RESIDENCE BY WE ARE TRIIBE

High ceilings and a natural palette take precedence in this Dolans Bay home, on the south coast of Sydney, Australia: A predominantly east-facing block by the ocean, with an abundance of natural light. The white walls keep the space bright and airy, while the timber tones help to soften and add warmth to the space. Varying pendant lights break up the different zones in the open plan kitchen and dining area, while black accents are selected in the architectural hardware and tapware throughout, giving the space contrast and continuity. How this scheme would work for you: If you gravitate towards natural tones and textures, a scheme of white, timber, and black can keep your space looking fresh and airy while bringing natural elements indoors.

“The kitchen space took centre stage in this 10 month renovation project, being such a bright and light-filled family home, it was important for us to introduce timber tones in the cabinetry to anchor the area, and to give warmth to the space.”

– Designers Jessica Stewart & Christina Symes



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Oak veneer timber  
cabinetry panels  
Royal Oak



'Black pull 03'  
Metal handles  
Made Measure

RECREATE THE LOOK



The 'Popper' Light  
in Black  
Lab De Stu



The 'Pol' Dual Handle Sink  
Mixer in Black  
Sussex



## MELBOURNE RESIDENCE BY DKO

A dark and more masculine scheme set the tone in the M House in Melbourne, Australia. Architect and Interior firm DKO show us how to make this dark scheme work by pairing charcoal grey textured cabinetry with light grey concrete floors, and adding greenery to soften the look. A recessed LED panel of warm white light illuminates the kitchen from an alcove above and removes the need for any additional task lighting. How this scheme would work for you: If a bold dark look is something you gravitate towards, keep your floors and ceiling light to give the space balance, and add lighter-coloured elements in your smaller styling items to help brighten the space. Opting for chrome tapware, power points and kitchen goods also help to keep with the grey and charcoal

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Dorf 'Willow' Sink  
Mixer in Chrome  
The Blue Space



Burnished Wood  
Nuance Finish Panel  
Laminex

RECREATE THE LOOK



Recessed LED light  
in warm white  
Ambience



Small Grey Handmade  
Ceramic Planter  
Anchor Ceramics