

## KITCHEN: *dark magic*

Slick design, luxe finishes and smart use of space are the key ingredients in this dramatic kitchen revamp

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### *island bench*

Topped in luxurious honed Carrara marble, the central bench unit plays host to an Abey under-mounted sink and mixer tap from Reece, as well as elegant kitchenware from Safari Living.

A Corporate Culture 'Caravaggio P2' pendant offers ambient lighting, while transparent 'Charles Ghost' barstools from Space add a dose of contemporary cool.

*materials & finishes* To inject a sense of drama into her tired kitchen, homeowner Melissa opted for contrasting colours and a variety of textures. Vinyl wrap – a cost-effective cabinetry finish that can mimic the look of timber, metal or gloss – was used extensively on doors and drawers. A panelled wall swathed in Albedor vinyl in Bitter Black makes a striking statement, and simultaneously conceals a hidden pantry. Pale walls and whitewashed timber floors are teamed with drawers in creamy vinyl wrap to lighten the mood.



**UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AREN'T** known for opulent living, so when Melissa and her family moved into an old student house, they knew they'd have to get their hands dirty. "The kitchen hadn't been touched for decades and it was in a tiny, run-down lean-to at the rear of the house," explains Melissa. Keen for a serious upgrade, she called on Chelsea Hing Interior Design to help transform the cramped room into a contemporary family kitchen.

Space and functionality were at the top of Melissa's wish list, and Chelsea delivered on both fronts. "We replaced the old lean-to with a new extension, but the challenge was to incorporate a living zone, concealed pantry and cookspace into a skinny floor plan," says Chelsea. The new kitchen, built by Silverstream Constructions, is a lesson in compact design, complete with integrated appliances, generous storage units and a large, multifunctional island bench.



*cookzone* An avid cook and entertainer, Melissa splashed out on a Miele 5-burner cooktop and pyrolytic cleaning oven. The benchtop is clad in hard-wearing stainless steel and teamed with a shiny mirrored splashback. "Chelsea had to convince us to use mirrors in the kitchen, and we're so glad we did. They're easy to keep clean and really add a sense of space," says Melissa. In line with the clean and modern aesthetic, the rangehood is hidden behind dark joinery. >



*pantry* The key to any good kitchen design is storage, and Melissa's comes with plenty. As well as roomy under-counter cupboards and drawers, a pantry is cleverly concealed behind the dark joinery wall. Inside, there's shelving space for food and an orderly breakfast station, perfect for mornings on the run.



## KITCHEN BUDGET

<b>Appliances:</b> Miele cooktop and oven; Fisher & Paykel fridge and Qasair rangehood, all Michael's Appliance Centre	\$10,722
<b>Carrara marble benchtop</b>	\$1700
<b>Floors:</b> Baltic timber boards with sand, polish and polyurethane lacquer stain	\$7000
<b>Joinery</b>	\$25,000
<b>Paint:</b> Wash and Wear 101 Barrier Technology in China White, Dulux	\$39.95/L
<b>Pendant and barstools</b>	\$1755
<b>Sink &amp; tap:</b> 'Under-Mount' sink, Abey; 'Teknobil Oz' sink mixer, Reece	\$967
<b>Stainless-steel benchtop</b>	\$5500
<b>Mirrored splashback</b>	\$1200

*total: \$53,844\**

## SOURCE BOOK

Chelsea Hing Interior Design  
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