



**CONTRASTS:** Main image, white and walnut cabinets from Arlington Interiors. Bottom left to right: Chandelier-style cooker hood; built-in appliances look sleek; Jette Joop's angular kitchen, all from Arlington Interiors. Right top: Kitchen Aid artisan mixer, £399 from Peter Maturi. Right bottom: Wusthof knives from Peter Maturi.

# Mix materials for a modern kitchen

## INTERIORS

Mix and match materials and the latest gadgets for a new look kitchen that displays imagination and creativity. **Sharon Dale** reports.

"TOO matchy matchy" is a sneery little phrase that has entered design vernacular and is aimed at interiors that match too perfectly with no risks taken. The inference is that they lack interest and are the product of a poor imagination.

Kitchen designers have certainly taken this on board and continue to innovate when it comes to mixing materials, textures and colour.

Richard Bates, of Leeds-based kitchen specialists Arlington Interiors, says:

"Walnut doors have become popular again but this time round you team them with cream sides to add interest and lighten the effect."

Gloss and glass doors still sell well, but the latest material is ceramic, according to Richard, who says its tough, scratch and heat resistant qualities make it perfect for cabinets and worktops.

Man-made quartz is overtaking the ubiquitous black granite as the worktop of choice. Some have anti-bacterial properties thrown into the mix and there is

an eco version made from recycled glass in a corn syrup resin.

As for kitchen shapes, although curves are still popular, many of the cutting-edge kitchens have some serious angles, including the Jette Joop range from Germany.

Appliances and gadgets are becoming ever more sophisticated. The latest steam oven by Miele is £3,500 but it boasts a temperature probe for roasts that has Bluetooth and will cook your meat to perfection by re-setting to the right temperature.

Induction hobs, once rare, are now becoming more common, according to Arlington, and the reason is that they have great controllability, are energy-efficient and safe.

Instant boiling water taps, most notably Quookers, are also sought-after for similar reasons. They cost 3p a day to run on stand-by and are cheaper and easier than boiling a kettle. Once available only in luxury homes, built-in coffee machines are now commonplace, as are wine coolers, which have come

down in price and start at £300. "Wine coolers are popular because they look good and help elevate a room with their glass and light," says Richard.

As for stocking your new kitchen, The Kitchen Aid artisan mixer is still at the top of many wish lists, according to Luisa Maturi.

It's an investment piece at £399, but it is lusted after by baking enthusiasts and design lovers alike.

"It comes complete with dough hook, flat beater and whisk but the additional options are endless and it can be a pasta maker, juicer, mincer and ice cream maker to mention just a few," says Luisa of cookware specialists Peter Maturi.

"It is definitely not just for baking and comes in a wide range of colours so you can find one to match your kitchen. They definitely don't live in the cupboard."

Good knives, like Wusthof, Dualit toasters and other design-led brands such as brightly-coloured Joseph Joseph are also made to be out on show rather than hidden in those nice new cupboards.

## USEFUL CONTACTS FOR THE KITCHEN

■ **Arlington Interiors** is an independent specialist with a large range of British and German kitchens. It has one of the first displays of Jette Joop kitchens in the world. Tel: 0113 232 3233, [www.arlington-interiors.co.uk](http://www.arlington-interiors.co.uk)

■ **Peter Maturi** is a family firm with stores in Victoria Shopping Centre, Harrogate,

Tel: 01423 529699 and Vicar Lane, Leeds, Tel: 0113 254 3887, [www.petermaturi.com](http://www.petermaturi.com).

They are staging a demonstration evening in a new working kitchen in the Leeds store on October 20 and have teamed up with the Dean Clough Cookery School to stage an Art of Canapés class on November 10.