

# Kitchen Maker

Issue 36

Online

DID I JUST  
ROLL  
MY EYES  
OUT  
LOUD?

**PAINT IT  
BLACK**

# PARLOUR FARM RECEIVES MANUFACTURING GUILD MARK

PARLOUR Farm, a manufacturer of bespoke kitchens and cabinetry, has been awarded the prestigious Manufacturing Guild Mark from The Furniture Makers' Company - the City of London livery company and charity for the furnishing industry.

The company is a family run business that's been producing the highest in quality bespoke kitchen cabinetry for over 20 years.

Parlour Farm prides itself on being able to tailor every element of the room to a precise specification, ensuring that every inch of available space is utilised to build the best performing kitchen possible.

It operates from a workshop and showroom, with eight large kitchen sets, in Cirencester in Gloucestershire.

The Manufacturing Guild Mark has been the mark of excellence, distinguishing Britain's top furnishing manufacturers, since 1993.

It is awarded to companies that demonstrate high standards across seven assessment criteria: design, product development and function, manufacture, human resources, financial stability, sustainability and sales and marketing.

Manufacturing Guild Mark chairman, Ben Burbidge, presented managing director at Parlour Farm, Dino Mussell with the certificate of authentication at a presentation ceremony held at the company's premises.

Holding the Mark entitles the manufacturer to publicise the designation of excellence within its own press activity and marketing.

'Congratulations to Parlour Farm for achieving the absolute pinnacle of awards, the Manufacturing Guild Mark, which recognises excellent UK furnishing manufacturers,' said Manufacturing Guild Mark chairman, Ben Burbidge.

'The award serves as an acknowledged testament to the skill and commitment of all the team at the business, whose dedication ensures excellence is maintained consistently across all areas of the company.'

'It was an absolute pleasure to meet Dino and be given a tour of the company's excellent manufacturing facility in the Cotswolds,' said Mr Burbidge.

'I am passionate about our bespoke kitchen company. We are a family run business with an aim to give the customer not only the best experience, but the best quality and service that only a dedicated team can do,' said Dino Mussell.

'I'm delighted that our passion, flair and design has been recognised with the awarding of the Manufacturing Guild Mark by a respected institution, such as The Furniture Makers' Company,' he concluded.



Manufacturing Guild Mark chairman, Ben Burbidge presents managing director of Parlour Farm, Dino Mussell with the certificate.

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# MOVING OVER TO THE DARK SIDE

PAINT IT BLACK

A BLACK kitchen acts as the perfect inspiration if you favour a more dramatic and atmospheric cooking space.

It's all too easy to shy away from the thought of installing a black kitchen, but a dark space can work well in all types of home settings where it will appear to be both chic and sophisticated.

Whether you want to nod to this look with subtle accents, or you want to go all out with dark kitchen cabinets and black painted walls, a black kitchen provides one of the most popular and versatile kitchen colour schemes going and this look is totally worth tapping into.

You can create a dramatic kitchen with accessories, tiles, hardware and more. It's also easy to pair with lighter colour palettes around the home and whatever your interior design style may be - from uber-modern to farmhouse chic.

'Gone are the days where dark colours in the kitchen and living spaces are all "doom and gloom". Colour completely alters the mood of a room. Used cleverly, darker shades add a slice of sophistication and drama to the space,' explains kitchen designer at Harvey Jones, Matt Baker

Whether it's through fashion, or interior trends, we love layering different key trends, taking a little something from one and another iconic design element from another. And because of the

lack of colour, black kitchens are the perfect foundation to work on. Light cream and grey walls can be used to contrast against black cabinetry.

As well as the statement kitchen island, lighting in the centre of the room, as well as supplementary ceiling and wall lighting provide a kitchen space with ample visibility in order to get on with cooking and other daily kitchen tasks.

Conventional high-gloss and eggshell style furniture finishes can be swapped out for matt black cabinetry and pendant lighting.

Statement kitchen tiles can be pretty designs, or cool zig-zag motifs to add interest, texture and tone.

The best modern farmhouse kitchens are simple and understated but, executed well, in an open-plan black kitchen, textured materials help to make a statement.

Natural materials create warmth - wooden floorboards, timber worktops and last, but not least, bare brickwork will all work together to balance out the starkness of black cabinetry and give the space a more laid-back feel.

Ceilings are often referred to by interior designers as the fifth wall, so when it comes to kitchen wall decor, don't neglect this part of your kitchen.



In terms of tone and texture, this space is quite different. Conventional high-gloss and eggshell style furniture finishes are swapped out for matt black cabinetry, pendant lighting and statement tiling. Pretty designs and cool zig-zag motifs on the respective floor and walls add interest and texture and tonal variation in this space.

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*A quick, easy and budget-friendly way to modernise a black kitchen is to switch up the kitchen flooring. The secret to this expensive-looking kitchen flooring is in the geometric, hexagonal motif, mixed with marble and gold.*



An all-black kitchen can be something to contend with and isn't for everyone. However, for those willing to take the leap of faith, you can easily create a cozy and cocooning atmosphere that is both soothing and comforting.

Add an extra lift by going with a wooden worktop and add some wall decor in lighter colours just so you don't feel like you wandered into a cave every time you enter the kitchen.

Black colours mixed with bold stone elements will work well and this is proving to be a very popular mix.

A quick, easy and budget-friendly way to modernise a black kitchen is to add new flooring. For an extra-luxury touch, installing underfloor heating with this will create a cozy and premium feel.

If an Art-Deco inspired black and gold scheme is a little too polished, you can always incorporate copper touches into your kitchen lighting.

Black kitchens with industrial style decor can often appear to be a bit harsh but, with the addition of pink undertones, it is possible to create a feminine, but slightly urban scheme that's perfect for a city home.

Creative director at deVol, Helen Parker went with a really classic colour combination for the cabinetry by combining black with pale pink (see Page 9) enabling her to create a light and bright alternative to what we'd usually think of a black kitchen.

A kitchen island can be such an asset if you have the space. They are practical, great for storage and they look gorgeous too.

If you are thinking about going for a black kitchen, islands are also a great way to break up all that dark cabinetry and introduce

an extra amount of light into the room.

The contrast of white worktops and black walls still has a really dramatic effect, giving the room a lift and giving you a second colour to work with. You can then introduce this lighter colour into the rest of the room with white curtains and, perhaps, a white cooker hood.

Not ready to go fully over to the dark side yet? You don't need to go for black cabinetry. Instead, add drama with a black backsplash. A simple, glossy, glass backsplash will act as a mirror to make the kitchen space feel much larger.

Black gloss subway tiles also look amazing in any coloured kitchen. Simply tiling a splashback can provide a quick, affordable kitchen update.

If you want a black kitchen, but still want the space to feel light and airy, keep everything else white, including the walls, the floors and the worktops. The monochromatic look is a classic and definitely the most popular way to incorporate black kitchen decor.

Who would have thought we would be drawn in by black and yellow kitchen ideas? It shouldn't work, but it really does. In any kitchen you can pair black with other bolder colours without the room looking too outlandish. The key is to stick to the more muted tones.

It's no surprise that some of the best kitchen worktops are made from marble. And in black kitchens, this durable material pairs well to provide a gorgeous contrast.

Marble with any dark-coloured cabinets works, creating a really luxe feel but, at the same time, bringing in that all-important



Combining Scandinavian influence and Bohemian ideas makes this kitchen look so sophisticated but, at the same time, totally relaxed. Light cream and grey walls contrast against black cabinetry, while a tactile rattan pendant light helps to add texture and soften any harshness in this space.

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This is a look for those of you who love black kitchens, but still want the space to feel light and airy. It's simple really... just be sure to keep everything else in your kitchen white, bright and crisp.



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*Creative designer at deVOL, Helen Parker went with a really classic colour combination for the cabinetry in this black and pale pink kitchen. Using a mix of inky blue black and natural coloured furniture, she was able to create a light and bright alternative to what we'd usually think of in terms of a black kitchen.*

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light factor. Remember that the right lighting always makes a difference.

If you are on a bit of a tight budget, marble effect worktops will look just as gorgeous. Why not take it all the way up as a backsplash, too? Choose gold, or brass hardware and taps to complete the look.

Dark kitchens can make a room feel cramped and closed in if there's limited natural light – or if you're working on a design for a small kitchen. One way to prevent this is to use open shelving rather than wall cabinets, as this lets the space breathe. It is also a great way of displaying your favourite ceramics, glassware, or a collection of cookery books.

If you want to bring pattern into a black kitchen, tiles are a great way to do so. Keep your flooring lighter as a contrast if you have black cabinets and pick a pattern that also has black, or some grey tones to create a cohesive look.

The use of cream colours will warm up the room, helping to introduce a softness that is less dramatic than going for a combination of black and white tiling.

If you want a kitchen that offers a total wow factor, be brave and go all over black – cabinets, walls, ceilings, the whole lot. The important factor in making this look work is ensuring that the undertones of your chosen colour are spot on.

If your kitchen receives a good deal of natural light, you are pretty safe going for any shade of black you like, but true blacks might look a bit harsh as a five wall colour, so go for something that has a softness and blue undertones..

And when it comes to choosing the best type of flooring – go for

stone flooring. Why? Well, we'll let the expert explain...

'Natural stone flooring can be one of the most forgiving floor coverings if the right stone and finish are chosen,' says director at Quorn Stone, Isabel Fernandez.

'Naturally some stones will be denser than others, which provides more durability. However, all natural stone will be subject to a little wear and tear over the years. A tumbled finish provides an aged look, its worn edges, textured surface and natural markings makes it extremely forgiving with day to day crumbs and dirt,' she adds.

Choosing a black kitchen doesn't mean you have to go ripping out cabinets and starting over. If you're happy with the style of your cabinets, why not test out the trend by painting them?

It's not a super quick job, but a couple of free week-ends and you could have a whole "new" kitchen for a lot less than you would imagine.

A row of very dark cabinetry, whether that be on the wall, or on the floor, can look a bit intense, so break up all that darkness with glass-fronted cabinetry. Not only does it look lovely – and acts as decor just as much as providing storage – its inclusion will also stop a black kitchen looking flat.

Lighting can be from within, helping to create even more of a contrast with the cabinets around them. One way of adding interest is to swap "plain" panes of glass for a smoked glass, or a fluted finish.

If you're working with a slightly smaller kitchen and looking to add some dramatic feel, tiling a whole wall with black gloss tiles will create such an impact.

The glossy kitchen wall decor will reflect light around the space



*With the low warm glow of the hanging bulbs and the glimmering copper top, this kitchen looks more like a swanky West End bar.*

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Now if you want a kitchen that will wow, be brave and go all over black – cabinets, walls, ceilings, the lot and, by way of contrast in an all-black kitchen, use light stone flooring.



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and introduce loads of interest and texture without actually taking up any space. Pair with a white grout to create a focal point in the room and add touches of gold for a really luxury look.

‘Choosing the right finish for your kitchen is really important, as it has a big impact on the overall design, which is especially significant when decorating with darker shades,’ says design director of Wren Kitchens, Darren Watts.

‘If you’re worried about how you will get enough light into the space, a gloss finish is a great choice. Gloss will reflect the light, creating a mirror-like surface and make the room appear more spacious. Gloss finishes are often used in modern designs and will give your kitchen a glamorous feel,’ says Darren.

‘Matt, on the other hand, looks great in a more traditional, or country styled kitchen. Although it won’t do much for reflecting the light, a dark matt finish looks charming with wood accessories and will give the space a contemporary twist,’ he adds.

‘Black kitchen design has been increasingly popular in recent years, but this trend can be a little overbearing if it’s not carried off correctly. Unfortunately, black won’t look right in every space,’ warns Darren.

‘You’ll want to carefully consider your kitchen’s size, shape and the amount of light it receives each day before deciding. Being

In a slightly smaller kitchen, if you are looking to add some drama, tiling a whole wall with black gloss tiles will create an impact, reflecting light around the space. Add touches of gold for a really luxury look.



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Combine black with an unexpected colour choice. Who would have thought we would be drawn in by black and yellow kitchen with contrasting black and red terracotta floor tiles? It shouldn't work, but it really does.

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very dark, black will make a room appear smaller, so if your kitchen's already a bit pushed for space, you should use black sparingly.

'An eye-catching black island provides a great way of creating a striking centrepiece, which can be contrasted against light walls and cabinets, as a singular black feature.

'Black can dominate a décor scheme, but there are ways to avoid this. It's all about getting the balance right, using enough black to make a statement, whilst ensuring that the room remains light and airy.

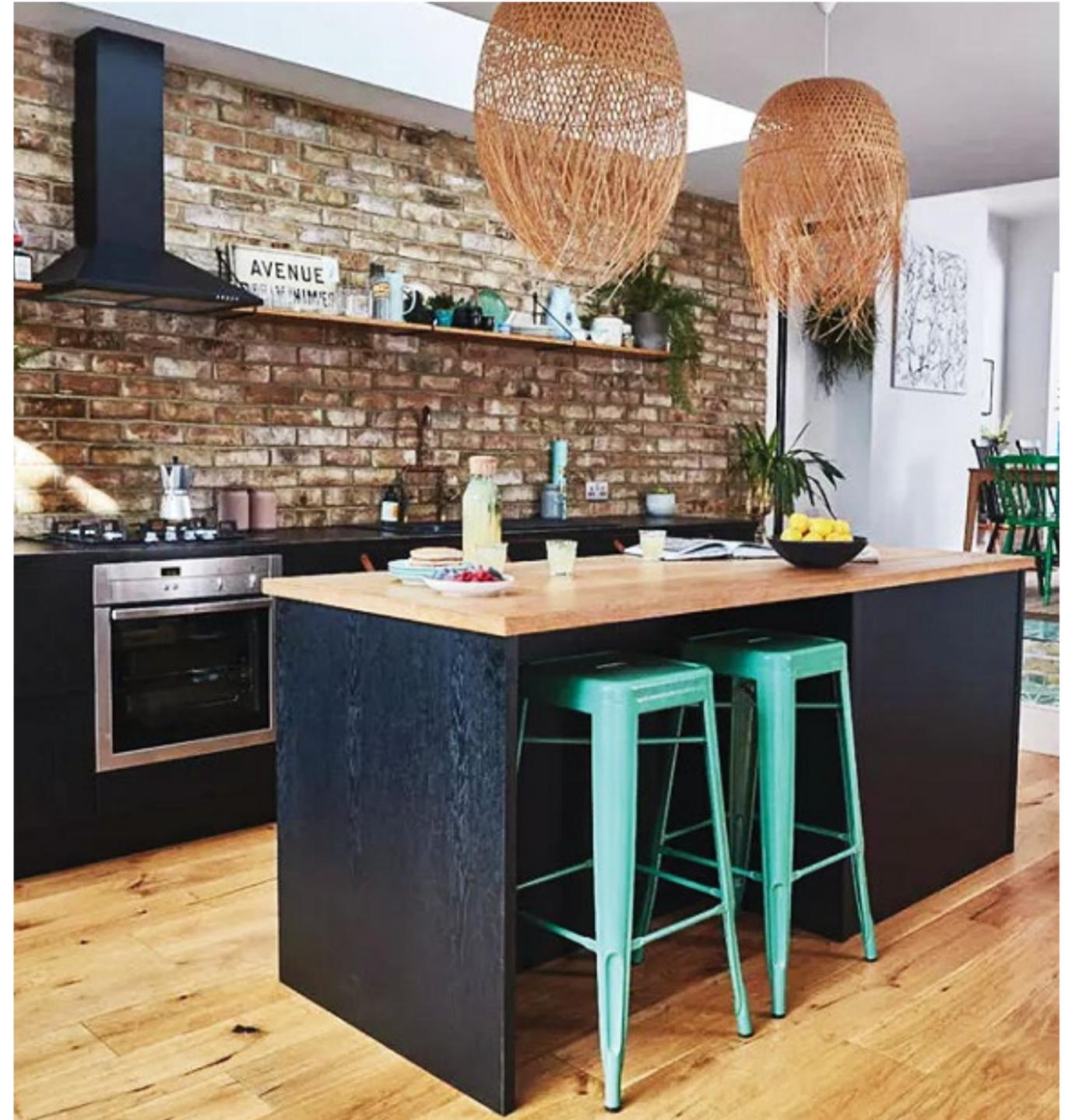
Two tone cabinets are a great way to achieve this look. Try including a run of black cabinets along the back wall of your kitchen and contrast these against another softer shade.

'Remember that dark colours draw your eye into them, so use less if you have a large kitchen.

You should also avoid using them on any tall, or wall hung cabinets as this will close in the space,' concludes Darren.

The colours that tend to go with black are neutrals. However, black goes with so many colours if you just keep them on the muted side.

If you are looking for a combination with longevity however, you can't go wrong with black and white, or cream, or grey... or what every neutral you are most drawn to.



The best modern farmhouse kitchens are simple and understated. In this open-plan black kitchen, textured materials have been used to make a bold statement. Natural materials create warmth – the wooden floorboards, the wooden worktop, exposed brick walls and last, but not least, the funky seagrass light work together to balance out the starkness of the black cabinetry and give the space a more laid-back feel.

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# PLASMA CLEAN INTRODUCES ESP PRODUCTS TO ENHANCE KITCHEN VENTILATION SOLUTIONS

PLASMA Clean, trusted pioneers in innovative and affordable commercial kitchen ventilation solutions, has announced that it is launching a new electrostatic precipitator (ESP) Air Green range to enhance its range of kitchen ventilation solutions.

Smoke, grease, odours and fire risks are a concern for most commercial kitchens, but Plasma Clean's latest market-leading solutions are solving the problem of nuisance emissions and helping businesses to comply with DW/172: Specification for Kitchen Ventilation Systems and DEFRA guidance.

The Air Green Series removes grease, smoke and odour particulates from kitchen extraction systems, keeping commercial kitchens clean, compliant and reducing the risk of fire.

The new products, ESP AG 3500, ESP AG 7000 and ESP AG 10500, replace Plasma Clean's previous ESP 2500, ESP 5000 and ESP 7500 and will provide the highest efficiency of flow rates, creating both positive and negatively charged particles and featuring an extra depth-collector cell, radically improving overall performance.

Other products in Plasma Clean's kitchen ventilation range include the Techniclean canopy mount, which combines high-intensity UVC light with ozone technology to remove cooking

smells and Techniclean in-duct units, which keep ductwork virtually grease-free, reducing fire risks.

'We're committed to continuously innovating and evolving our products to deliver the very best for our clients, no matter their size, as demonstrated with our new electrostatic precipitator Air Green range,' says chief executive officer of Plasma Clean, Steve Keogh.

'Our cost-effective kitchen ventilation solutions are designed specifically to meet the highest standards in the industry and we're pleased to be helping businesses to remain compliant with EMAQ and DEFRA guidance on Commercial Kitchen Exhaust Systems,' he adds.

Plasma Clean specialises in grease, odour and smoke control solutions, which involves combining plasma ionisation and UV-C technology with traditional air treatment methods to create clearer, safer environments in commercial kitchens. The company has supported a host of businesses with kitchen ventilation solutions.

Want to find out more? Visit [www.plasma-clean.com](http://www.plasma-clean.com)



Chief executive officer of Plasma Clean, Steve Keogh.

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# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR OVEN'S SELF-CLEANING CYCLE

GONE are the days you have to scrub and scrub... and scrub to get your oven to shine like new. The self-cleaning feature, first introduced by Thermador in 1963, was added to both gas range and electric ovens solely to make cleaning easier. It is now a near-universal setting on household ovens.

So whether you dropped an entire pie in your oven while trying to remove it, the cheese on your pizza bubbled over, or you've just let too many crumbs accumulate over time, it's time to let that self-cleaning button on your oven work some magic for you.

## What type of self-cleaning oven is best?

There are two different types of self-cleaning ovens: those that clean with steam and those that clean with high heat, or "pyrolytic" cleaning. Both save you from heavy-duty elbow grease — they just function a bit differently:

- With high-heat cleaning, the oven cranks to extremely high temperatures (usually between 800 deg F to 875 deg F) to burn off residue and turn it to ash. Most consumers find that high heat performs better with less elbow grease.
- Steam cleaning works with heat and water to loosen soiling, but a manual clean will still be needed afterwards — especially for heavy soiling. Steam offers the advantage of no burn off, lower temperatures and no odours.

## How often should you self-clean your oven?

For most people, a thorough self-clean every four to six months is plenty to keep your oven sparkling. Ultimately though, how frequently you need to self-clean your oven depends on how often you use your oven — and how diligently you manually clean it between uses.

## How long does self-cleaning take?

Though exact timing varies depending on the brand and type of oven you own, you should reckon on a couple of hours.

## Is it safe to self-clean your oven when home?

Though you may have heard otherwise and that burning plastic smell may spook you, it's perfectly safe to run the self-clean feature whether you and your family are home or not.

In general, self-cleaning ovens do not pose a threat to typical household pets like cats and dogs, either. The fumes self-cleaning ovens produce are harmful only to tropical birds. If you have this type of pet, arrange for them to be out

of the house before proceeding with a self-clean. That said, odours are common, particularly with ovens that clean using heat. For this reason, many consumers opt to ventilate (opening windows, or running the hood) concurrently. And, if the smell is overpowering, you can always go into another room while the oven works its magic.

## How to use your oven's self-clean feature

No matter which method your oven's self-clean feature works on, here are the general steps you'll need to follow:

1. Prep the oven: Prior to using the self-cleaning feature, make sure the surface of the oven is free from any major spills. And, unless they are documented as self-cleanable, remove the racks to prevent discolouration and potential warping.
2. Lock the door: Though many models will lock automatically before the cleaning cycle begins, double check and lock the door, if need be.
3. Turn on the vent: Ensure there is good ventilation in the home — a ventilation fan, or hood is ideal to help remove heat and any odours caused by everything burning off.
4. Let run: Hit that button and let your oven do its thing.
5. Wipe down: When completely cool, wipe down with a damp towel to clean up any lingering residue.



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# TITUS LAUNCHES SPACE-EFFICIENT SLIMLINE KITCHEN DRAWER RANGE

CABINET hardware expert, Titus has launched a second-generation range of its popular Tekform double-wall drawers.

The new slimline versions feature a sleek and visually-appealing design and have 14mm side panels which maximise efficient utilisation of drawer space.

The new design also incorporates the precision-engineered Titus hydraulic dampers to ensure a reliable and consistent soft closing action, combined with low pull-out force.

Tekform slimline drawers are available in three heights – 70mm, 145mm and 182mm – and can be supplied in a range of visually appealing finishes that ideally complement contemporary furniture designs.

A further key benefit is that they use the same drilling pattern for runners as their predecessors, which facilitates mounting in existing products and designs.

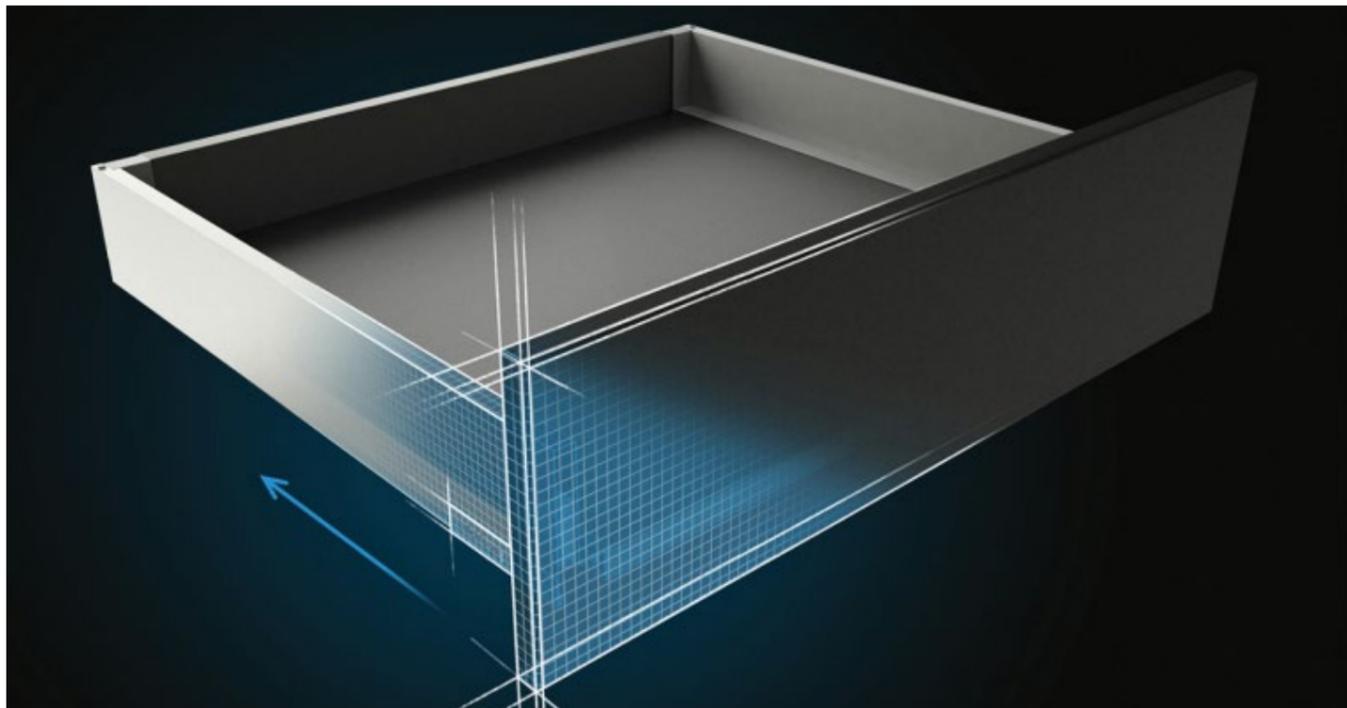
Drawers are fast and easy to assemble, thanks to the EasyFix locking system used for the front-panel connector, which requires only hand insertion and a quarter of a turn with a screwdriver to lock the panel securely in place.

Reliable life-long “ConfidentClose”

soft closing is assured by the use of the renowned Titus single-direction precision-engineered hydraulic dampers, which smoothly slow down the linear movement of the drawer as it reaches the closed position, but offer minimal resistance to movement when the drawer is being opened.

Installation of the drawers within the cabinet is fast and straightforward. Extended tolerances in cabinet construction can be accommodated without compromising accurate alignment, smooth and silent operation and excellent stability in the open position. In addition, variations of up to ± 1mm in bottom panel width size are acceptable.

Want to find out more? Visit [www.titusplus.com](http://www.titusplus.com)



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# BLUM LAUNCHES ALL NEW EASY ASSEMBLY APP

BLUM has introduced the Easy Assembly app – downloadable on to a Smartphone, or tablet from the App Store, or Google Play.

It can be used to help assemble and adjust Blum’s family of hinges, lift systems and pull-outs and is proving invaluable to kitchen fitters.

The app includes assembly instructions and assembly videos for all Blum products, arranged by product group. These can be saved into a favourites tab to make it even more simple to find each time it is needed.

Up-to-date assembly and installation instructions are to be found at your fingertips. This saves time and ensures that furniture is assembled to the highest standard.

The interactive applications clearly indicate the right drilling positions and show you how to adjust Blum fittings. There are

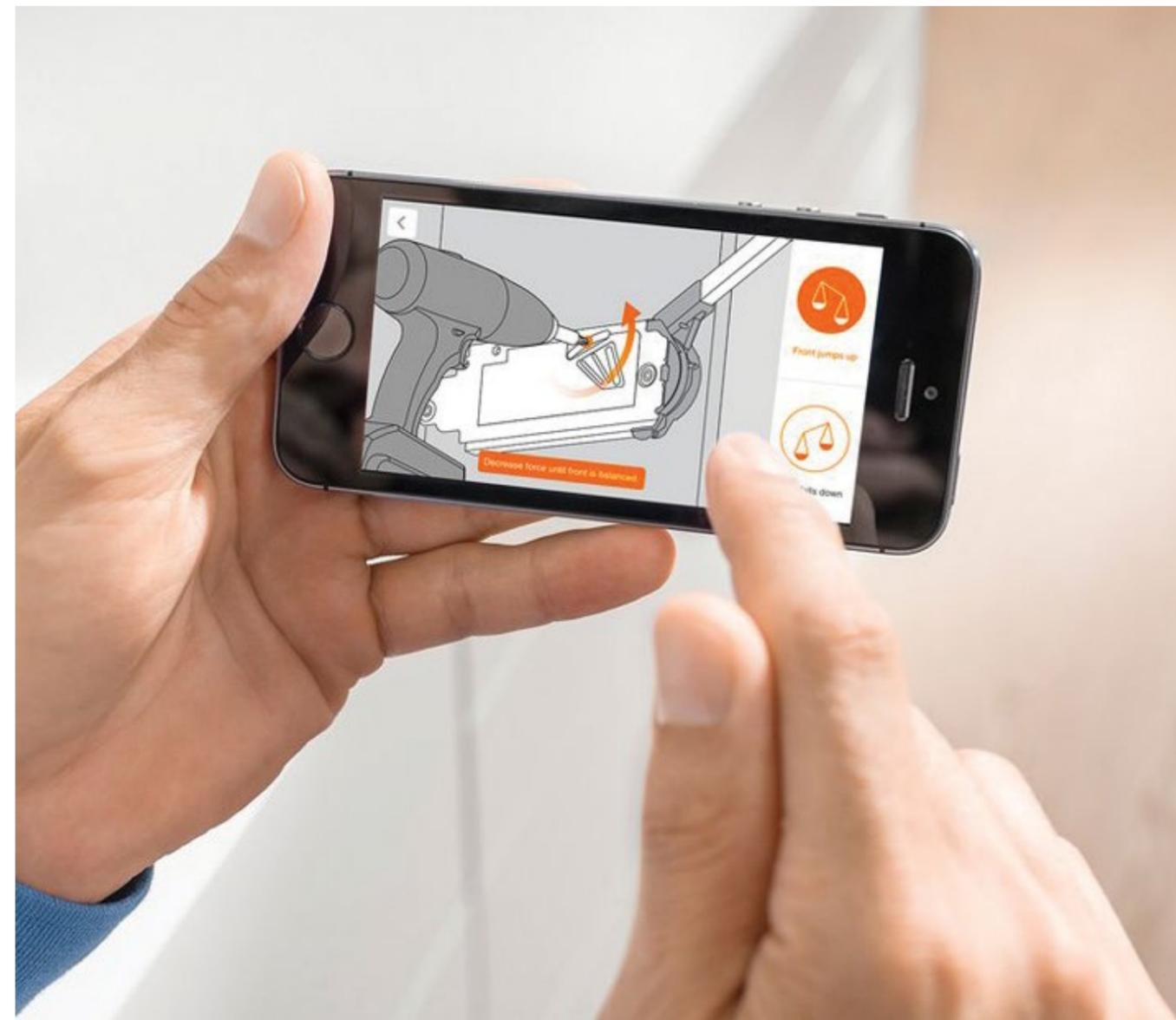
assembly videos, taking you through the process step-by-step.

Easy Assembly is supported by the Blum Live Support App, where customers can speak directly to the technical support team via a live chat, sending videos and photographs of the individual situation.

All this is totally free of charge - part of Blum’s commitment and dedication to services for their customers.

‘When talking with kitchen installers we’ve found that there is nothing quite like having all the answers to your fitting questions right in your pocket. Whether you prefer instructions, interactive content, or videos, the app delivers the solution you like best and just when you need it,’ says technical manager, Matthew Glanfield.

Want to find out more? Visit [www.blum.com](http://www.blum.com)



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# HAFELE PARTNERS WITH LAURA JANE CLARK ON KITCHENS FOR LIVING CAMPAIGN

FURNITURE  
FITTINGS

HAFELE UK is partnering with architect and interior designer, Laura Jane Clark on a campaign to explore how well thought out kitchen design and enhanced usability impacts people's lifestyles and well-being, with the findings set to be launched at the KBB show.

Laura Jane Clark, who's appeared as an architect on BBC2's Your Home Made Perfect, as well as Channel 4's Amazing Spaces, Ugly House to Lovely House and Shed of the Year, has teamed with the furniture and fittings manufacturer and distributor to provide insights for its "Kitchens for Living" campaign.

As part of the campaign, Häfele UK will explore consumer approaches to kitchen design and functional spaces and how the design, layout and usability of a kitchen can affect quality of life. The findings will be analysed to inform kitchen designers, manufacturers and installers of how they can better meet their customers' needs now and into the future.

Experts from the Häfele team will present the results alongside Clark at KBB where they'll also discuss functional living spaces, the importance of considered lighting schemes and the vital elements of a home office.

"The way the home works and fits around our evolving lifestyles has been under more scrutiny than ever before over the past 18 months. We set out to discover just how integral efficient design and functional space are to the way people use and move around their kitchen and how this makes them feel," says head of marketing at Häfele UK, Natalie Davenport

"The campaign aligns with Laura's passion to create innovative internal designs, built around the home-owner's needs and

which make best use of every square metre and so this collaboration is a very natural fit for both parties.

"Laura not only understands how to design functional, beautiful spaces, but she also has hands-on experience of creating and renovating them too, making her the perfect fit to provide insights to our customers around the research.

"The findings look set to inform and inspire the industry on the needs of home-owners when it comes to their kitchens, so they can be sure they're always achieving a positive outcome for a customer based on their individual space," concludes Natalie Davenport.

"I'm really excited to be working with Häfele UK. When I started my training to become an architect, I used to pore over the huge hardback Häfele catalogue and regularly discuss with the technical team who provided invaluable advice on innovative solutions to help bring my design ideas and detailing to life," says Laura Jane Clark.

"This is a great opportunity to work with both home-owners and Häfele to identify and understand where current home and kitchen design is not working and how it can be improved, so that it meets their needs now and well into the future.

"The findings will prove invaluable for businesses and individuals in the industry from architects and designers through to manufacturers and retailers and I can't wait to reveal more at the KBB Show in March," she adds.

Want to find out more? Visit [www.hafele.co.uk](http://www.hafele.co.uk)



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# EGGER - WORKTOPS THAT OFFER MORE

KITCHEN WORKTOPS

TRADITIONALLY, worktops were only found in the kitchen but, due to innovation, design developments and budget friendly solutions, they can now be found across multiple applications.

Egger's new collection of worktops brings fresh opportunities, with a stylish range of durable, hygienic and stylish laminate surfaces.

A total of 34 carefully chosen decors, three thicknesses and two profiles make up this sophisticated collection of worktops. Realistic reproductions in 16mm, 25mm and 38mm include oak, marble, stone and granite, offering a low maintenance, cost-effective alternative to solid surfaces.

A highlight of the Egger Worktop Collection 2020 is the elegant range of six striking 16mm square-edge material surfaces. Double-sided, the worktops are perfect for the creation of waterfall islands, shelving and side panels. Matching decors are also available as a 38mm post-formed worktop, so an on-trend, thick and thin finish can be achieved.

Four Halifax oak decors, from Egger's popular Feelwood range, are available as 38mm square-edged worktops. Realistic to the touch, the design and texture perfectly align to produce a surface almost indistinguishable from real oak.

Egger's standard worktop length is 4100mm, but the 38mm post-formed worktops are also available as 3050mm. Offered in 24 on-trend woodgrain and material decors, this size is optimised for easy transportation and fitting.

Suitable for kitchens and other applications, there is a finish to suit every interior. As a stylish alternative to tiling, matching upstands and splashbacks are available for all decors. They create a co-ordinated finish, whilst being simple to look after and maintain.

Matching edging is available for all decors, so a 38mm post-formed worktop can easily be adapted to create a square-edge finish. If a co-ordinated look is required, 17 worktops have matching melamine faced chipboard (MFC) available from UK stock, which can be used for door frontals and carcasses. Matching laminate is also available for all decors.

As part of Egger's commitment to the environment, all worktops are PEFC certified and made using renewable material (88 per cent). The 25mm square edge and 38mm post-formed worktops can also be recycled following use. The range has undergone rigorous testing and has been awarded the prestigious FIRA Gold Award.

'Our worktops can be used across a number of different applications,' says head of decor management, UK & Ireland, Elliott Fairlie.

'Our carefully considered trend driven range, is the next generation of laminate worktops, offering a cost-effective, low maintenance alternative to solid surfaces,' adds Mr Fairlie.

A range of installation accessories has been developed alongside this new collection to provide easy access to essential items. This includes two installation kits and EGGERSeal water-proof sealant and adhesive. If used in conjunction with the Egger worktop fitting guide, the worktop is guaranteed for 10 years.

Want to find out more? Visit [www.egger.com/worktops](http://www.egger.com/worktops)



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# EXTRACTLY SYSTEMS ARE QUIET AND DUST FREE

Extractly has commissioned an additional energy-saving extraction plant at Tom Howley's kitchen manufacturing facility near Glossop, Derbyshire, where the custom-designed system serves the machining operations side of the company's 5,000m<sup>2</sup> factory.

ESTABLISHED in 2004, by design director, Tom Howley, the luxury kitchen brand has a nationwide presence through its 18 showrooms located across the UK, with another due to open later this year.

Employing the highest quality materials to produce bespoke fitted kitchens in oak, walnut and hand-painted finishes, Tom Howley kitchens range in style from classic to contemporary.

Through acquisition by Neville Johnson Group in 2011, the company is now part of the renamed Bespoke Home Interior Design Group (BHID).

Over the years and in common with many furniture manufacturers, the company has replaced older machinery with newer, faster equipment, as well as adding new machines to increase capacity.

The well-equipped production facility now houses two CNC machining centres, with another due to be installed in the spring, along with numerous saws, spindle moulders and routers, plus two Boere wide belt sanders which, alone, account for over 35 per cent of the factory's total extraction requirement.

In summer 2021, in order to optimise workflow, a re-organisation of machinery was being undertaken at Tom Howley and Extractly was contracted to reconfigure the ductwork arrangement and integrated Ecogate® equipment, which was controlling extraction to an existing, externally-sited, filter unit and which continues to serve the finishing side of the factory.

The filter unit Extractly installed at Tom Howley is a Nederman

NFKXZ3000 5 + 1; a six-module unit fitted with Nederman's patented, high performance, polyester Superbag filter bags.

Over on the machining side, however, planned installations of new, high-speed, dust-producing equipment would require a significant increase in extraction capacity.

'The previously-installed, internally-sited, filter unit was going to need at least an upgrade, but probably replacement, so we approached Extractly for a quotation to bring the system up to specification,' explains factory manager, Alan Ashmore.

After a full review of current and expected future extraction requirements, Extractly's proposal included decommissioning the old filter and replacing it with a new, externally-sited unit.

'There were three key areas that needed consideration at Tom Howley: the requirement for increased extraction capacity; the need to expand the energy-saving Ecogate system and, since the only sensible option was to install a new fan and filter unit outside the building, to protect neighbouring residential properties from excessive noise pollution,' says Extractly director, Jake Oldfield.

With projected airflow demand approaching 55,000m<sup>3</sup>/hr and suction provided by a 90kW main fan, Alan Ashmore had highlighted from the outset that it was crucial for the extraction system to be silenced to an acceptable level for residents living less than 50m from the location earmarked for the new dust plant.

In order to ensure that there would be no environmental

impact at residential properties closest to the site, Extractly commissioned a BS4142 noise impact survey from specialists, Beechfield Design Consultancy (BDC).

Armed with environmental noise measurements and using acoustic calculations, BDC established requirements for noise attenuation at the site and designed and manufactured bespoke absorptive silencers.

Fabricated from galvanised steel sheet, these particular silencers are designed to reduce the sound generated by turbulent air inside the fan, as well as the noise, which travels down the ducting.

Internally, the enclosures contain sound insulating materials, sandwiched within sheets of perforated steel and spaced to allow efficient, unimpeded flow of dust-laden air through to the filter unit.

Extractly's engineers installed the noise attenuation equipment at the same time as the new fan and filter unit. The design will ensure sound levels at the nearest properties are equivalent to normal background levels.

The filter unit Extractly installed at Tom Howley is a Nederman NFKZ3000 5+1; a six-module unit fitted with Nederman's patented, high-performance, polyester Superbag filter bags.

Filtered dust waste drops into the hopper below, where a drag-chain conveyor transfers the collected waste to a rotary valve discharge unit.

A series of five 1.1kW regeneration fans enable filter bag cleaning to be carried out automatically during operation and waste dust is transferred, pressure-free, directly to a covered box cart.

Designed for continuous operation and to handle high dust volumes, these units are manufactured to strict safety and emissions standards and are fully ATEX compliant.

In addition, the modular construction will allow Tom Howley to add further modules if future equipment acquisitions further increase demand for dust extraction.

The installation has also benefited from the inclusion of a second Ecogate® greenBOX12 controller; doubling the capacity of the existing on-demand energy-saving system.

Ecogate® technology works in conjunction with a variable speed drive unit, which automatically adjusts and optimises the running speed of the main extraction fan as individual woodworking machines come on line or shut down.

When compared to standard installations, where the fan operates continuously at full power, an Ecogate® system can typically reduce energy consumption by over 50 per cent — with the resulting cost savings becoming more dramatic as energy prices continue to rise.

Extractly's technical director, William Kenyon, who has been involved with Ecogate since the

technology was introduced to the UK woodworking industry back in 2010, explains how these savings are made:

'With Ecogate® sensors on each machine constantly monitor usage and extraction is independently controlled, in real-time, to match the requirements of each individual piece of woodworking machinery,' says Mr Kenyon.

'Since the extraction system only operates when machines are running, the total extraction volume requirement is significantly reduced, creating the potential for huge energy and cost savings, as well as lower noise levels both at the fan and inside the factory,' he adds.

Extractly completed the installation over the Christmas downtime and commissioned the system in time for full production to get underway as the company returned to work again in the New Year.

'Everyone is delighted with the job Extractly has carried out here. We now have a fully-automated, future-proofed system, which just gets on quietly and efficiently with the task of dust extraction — levels of both dust and noise on the factory floor have been reduced significantly,' says production supervisor, Adam Slack.

'We were also very impressed with the standard of work and the way Extractly handled every aspect of what was a very time-contingent contract,' concludes Mr Slack.

Want to find out more? Visit [www.extractly.co.uk](http://www.extractly.co.uk)



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Bespoke absorptive silencers significantly reduce noise levels from the 90kW main fan.



The six-module Nederman NFKZ3000 unit supplied and installed by Extractly.

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