

your home and garden

RENOVATION RULES!

Tips and tricks from
real-life transformations

kitchen checklist

- ✓ Modern makeover
- ✓ 10 top trends
- ✓ Style for less

JAMIE OLIVER'S PIZZA PARTY

projects to ♥

- + Chopping boards
- + Leather coasters
- + Creative trays

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WILD WEST
BOY'S
BIRTHDAY

The dining space features a wet bar (which has a sink and running water) that incorporates a bespoke piece of mercury glass from Western Glass. "This adds elegance and makes it look like one piece," says Lisa. "I grew up with a wet bar and really wanted one of my own." It's also ideal for displaying some of the couple's extensive glassware collection.

THEN & NOW:

lisa + matt's kitchen + bathroom

A basic, country-style kitchen and bathroom are transformed with luxurious finishes and calming colours

Text compiled by Johanna Thornton.
Photography by Larnie Nicolson.





SNAPSHOT

WHO LIVES HERE? Matt Clark (surgeon) and Lisa Jukelevics (learning experiences manager at Better by Design), and Matt's kids Thomas, 12, and Madeleine, 9.

LOCATION Mt Eden, Auckland.

WE HAVE LIVED HERE... two years.

WHAT WAS THE ULTIMATE GOAL FOR THE KITCHEN? To modernise, brighten, and make the spaces useful and our own. We wanted it updated but classic with lots more storage.

WHAT WAS YOUR ULTIMATE GOAL FOR THE BATHROOM? For a larger shower, more storage, light, bright and modernised to our tastes.

DID YOU HAVE ANY HELP? Susan Templer of Templer Interiors helped to bring our vision to life.

These photos Lisa and Matt wanted to replicate the style of furniture in the kitchen in the dining room. This custom-made hutch was built by DL Cabinetmaking and is painted in Resene 'Robins Egg Blue'. The full-extension drawer hardware (far right) is from Blum. The gloss white subway tiles are from Heritage Tiles.



BEST MAKEOVER MOMENT: "SEEING THE GRANITE BENCHES INSTALLED!"

KITCHEN DETAILS

LISA, WHICH ROOM HAVE YOU RENOVATED? The kitchen, dining room and laundry (now a butler's pantry/scullery).

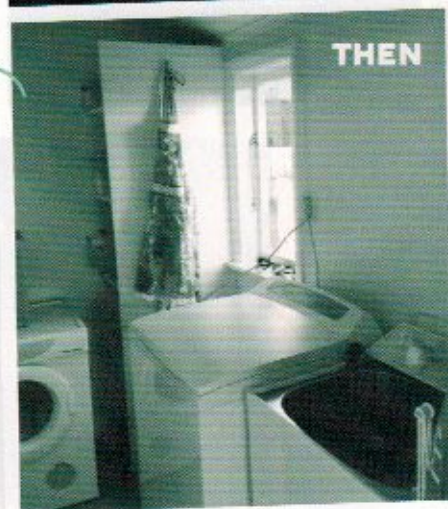
HOW LONG DID THE MAKEOVER TAKE? About six months.

DESCRIBE THE SPACES BEFORE It felt dated, with ancient appliances and no gas or dishwasher.

DESCRIBE THE SPACES NOW A place we both enjoy cooking in, being in and showing off! Light, classic, with lots of texture and touchability.

WHAT DID YOU DO? We spent months collecting inspiration from Pinterest, home magazines and websites before compiling an ideas book that we shared with our designer Susan Templer. She helped execute our vision. The granite for the benchtops was love at first sight! Matt found the floor tiles (Rex Tiles Selection Black Oak), which set off the lighter cabinets and walls beautifully, and incorporated underfloor heating, making them people-friendly — Matt's kids love lying on them! We also added custom cabinets built by DL Cabinetmaking, with undercabinet LED lighting, which is fantastic when you need a bit of extra light over a workspace.

BEST LESSON LEARNED? Installation/labour is a big portion of the cost, so don't economise on quality of materials when you're already spending a decent amount on the overall job.



THEN

Above left The butler's pantry mirrors the kitchen but with subtle variations such as flat doors and drawer fronts. Above right A custom stainless steel rangehood built by S.J. Crosbie was positioned over a Power Pack extractor to achieve the American look Lisa was after. "I grew up in the states and love big stainless steel rangehood and Viking ovens."

BUDGET

HOW MUCH DID YOU SPEND? Approximately \$150K, which basically covered half the main level of the house.

WHAT WAS YOUR BEST BUY? Granite. We love the look and feel of the leathered finish (when it was installed in December we were told we were the only kitchen in New Zealand to have used this stone and finish!). For the same cost as engineered stone, we got a unique and talked-about surface; guests always comment on and fondle the granite.

BATHROOM DETAILS

WHICH ROOMS HAVE YOU RENOVATED? The bathroom and a powder room that doubles as a small toilet.

HOW LONG DID THE MAKEOVER TAKE? Three months.

DESCRIBE THE SPACES BEFORE They smelled of cat. There was a huge bathtub, but a tiny shower in the corner, awful recessed areas, and minimal storage.

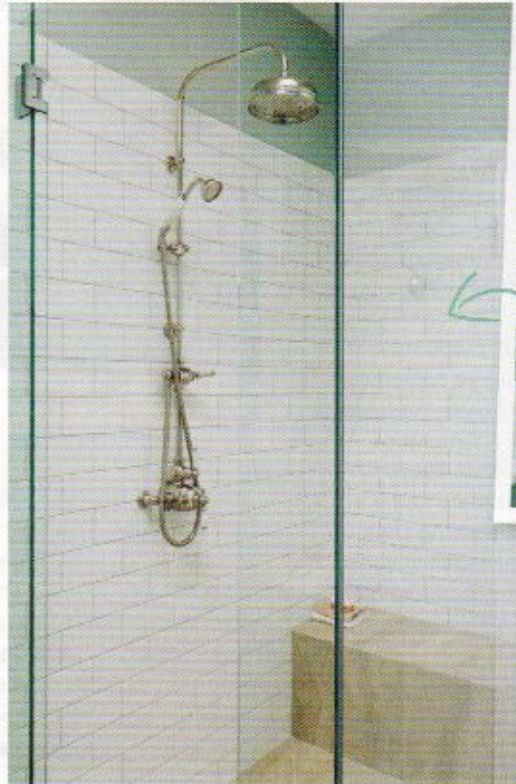
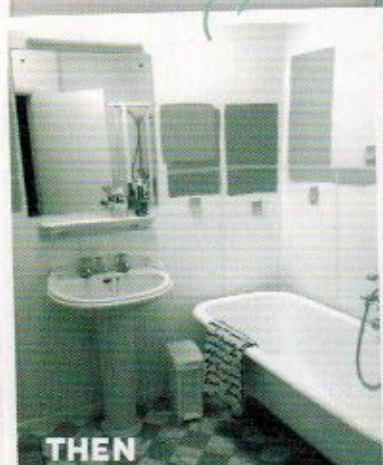
DESCRIBE THE SPACES NOW Light, open, spacious, tons of storage. Sacrificing the bathtub made a huge difference.

WHAT DID YOU DO? We removed the bathtub to free space for a generous shower, tiled the floor, and added underfloor heating (of course!). We loved the look of subway tiles in the shower, the feel of Perrin & Rowe tapware. We searched everywhere for a vanity, and finally found one on Pinterest that we loved and had replicated. Custom-sized mirrors were added to suit the ceilings, and wainscoting enhanced the traditional look. A favourite find was the 'Deer Damask' wallpaper by Barnet & Gates. **BEST LESSON LEARNED?** Go dramatic in small spaces.

STYLING

LISA, DESCRIBE YOUR INTERIOR STYLE I love all things luxury finishes mixed with vintage, and a Hamptons-beach feel. Matt craves vintage industrial style and mid-century design, and anything typographic. We like incorporating elements that reflect our personality and journey, but that don't overwhelm.

HOW DID YOU CHOOSE THE COLOUR PALETTE? I wanted a white kitchen — ALL white, but as things came together, I realised the calming light green/blue palette and dark floors would complement the white cabinets and ground the space, and still feel light and bright.



These photos show the process of removing the bath to create a luxurious bathroom. The cabinets and mirrors are all custom made. The vanity is Carrara marble from SCE Stone. The sink is a Vera. Wainscoting is used in both the bathroom and vanity, lending it a polished, traditional look. "We adore our shower and tapware," says Lisa, "it feels like a luxury spa every day!"