

blue period

Reinvigorated for a new life stage, this kitchen features some *seriously smart* design behind its *flawless* face

LIVES CHANGE AND NEEDS EVOLVE, and it's all too common to find a house that once fit like a glove now seems not quite right. Faced with this 'fix it or flog it' conundrum, Kathy and her husband elected to renovate their home in Sydney's inner west, enlisting Lauren Mahoney of Studio Trio to give the home a chic and functional makeover. "Our house was great, but it just wasn't ready for the next phase of our life," says Kathy, adding, "My biggest bugbear was our kitchen. I love to cook and we love to entertain, and while the old kitchen was great in many ways, it wasn't practical and workable." The first step in the process was nail down the family's needs. "We sat down and really talked about what a day in our life looks like. How do we relax, entertain and work at home?" says Kathy. Lauren answered their social requirements by reorienting the kitchen island so it connected with the living areas, and maximised the functionality by repositioning a doorway to allow an unincumbered flow from the kitchen through to the utility spaces – the scullery and laundry. These practical features are overlaid with a fabulous facade in a nautical palette of sophisticated navy and crisp white, with accents of polished nickel. "I made the kitchen not too girly because there are two males in the house," says Lauren.

Words Shelley Tustin Styling Kayla Gex Photography Maree Homer

The rich navy cabinetry is given contrasting sparkle with 'Crackle' splashback tiles from Surface Gallery. "Subways never date," says interior designer Lauren Mahoney. "For a classic style, they are always the right choice." Above the stove, the splashback is punctuated by a pot filler, which is as useful as it is attractive. >



Original copy, Jessica Bellef

DREAMFACTOR

WELL ROUNDED

Glass cabinets break up a wall of joinery and are a classic Hamptons inclusion, but Lauren elected to make them more of a feature with intricate fretwork in overlapping semicircles.

This porthole shape is echoed in Visual Comfort 'Hicks' pendant lights (try The Montauk Lighting Co).



Actual paint colour may vary on application

The seeded glass panel doors bring additional texture and interest, while also serving to disguise the scullery and laundry beyond the kitchen. The blackbutt timber floors are stained with Porter's Paints wood wash in Silver Birch. >



The joinery, designed by Studio Trio, offers a wealth of functional storage and makes a colourful statement in Dulux Blueprint. "The joinery was a massive splurge but I would do exactly the same again," says Kathy. The blue is complemented by Smartstone 'Calacatta Blanco' benchtops and 'Bronte' handles from Hepburn Hardware.

the finer details

1. Intricate fretwork on the glazed cabinet doors breaks up the wall cabinetry and gives the space a striking point of difference.
2. The scullery is fitted with a mix of cabinets, plate racks and shelves in Laminex 'French Navy'. 3. Both practical and beautiful, custom barstools were upholstered in durable vinyl from Instyle.



"Practical features are overlaid with a fabulous facade in a nautical palette of sophisticated navy and crisp white"



source book

Interior design Studio Trio, studiotrio.com.au.
Builder R & S Parchi, 0411 195 634.

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