

Kitchen Design of the Year (Over £25k)

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WINNER Matt Podesta, Podesta Design



Matt Podesta (centre) receiving his trophy from awards host Rachel Riley and Matthew Lord of LDL Components



This stunning Grade II listed country house has elements dating back to Jacobean times. The owners wanted a kitchen design that would reflect their individual tastes and be different to what others might expect for a home of this period. The solution was a flexible design that would enable areas to be closed off to create a sleek clean look, combining traditional materials with more contemporary finishes and style.

Texture plays a key role in Matt Podesta's project. Special metal effects were added to cabinet doors in the island and sink run, and detailing on the surrounds of the tall housings for the fridges and larders.

The sink run is a unique piece with fully retractable tall doors which open to reveal sink, dishwasher and washing up area. Internally, it has Carrara marble worktops and splashback. Externally, a brushed stained oak gives a darker than normal complexion with a grained patina.

The island is covered in bookmatched Carrara Marble with a central rise and fall storage system which exposes a hidden downdraught extractor. A Gaggenau hob and oven is on display along with built-in Sub Zero fridge drawers.

The tall housings for the fridges have a lacquered finish, with internal larders having a crisp and contemporary feel, again with stone worktops. A mixture of adjustable shelving and bespoke storage enables the kitchen to be used with maximum flexibility.

A painted Aga surround was fitted to give the area a more sympathetic feel to the rest of the house, whilst the antique mirror helps to reflect light internally as well as making the area appear larger.

Finally, a beautiful tall bookcase/storage cabinet was designed to house not only kitchen implements, but also some of the owners' collected objets.

The design won what was a particularly competitive category, with this year's judging panel impressed with the quality of entries received this year. Podesta's design clinched it, with a bold material selection and brave solution to a challenging space.

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