

The best New Builds • Extensions • Alterations • Home Improvements

# SELF BUILD & DESIGN

## Oak Wonder

Transformation of a red brick semi

**NEW**  
ESSENTIAL  
GUIDE  
TO OAK  
FRAMES

GUIDE TO  
WINDOWS

ADVICE

How to  
choose the  
right window  
for your  
project

How to  
choose the  
right window  
for your  
project

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choose the  
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for your  
project

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project

Inspiring new builds

- Cow shed conversion
- Eco-friendly family home
- Self-constructed new build
- Ultimate flexible living space

INTERVIEW

DAVID WILSON

Michael Eaves

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# INTERIOR *Design*

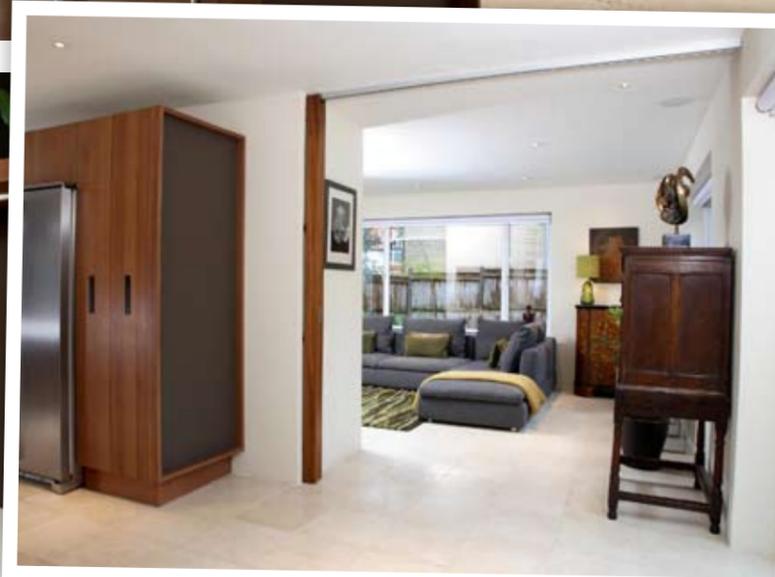


# SHOPPING *List*

- Kitchen design:** Hugh Jamieson, At Home Interior Design Consultants [athome-interiors.com](http://athome-interiors.com)
- Extractor, dishwasher, tap, sink:** [franke.co.uk](http://franke.co.uk)
- Steam oven, oven with grill, integrated microwave:** [neff.co.uk](http://neff.co.uk)
- American fridge freezer:** [johnlewis.com](http://johnlewis.com)
- White worktop and island top:** Christalplant by Cesar
- Floor:** Banc Neuf limestone [stonell.com](http://stonell.com)
- Stainless steel sockets and switches:** [forbesandlomax.com](http://forbesandlomax.com)
- Electric roller blinds** in white cotton: [silentgliss.co.uk](http://silentgliss.co.uk)
- Storage unit** in Grey Oak finish with glossy lime green top box and illuminated shelf: [presotto.com](http://presotto.com)
- Sofa corner unit:** [sevensalotti.it](http://sevensalotti.it)

# Light & bright

A tired old kitchen diner has been remodelled to include four distinct zones and blur the distinction between the kitchen and garden.



**W**hen interior designer Hugh Jamieson was brought in to reconfigure a kitchen and dining extension with adjacent landscaping, he was able to create four new contemporary spaces within the same footprint that once contained no more than a plain kitchen diner. The orientation lent itself to being opened up into the garden to merge the line between outside and in, introducing plenty of light into the new inside space. The property is a detached single-storey home built originally in 1960 with later additions made in 2000. The old kitchen was very small with no room even for a table to eat meals, and there was an awkward L-shaped room



where food from the kitchen was passed through a hatch into the dining area. By knocking out not just the hatch but the whole wall and extending it by 3.3 metres, a far better proportioned kitchen diner was created while also providing plenty of utility space too. A bank of matching kitchen units now conceals a steel support for the ceiling and also hides a run of cupboards within which are the appliances; washing machine, tumble drier, extra sink, boiler and airing space. Limestone on the floor extends to the outdoors where there is a rill at the base of the newly erected white rendered wall. Extensive new glazing provides a virtually seamless link between the interior and the garden and gave the client the light she so desired.

A really clever part of the design is the pocket door which is hidden inside the wall behind the fridge freezer and pull-out larder doors. It can be pulled across to separate the living room from the kitchen and dining room, muffling the sounds of the television from the living room. The white perspex reflects light back but at night lights are visible through the other side. The kitchen doors are walnut with acid-etched glass end panels in a dark coffee colour to complement the fossils in the limestone floor. The white slab of the three-metre island provides contrast, made by Italian manufacturer Cesar. In winter the large open space is warm thanks to underfloor heating but in the summer the windows at the front and



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bi-fold doors at the side open back to bring the garden into the house.

The layout design began with ergonomics, so that the hob, sink, dishwasher and fridge were conveniently located before paint colours or floor finishes were chosen. The homeowner says: “I moved from a period house with a traditional kitchen so this is a complete contrast for which I was completely ready. We use the bar/island all the time, friends always make a beeline for it. The kitchen is the hub of the home and we love being in this space. It’s fabulous during the day and at night with the lights on and lights in the water rill and on the olive tree it is all very special. I am so pleased to have had Hugh recommended to me.”

### MINI BIOGRAPHY



**Hugh Jamieson** started his illustrious interior design career 30 years ago, establishing At Home in Cambridge, in 1982.

For more than 30 years he has designed both traditional and contemporary interiors for residential houses and apartments, large country homes, boutique retail outlets and hotels and a number of Masters’ Lodges for Cambridge colleges.

Known by his clients for being unassuming, approachable and a good listener, Hugh and his team mainly work in the London to Norwich via Cambridge corridor and redesign everything from a single bathroom to a large country house with the same passion, enthusiasm and commitment.

**FIND OUT MORE**  
[athome-interiors.com](http://athome-interiors.com)