

SHINING EXAMPLE

A DELICIOUSLY DARK COLOUR PALETTE AND GLOSSY SURFACES
WERE THE KEY INGREDIENTS IN THIS KITCHEN MAKEOVER

WORDS Helen Adams STYLING Bree Oliver PHOTOGRAPHY Sue Stubbs



SOME RENOVATIONS ARE planned months in advance with a strict deadline, whereas others simply evolve, usually from a practical starting point. The latter approach was the case for Sydneysiders Jim and his wife Chris. "We'd lived in our home for 10 years, but the house next door overlooked our kitchen," he explains. "We decided to install cupboards above the stove for privacy, and the renovation continued from there."

Interior designer Michelle Burton of SMB Interior Design was briefed to block out the offending window, include better storage and replace the electric stove with a gas version.

The result is a chic new space with extensive cabinetry, top-notch appliances and glamorous dark hues. "Michelle has a real eye for detail and manoeuvred us into the right decisions," says Jim. "It's a quality kitchen and we're very happy with it!"



Materials Sophisticated tones and textures were chosen to complement the existing African slate floor tiles, with cabinetry finished in polyurethane above and dark timber-effect laminate below. A Tito powder-coated pendant light from Designer Lights completes the contemporary scheme. >



Splashback The couple originally considered a red splashback, "but after putting a piece of red card against the wall, it just looked too overpowering," explains Chris. "The coffee-coloured glass works much better."



Breakfast bar The small existing island was replaced with a breakfast bar, which sits alongside a large Electrolux fridge. A slab of merbau timber adds warmth, while replica Tolix stools from Glicks Furniture deliver an industrial edge.

"Our two design requests to Michelle were to keep the *slate* floor tiles and to add a *stainless-steel* benchtop" – Jim



before



BUDGET BREAKDOWN

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| Appliances Gas cooktop and underbench oven, both Ilve; | |
| 'Side by Side' fridge, Electrolux | \$14,000 |
| Bench supports Merbau timber, Madinoz ... | |
| Benchtops Stainless steel and black granite, European Marble and Granite | |
| Cabinetry and splashback Custom-built joinery finished in polyurethane, painted in Resene quarter-strength Caraway, and laminate in Ebony and Nero, with glass splashback, DK Design Kitchens | |
| Sink and tapware Double bowl undermount sink, Abey; 'Oxygene' kitchen mixer, Gessi | |
| Stools Replica Tolix stools, Glicks Furniture | |
| | \$35,000 |
| | \$3450 |
| | \$357 |

Total **\$60,097***

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* SOME COSTS ARE BASED ON OWNERS' ESTIMATES AND WILL VARY