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Celebrating the essence of English style

DRESSED FOR CHRISTMAS rom period cottages to elegant new homes full of magical touches THE ART OF GIVING Perfect presents & little luxuries DECORATIVE FLAIR - Ideas & insights from $All\ the$ eading stylists Festive tablescapes to delight Beautiful baubles. gift wrapping & finishing touches Nigel Slater, Nina Campbell, Sophie Conran & Lady Bamford on the traditions and indulgences that make Christmas special



PREPARING & COOKING

Create integrated solutions

Charlie Smallbone, founder, Ledbury Studio

"This kitchen in West Sussex was designed for a professional couple who entertain a lot, one of whom, in particular, likes to cook. A number of elements were incorporated:

- The integrated ceiling extractor incorporates functionality
 with aesthetic. We ran the ducting in a covered beam overhead,
 leading to the powerful motor outside the house, which keeps it
 quiet inside the kitchen essential for entertaining. The sleek
 design keeps sightlines clear in the open-plan space.
- The induction hob is flush to the island worktop it's unobtrusive, easy to clean, and the cook can chat to guests whilst still being at the heart of the party.
- The worktops are a man-made quartz called Arabesque, from Stone Italiana. It's a very practical surface that is resistant to heat and scratches, and doesn't require sealing. The integrated sink is made of the same material, with seamless joins making it completely watertight.
- The cutlery and pan storage drawers, conveniently placed below the hob, are made from oak with dovetailed joints, and have walnut-veneered interiors to keep the items inside organised.
- The housing for the oven and integrated fridge-freezer was created from solid panels of oak, hand-carved to form the pattern we call Choppy Water and then stained dark in our workshop. They are further embellished with luxurious gold leaf appliqué highlights. To make this a practical piece for a working kitchen, there is a sheen lacquer over the top."

RIGHT Kitchen from £50,000, Ledbury Studio





1 Soho Home Masen Serving Set, £180, Liberty London 2 Bitra Hook Rail in Antique Brass, £72, Rowen & Wren 3 Oval Cocotte 23cm in White Truffle, £209, Staub 4 Everhot 110i Cooker, from £9,815, Everhot 5 Aldsworth Butcher's Block, £300, Garden Trading