

HOMES & GARDENS

COLOUR confidence

STYLE PASSION

How to bring
personality
to decorating
Joyful pieces
for a spring
refresh

EUROPEAN
DESIGN
BRANDS
WE LOVE



The best
in outdoor
fabrics and
furniture

IN THE GARDEN

A Mediterranean
space to inspire

RHS Chelsea Flower
Show preview

May 2025



GATHER ROUND

From breakfast bars to banquettes, island units with seating have great influence on how we come together in the kitchen

SOLID CHOICE

Few things rival the impact of a chunky cantilevered stone slab when it comes to creating a standout seating area on your island. In this project, Cabbonet went all in with dramatically veined Arabescato Orobico marble in swirling rust and grey tones. 'Visually, this cantilevered seating area brings a sense of modern elegance, enhancing the open, airy feel of the room by eliminating the need for support legs. This not only frees up floor space but also creates a more expansive atmosphere,' explains Andrew Hays, founder and creative director, Cabbonet. 'It's a versatile spot for casual dining, prepping or entertaining,' adds Andrew.

Bespoke kitchen in brass, oak and marble, from £50,000, Cabbonet. Mater high stools by Space Copenhagen, £864 each, Viaduct

FEATURE LINDA CLAYTON PHOTOGRAPH GEORGE SHARMAN



TABLE TALK

So, you've set your heart on a banquette, now let's talk tables. 'A lightweight table that can be easily moved closer or further from the banquette ensures comfort,' says Reuben Ward, lead designer at Blakes London. Reuben also recommends avoiding tables with legs at the ends, as they can make sliding in and out of the banquette tricky. 'Pedestal tables are ideal.'

Standard Dakota table base in brass, £3,935, Julian Chichester. Bespoke kitchen in stained oak and Macaubas quartzite, from £55,000, Blakes London

IN GOOD SHAPE

An L-shaped dining set-up on a kitchen island brings more to the table than a simple row of stools ever could, so says Charlie Smallbone, founder of Ledbury Studio. 'They provide a more intimate and sociable seating arrangement, allowing diners to face each other rather than all sitting in a row,' he says. 'This layout encourages better conversation flow and creates a cosy dining atmosphere.'

Leather strap bar stools in Tan, £390 each, Six The Residence. Bespoke kitchen, from £70,000, Ledbury Studio →

