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ISLAND LIFE



Kitchen islands provide valuable workspace, and you don't need a huge kitchen to have one. Even in smaller spaces, an island can help create that all-important working triangle between sink, fridge and stove. Layering up different work surfaces materials and thicknesses helps to define functional zones, and with such a broad range of materials there is no shortage of choice. Here are a few ideas to help you decide.



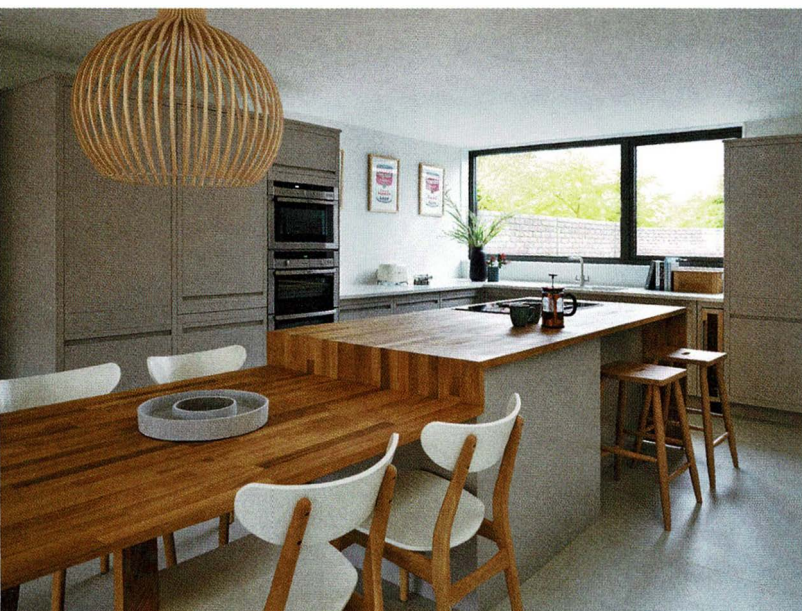
Top: Pronorm's X Line handleless kitchen has a 60mm-thick square timber feature section of worktop, which contrasts with black granite worksurfaces and handleless Ceramic Pearl doors. These are faced with a 3mm layer of ceramic material with a textured stone finish. Pronorm kitchens start at £18,000. (pronorm.de)

Above: Made from brushed stainless steel, this cantilevered island celebrates form over function, allowing light to circulate around the room, providing worktop space without storage beneath. Price: from £5,000. (enmasseinteriors.co.uk)

Left: The curved edges of this Bali natural walnut central island are mirrored in the ceiling-mounted extractor. Price: from £20,000. (kitchensinternational.co.uk)



KITCHEN ISLANDS



Above: This handcrafted island features a Spekva wooden worktop that hails from Denmark, with cabinets painted in Pebble Grey by Dulux, designed to match the matt concrete floor tiles. Kitchens from £20,000. (harveyjones.com)

Right: The Metallics Collection from Ledbury Studio is designed by Charlie Smallbone, with pewter wall units and zinc island unit, and a Bianco Macaubas Quartzite worktop and splashback. Kitchen prices from £50,000. (ledburystudio.com)

Middle right: The Luxe kitchen island is designed to celebrate natural materials, exploring the tones of oak, gold metal and lava. A Dekton worktop joins with the textured angled island wall that gives way to a breakfast bar. Prices: from £25,000. (life-kitchens.co.uk)

Bottom right: This kitchen was designed by Gavin Hepper Concepts and features an oversized island centrepiece with Staron worktops. The central section rises electronically to reveal additional functions, including a storage or breakfast zone, cooking station with pantry essentials, a study nook with media tech zone, and a bar. Staron is priced from £350 per sqm. (staron.com)



Above: This island has an extendable breakfast bar, and when retracted it accommodates just one chair. This offers enhanced flexibility for smaller kitchens. Prices from £10,000. (homedesign.schmidt)

Below: Radianz is a premium quartz surface that was used to create this monolithic kitchen island. It has a non-porous composite surface, made from vacuum compression moulding which creates a durable, scratch-resistant surface that can also be used for flooring, interior walls, kitchen tops and bathroom furniture. Denali Cloud (pictured) is priced from £280 per sqm, and has an oak breakfast bar. (radianzquartz.eu.com)

