

Real inspiration White acrylic



**EXTERIOR**  
Paul Stephens designed this contemporary glass-fronted property to let in the light and maximise the impact of the scenery

IVORY COAST



**VIEWPOINT**  
Panoramic views radiate from every vantage point

Sleek white units allow the scenery to take centre stage in Helen Blake and Paul Stephens’ perfectly poised new-build

**FEATURE** CLAIRE FULTON-RAY  
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**TERRACE**  
Overlooking the beach on Cornwall’s south coast

**CABINETRY**  
White Parapan was chosen for the wall units and island to create a contemporary scheme that doesn’t dominate the multifunctional living space. It’s matched with worktops in Glacier White Corian and glass



**Kitchen FACT FILE**

**THE FAMILY** Helen Blake, an interior designer, and Paul Stephens, a property developer, live with Paul’s sons, Josh, 15, Emile, 13, and Alfie Jay, four, plus Russian Toy Terrier Marni

**THE HOME** A five-bedroom glass-fronted holiday home on the south coast of Cornwall

**THE PROJECT** New-build property with blank-canvas space

**PRICE GUIDE**  
**£90,000**  
for a similar Parapan kitchen, cabinetry only





**ISLAND UNIT**  
The workstation's curvy design almost wraps around the cook, creating a distinct food preparation area. It's topped by an impressive single piece of bespoke frosted glass from Deco Glaze

**BEST BUY**

*'The Zip hot and chilled, filtered water tap is our favourite purchase. It's ensured we never have to boil the kettle again'*



**COOKING ZONE**  
A bank of appliances is located next to the island for convenience. With two single ovens and a steam model, cooking for large groups isn't a problem



**EXTRACTORS**  
Above the island, three striking Elica Celestial hoods add glamour to the minimalist scheme

**H**elen Blake and Paul Stephens were always going to have high standards when it came to planning their dream kitchen. As an interior designer, Helen has created schemes for the likes of Jamie Oliver, while Paul is a property developer, who has worked on more than 70 homes in Cornwall. So, in 2009, when the couple saw this patch of land for sale, there was no question of letting the opportunity to build the perfect holiday home escape them.

Having demolished an existing cottage on the site, Paul began work on what was to become Blue Point. 'For Paul,' says Helen, 'it was more to prove what he was capable of than making a home to live in; Blue Point was always meant to be a showcase piece.'

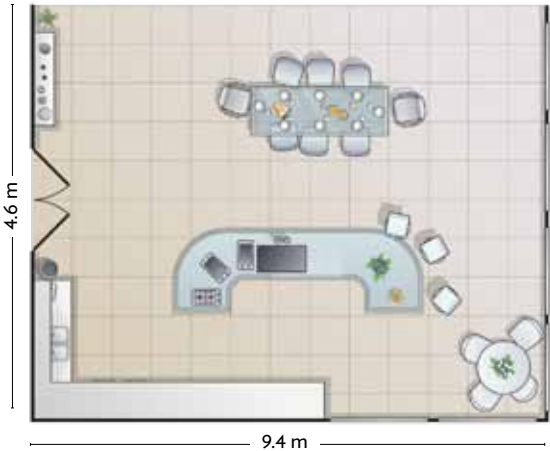
**CREATING THE KITCHEN**

The beauty of Blue Point's location is inescapable, perched as it is on the glorious Cornish coastline with commanding views in almost every

direction. The couple realised that anything they built here would have to capitalise on the surrounding scenery. To echo the vast seascape, the property was designed to be open-plan and feature as many windows as possible, and at the heart of it all would lie the kitchen.

Paul's vision was that this room would flow seamlessly into a spacious living area and, as a result, the couple needed to find a cabinetry material that would be elegantly unobtrusive. White Parapan provided the solution, with its clean lines and sleek style, and it would be paired with white Corian worksurfaces. An impressive island was also formed from Parapan. It curves around in a wide U-shape, offering the cook the feeling of being at the helm of a ship. The icing on top is a vast single piece of frosted glass on the surface, which required 11 men to carry it in.

'The design is bespoke,' says Paul, 'and it wasn't easy to get everything organised. We worked with so many different suppliers ►







OVERHEAD UNITS

A lift-up mechanism keeps doors out of the way when accessing glasses in these cupboards



COOKTOPS

Three domino hobs – a barbecue grill, teppanyaki and wok fryer – sit alongside a sleek induction model, catering for all culinary needs



WASHING ZONE

Two sinks are integral to the worktop for a seamless finish. The mixer tap, which has a similar look to the BlancoLevos-S design, adds a dramatic flourish



that it was difficult to persuade them of what we wanted and to work in a cohesive fashion. It's crucial to spend time discussing the finer detail, even the most seemingly intuitive points. For example, we had no idea, and were not informed, that Parapan in white is not the same colour as Corian in white, which could have been an absolute disaster.'

ADDING EXTRAS

The pale tones that the couple have selected for the room's surfaces don't detract from the jaw-dropping scenery visible through the many windows. Understated sophistication is further evident in the marble flooring, it's natural beauty adding to the luxurious feel of the room. In fact, every material the couple selected was considered carefully with the philosophy that not only would their kitchen look stylish, but it would also function perfectly. The lighting, for example, which was supplied by Lutron, can be adjusted to suit, making it easy to illuminate different areas of the room whether Helen and Paul want task lighting,

or something more atmospheric. It can be controlled from a handset, as can the Smarthome audio system, which covers every room of the house and eliminates the need for ungainly speakers.

PARTY ZONE

The kitchen is part of a larger space that's been made for socialising and relaxing, with plenty of seating and places to linger. From the large dining table to the three stools at the breakfast bar, this kitchen is ideal for entertaining. Above the island the glamorous Elica extractor fans look just like disco balls, while a wine cooler ensures drinks are close to hand when guests are around. It may not have been a low-cost enterprise, but the couple believe that this room is much more than just a place to cook. 'Your kitchen is a big investment and the heart of any home,' says Helen. 'As it's turned out, we think we'll definitely get our money's worth out of this wonderful space. It's an absolute joy to be here.'

GREAT IDEA

Use a trio of extractors to create a focal point and provide enough power for a large kitchen

SHOP THE LOOK

CABINETRY  
■ Bespoke White Parapan units designed by Paul Stephens and Helen Blake. Total cost, cabinetry only, £90,000

WORKSURFACES AND SPLASHBACK  
■ Glacier White Corian. Price per sq m £310  
■ Bespoke frosted glass, Deco Glaze. Price per sq m, from £195

FLOORING  
■ Marble tiles, Ecu Marble. Price per sq m £159

APPLIANCES  
■ Built-in single oven, Gaggenau £3,730  
■ Built-in steam oven, Gaggenau £3,600  
■ Built-in microwave, Gaggenau £2,750  
■ Four-zone induction hob, Gaggenau £1,500  
■ Barbecue grill, for similar, try Smeg £322  
■ Teppanyaki, for similar, try Siemens £1,275  
■ Gas wok, for similar, try Baumatic £210  
■ 3 x Celestial island extractor hoods, Elica, each £1,500  
■ 3 x built-in warming drawers, Gaggenau, each £720  
■ Built-in coffee machine, Gaggenau £2,200  
■ Fully integrated fridge freezer, Gaggenau £4,150  
■ Integrated wine cooler, Gaggenau £3,500  
■ Fully integrated dishwasher, Gaggenau £876

SINKS AND TAPS  
■ 2 x Corian sinks, as integral part of worktop  
■ Monobloc mixer tap, for similar, try BlancoLevos-S in brushed steel, Blanco £922  
■ Hot-water tap, Zip Heaters £1,000

FINISHING TOUCHES  
■ Lighting system, Lutron POA  
■ Audio system, Smarthome UK POA  
■ Gallotti & Radice Lord dining table, Chaplins £2,958  
■ Perspex dining chairs, for similar, try Kartell Louis Ghost, John Lewis, each £205  
■ White dining chairs, for similar, try Arizona, Atlantic Shopping, each £49.50  
■ One-piece Curve chairs, Dwell, each £79  
■ Bar stools, for similar, try Low Back Loop, Dwell, each £79  
■ Modular sofa, for similar, try Kivic, Ikea, from £505  
■ Rug, The Unique Boutique Company £250  
■ Pendant lights, for similar, try Biba Chrome & Glass, Ace Lamps, each £93

FOR STOCKISTS, SEE PAGE 134