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Joyful kitchen

Glendowie, Auckland

 Resene Pohutukawa

This kitchen was designed for a young couple with a growing family and is part of a major renovation of a 1980s house in Glendowie. The couple approached Maggie Gardner of Kitchens By Design in the early planning stages of their renovation design, so she was able to plan the layout of the kitchen early enough to have input into resource consent drawing and final wall positions.

The kitchen design process was started approximately nine months before the building was started. The kitchen was moved from its original position into an existing bedroom space giving it a more central position in the house, which allows a better connection with the lounge and dining room areas. The existing window was replaced with a new deeper window with sliding sections, which allows natural light to flood onto the sink and food preparation area.

The brief was for a spacious, light and airy kitchen with a large bar top for the

family to sit up at and enjoy casual meals and to act as a server for entertaining when friends were gathered.

It needed to be practical, have good storage and good bench space. Appliances to be incorporated were a MEGA 900w induction cooktop, two Smeg ovens in a tower, a Smeg power pack extractor to be housed inside a cabinet, a Smeg side by side fridge freezer and a Vintec underbench wine fridge.

With a moderate budget, care needed to be taken in the materials used and the specification of kitchen accessories. With this in mind Melteca Bliss Shitake Naturale was specified for the kitchen facings. This is a textured but neutral finish, which allowed some drama and fun to be introduced in the way of high gloss colour to the open shelf wall units and front panels under the breakfast bar. The walls are finished in **Resene Quarter White Pointer** with **Resene White** on the extractor cabinet.

The bright colours were selected by the client with Maggie's guidance and the initial inspiration was a red, which featured in a strong coloured painting bought by the clients in Vietnam. **Resene Red Hot** was chosen to match this colour and the stage was set. The next colour considered was a stunning yellow called **Resene Galliano** as it was a great contrast to the red. Following that came **Resene Outrageous**, a delicious in your face orange. The last colour selected was rather a surprise - instead of choosing a green as had been suggested, the clients wanted to stick with a warm colour so selected **Resene Dynamite**, a gorgeous rich merlot colour.

Overall this is a young, fun and funky colour scheme, which challenges some and delights others and creates a unique and very personal environment for this growing family.