

A dreamy minimalist kitchen with HIMACS elements in the Nook House, London



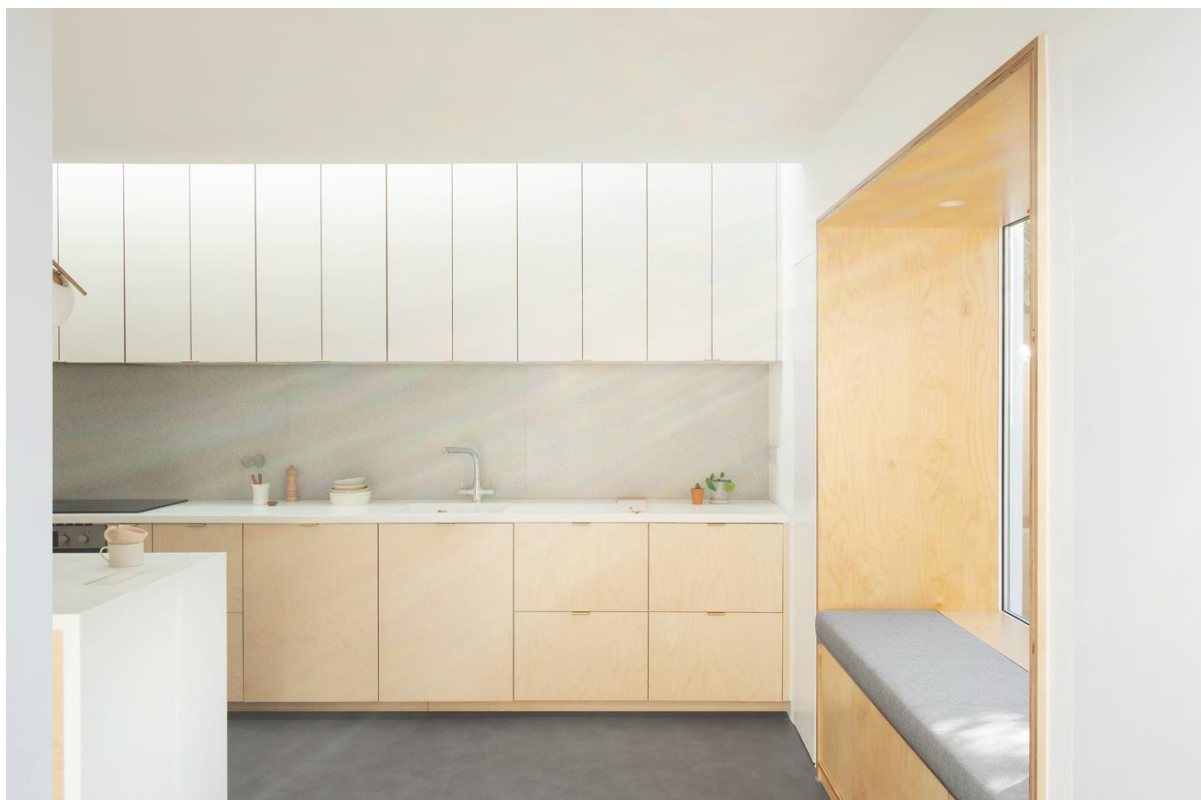
When the architecture firm Studio 163 was tasked with transforming a small, dark kitchen into a **large, naturally-lit space with a dining area, opening up into the house's garden**, the job seemed simple. The real challenge of the project was turning a narrow, poorly-lit room into a large, bright kitchen-diner while making hardly any changes to the building's façade. The original design of the façade had to be maintained, since this area of London has a marked Art Deco architectural style.

Studio 163's proposal was to extend to the side of the house and create a window in the rear façade, making the ground floor bigger and creating a new multi-functional space. The idea being to make the most of the space, a nook was created in the window aperture that acts as a reading space, storage for the children's games or a seat by the breakfast table. The use of a neutral palette, dominated by the colour white, and the selection of materials, such as HIMACS solid surface, play a key role in making the room feel bigger and brighter.

HI·MACS

For the countertops on both the central island and kitchen worktops, as well as the sinks, HIMACS was chosen primarily for its excellent durability and robustness. *“The property’s owners had already chosen HIMACS for other projects, and their experience was so positive that they wanted to use it again in their home,”* a spokesperson for Studio 163 indicated.

What’s more, the complete absence of seams or pores in the surface of the material makes it the ideal choice for use in a space such as a kitchen, where hygiene is fundamental. Its totally homogeneous surface prevents the accumulation of dirt and possible spread of bacteria, making it easier to clean and maintain.



As well as meeting the highest hygiene standards, HIMACS provides the perfectly clean aesthetics that you want in a kitchen. The space is designed using a neutral palette of materials, inspired by the sense of relaxation the garden gives.

The project brief also included creating a subterranean wine cellar, which involved significant excavation works. However, the possibility of locating it underground made it possible to maintain the ethereal minimalist design of the room.



DESIGN TEAM

Architects: Studio 163

Contractor: John Walsh

Fabrication: Specialist Commercial Joinery Ltd

Civil and Structural Engineers: Design ID

Kitchen: Ikea and Plykea

Wine cellar: The Stone Cellar Company

Photos: Emmanuelis Stasaitis Photography

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Countertops and sink: HIMACS Arctic White, Alpine White - <https://himacs.eu>

Floor: Forbo Eternal deLuxe Vinyl sheet in Light Concrete

Splashback: Diespeker Terrazzo slab TE038

Kitchen furniture: Ikea

Window joinery: SCJ Joinery (Specialist Commercial Joinery Ltd) with integrated cushion designed to measure using Basel Kvadrat fabric

Lighting: Flos IC S2 brass ceiling lighting / Astro trimless round recessed downlights

Budget: £100,000

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High resolution images available: www.himacs.eu/newsroom

HIMACS Solid Surface

www.himacs.eu

HIMACS is a solid surface material that can be moulded into any shape. It is widely used for architectural and interior applications, such as sculptural and high performance wall-cladding or kitchen, bathroom and furniture surfaces, in commercial, residential and public space projects. It is composed of minerals, acrylic and natural pigments that come together to provide a smooth, non-porous and visually seamless surface which meets the highest standards for quality, aesthetics, fabrication, functionality and hygiene – offering manifold advantages over conventional materials.

HIMACS provides limitless possibilities for surfacing solutions and inspires creative minds from all over the world. **Zaha Hadid, Jean Nouvel, Rafael Moneo, Karim Rashid, Marcel Wanders** and **David Chipperfield**, among others, have completed fabulous projects using HIMACS.

At the forefront of innovation as always, LX Hausys recently introduced two new products. First **HIMACS Ultra-Thermoforming**, an innovative formula that pushes the boundaries of solid surface shaping to a whole new level, with 30% more thermoplastic capabilities - the biggest innovation for the Solid Surface history since its inception in 1967. Now, **HIMACS Intense Ultra**, combining the characteristics from two disparate worlds: **Intense Colour Technology** and **Ultra-Thermoforming**.

HIMACS uses a simple heating process to give three-dimensional thermoplastic forming capabilities, allows visually seamless designs, offers a virtually limitless range of colours and – for some shades - exhibits a special translucency when exposed to light. Although HIMACS is almost as robust as stone, it can be worked in a similar way as wood: it can be sawn, routed, drilled or sanded.

HIMACS is manufactured using a new generation technology, the **thermal cure**. The temperature reached during the manufacturing process sets HIMACS apart from other solid surfaces and creates a denser, even more homogeneous, sturdy, durable surface – with a better resistance and superior thermoforming performance.

HIMACS does not absorb humidity, is highly resistant to stains, and is easy to clean, maintain and repair.

Countless internationally recognized certificates attest to the quality of HIMACS in terms of ecological commitment, hygiene and fire resistance – being the first Solid Surface in the market to receive the official **European Technical Approval (ETA) for façades** – for Alpine White S728 colour. Furthermore, HIMACS has obtained the French **QB certification** and **CSTB ATec “Avis Technique”** for facade applications.

HIMACS offers a 15-year warranty for products fabricated by a Quality Club Member.



HIMACS. Because Quality Wins.

For more information and to stay connected, visit our [website](#) and our [newsroom](#).

Let's connect!



* **HIMACS** is designed and produced by **LX HAUSYS (formerly LG Hausys)**, a world leader in the technology sector belonging to LX Holdings Corp.