

# “My kitchen makes me happy ....

*I feel genuinely happy when I walk into it.”*



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When Tracey and Richard moved into their home 14 years ago it was a new-build with the kitchen already chosen by the site manager. Five years ago they decided to refresh it, putting new doors and work surfaces onto their old units. But the result felt like a compromise. The kitchen was dark and, because of an existing partition, the dining room was barely used.

“Our vision was to have one big communal space,” says Tracey. “So we decided it was time for a completely new kitchen.

“We wanted to use a local company and found Ridgeway through Vale Life magazine. There were a couple of other companies in the running but one of the reasons we went with Ridgeway is that they offered a ‘one-

stop-shop’. Our plasterer, electrician, builder, plumber and floor tiler were all Ridgeway employees so they were used to working together. If you’re going to have people in your home you want to get on with them - and you want them to get on with each other - which they did. If there were any problems they were sorted there and then. Even better, they tidied up at the end of every day and never got in the way.

“Another reason why we went with

Ridgeway was Darren. He just got us straight away.

“The thing with our kitchen space is that there’s not a lot of scope in what you can do with it. But where Darren was clever is that he made the most of every single inch and had a real eye for detail. The new kitchen covers almost the same footprint as the old one but it feels twice the size. It’s brighter, lighter and it works so much better. It was Darren’s idea to add the return

and also to take down the divide between the two rooms. Both of those things have made such a difference.

“We really enjoyed working with him. He was so obliging. Nothing was too much trouble. And he always kept us in the loop which was really comforting.

“He never pushed us into buying our appliances, tiles or worktops from Ridgeway. Instead he suggested we shop around to find exactly what we

wanted then he negotiated on price and sorted out details of the order and delivery.

“Everything came in on budget and there were no hidden extras or surprises.

*“I know it sounds a bit weird but my kitchen makes me happy. I feel genuinely happy when I walk into it.”*



Below: The old kitchen and the new open space ready for installation.

