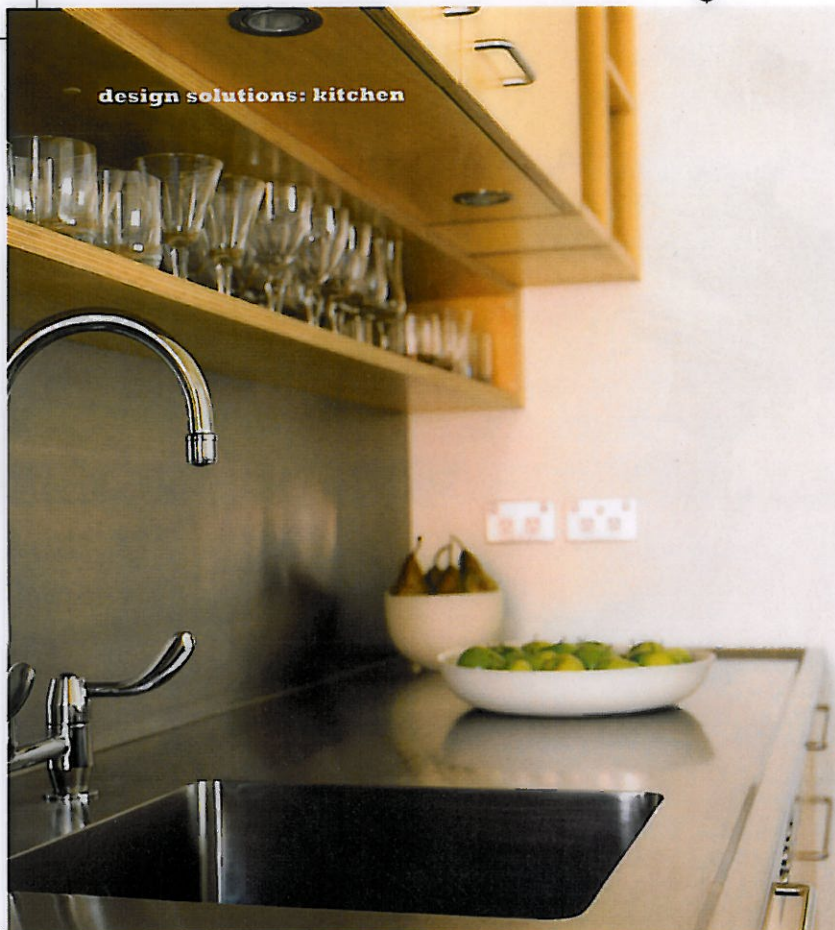


design solutions: kitchen



COMMERCIAL SUCCESS Stainless steel was the material of choice for the benchtop and architect Virginia Wong See extended it to the splashback on the client's request. The owner wanted to keep the materials as simple as possible so the kitchen would not look too 'busy' and would age gracefully. "Splashbacks such as colour-backed glass tend to date a kitchen," she says. The mixer tap can be turned on and off when hands are full. The commercial fitting made by Stainless Metal Craft – call (02) 4735 5666 – was a choice that Virginia knew would both look good and work well, because she had used it in her own kitchen. Downlights installed under the top row of cabinetry serve as task lights for the kitchen bench. Enware 'Lever Action Type 50' mixing set, from around \$650, from Reece, 1800 032 566.



STEEL ACCENTS

The Madinoz D-handles from Style Finish – call (02) 9957 6344 – and the power points and appliances have been finished with stainless-steel plating. The single shelf below the cupboards provides storage for glasses and is set back to allow plenty of preparation room. Ilve 600WMPSS oven, \$2399, H360CSS cooktop, \$979; partially-integrated AEG 860501M dishwasher, \$1499, all from Winning Appliances, (02) 9698 8099, www.winningappliances.com.au.



TABLE TALK When the idea for a fixed breakfast bar was changed, the owner went shopping for statement-making dining room furniture, such as the six-seater table and chairs by Charles & Ray Eames. Both the tabletop and chairs are made of plywood and have metal legs, and so match the two main materials used in the kitchen: hoop-pine plywood and stainless steel. Luke Design 'Eames' dining table with laminate top in White, from \$2625, from Spence & Lyda, (02) 9212 6747. Herman Miller 'DCM' dining chairs in Light Ash by Charles & Ray Eames, \$633 each, from Living Edge, (02) 9212 3542.

JIGSAW PUZZLE

The edges of the hoop-pine plywood cabinetry (in this case, a 21mm ecopy exterior grade) were finished off to show the composite nature of the material, then all cabinetry was painted in a clear, lacquer-satin finish to prevent staining. The shelves and niches were made independently and pieced together, ready to display a rotating collection of homewares. The less handsome kitchen trappings can be concealed in cupboards. +

ARCHITECT Virginia Wong See, Glebe NSW, (02) 9566 1316, www.wongseearchitect.com.au.
JOINER Kitchenart, Mascot NSW, (02) 9700 8833.

WORDS BY JANE BURTON TAYLOR. STYLING BY CARLU SEWER. PHOTOGRAPHS BY RICHARD BIRCH