

Kitchen notebook

Expert advice, time-saving innovations and new trends

Decorate with lights

Good lighting makes the kitchen easier to work in and adds atmosphere. Diane Berry of Diane Berry Kitchens explains how

- **Bounce light around**
Try not to give your ceiling the look of a domino by installing too many spot lights. Instead, place LED lights on the walls or on the top of cupboards, but pointing up at the ceiling, to create a softer glow.
- **Install task lighting**
The simplest idea is to have down lights inset directly above the space you want to light. You can buy retrofit lights to attach to the underside of wall units. Make sure the lamp has a wide beam to flood the area well.
- **Make dining atmospheric**
A glamorous pendant light above your eating area will make a feature of your table and add atmosphere.
- **Low-level solution**
There are lots of feature light



Use lighting to help create a stunning kitchen

ideas, such as lit up shelves, alcoves or lighting concealed along the tops of wall units, but keep it simple. Don't be seduced by too many fittings that all fight for your attention. A simpler option could be LED floor lights, which are easy to install and can create a feature around an island unit or running alongside plain walls.

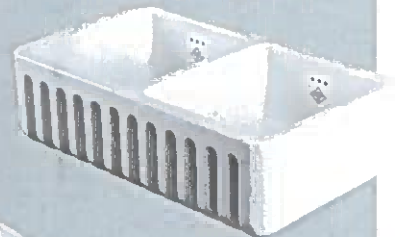
THREE OF A KIND BUTLER'S SINKS

Ceramic designs for both traditional and modern rooms



◀ **SIMPLE STYLE**
With a classic weir overflow, this is a good basic buy. **Carron Phoenix Belfast 110 Sit On sink, £229, Focus**

▶ **DOUBLY USEFUL**
Two bowls make this a practical choice. **Ribchester 800, £474.29, Shaws of Darwen**



▶ **EXTRA STORAGE**
This double-bowl sink has space at the back for storage. **Double bowl sink, £509.45, Villeroy and Boch**

TEXT: ROS ANDERSON. PHOTOGRAPHS: GAP PHOTOS

GET THE LOOK FOR LESS

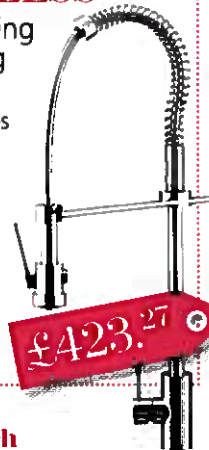
Opt for a professional-looking flexi tap for easy cleaning



£219

SAVE The flexible neck makes it easier to fill pots and clean the sink. **Manhattan Spring Neck tap in chrome, B&Q**

INVEST Single-lever control tap with spring hose and trigger spray, in chrome-plated brass. **Swiss Pro tap, Franke**



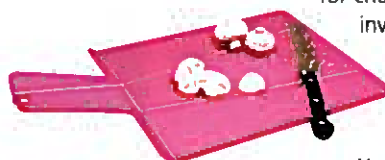
£423.27

One in four Brits puts eco features such as energy-saving washing machines, dishwashers and recycling bins at the top of their kitchen wish-list. SIGMA3 SURVEY

FOR STORE DETAILS SEE 'WHERE TO BUY' PAGE AT BACK OF ISSUE

CLEVER IDEA

Simple ideas are often the best, and the **Chop2Pot**, from £11, **Joseph Joseph**, is a great example. The board lies flat for chopping, but the edges fold inwards to make it easy to slide chopped food into the pot. Available in two sizes and seven colours.



DID YOU KNOW