

property renovate



AWARD WINNER: The St Lucia apartment kitchen now and (right) before.

Let the light shine in

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SUBLIME Cabinet Design, a Brisbane-based construction company, was crowned the winner in the Best Kitchen Project \$30,000-\$50,000 category at the annual 2010 HIA-CSR Queensland Housing awards thanks to this striking renovation.

This apartment kitchen in St Lucia was seen as a great challenge, according to principal designer Kim Duffin, who took on the project even after a number of interior

architects had failed to produce a result. "The existing apartment living spaces were dark and cluttered," he said.

"In our quest to create a more open functional area, we chose to relocate the kitchen to the rear of the apartment."

But such a huge task brought about its own problems, like having to work around fixed service points and running new circuits to the electrical box.

"Adjoining walls were removed or altered in height to create an open plan dining lounge," he said. "With no obstructions to

the space, natural light flowed from sliding doors at the front of the apartment.

"Being an apartment, space is of a premium. It is critical to plan multi-defined zone areas."

An appliance pantry was added and more drawers to help with storage, as well as energy-saving LED down lights to help illuminate all work surfaces.

The centrepiece is a mechanical ventilation system to the range hood, a drop bulkhead which Mr Duffin said defined the kitchen.

Our top 5 tips

KIM DUFFIN SAYS:

1. Get great advice
2. Understand your budget
3. Research
4. Use qualified tradesmen
5. Use quality products and fittings: make sure you invest in your home for the future

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