

Design Latest

Jude Tugman of Architect Your Home (www.architect-yourhome.com) reveals its most often requested renovations for kitchens

means that obtaining planning permission will not be necessary.

* Open-plan continues to be popular, especially with people who require a multifunctional family room that can act as the hub of the home. They want a multitude of functions, from cooking and eating to socialising and watching TV, all in one.

* People are also seeing their gardens as an extension of their living space. This is often achieved using bi-fold doors, large glass walls or by using similar flooring materials inside and out to create a seamless flow from the kitchen to the garden.

* Extending the side return is extremely popular, as it allows you to extend the kitchen into the garden to make the most of the redundant space to the side of your house. You gain considerable space inside without losing valuable exterior space.

* Single-storey extensions don't generally cause too many planning problems, making them another popular choice – especially where a client wants a large, open-plan space, but doesn't want to knock between dining and living areas. It's well worth checking your Permitted Development situation. For small extensions and alterations, your proposals may fall within your Permitted Development rights – which