



## FOR OPEN-PLAN SPACES

These are ideal for creating sociable cooking, entertaining and dining areas. Thoughtful planning can increase the sense of space while keeping the feel warm and welcoming. If the room is generously proportioned with high ceilings, make a statement with large free-standing appliances and units that add height and drama. Think about ways to define and zone the kitchen and living areas. Galley kitchens are great for open-plan rooms as their linear design can help create a link with the living and dining spaces. Open-plan kitchens also allow for practical design features such as a central island that can be used to conceal appliances such as ovens and fridges; bear in mind the efficient kitchen work triangle when deciding where key appliances should go. A central island can also be designed to include a useful breakfast bar and stools for casual dining.

If the open-plan kitchen is part of a conservatory or a garden-room extension, position the units to maximise views out of the windows. Embrace the feeling of space that open-plan living allows and try not to cram too much into your design. If you don't need lots of wall units for storage, use the area to display artwork and photographs or add statement lighting. ➔

**OPPOSITE** Mix old pieces with new fittings for an individual look. Here, a weathered wooden table with mismatched country chairs and vintage china brings instant character to the space

**THIS PAGE** Use key decorative elements – lighting, flooring and paint colours – to link with the rest of the room. Exposed beams and industrial pendants create a modern rustic look

