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Poolside entertaining steps up a level when you have two adjacent kitchens to cater to every requirement

With most contemporary homes, kitchens are in the front line. They are literally on show as part of an open-plan living area, not tucked out of sight in a different room. As a result, there's a need to maintain appearances, whether you're entertaining on a small or grand scale.

The solution for this house, designed by architect Han Loke Kwang of HYL A Architects, was to provide not one, but two back-to-back kitchens – a sleek kitchen for preparing light dishes and a wet kitchen for heavy cooking.

“The entire glazed wall of the large living area opens up to a pool terrace, and the owners wanted to be able to serve food directly from the kitchens,” Han says. “It made sense to have both the dry and wet kitchens opening to the pool terrace, although the wet kitchen is stepped back a little to reduce its visual impact.”

In contrast, the kitchen in the living area makes a dramatic statement. Clad on all sides in black granite, the kitchen appears as a black cube inserted into the space, with a large cutout forming the benchtop and work area.

Han says the highly polished shine of the black granite contrasts with a honed black stone wall that runs the length of the room, and with the light flooring. The reflective nature of the granite also helps to bounce light around the room, enhancing the sense of glamour.

The U-shaped kitchen also doubles as a bar area for entertaining. A slightly elevated bar top ensures food preparation areas are hidden from sight. And although compact, the kitchen is well equipped. The rear wall accommodates the main appliances and a pantry, while plenty of storage is provided in the granite bulkhead.

Doors on either side of this kitchen open into the wet kitchen, which features customised stainless steel cabinetry and commercial-style Viking appliances. With its large sliding glass pocket door, the wet kitchen is ideally placed for serving food directly to the pool terrace.

Left: Designed for easy entertaining by day and night, the formal living areas in this house open directly to a poolside terrace. With the large sliding glass doors open, the indoors merges seamlessly with the outdoors, creating an alfresco living environment. The house features two kitchens, one within the living area and a separate wet kitchen on the other side. This kitchen also opens onto the pool terrace.



Right: Bright red furnishings punctuate the monochromatic look of the interior. With its bar stools, the kitchen also doubles as a bar.

Facing page, top and lower: The kitchen in the main living area appears as a black granite cube inserted into the space, with cutouts provided for the benchtop and serving space. In addition to storage below bench height, there are cabinets concealed in the granite bulkhead.





Architect: Han Loke Kwang,
HYLA Architects (Singapore)
Kitchen manufacturer: Artisan
Furnishing
Door and window hardware: VHR;
Dorma from Locks Trading
Flooring: Technoquartz Genesis from
Surface Project
Lighting: Luxlight
Cabinetry: Polyurethane gloss
Benchtops and wall tiles: Shanxi black
polished granite from Potenza
Sink and tapware: Hansgrohe from
Home & Bathroom Building Products
Water dispenser: Zip Hydrotap
Oven: Miele from Rina (Electrical)
Cooktop: Viking from Eldric Marketing

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Left: In contrast to the formal kitchen, the wet kitchen has a more commercial look. Customised stainless steel cabinets and benchtops are teamed with professional Viking appliances. This kitchen, which is used for all the heavy cooking, ensures the food preparation and clean-up clutter can be kept hidden from sight.