

NEW BUILDS EXTENSIONS CONVERSIONS RENOVATIONS INSPIRATION

# SELF BUILD & DESIGN

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## Stunning home inside the M25

“THE ONLY WAY WE COULD AFFORD THIS WAS TO BUILD IT OURSELVES”

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## Squeezing a lot into those small spaces

**LOOKING TO MAKE THE MOST OF A SMALL SPACE** for everyday living? BoxLife is a smart modular concept that makes multiple use of a single space, so a kitchen can morph into an office, dining room or bedroom, depending on the time of day. It is the brainchild of Yorgo Lykouria, the creative director at Rainlight Studio, who has teamed up with Italian kitchen specialists Scavolini.

At the heart of the concept is the idea of concealing day-to-day elements when they are not in use, helping the space transition from one function to the next. For example, kitchen cupboards with single or double retractable doors can conceal up to four appliances, an additional sliding worktop, as well as multiple shelves and drawers. Meanwhile, the living area can be hidden behind sliding doors, while pocket doors pull across the stacked washing machine and dryer in the laundry space.

In the sleeping area, there's a choice between a double or single bed, or even bunk beds. The fold-down beds can be motorised and the surrounding furniture is equipped with lighting and a wardrobe with pull-out racks, rails and shelving. A key feature is the Boxi kitchen from Scavolini.

"BoxLife is designed to accommodate a variety of needs; a timely requirement of today's modern living spaces which call for limitless adaptability," says Lykouria. "The system adapts to many applications, from large lofts to small studio flats. It allows the same space to simultaneously serve as a place to cook, work, sleep, do your laundry, store your wardrobe, and to relax. Furthermore, BoxLife allows all these components to coexist harmoniously." ([scavolini.design/boxlife](https://scavolini.design/boxlife))

**Top** This open-plan living area features a Carattere kitchen with matching retractable doors that conceal the kitchen when it's not in use. Other features include a pull-out table and wardrobes, in the sleeping area above.

**Middle** In this attic, a central BoxLife block houses both a Boxi kitchen and sleeping areas.

**Right** A BoxLife shown in a small apartment with striking Jaipur Red Fenix kitchen doors, worktops and splashback.

