

SAVVY STORAGE

RECLAIM YOUR KITCHEN WITH A CLEVERLY CURATED MIX OF DRAWERS, CUPBOARDS, LIFT-UPS AND INTERNAL STORAGE SPACE SOLUTIONS

Words VANESSA KEYS

clever cupboards

PROS For the best storage option above waist level, cupboards are ideal for stacking multiples of the same item, such as plates and bowls. They're also far better at protecting fragile items, including glassware. Plus, they're cheaper and, unless you spring for high-tech drawers, often last longer than drawers.

CONS Cupboards have far more dark corners than drawers, so sometimes items can be hard to find and can more easily amass dirt and grime. They can also look less modern and streamlined than drawers, though selecting a handle-less style is one way to address this.



luxe lift-ups

PROS Refined, yet modern, lift-ups (left) fold up and out of the way, so they're ideal for small spaces. "They're particularly great when applied above fridges and stovetops," says marketing manager Lisa Mayski of Kaboodle Kitchen.

CONS Lift-ups tend to be pricier, so consider your budget – and height. "Height can play a factor in lift-ups, as they can be slightly harder to reach," says Lisa.

"IF YOU HAVE THE ROOM, GO UP: STACKED CABINETRY IS A GREAT WAY TO CREATE MORE STORAGE SPACE"

~ LISA MAYSKI, KABOODLE KITCHEN

practical drawers

PROS "Drawers are great, as the contents come to you and can be easily organised with drawer dividers and inserts," says Lisa. "From a design perspective, drawers also work well to break up a row of cabinets."

CONS Over time, storing heavy pots and appliances in drawers, can cause your drawers to sag. You'll need larger drawers with more weight capacity, which tend to come at a much higher price than cupboards. Always avoid drawers above waist level.

THE INSIDER: the working internals

Today's kitchens are constantly on display, so conveniently concealed storage is essential. "Internal wireware baskets keep hard-to-reach items within reach, while drawer dividers and cutlery inserts make sure there's a place for everything," says Lisa of Kaboodle Kitchen. Blum and Hafele also have a range of smart systems, designed to make storage streamlined for every cook.



Kaboodle 300mm 3 tier soft close pullout basket, \$143.50, Bunnings.



Kimberley 2 x 15L concealed twin kitchen bin, \$130, Bunnings.



'Variera' bamboo cutlery tray, \$29.99, Ikea. Stockists, page 196