



SILVER FOX

A kitchen in Portland's Pearl District debunks the "gray is gloomy" stereotype with sleek finishes, refined materials, and a custom island with an architectural twist.

Written by RACHEL GALLAHER • Photographed by JEFF AMRAM

Simple requests don't always produce simple solutions. That's what Andee Hess of Osmose Design learned when she renovated the condo of a wayfaring client who required a peaceful place to regroup between trips. Built in 2004, the loft had exposed concrete ceilings and concrete columns—not a bad aesthetic starting place, given the client's affinity for the color gray. But the concrete posed design and construction challenges. "We couldn't penetrate the floor or the ceiling to add recessed fixtures or electrical outlets," says Hess.

Contractor Hammer & Hand stepped in to devise workarounds. Lighting and outlets were integrated into the cabinetry. A strip of exposed conduit over the custom island was reworked to accommodate three Flos Smithfield pendant lights from Hive. Oak flooring from DuChateau's Vernal Collection runs up the side of the island, giving way to a refined powder-coated steel top. Three slabs of heavily veined Silver Fox granite clad the backsplash, lending quiet drama to the design. Gray has never looked so good. ✱

DESIGN TEAM

interiors: Osmose Design

construction: Hammer & Hand

Taking inspiration from the original concrete structural elements in this Portland loft, designer Andee Hess worked with Hammer & Hand to create an upscale industrial kitchen. Two stools by Designform Furnishings break the rectilinear rhythms of the custom island by Hammer & Hand and custom cabinetry by Big Branch Woodworking. The ultra-thin Pental-Quartz countertops further slim and refine the elegant space.