



KITCHEN

Volume 24 No 3

\$10.95

Trendsideas.com

TRENDS

SAN FRANCISCO & GREATER BAY AREA

\$10.95US



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Asian fusion

Rich wood tones and serene natural shades bring a touch of the Orient to this kitchen

A certain mix of colors and materials in a room can make you feel as if you have been transported to a foreign destination.

The Asian aesthetics of this kitchen are driven by the use of two kinds of wood, along with calming blues and natural, fibrous tones, says architect Todd Hay of Studio27 Architecture.

"The homeowners are frequent travelers to Asia, and the rich, deep tone of mahogany mixes well to their art collection. Ornaments and artworks are placed throughout the kitchen and living room on display units made from this wood. A large piece of mahogany millwork in the kitchen contains the refrigerator and pantry."

A dropped, carved ceiling adds interest to the space in the kitchen, and its wooden slats are reminiscent of Asian architecture. Accent lighting is concealed in the space between the true drywall ceiling and the wood ceiling, and pendant lights hang between the slats. The rounded light fixtures have the look of Asian lanterns.

"Using European steamed beech wood on the floor and the ceiling makes the other colors in the kitchen appear more prominent. The blue of the countertop is picked out from the tiles on the backsplash and island front. A feature wall in the hallway that adjoins the kitchen is painted in a brighter shade of this blue. This visually connects the two spaces," says the architect.

Also connecting adjoining areas is a repeated metallic motif, which can be seen in the brushed stainless steel fireplace flue in the living room, and the structural columns above the kitchen pantry. In the kitchen, this sense of shine continues with the cabinetry handles and the range hood, says Hay.

"Wood makes visual links, too. A ribbon of mahogany extends from the front door, above the fireplace and around the kitchen doorway."

Near the dining table, one of the mahogany units displays a glassware collection. As these units have glass shelves suspended on cables, they do not block the view between rooms.



Right: Two kinds of wood and a ribbon of blues and greens create an oriental look in this kitchen. A mahogany cabinet, containing the refrigerator and pantry, acts as a partial wall between the kitchen and living rooms.

Above: A mahogany buffet serves the dining area. In the living room, a stone fireplace adorns the kitchen color scheme.





Architect: Studio27 Architecture
Washington, DC

Building materials:

Furniture: Roseburg, Inc.
Cabinetry: Ribbon vinyl
inlay by East Coast
Woodworks

Countertops: Terracotta

Granite by J.R. Gady

Backsplashes: European steamed

brick by Grothers and Justice

Wall tiles and backsplashes:

Teal tile in 8" squares by Stone

Source

Doors and windows:

Anderson Windows and Doors

Lighting: Tech Lighting,

Merix Lighting, David

D'Imperto, Alcon Linear

Stove sink: Union Hardware,

Chronic, Metro

Seating, mirrors and

refrigeration: Jax, Jr.

Refrigeration: Bosch

Hardware: Jax, Jr.

Bar: By Corbin Bar

Photography: By Judy Davis

Far left: A mahogany ribbon
continues from the front
door through the living room
and into the kitchen, visually
connecting the spaces.

Left: Handles run horizontally
across the mahogany
cabinets, providing some
contrast with the floor and
ceiling slats. Windows are
treated with subtle screens, so
the eye is not distracted from
the rest of the kitchen design.



Well connected

By creating visual and physical pathways between spaces – and through the repeated use of a linear motif – this kitchen becomes a central node to its adjoining rooms

From the outside, a design that is aesthetically pleasing may seem successful. However, creating flow of movement and connections between external and internal spaces is just as important as good looks.

Constructing pathways for light and people to travel, as well as facilitating the enjoyment of views, were the goals of designer Richard London when planning this kitchen. London

replaced the French doors with windows and installing a new single door, better furniture placement and easier flow of movement is obtained.

"The original footprint of the kitchen did not provide enough width for an island, which the homeowners had requested. Opposite the kitchen in the family room a set of French doors caused some problems in terms of furniture placement."

By replacing the French

doors with windows and installing a new single door, better furniture placement and easier flow of movement is obtained.

"This allowed for a peninsula to angle out into the family room, providing seating and enough clearance for a longer island. Now the homeowners can sit at the counter and greet visitors arriving at the front door," says London.

An ornate sideboard, which crowded the dining table, was relocated to the main entry hall leading to the family room. "To keep the sideboard visible, we opened up the wall between the hall and the dining room," says the designer.

In place of the sideboard is a double-sided cabinet. In the kitchen, this consists of a cavity for the refrigerator and opens, which allows more

These pages: This kitchen is closely linked to the adjoining family and dining rooms, through an open doorway to the dining room and a peninsula seating area that extends into the family room. Countertops are stainless steel in the sink area and a more comfortable material in the seating area. The island countertop is tough Polycarbonate.



Above: The island is designed to add a sense of tension to the linear nature of the kitchen. The legs resemble stiletto heels, and the drawers feature delicate pull handles. Adding to this effect is the gentle curve of the range hood. The oversized drawers feature a larger central drawer to emphasize the horizontal. In contrast to the repeated vertical lines, Tuskick drawers add extra storage space. The sink is custom made with a stainless steelboard to hide dishes.

width for the island. On the dining side, an internally lit cabinet displays glassware.

Above this cabinet, a slice of the wall has been left open. This allows for a view of the chandelier in the dining room, adding atmosphere at night. It also enables sunlight to be shared between the two rooms, says Landon.

"Sunlight from two different directions is proven to lift your

mood. To accomplish this, and to allow for a taller homeowner to see the outside view, the tops of the kitchen windows have been raised into the rim joint of the floor above."

Echoing the true beam between the family room and kitchen, a decorative beam has been added in the dining entrance. Landon says that small details such as this help to subtly connect the house as a whole.

"There is a grid pattern that can be seen in the windows. This is repeated throughout the kitchen—in the limestone tile flooring and in the design of the cabinet drawers," he says.

A linear pattern is also repeated in the subwaywood island, peninsula and cabinets, and in the red glass wall covering. To soften the look of these vertical lines, the drawers have a beveled edge.

Designer: Richard Landon, CMRD, MBA, Richard Landon Design (Bellevue, WA)

Contractor: Ashley Remodeling & Construction
Kitchen manufacturer: Aristocratic Cabinets
Cabinetry: MDF painted in Armani; subwaywood with American walnut; tuskick drawers in Wilsonart Bounded Ion laminate

Tile flooring: Arroyo Buff limestone, from Arizona Tile, installed with Laticrete SpectraLOCK grout



Wall covering: 36" wide red glass, custom glass
Countertop: Stainless steel with orbital finish, by Metal Masters; subwaywood by Craft Art; enameled limestone by Porcelite, sourced by Fine Line Pacific
Lighting: Juno TCR recessed cans, from Seattle Lighting
Kitchen sink: Custom sink, by Metal Masters

Chair's side: Kähler Underlined 1 ylr
Furniture: Jura and Bova Twin model, from Opvivo; Elby by Jaceco
Chandelier: Wolf

Refrigerator: Doherty
Air conditioner: LG
Coffee system, steam oven, oven, and dishwasher: Miele

Styler by: Candice Butler
Photography by: Javier Cobelli

Top: Above: An internally lit cabinet features as a display space for glassware.

Above: The basement below had no natural light source, so glass blocks were integrated into the family room floor. French doors were replaced by two windows and a single door, allowing for an L-shaped seating area, and leaving a spacious pathway through the room. The color palette in all three rooms is chosen to reflect the Seattle environment.