

Gray™

The DESIGN MAGAZINE for the Pacific Northwest

HEART OF THE HOME

31 PAGES OF
KITCHEN & BATH
INSPIRATION



Case Study:

Pushing the boundaries
of green design

Finnish architect

Alvar Aalto's little-
known Oregon library



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INDUSTRY LEADER

MISSION: Unite disparate, eclectic elements with cohesive style.

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Photographed by ALEX HAYDEN
Styled by RACHEL GRUNIG

This updated Seattle kitchen features a large chef's table, made of steel pipe and salvaged fir, that accommodates up to 12 guests. A row of glass pendant lights hand-blown by Lisa, one of the residents, hangs in the center of the room. The industrial-inspired stools are by Restoration Hardware.





CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Honed marble crowns custom walnut cabinetry by J.A.S. Design Build. The Whitehaven sink is by Kohler, the Montreaux faucets are by Hansgrohe, and the backsplash is a pitted brick tile sourced through Wilson Tile. The walk-in pantry reminds the residents of the TARDIS time machine from the science fiction series *Dr. Who*. Though they're from different eras, the antique Chinese doors, which lead to the guest room, echo the aged look of the industrial pulls.

Seattle residents Lindsay and Lisa love going out to dinner at Sitka & Spruce, the farm-to-table restaurant on Capitol Hill. Yes, chef Matt Dillon's food wins awards, but it was something else that caught their eye: the chef's table. They were so enamored, that when they recently remodeled their kitchen, they requested a custom version of that table, complete with incorporated cabinetry and found hardware.

"At the first meeting with the homeowners, I did an eBay search for vintage drawer pulls," says Kim Clements, co-owner and lead designer of J.A.S. Design Build. "Up comes 30 cast-iron bin pulls—and Lisa loved them." The pulls were a tiny design detail, but their character set the tone for the overall project.

In an area formerly occupied by a small bedroom, Clements and project architect Kevin Price built a walk-in pantry, with custom windows made from antique chicken-wire glass. As the project progressed, they threaded a light industrial aesthetic, as well as a palette of gray, brown, and white, through the design.

J.A.S. also made it a priority to incorporate pieces that have meaning to the homeowners. For Lindsay and Lisa, this included the 100-year-old antique doors and a solid-marble dragonhead on the kitchen counter, both brought back from China by a friend. The pendant lights over the chef's table were hand-blown six years ago by Lisa, who used to work for Dale Chihuly.

Living rooms are usually where one might see such objects of affection. But kitchens are personal spaces, too. Why shouldn't they display treasures? "When someone has held onto something, they care about its part of their story," Clements says. "As a designer, I think it is important to make a place for those things if you can." ✱

