

# WASHINGTONIAN

## WOMEN IN WASHINGTON OUR 150 MOST POWERFUL PLUS: 60 WOMEN LEADING SURPRISING, INSPIRING, AND UNEXPECTED LIVES



OWNS A MICHELIN-STARRED RESTAURANT



WARDEN OF A WOMEN'S PRISON



HEAD OF THE KENNEDY CENTER



PRESS SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT



MANAGES A HOT GO-GO BAND



RUNS A METRO CONSTRUCTION SITE



ACTIVIST WHO LIVES HERE IN EXILE



EVENING NEWS ANCHOR

OCTOBER 2019



COACHES IN THE NBA



TOP STAFFER TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE



TRANSGENDER MEMBER OF THE MILITARY



RUNS A GLOBAL DESIGN FIRM



FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE



WORLD CUP CHAMPION



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## THE RIGHT RECIPE

Why a certain trio of design elements is turning up in kitchens all over Washington

**LATELY, KITCHEN DESIGNERS HAVE BEEN DEPLOYING** A particular combination of color, materials, and lighting that, once you know to look for it, is suddenly everywhere. Why does this recipe work so well? “Combining these elements makes the kitchen feel less like a kitchen and more like a beautiful room in the house,” says architect Anne Decker. Here, we break down the ingredients.

### MOODY HUES

Shades of gray, along with inky blues and dark greens, have become the new neutrals for a wave of homeowners who want their kitchens to convey warmth and sophistication—call it the Farrow & Ball effect. Deeper hues can make a space feel more

intimate and cozy; it’s no wonder Decker described the warm gray palette of the Foxhall kitchen above to her client as “a cashmere blanket for the space.” Richer tones also work well with the trend toward more European-inspired kitchens, which mix cabinetry with freestanding furniture.

### BRASS ACCENTS

To dress up cabinets, homeowners are turning to brass hardware and accents. For a Cathedral Heights kitchen—opposite, below—the clients fell in love with a particular shade of dark green for the cabinetry. “The brass hardware made a huge difference in making that color really pop,” says Elizabeth Saint Rain of Four Brothers Design & Build. Mixing

This elegant Foxhall kitchen, designed by architect Anne Decker, features custom details, including open shelves by AK Metal Fabricators. The island color is Farrow & Ball “Mole’s Breath,” and the cabinetry is Farrow & Ball “Purbeck Stone.”

PHOTOGRAPH BY ERICSON REALL

The exterior stone of this Silver Spring home inspired the gray-and-navy cabinet colors in the kitchen by Aidan Design. Clear globe factory pendants and sconces from Restoration Hardware keep sightlines open.

metal finishes is an easy way to partake in the brass trend without a ton of risk—it’s not uncommon to use brass for cabinet pulls or light fixtures and use oil-rubbed bronze or polished nickel for the faucets.

### ROUND LIGHTS

Because so many kitchen elements are boxy, a round light fixture can throw a much-needed curve into the mix. Globe-style pendants trace back to the early 20th century, when they often lit factory floors. Due to their long history and many variations, globes can convey belle époque elegance or midcentury cool—perfect for transitional kitchens, which blend traditional and more contemporary design elements. The best part? Globe lights are available at every price, making them ideal for a quick update when a full reno isn’t in the cards.



Dark-green cabinets with brass hardware, honed Calacatta Miele marble countertops, and opaque globe lights by McGee & Co. form a winning combination in this Cathedral Heights kitchen by Four Brothers Design & Build.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT BASTIERA  
PHOTOGRAPH BY TONYA JACKSON FOR ADRIAN