

# Cooktop Island



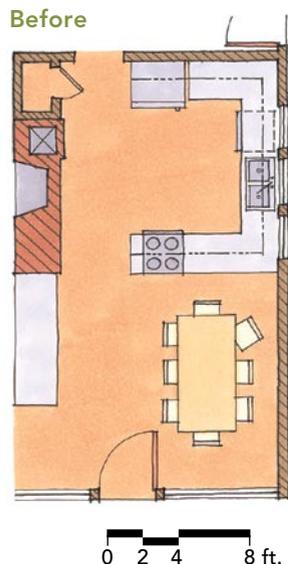
**BEFORE**

A commercial griddle anchors a smokin' hot prep-and-cook island counter

John Spiers and Carmen Bagdon both like to cook, especially stir-fried creations with an Asian flair. But stir-fry cooking requires more firepower than your average range can deliver. At a restaurant-supply store in Seattle's Chinatown, they found the stove of their dreams: an American Range

24-in. griddle with an oven below. Teamed with a pair of burners beside the griddle, John and Carmen had all the Btu necessary to cook their favorite cuisine. All they had to do was to find a way to integrate their new stove into a kitchen that was decidedly past its prime.

Designer Debbi Cleary untied the knot of clumsy cabinets in the original kitchen and placed the new cooking zone in a central island that overlooks a reconfigured dining area and the garden.



Double French doors lead to the patio and expand the view.

0 2 4 8 ft.

**Problem: Poor sightlines**  
**Solution:** Sightlines from the original kitchen extended into the bedroom wing. The new entrance to the kitchen redirects sightlines to the front door.

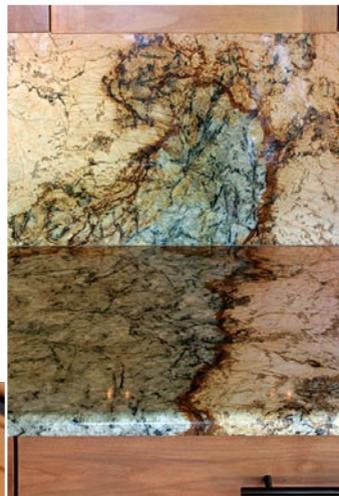
**Problem: Dated finishes**  
**Solution:** Alder cabinets extend the terra-cotta color of the brick wall throughout the room, while mossy-green slate floor tiles underpin the palette with complementary color.

**Problem: Inadequate display space**

**Solution:** Open shelving on both sides of the cleanup sink provides ample space for favorite ceramics.

## "aha!" moment

Replacing the bulky upper cabinets and counter peninsulas with an island and providing new storage space with a wall of cabinets unclogged the original kitchen maze.



## Cool detail

Bookmatched Persa Verde granite counters and backsplashes play a fanciful map across the kitchen.



**Problem: Underpowered stovetop**

**Solution:** A 48,000-Btu griddle turns up the heat on the homeowners' love of stir-fry cooking.

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