Classic Gray in a dark and moody room

Classic Gray, a DuraSeal stain, is a mid dark stain on red oak with a warm greige undertone (measured from its own picture: LRV 13). Here it is with Mindful Gray walls, Alabaster trim, and Agreeable Gray cabinets, chosen by the numbers.









THE PALETTE

THE FLOOR	WALLS	TRIM	CABINETS	WOOD
Classic Gray LRV 13	**Mindful Gray** Sherwin-Williams SW 7016 LRV 47.7	**Alabaster** Sherwin-Williams SW 7008 LRV 82.2	**Agreeable Gray** Sherwin-Williams SW 7029 LRV 60.4	**A charcoal wood** Like our Ebony stain sample

DuraSeal

Classic Gray

DuraSeal stain on red oak

Stain · on red oak · 2-1/4 in strip

The stain, its price and samples: **powellflooring.com/sherwin-williams-minwax-duraseal-stain-colors/classic-gray**

AI assisted. The rooms are CutPile Photoreal Renderings: AI generated, simulated photos. The floor, the paint colors and every number are real.

WALLS, TRIM AND CABINETS

WALLS
Mindful Gray
Sherwin-Williams SW 7016 · LRV 47.7 · +34 from the floor
A warm white or greige in the same soft family as Classic Gray (hue 90° against its 57°).

OR WALLS
Thunder
Benjamin Moore AF-685 · LRV 47.6 · +34 from the floor
A warm white or greige in the same soft family as Classic Gray (hue 92° against its 57°).

TRIM AND CEILINGS
Alabaster
Sherwin-Williams SW 7008 · LRV 82.2 · +69 from the floor
69 points over Classic Gray in LRV and warm enough (chroma 5.3) to read white, not blue, beside its greige undertone.

CABINETS
Agreeable Gray
Sherwin-Williams SW 7029 · LRV 60.4 · +47 from the floor
A light color with some life in it, so cabinets float off Classic Gray (a 47 point step in LRV).

Cabinets in Agreeable Gray or Alabaster: a dark floor needs light cabinets to float above it.

THE FLOOR, MEASURED

LRV	LIGHTNESS L*	UNDERTONE	HUE
13	43	Greige	57°

A warm greige: gray with a little brown in it. LRV is light reflectance value: 0 is black, 100 is white. A wall within 30 points of the floor blurs into it (BS 8300).

WOOD, RUGS AND METALS

A step darker: a charcoal wood
About 14 points darker than Classic Gray in L* (29 against 43), far enough to read as a choice. Like our Ebony stain sample.

A step lighter: a light natural wood
About 18 points lighter than Classic Gray in L* (61 against 43). Like our Silvered Gray stain sample.

Tone on tone: dove gray
3 in chroma, half the warmth of Classic Gray (7), and 28 points lighter in L*.

Across the wheel: mist blue
Hue 237°, straight across the color wheel from the 57° of Classic Gray, softened to balance it.

Grounding: charcoal
A deep note at L* 20, 23 points from the 43 of Classic Gray, so a rug keeps its edge.

Aged brass
A warm metal that agrees with the greige undertone of Classic Gray (hue 57°).

Champagne bronze
A paler warm metal, quieter than brass beside Mindful Gray and Alabaster.

Brushed nickel
A soft satin nickel, quieter than chrome, for the greige of Classic Gray.

ROOM BY ROOM

- **Living room** Mindful Gray walls and Alabaster trim over the Classic Gray floor, velvet in dove gray with a mist blue pillow, aged brass lamps on low.
- **Kitchen** Cabinets in Agreeable Gray so they float off the Classic Gray floor, Alabaster walls and trim, champagne bronze pulls.
- **Bedroom** Thunder walls, dove gray bedding, nightstands in a light natural wood, brushed nickel on the lamps.
- **Entry** A charcoal runner on the Classic Gray floor, Agreeable Gray on the door, a champagne bronze mirror.

WHAT TO AVOID

- Walls at the lightness of Classic Gray: Rosemary (Sherwin-Williams SW 6187, LRV 13.6) sits within a point of its LRV of 13, so wall and floor would blur into one.
- Wood that almost matches Classic Gray: a tone like our Dark Gray sample, 2.3 apart (CIEDE2000), reads as a near miss. Go clearly darker or lighter.
- Stark blue whites everywhere: a greige floor like Classic Gray turns muddy beside them. Keep the whites a little warm.

THE ROOM IT SUITS

At LRV 13, Classic Gray is mid dark: it is at its best in a big room with good light and warm lamps, and it shows dust, pet hair and fine scratches more than a mid tone.

At 2.25 inches a board, Classic Gray lays about 64 boards across a 12 foot room, the busy, tailored look of a classic strip floor.

A sand and finish of red oak strip floors in any room above grade.

Hardness: Northern red oak: Janka 1,290 lbf

Finish: Stain on site, then clear coats

SCAN TO OPEN THIS BOARD ON YOUR PHONE

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See the real floor before you choose paint: visit the showroom, or ask for a free measure and estimate.