

A modern chair with a concrete base and a lucite backrest. The chair is composed of two main parts: a thick, dark grey concrete base and a clear, rectangular lucite backrest. The base is made of two slabs of concrete, one forming the seat and the other forming the legs. The lucite backrest is held in place by two vertical lucite posts that pass through the seat slab. The chair is set against a textured, light-colored wall and sits on a wooden floor.

Opposites Attract

- The Megik Chair: Michael Armenta and Michael Littlefield, Melange Studio

An unlikely relationship is cemented
in this concrete and lucite chair.



Contrasting concrete with lucite creates a mix of industrial materials typically seen in large scale architecture, not furniture. Designer Micheal Armenta and fabricator Michael Littlefield of Melange Studio in Maine have created a simple yet perplexing piece of furniture with their Megik Chair.

Concrete is not the most obvious choice as the primary material for constructing a chair. There are obvious challenges due to its cumbersome weight and difficulty in forming. However half of the chair's prestige is that its delicate form was created from concrete.



Above: The Megik Chair's lucite back is a clear lens through which to view the backdrop. The concrete base is surprisingly warm in this environment.

Left: A notch formed in the back of the seat holds two stainless steel rods that fasten into the lucite back.



Why concrete?

The combination of the raw material of concrete with a delicate appearing lucite slab creates strong contrasts in a simple but perplexing piece of furniture.

Timing + Expertise

The project took about a month total from constructing the form to the finish product. This chair consists of a formed concrete base with a fitted piece of clear lucite as a back. The delicate appearance of the clear back seamlessly connects to the contoured concrete base. A notch formed in the back of the seat holds two stainless steel rods that fit into the lucite back.

The concrete mold was constructed out of 1/2" plywood lined with a plastic laminate. This part of the mold created the outside contour of the concrete base. The interior contour was formed out of a block of polystyrene foam lined with the same plastic laminate. The block was suspended inside of the exterior mold creating the shape of the chair base. Two 5/8" rebar were suspended through the entire length of the mold. The two stainless rods were fitted into the mold with a block of polystyrene foam creating the knockout needed for the lucite back.

When ready for pouring, 1-1/2 bags of concrete mixed with plasticizer and CHENG Pro-Formula Stone were poured into the mold. The mold cured for three days before it was released. Upon releasing it from the form, the bottom of the legs were stone ground to assure flush contact with the floor. The base was then coated with an all purpose sealer to protect from any elements. The pre-drilled lucite block was filled with epoxy to ensure a tight fit between the two parts. Finally felt pads were fixed to the bottom of the legs.

Designer Notes

The Megik Chair
Michael Armenta
Michael Littlefield
Melange Studio

Specifications **Concrete + Lucite Chair**

Total Retail Price: \$3,800

Volume: 1.5 cubic feet of concrete

Dimensions: Concrete Base - 2" thick bend, 18" tall, Seat Surface - 15"W x 16"L
Lucite Back - 15"W x 21"D x 1.5"T

Weight: 140 lbs

Concrete Mix: 1.5 bags of 5000 psi concrete with Cheng Pro-Formula Stone, 1.5" thick clear lucite, 2 stainless threaded rods, 6' of 5/8" rebar



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Melange Studio

Michael Littlefield

North Berwick, Maine

p. 207.251.8868

f. 207.459.7177

e. info@melange-studio.com

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