



LIFESTYLE

CREATIVE LIBERTIES

Dipen Gada takes creative liberties to create a sophisticated abode in Mumbai.

Dipen Gada's unconventional approach in designing the 4,000 sq. ft. penthouse for the Shree in south Mumbai was unlike any other project he had undertaken before. "After creating interiors for 11 years, it was exciting to experience a new process. This home was designed from an architectural viewpoint and was not just a decorating job," Dipen says. "Because the owners were so receptive and understood creativity, I was able to go in directions I hadn't explored before."

dining room, which is visually segregated by a wooden band running along the ceiling. The dining space finds a sleek dining table with white upholstered chairs.

A staircase in steel, glass and wood makes its way to the upper level. But the void space created on the lower landing has been aesthetically utilized by giving it a slightly raised platform. "We were looking for something interesting for this case for some time. Finally, I saw this bronze grille and opted for it," he recalls. The area can be utilized for sitting, too, if required. The wall along



The upper landing is converted to a billiard room.



The circular approach along the entire of concrete pillars in the wall adds interest to the passage.



The kitchen has the utility as protected in the pantry, which is breakfast counter. It is the use

By looking at the space and light, which the design team had in mind, the wall features an interesting piece of art.



+ Dipen Gada and Associates claim to be influenced to some degree by Modernist design concepts and draw great inspiration from Mies van der Rohe's famous words Less is more. Great emphasis is placed on designing with an Indian context keeping in mind the uniqueness of the Indian climate. They are also established consultants and contractors ranging from civil, carpentry, electrical and air conditioning who are capable of handling the technical aspect of very complex and time bound project +

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The design process involved sifting through the way to find just the right treasures and transform them into art furniture and accessories. The living area, which lies in the centre of the house, visually bifurcates the entire space on the 10th floor into two zones — the kitchen and the dining on one side; and the master bedroom and the guest bedroom on the other.

The huge balcony lets in a lot of natural light that transports you to the Mediterranean. The comfy sofas complemented by sleek one-piece bent glass centre tables (guest tables) create a perfect relaxing zone. On the opposite side a mango says cladding on the wall not only frames an interesting piece of art but also creates a focal point. The living area flows into the



A series of colourful painting's and stylish furniture enhance the cultural spirit master bedroom.



The custom designed light fixtures create drama in the wall.

The modern style on the ceiling adds to the ambience. Note the sleek, streamlined lighting fixture (above).



A textured effect on the wall serves as backdrops for the LED.



The stairs is adorned with a series of mounted ceramic plates to add interest. The upper landing is converted into a small recreation zone – where the pool table holds centrestage with the custom designed light fixtures create a dramatic mood with their shadow play on the wall.

In the family room, one finds an extensive use of wood with a green highlight wall, while neutral colours mark the master bedroom.

This master bedroom's inviting ambience is reflective of the home's luxurious feel. "There is a sense of order and gracefulness," says Dipin who has effortlessly balanced the stark wall behind the bed that is home to a series of colourful paintings with stylish furniture, using them as decorative elements to enhance the overall decor. Not just that, the balancing act continues with the two doors (one of



The Bedroom reflects a warm and inviting ambience.
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them (and) on the wall behind the bed. The master bath has overall gray tones. Functionally it is well segregated into wet and dry zones.

The daughter's domain wears a very young look with a lot of colours in the form of furniture, paintings and objects. Her bath, though small has a lot of dimension added through the use of mosaic patterns on the wall. To break the monotony of mosaic she finds ceramic plates on the walls. The bathroom cabinet design has details adding interest.

Dipan has successfully created exciting and luxurious environs for his clients by weaving accessories into his design to reflect their tastes and lifestyles. And the most important thing in this entire process was his own creative satisfaction. ■

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