



A design harmony

A careful selection of accessories and furniture gives the interiors of this New Delhi bungalow a refined edge

While the exterior of the house is designed to invite, it is the interiors that sets the tone and creates the right ambience. According to architect Mahesh Punjabi of Mahesh Punjabi & Associates, the interiors of any house are dictated by the lifestyle of the owner.

"I know the owner personally, so I was aware of the family's lifestyle and their needs," explains Punjabi.

Located in Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, the house with a built up area of 10,000 sq ft, includes four floors with a basement.



Above and left: A thoughtful selection of furniture and accessories emphasise spaces in this 10,000 sq ft house in New Delhi designed by Mahesh Punjabi of Mahesh Punjabi & Associates. Warm tones are juxtaposed with contrasting elements of glass, steel and chrome to make a statement. The nude tones used in the formal living room, complement the chrome and steel accessories used extensively.



Above and extreme right: The veneer covered panelled wall conceals the doors that lead to the home office and the powder bathroom. The informal living room is a stark contrast to the formal living room with bright pink sofas and vertical slats. Matching crystal chandeliers add vibrancy to the place.

The family primarily occupies the basement along with the ground and the first floor. The remaining two floors have been given out on lease.

The house accommodates a formal seating area, dining space, informal seating areas, kitchens, office, seven bedrooms, bathrooms and an entertainment area in addition to outdoor spaces.

Punjabi has thoughtfully designed the living spaces in the house, providing an illusion of privacy to each area. The main entrance of the house is located on the

ground floor, which accommodates two bedrooms, one guest bedroom, kitchen, a formal room and informal living room. While the main entrance of the house opens to the formal living area, a separate entrance was also created that leads into the informal living area.

According to Punjabi, "There are occasions when the owner has to entertain formally. So, I have created a separate entrance which leads directly to the informal living area which is situated opposite the office."

The veneer-panelled wall has built-in entrances to both the office and the powder bathroom. Further down the passage is the dining area, which lies opposite the formal living room.

The formal living room is done entirely in nude tones. Plush with chrome and steel accessories Punjabi has balanced it with white leather furniture gives the area a refined look.

In contrast, the informal living room is done in bright colours, with vertical slats and sit-out sofas. To accentuate the

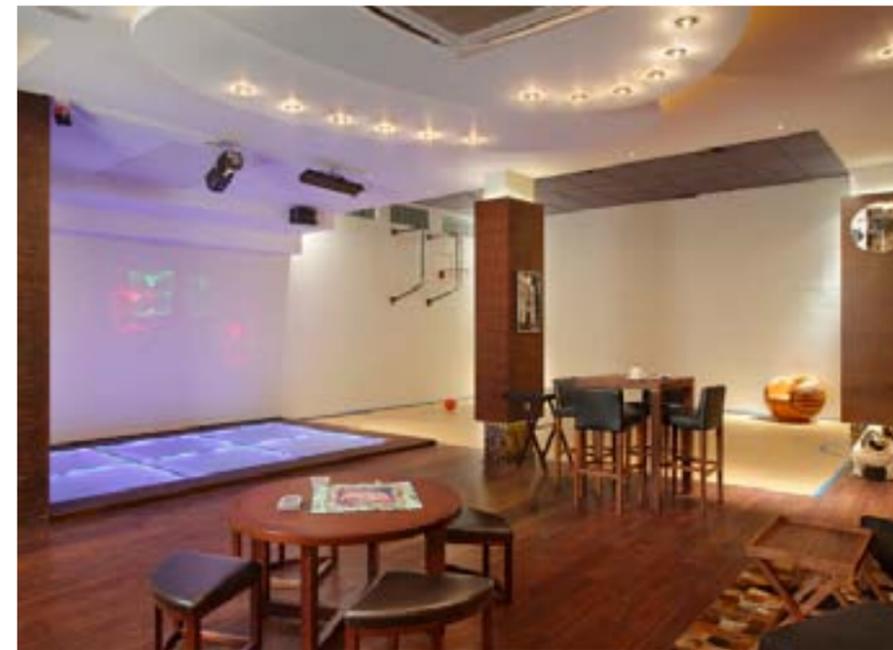


Above: A full-length mirror is the focal point of the powder bathroom with its marble flooring. The wooden ceiling is in tandem with the chrome and steel chandelier.



Left: The materials glass, steel and chrome come together in a design harmony in the dining room. The customised Fendi leather dining table set along with light accessories from Viggi define the area further.

Above: Punjabi has used a cylindrical free-standing basin to define the bathroom. The glass shelves on the adjoining wall provide storage space.



area, Punjabi has placed a crystal ball light fixture in the corner along with a matching tabletop lamp. A glass wall visually separates the informal living room from the formal one, thereby giving the area an open feel. Punjabi has also used glass as a visual separator, placing it near the entrance of the dining space to demarcate the area from the formal living room.

"It is sheer glass, but to brighten up the corner, we have embedded Swarovski crystals in the middle," adds Punjabi.

Punjabi has carried out the steel and

chrome look into the dining area as well. Wooden ceilings with in-built light fixtures and wooden panels placed between the windows complement the steel accessories. A mirror used entirely as a wall, further opens up the space making it appear larger than it really is.

The highlight of the dining room is the customised Fendi leather table, resting on a goatskin rug, with steel chairs. An overhead chandelier designed in steel, adds drama to the area, with matching floor lamps to complete the set.

These pages: The basement has been entirely designed as an entertainment area of the house. Punjabi has created false ceilings at multiple levels and inserted direct lighting at various levels to create a relaxing ambience. Wooden chairs with low seating and throw rugs complete the look. An open sports bar is located next to the home theatre room, which faces the discotheque.



Owner's name: Deepak Kumar
Architect: Mahesh Punjabi; Mahesh Punjabi Associates
Kitchen: Blue Grain Kitchen
Cladding: Jairam Timber, Mongia Marble
Roof: Citadel
Window: Eurowinds
Furniture: Talpogravo, Reflex, Fendi, Natuzzi
Tiling: Antonio Luipi
Flooring: White Statvario, Mongia Marble
Paints: Asian Paints
Lighting: Preciosa, Artemide
Splashback: Saint Gobain
Oven: Hafele
Stove: Bertuzoni
Ventilation: Cata
Microwave: Hafele
Refrigerator: Sub Zero
Dishwasher: Hafele
Bath: Antonio Luipi
Taps: Lladro

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The first floor has the remaining five bedrooms, a kitchen and a small family room also occupy area on this floor.

The design of the master bedroom is very neat and streamlined, with a custom designed panel headboard created using veneer and designed with silver leafing. Punjabi has extended luxury into the bathrooms as well.

"I have placed a chandelier in every bathroom to highlight each space. In the master bathroom, mother-of-pearl inserts have been used on the wall next to the

free-standing tub. Steel strips have also been inserted there to bring out the colour of the satvairo marble. The counter top is also made using mother-of-pearl," he adds.

The basement acts as the entertainment area of the house. Punjabi has also created a basketball court, a discotheque, a sports bar along with a home theatre system and a gym with a sauna in this space. False ceilings have been added and infused with multiple layers of in-built lights to add a sense of drama to the place.

Left: The square panel ceiling with gold lights inserted in them are in accord with the customised square panels in dull gold headboard in the master bedroom. The white marble flooring maintains continuity complementing the nude colours of the bedroom. Access to the walk-in wardrobe is next to the bed.

Above: The wall behind the free-standing tub has mother-of-pearl inserts in form of strip accentuating the ambience. The crystal chandelier brightens up the space bringing out the colour of the satvairo marble.