



# Visual delight

The essence of this Mumbai apartment lies in its striking bold colours and well thought out spaces

*Above:* This 3000 sq ft apartment in Mumbai designed by architect Mahesh Punjabi dexterously combines a minimalist decor with subtle elegance. Italian marble flooring runs through the apartment complementing the sand coloured stone cladding and veneer.

*Facing page:* The beige and orange sofas are from Natuzzi and a commissioned art piece draws attention in the room.

**For architect Mahesh Punjabi of Mahesh Punjabi and Associates,** known for his opulent and glamorous designs, the prospect of designing an apartment in a minimalistic and contemporary decor wasn't a daunting task.

Spread over 3000 sq ft, the apartment is located in Bandra, Mumbai and consists of a living room with a dining area, a kitchen, a terrace, three bedrooms and a small den.

"The homeowners were insistent that the interiors of the apartment be kept to one colour tone and that the spaces in the house be open and inviting," explains Mahesh Punjabi. "I

added bright colours in form of texture, a furniture piece, even a wall painting to break the monotone and give that space a distinct look," he further adds.

The apartment opens into the lobby, which leads to the living room where muted shades of beige and light brown in the flooring and ceiling define the theme for the rest of the apartment. Punjabi has placed a burnt red orange colour sofa set with swivel chairs, which complements the maroon chandelier hung overhead.

The den lies opposite the living room and is marked out by a glass panel, which doubles as







**Preceding pages:** Punjabi has kept the colour tone of the dining nude to bring out the colour of the chandelier and to draw attention to the customised art piece which has been placed in a specially created niche.

**Top and above:** Suede has been used extensively in the son's bedroom. Wall panels in shades of green, purple and brown have been used behind the headboard and a similar colour theme has been followed for the curtains as well.

a door. A small terrace lies adjacent to the living room where a mural made of the cut off pieces of marble and stone used through the apartment is highlighted with diffused lighting. To delineate the area, Punjabi has placed standalone rust colour chairs and a table to add an element of colour to another stark area.

"I wanted the colours to speak for the different areas of the apartment," says Punjabi.

The designer has used sand coloured textured stones that have been clad on the walls in a diamond pattern, which contrasts with the rust orange armchair placed there, to define the

passage leading away from the living room to the kitchen, dining and remaining bedrooms of the house. The passage forks into two: the first leading to the kitchen and the second to the dining area.

"In the dining area, I created a false ceiling wherein a chandelier in tones of maroon is hung at eye level to create a sense of volume in the space," explains Punjabi.

A customised dining table set in glass and steel and a side cabinet in neutral shade to hold the cutlery is placed against the wall to allow for a free-flowing space. A customised painting is



placed in a niche in the wall to add drama.

Strong hues of blue characterise the master bedroom, which complements the cement coloured stone headboard placed above the cantilevered bed.

"The headboard is made of stone, which was chiseled and carved and then clad on the wall," points out Punjabi.

Another aspect of the room is the glass wall that divides the bedroom and the bathroom. The size of the master bathroom wasn't to the liking of the owners. To open up the space, Punjabi broke down one of the walls and placed a

glass wall in between.

The bathroom counter has been done in blue agate keeping in tone with the colour blue used in the bedroom. The counter was handcrafted in pieces and then assembled on site. An acrylic base was added, for inbuilt lights, which give the place a soft look.

The daughter's bedroom follows a different colour tone from the rest of the apartment.

"The design for this bedroom was created keeping in mind the colours present in the swing procured from Morocco," says Punjabi. "The mural created by local artist Hetal, is in

**Above:** Suede finish has been given to the walls of the bathroom in the son's bedroom. An inlay of motif is etched onto the vanity mirrors fitted with lights that bring in a sense of flair to the place. The long wooden slats serve as the vanity cabinet in the space.



tones of red, pink, orange, green and blue that carries onto the walls as well."

Meanwhile, the son's bedroom is in stark contrast to the daughter's bedroom. Punjabi has extensively used suede in shades of green, purple and brown to give a polished and formal look to the space.

The panels behind the bed have been designed using suede in purple colour. The theme is also carried into the bathroom, where the marble used has been given a suede finish. The mirrors have a motif etched on them, which act as inlay lights.

**Designer:** Mahesh Punjabi; Mahesh Punjabi and Associates

**Window/door:** Fenesta

**Wallcoverings:** Shreeji Innova

**Paints:** Asian Paints

**Lighting:** Reflex

**Furniture:** Natuzzi

**Flooring:** Versace

**Bedroom suite:** Hulsta

**Bed linen:** Harrods

**Mirrors:** Kruti Creations

**Story by** Moshita Prajapati

**Photography by** Mrigank Sharma-India Sutra

**Facing page and above:** The daughter's bedroom was designed around the swing purchased from Morocco. The mural by artist Hetal, was designed to match the colours present in the swing and the curtains were selected along the same colour theme. Crystal detailing is seen on the circles and comma designs on the mural and along the edges of the mirror in the room.

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