

# Picture Perfect

Words: Natasha Bohra;

Images: Rahul Pawar, courtesy the architect

Designed by Asit Karekar, this residence in Thane mirrors a sense of eclectic chic with a touch of class resulting in an elegant space.

Residential  
design





The very essence of the word 'design' implies planning, organization and aesthetics. And a designer's most important skill is the ability to listen and execute the expectations of the client. Designed by Ar. Asit Karekar, this residence in the central suburbs of Mumbai is many things – simple, elegant, modern and pretty. But most importantly it suggests more than what it shows. The picture perfect areas of the 3-BHK apartment are a reflection of the clients' lavish lifestyle and the designer's tasteful choices.

"My mentor Ar. Ajit Shilpi, with whom I worked for over four years and am gratified for everything I know today, trained me to not ape the work of others but rather emerge with originality. This is what I follow and I love it this way," shares Asit for whom this residence stands out as a favourite project at the start of his independent career.

Together with the keen and active involvement of the client, Asit bestowed a home after being absolutely certain of what he wanted to deliver. With a common thread running through the design in the form of materials, colours and lighting, each area blends in with the other yet stands out individually.

Some element of drama has been added in almost every area either with the use of a certain material or with the application of a strong colour giving it a distinctive identity. For e.g., the common bathroom is highlighted with a backlit artwork covering almost the whole wall, while the passage is dominated by a strong olive green wall highlighted by black and white artwork as well as a collage of photographs of the daughter. The guest bedroom witnesses extensive use of black and white with a touch of red while the daughter's room is done up in shades of lilac. The master bedroom is dominated by the use of veneer wherein the headboard of the bed made of a barcode-style print, adds an interesting element to the design of the room.

A strong design element in the dining area is the jaali that behaves as a separator from the kitchen. The pattern of the *jaali* continues in different areas – you find it as



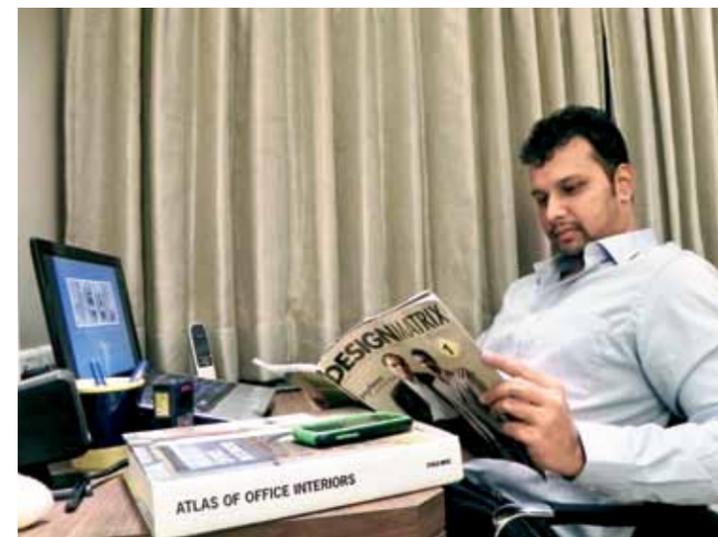


the dining table top as well as the light, all of which have been customized.

Talking about the colours used in the home, Asit comments, "I have always wanted to use a dark and bold colour palette. A right balance was required in between the bold appeal of veneer and softness of fabrics. The colours compliment the use of materials perfectly well."

Design is a highly subjective matter; however, this project's intrinsic power lies in its simplicity and right combinations. Asit adds, "Like any successful implementation of a good idea, the credit for this beautifully turned out home has to be shared as it was a coming together of many things and people – the client for believing in our concept and letting us go ahead with it, and the entire contracting team of Mandar Adivarekar along with the carving interiors contractor, who gave form to my design."

With its bold palette and use of opulent materials the decor of this home flourishes with understated elegance and proves to be a mystic circle that surrounds comfort and virtues 🌀



#### ABOUT THE FIRM:

Auk Design Studio established in 2010, by Ar. Asit Karekar, a graduate from GICED, Mumbai, designs and creates spaces with aesthetics and functionality put together providing inspiration and delight to its users. As a company philosophy the studio consciously does not follow any single motto thus allowing exploration and experiment in every aspect of design.

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