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Beautiful art need not just be for the rich, but can be found in a public garden, or a common marketplace. It rubs away the rough edges of our daily existence and makes us more caring and mindful of what is worthwhile around us. Built spaces and thoughtful landscaping are never just for our comfort, but to make the world a place where each person, living creature and beautiful object finds its rightful space.

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Neo-classical inspiration for Raipur villa

New Delhi-based Olives Cre has designed the Raipur Villa, an opulent residential project spread over 6000 sq. ft. Modern furniture and warm fabrics are used in the neoclassical-inspired living room with large artwork on the wall, with a candle chandelier lighting up the space. Plush silver and golden-colored sofas provide the seating areas with two sets of wooden rails house figurines in the background. The corridor features two tan-colored couches and a neoclassical painting engulfed in soft lighting from two cylindrical lighting fixtures. Accent botanical wallpaper and art bring out the botanical theme along with indoor plants. A beige eight-seater dining table and chair in the dining table contrasts with the patterned black-and-white tiles.

Local material and design for Bengaluru furniture retail store

Bengaluru-based Rapid Corp Architecture has developed the Steelcase, a flagship furniture and technology retail store spread over 12,750 sq. ft. for commercial institutions. Responding to the need for a flexible space that retains traditional sentiment, multiple floors of reconfigurable spaces are created. A human-centric working environment is accentuated with a double-height space with a mezzanine which has a glass box inviting in light and creating a visual connection. Local materials and raw finishes add tradition, contrasting with factory-finished furniture and products. Meshed walls and windows allow the biophilic design to flourish and bring in the greenery of the outdoors. The vertical planning transitions from a welcome zone to a full-fledged office on two levels with recreational spaces, personal pods, and collaborative zones.

Monochromatic palette for Delhi luxury menswear brand

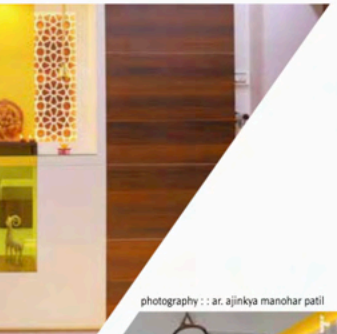
Mumbai-based Design Lab Vyoma has designed the Stefano Ricci showroom, an Italian luxury menswear brand spread over 3000 sq. ft. in New Delhi. With one edge facing a shopping arcade and the other the main lobby of a hotel, the design prioritizes customer visibility and footfall. Two main entrances are conceived following Vaastu principles, with a monochromatic color palette that highlights the merchandise. Grey and black add a masculine vibe, representing strength, authority, and power. On the other hand, the white background is associated with calmness, minimalism, and modernity. Grey-patterned flooring ties together the designs, which includes display racks needing little maintenance. The store owner's cabin doubles up as the VIP section for bespoke orders and private conversations.

A rain court for park-facing Hubli residence

Bengaluru-based 4site Architects have fashioned A Home by the Park in Hubli, a Vaastu-compliant residential project spanning over 7050 sq. ft. The 5BHK residence is built on an east-facing linear plot, which faces a park on one side and a road on the other. Requiring uncompromised privacy from the park and neighbors, a series of gardens are constructed that retains a visual connection to the park. The front garden invokes serenity with a raised garden with private areas separated from the public, while the rear private garden consists of bedrooms opening out to the outdoor garden. A rain court at the center acts as a double-height lung space that connects the living spaces at all levels.

Yellow accents for Mumbai apartment

Mumbai-based Maksiideo Design Consultants LLP has created The Yellow House, a 1BHK apartment project spanning over 475 sq. ft. A bright yellow band is used to accentuate the neutral color scheme that adds a vibrant positivity and freshness to the space. Designed for a middle-aged couple and their daughter, the TV unit comprises a light-grey Duco-painted patterned MDF panel with handpainted Moroccan tiles and Corian white laminate. The yellow band continues to the ceiling of the mandir, where the white laser-cut acrylic grill acts as a canvas for lighting lamps. A traditional leather headboard is used for the hydraulic bed, along with a dressing mirror panel, sliding wardrobe, and a seating platform.



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THE CUBIC OFFICE, MUMBAI

Design Lab Vyoma, Mumbai

Design brief and aim

To create a fresh and bright functional office with a supervisor's cabin, workstation, and adequate storage for paper and record-keeping.

How this was accomplished

The office, located at Marine Drive is contained within a compact area of 275 sq. ft. The space is divided between the supervisor's cabin and workstations. Storage areas are lined against the longer floor length to maximize storage without cluttering the area, while larger niches break the monotony, making the space look lighter. Furniture includes functional details such as a pull-out tray for tea and coffee in the supervisor's office table.

Shades of neutral beige open up the tight space with bright orange highlighting the storage units, pantry tops, and seats in the waiting area. A larger niche has been modified to create a waiting area near the entrance, complete with a seat for two. Inviting natural light and ventilation into the space was a challenge, and a contemporary glass sheet replaces the existing wooden partition to do this.

The supervisor's cabin is built at the far end of the office, while workstations are closer to the entrance. A fully functional pantry with a microwave oven, water dispenser, coffee maker, a mini-refrigerator, and additional storage areas completes the floorplan.

