



the ADDRESS

Where the good life makes news



Bay windows extending outwards connect to the outdoors, bringing in more natural light and ventilation

INTERNATIONAL ELEMENTS IN CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE

CONTEMPORARY INDIAN ARCHITECTURE has rapidly evolved in recent years due to the return of many designers as well as NRIs to India who have infused international design elements in their built environment due to their exposure to diverse range of spaces and interiors during their stay and work abroad.

Connecting with the outdoors

Contemporary buildings are

more open to the outside bringing in more natural light and ventilation. The connection to the outdoors can be done in several ways such as bay windows, clerestory openings, glass walls and skylights. Corner windows allow uniform light into spaces and make them brighter compared to traditional spaces where light enters only from one side.

Modern concrete and steel framed construction allow for large expanses of glass to be incorporated in exteriors of building. These walls open up inside to inner court or exterior landscaped area. Secur-

ing such glazed walls is imminent issue in the Indian context. This has been resolved by using rolling shutters that are neatly tucked away in the ceiling during the day.

In clerestory openings the glass goes up close to ceiling. This kind of window illuminates the space from the top due to reflection from ceiling extending outside and light shelf extending inside. Clerestory windows work best on the north side of the building bringing in glare free light and direct views of sky. Skylights can also bring in ample light into buildings making the interiors bright and cheerful. They

Architect Deepak Gupta highlights how global architectural trends are being introduced in traditional Indian design to make the most of natural elements



also serve ventilation points for letting out hot air, there by increasing natural ventilation in the building.

Organic forms

The exterior shape of the buildings are also transforming from traditional box-like one to more organic, fluid shapes. The exterior stairs can become smoothly folded sectional surfaces that weave through floors. Interior elements also assume smoothly folding forms lending a dynamic



This modern home design allows large expanses of glass to be incorporated in the exteriors. Rolling shutters are neatly tucked away in the ceiling during the day



Clerestory windows, where the glass goes up to the ceiling, illuminate the space from the top

character to contemporary interiors spaces.

Fluid spaces

Layouts in contemporary buildings allow for spaces that are more open to each other in comparison to traditional plans with strict separation between rooms. Such arrangement allows angular views across spaces both horizontally and vertically. Double height spaces give simultaneous visual connection to various levels. This arrangement makes the interiors feel more spacious.

No doors

The doors to rooms have almost vanished in contemporary Indian houses. Doors are only provided in bedrooms and bathrooms.

Front formal spaces seamlessly move and merge with living, dining and kitchen spaces. Only low partition walls and floor level difference mark separate functions.

Transparent or translucent partition walls made of polycarbonate sheet, glass or glass blocks are also used to define and separate functions instead of traditional brick walls.

Enlivening spaces with murals



Mural artist Sumitra Chari explains how mundane spaces can be made interesting with murals



MURALS TODAY ARE an explosive and dynamic art form. In this day it is not only an architectural feature but has also been extended to more practical usages within the home. Murals can adorn a floor or wall with as much ease as they can be used to decorate a box or a serving tray. They can beautify and enhance the interiors of a home or office and at the same time make for stunning visual artworks on the exteriors of a building or in a landscaped garden.

Myriad materials

They can be created from an endless array of materials; paints, ceramic tiles, glass bits, glass tiles, waste china, waste crockery, terracotta, stone, pebbles, metal, resin, fiber reinforced plastic, glass reinforced concrete and more. Any durable material that will lend itself to be painted, cut, cast, cemented or bolted onto a surface is suitable for a mural.

Murals for interiors

Murals are ideal for both indoor and outdoor spaces, such as corporate foyers, cafeteria and restaurants, in retail spaces, as signage, walls and floors, garden areas, swimming pool, spa areas and within water bodies, garden

pathways, fountains and cascades, on garden furniture and also as simple design accessories. Residential applications range from walls and floors, kitchen backsplashes, bath walls, breakfast counter and nooks, powder rooms, terraces, patios and porches, pools and fountains amongst others.

Kitchen and bath space

With design trends today focusing more on enhancing the work and leisure spaces in a home; the kitchen



and bath areas are being treated luxuriously. Bringing art into a utilitarian space which one can not only see but also feel, touch and live with is consistently becoming the norm.

Kitchen and bath areas call for usage of materials which will not only beautify the space but also lend themselves to durability and effortless maintenance. Having said this, the best recommended materials to create artistic walls, floors and counters in these areas are tile, glass, ceramic / stoneware, metal and natural stone.

Painted wall art

Add colour, texture and form into your homes or workspaces using paint and texture compounds. Finished with a protective clear coat to prevent stains and marks, they are easy on the eye and the pocket as well. They can be done directly on the wall or on canvas to size.

Glass work

An elegant and colourful addition to one's home or office is an artwork in coloured glass. From fused glass window panes, bar counter inserts to lead jointed glass windows, hand painted stained glass shutter inserts to spectacular light fixtures the explorations in this medium are endless.



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