

THE HOMES MAGAZINE FOR MODERN LIVING

Livingetc

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INDIA EDITION

SIMONE ARORA
DECORATES
AN APARTMENT
IN UPPER JUHU

**MARCEL
WANDERS**
DESIGNS
FACE-MASKS
YOU'D LOVE
TO WEAR

13
**SHOWSTOPPER
KITCHENS**
DISCOVER THE
LATEST TRENDS

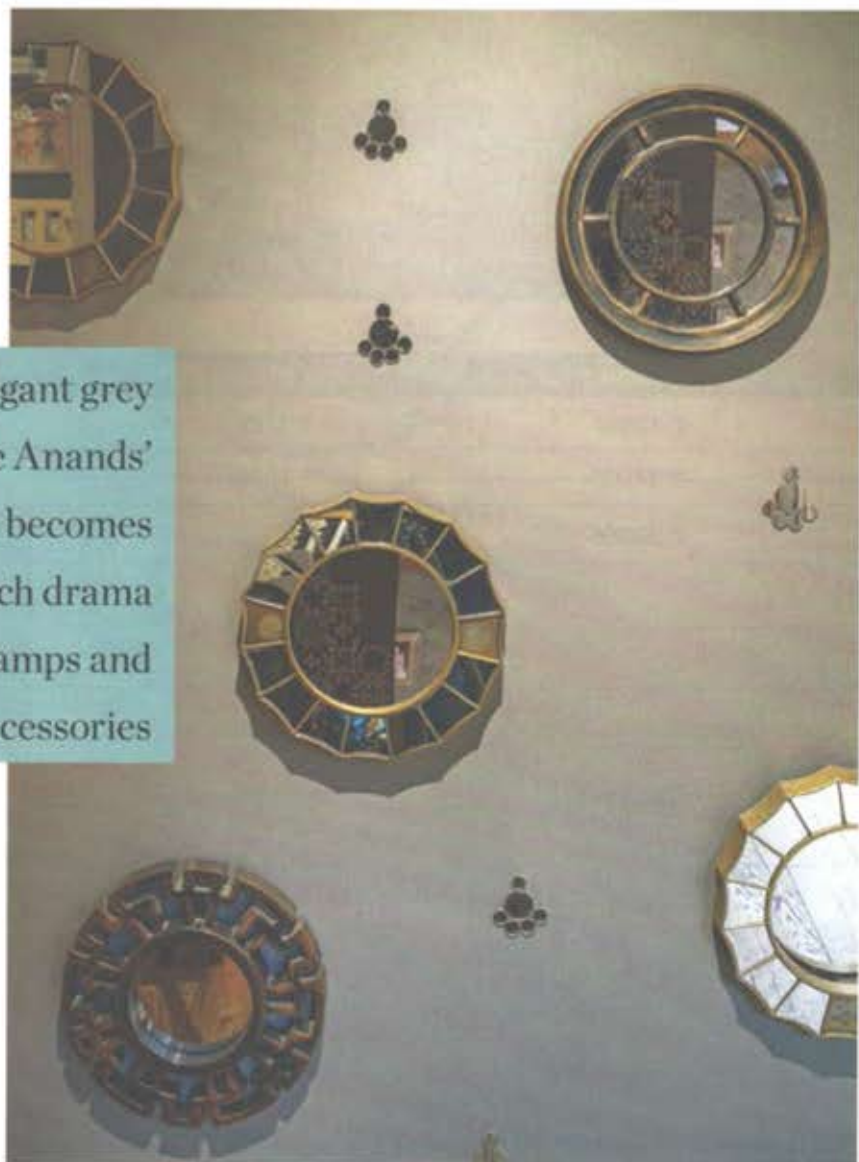
SHOPPING EDIT
TRAVEL LIST
SIDE TABLES
FLOOR LAMPS
CEILING FANS

*Time to
holiday*

SALONE TREND REPORT

Let there be Light

Against an elegant grey backdrop, the Anands' duplex apartment becomes the stage for much drama with its gigantic lamps and quirky accessories



Photography / Atul Pratap Chauhan * Words / Malati Kallapur Vijay



LIVING ROOM

A giant cast iron lamp hanging low over the centre table becomes the focus of attention in the living area.

Get the look Get similar furniture customised at Furniture Library. Find a carpet like this one at BoConcept.

When the Anands bought this duplex apartment, nobody from their extended family and friends circle was excited. It was in a run-down condition and the interiors seemed congested. But Aarti and Vishal Anand knew what they had on their hands and they had faith in the magical touch of Amit Aurora

of DCA. He had done their first showroom 17 years ago, and they were supremely satisfied with it. There was an instinctive understanding of what the Anands wanted and then taking it to an aesthetic level. 'Though I gave some pictures to show how I wanted the house to look, it was totally left to Amit to turn it into what it is today. I just wanted a warm house that would make everyone feel welcomed,' says Aarti. Since the Anands travel to China, for business, they knew that the nearby Foshan, was a hub of furniture, so they picked up some things from there. Then a lot of the furniture was custom-made by the designers.

The ground floor houses the living and dining areas on one end and the kitchen and a room for Vishal's mother on the other. The decor dictum is far from less-is-more, but a predominantly grey background absorbs all the action gracefully. The reclaimed wood furniture, upholstery in muted colours gell well with the sombre backdrop and create a subdued vibe.

There's lots happening on the accessories front as well, but the designers keep it on an even keel. The seamless flooring in earthy textured stone tiles in living spaces, including the kitchen and the family dining, and the uniform colour palette, further keep the look balanced. And in the final analysis, everything seems



↑ LIVING AREA

'I love the warm and welcoming vibe of the living room. It's my favourite place to spend time with friends,' says Aarti.

Get the look For similar studio floor lamps check out Kapoor Lamps and for chairs check out Nivasa.



↑ STAIRCASE WELL

With brass lamps hanging at different levels, the well of the floating staircase becomes the center of much drama.

Get the look Find brass pendant lamps at Anemos.

to enjoy its place without overpowering the visual experience.

The central attraction of the home has to be the staircase that takes on a floating form beyond the first floor. It is designed to be the most dramatic feature by fashioning the well as a light fixture sculpted in space with the use of handpicked antique brass pendant lamps and the specially-sourced mirror door. The lamps hanging at different levels create an alluring play of light and shade. 'We all love the way the staircase has shaped up. It's exciting to have a feature like this one as part of your life,' says a beaming Aarti!

On the upper floor, an architectonic bridge connects the master bedroom with the rest of the rooms, thereby adding a little more drama. From here, the staircase floats away to the terrace. The plaster-scraped walls along the three sides of the staircase create a rustic feeling. A large window on the top allows for light to flood into the well during the day bringing in much cheer.

Each of the bedrooms on the upper floor reflect individual preferences. A fully-equipped small pantry in the lobby is ideal to cater to midnight hunger pangs. The family lounge with plush seating has a reading corner and a treadmill. Natural wooden flooring that starts from the floating staircase covers all the bedrooms setting the tone for the warmth the Anands craved. 'With all its grandeur, the interiors give a very warm feeling. I love my house,' gushes Aarti.

See more of Amit Aurora's interior design projects at groupdca.in

LIVING ROOM SEATING

The custom-made seating niche in the living room can turn into a day bed. The chairs and the corner storage unit are from Foshan.

Get the look Find similar chairs at stores on MG Road and the storage unit at Urbanladder. Get similar cushions from Address Home, check out Nirmals for similar blinds.

HOME PROFILE

THE OWNERS Vishal and Aarti Anand, who run a chain of kidswear outlets, moved into this house two years ago with Vishal's mother, their two daughters Punya, 20, Nabhanya, 15 and son Abhyudaya, 5.

THE PROPERTY The four-bedroom duplex apartment with a separate family lounge on the upper floor, went through several structural changes to optimise the space and bring in natural light into the interiors. Walls were pulled down and repositioned, windows were enlarged, bay and corner windows were created wherever possible to enhance the aesthetics and views.





LIVING ROOM EXTENSION

The casual space between the main living and dining areas allows for a relaxation zone with its low seating.

Get the look Get a similar table with iron wheels at The Furniture Republic and pendant lamp at Kapoor lamp. Find floral cushions at Nur.

THE DINING ROOM

The wall unit with colourful curios adds much cheer to the compact dining area.

Get the look Get a similar wall unit with ladder like this one customised at Knock on Wood. Chairs can be customised at Furniture Library. Similar shaggy rugs can be found at Qaaleen. Colourful decor jars can be found at Decor Kart.





↑ **DINING ROOM**
 'Both my daughters and I love cooking and having friends/family over,' says Aarti.
Get the look Find similar stone tiles at Fcml.

→ **KITCHEN**
Facing page The kitchen with a dining table and bench is where a lot of action takes place. The carved wall panel was sourced from an antique store.
Get the look Find similar dining table and bench at Inliving and lights at the stores in Kotla Mubarakpur.

→ **DINING ROOM WINDOW**
 The wall-to-ceiling window that frames lush greenery outside, brightens up the dining area.
Get the look Get similar outdoor furniture at Abaca and the dining furniture at Nivasa.

HOME TRUTHS

Your favourite cuisine to cook?

We are a family of foodies, I love to cook a variety of cuisines, but my favourite is Thai.

Favourite place to shop in Delhi?

I love to shop at DLF Emporio, Khan Market, GK Market N Block. My kids like Fabindia.

What are your summer plans?

We will be off to Europe for a holiday.

One best compliment you have got from your friends for your house?

That they have not seen anything so warm and heavenly...

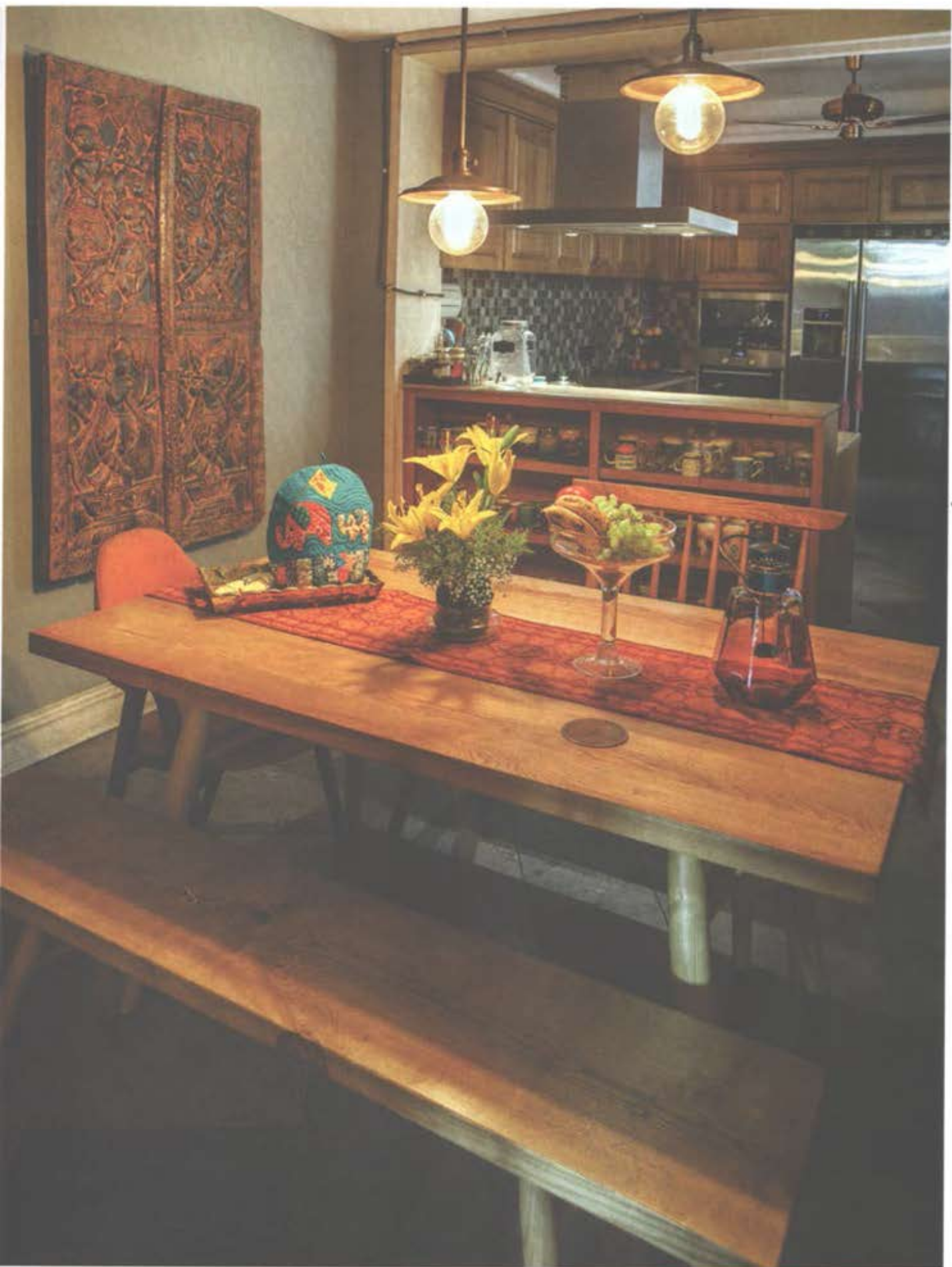
Your mantra to manage a family of six without fretting?

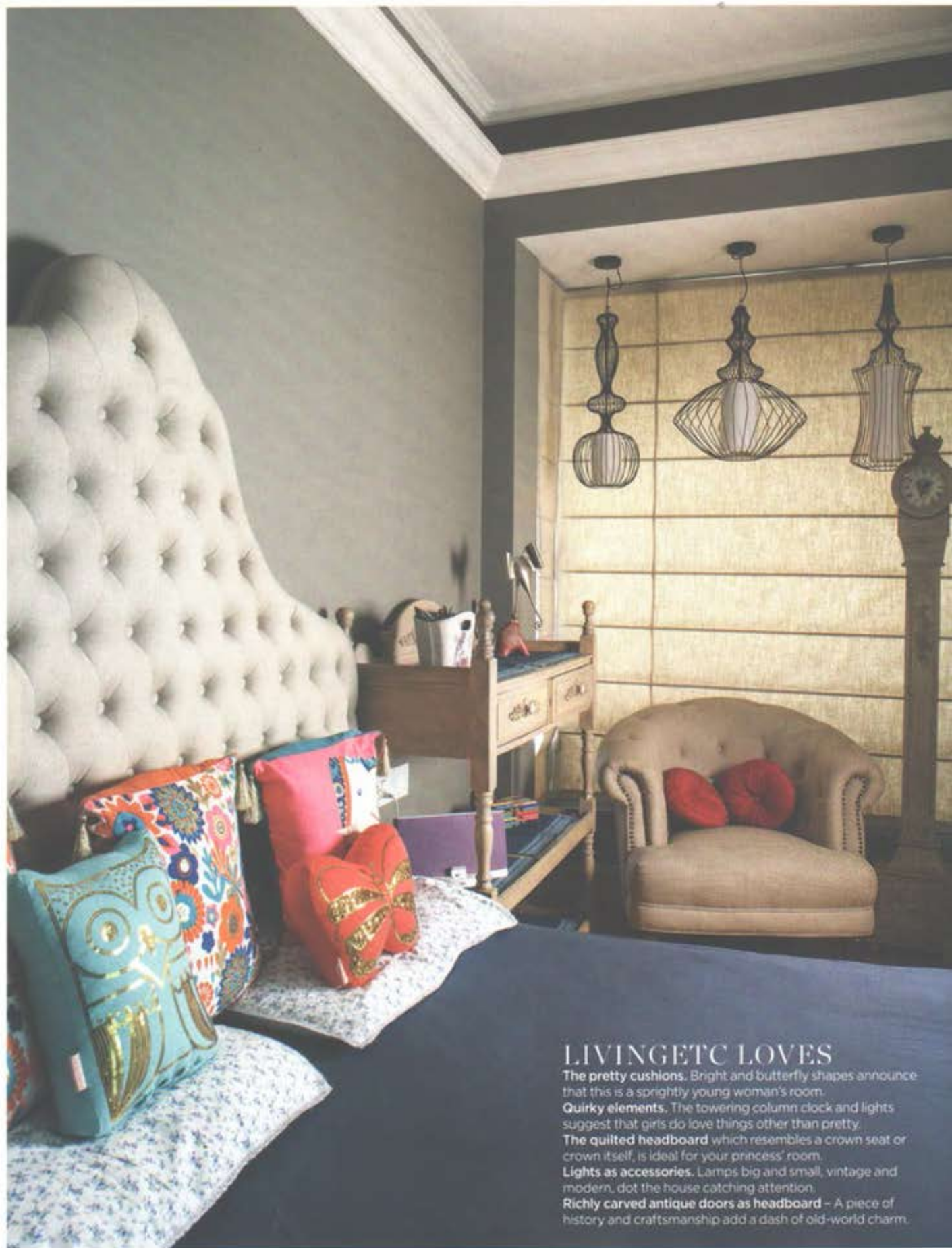
Apart from managing the family business, I'm also a homemaker, which I love. When you love something, then there's no fretting.

What are you currently busy with?

Overseeing the interior designing of our new showroom.







LIVINGETC LOVES

The pretty cushions. Bright and butterfly shapes announce that this is a sprightly young woman's room.

Quirky elements. The towering column clock and lights suggest that girls do love things other than pretty.

The quilted headboard which resembles a crown seat or crown itself, is ideal for your princess' room.

Lights as accessories. Lamps big and small, vintage and modern, dot the house catching attention.

Richly carved antique doors as headboard - A piece of history and craftsmanship add a dash of old-world charm.

→ **DAUGHTER'S ROOM**

Second daughter Nabhanya and son Abhyudaya's room packs enough colour and quirk.

Get the look Find similar lights at Ivanka. Check out Peek-a-Boo Patterns for bunk beds.



← **FAMILY LOUNGE**

The place for the family to get together and entertain also has a reading corner.

Get the look Get a similar brass floor lamp at Fabindia and chair at Inhabit.





MASTER BEDROOM

The custom-made bed, the ornate antique door headboard sourced from Ahmedabad, add a distinctively traditional look.

Get the look Find a similar chaise lounge at Gulmoharlane and lights at Anemos.

MASTER EN SUITE

Textured wall and vintage brass lamps extend the old-world look into the bathroom.

Get the look Get similar lamps at the Lok Nayak market.

