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# CASA VIVA

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## major makeover [ IN A MINI HOME ]

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# A FLOATING STAIRWAY

The redesign of the Anand family's New Delhi home offered an opportunity to innovate and create an eco-friendly residential domain.



An attempt to blend the traditional and modern in a contemporary urban home with an architectural play of natural light and shadow results in a warm, timeless feel.

## HABITAT



The carefully selected furniture, mostly made from reclaimed wood is accentuated by the hand-picked rugs and is further complimented by the client's collection of artefacts.

Within the residential morphology of urban NCR, retrofitting and redesign of homes today is often an opportunity to innovate towards the creation of an eco-friendly residential domain. The owners Vishal and Aarti Anand's brief for DCA Architects called for a proposal that would restructure the home to adapt to the current needs of the family. Therefore, rooms and spaces were developed in line with the design brief and accommodating the present and foreseeable requirements of the three generations of the family. The design is tailored to meet their desire for a modern abode with traditional elements. Within the parameters of the existing structure of the building, structural changes were implemented to optimise the space and bring in natural light into the interiors by pulling down some walls, repositioning them and modifying the windows. The existing windows were enlarged and bay windows and corner windows created wherever possible to modify the overall architectural aesthetic and maximising the views.



*The handpicked furniture of each room reflects the distinct tastes of the occupant.*



## A traditional, yet modern vibe

The earthy textured seamless stone flooring adds character to the living spaces of the apartment, including the kitchen and the family dining area. Natural wooden flooring starts from the floating staircase and spreads across to the bedrooms, setting the earthiness and warmth that the client desired in their home. The carefully selected/handcrafted furniture, mostly made from reclaimed wood is accentuated by the hand-picked rugs and is further complimented by the client's collection of artefacts, family portraits and accessories from travels across India and abroad. The handpicked furniture of each room reflects the distinct requirements and tastes of the occupant of that room. An attempt to blend the traditional and the modern in a contemporary urban home with an architectural play of natural light and shadow enables a warm, timeless feel of this uber-chic home. The staircase leads to the terrace, where Aarti recently hosted a party for her son's birthday. "Initially, I wanted a gym and jacuzzi on the terrace, but we decided to move in and get it done later." But, that remains on the wishlist! There are large balconies which maintain an open ambience.



The furniture, mostly made from reclaimed wood is accentuated by the hand-picked rugs and is complemented by the client's collection of artefacts, family portraits and accessories from travels across India and abroad.



### A project with a heart

The home has been designed by DCA Architects, a design consultation firm based out of New Delhi, which dabbles in offices, residences, retail and luxury outlets. The principal architects involved in the project were Amit Aurora and Rahul Bansal, while the design team included Amit Aurora and Shwetambra Sharma. The house is built on 3,900 square feet. The project, which began in March 2014, ended in September the same year. The residence, which was restructured since the original structure was old, has certain unique features like a floating staircase that leads to the terrace, which the lady of the house wanted.

Each room in the home, which has an old-world, yet contemporary feel, is different, tailored to the needs of the occupant, whether it's the owner's elderly mother, teenage daughters and toddler son. The architects took care to keep the palette subtle, but playful, creating an old-world appeal.

