



The Indian
EXPRESS

Ambience

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celebrating lifestyle



The living room with its low seating to enhance the feeling of spaciousness. Foam blocks function as sitting places during the day and can be spread out at night to make for a bedding.



small wonders

Whoever said that small is beautiful probably got the idea while living in a cosy little home. Where just about everything was only at arm's length and where the limitations of space was overshadowed by the sheer conveniences of having a compact space to oneself - easy to use and maintain. As numbers increase and spaces decrease, small spaces in fact are becoming quite the order of the day - both for want of area and money. But if anyone thought that living in houses that measure something like 500 square feet tantamounts to cramped lifestyles, well you are in for a surprise. Take a peek into the two houses featured here that may be limited in area but sure are unlimited in creativity!

Sofa-cum-Bed and 2 Sleek Chairs and Bevelled Glass Top Centre Table worth Rs.28,300/- for just Rs.24,300/-

PRICES INCLUSIVE OF OCTROI AND TRANSPORT

PUNE: Designer Inn, 14 Lunawat Complex, 2/2 Kothrud, Opp. Kothrud Bus Stand. Tel: 5460127



The Living Room



This table that can be folded up onto the wall, functions both as a dining table and work table as required.

Lovekar's little delight

essence of every Indian home and culture."

According to Lovekars their basic thrust was to fit in many modern day requirements of a working couple and get maximum utility of the minimum space available. The requirement was to accommodate a living space, a small bedroom, a kitchen with good amount of storage, two toilets, one attached to the bedroom and the other accessible for common use.

"The living room has an informal look with low height seating, which is a good blend of a formal sofa and the traditional Indian seating style. The walls are plain white in order to offset colors added by way of artwork and accessories. A beige wall around the window offsets the white and gives an effect of depth. A sunshine yellow colour on the ceiling adds brightness to the space.

Lighting has been used effectively to contribute to the lively feel of the apartment. Every light switched on or off changes the moods of the space from lively to tranquil. The light fittings are pieces of art themselves. These lampshades have hand painted motifs on goat leather and are a speciality from Andhra Pradesh in South India. A collection of arti-

facts from all over India such as Ganesha idols from South India, a bamboo table lamp shade from Assam, terracotta elephant head from Bengal, abstract paintings on handmade paper by the architects themselves, the bolsters and cushion covers that are typically from north east India, red jute carpet from Andhra Pradesh, and a lot of potted plants add a sense of belonging and warmth to the space," elaborates Lovekar.

The living room extends along the red paneling into the kitchen. There is a visual continuity and a feeling of openness as there is no full height barrier between the kitchen and the living room. The red paneling encloses a washing machine, linen storage, loft tank, boiler and a toilet. The kitchen is predominantly white with a dash of yellow brought in to continue the living room colour scheme. A handmade tile pattern on the doors and crockery add the colour. The furniture

Text by Sunanda Mehta

THE LOVEKAR'S HOME SITUATED IN A non descript building in Kothrud is one that really takes you by surprise even whilst you are approaching it. For the corridor to their 520 square feet apartment is lined with a profusion of plants. And once the talented duo of Ashwin and Anjali Lovekar throw open their doors for you, you are greeted by the welcoming sight of neat, clean areas done up in a riot of colours in such a splendid way, that the small apartment could well give sprawling bungalows a run for their money.

"The idea was to design an apartment that reflected the blend of traditional Indian living with the comforts brought in by westernisation," begins Ashwin Lovekar, "The aim was to cater to modern day needs and at the same time not making the place too stark and devoid of warmth, which is the



The compact kitchen with everything easily reachable and the bedroom with its eye catching backdrop and warm colours.

is designed on clean lines, and is based on modern utility requirements. The bedroom is small and cozy with white wardrobes and walls with a black and red bed back with terracotta masks from Goa and wrought iron mirror to add to the character.

"By grouping together objects which have similar colours or themes we have created a structured but aesthetic way to display our collection from various parts of India. The emphasis here was not only to create a modern residence but to accommodate our culture and or liking for handlooms and

handicrafts which are a part and parcel of our lives. The idea was to connect the old and the new, not by way of display but as a part of daily use. Hence the house has carved door handles from Rajasthan, old Jaipur textile printing blocks holding the small dining table up, the light fittings in painted leather, and bamboo blinds in the living room," he concludes.

Little wonder then that this house turned out to be an award winning one bagging a coveted prize in small spaces category.

Double Bed *and* Sofa-cum-Bed
worth Rs.29,160/- for just Rs.24,800/-

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