

THE IDEAL HOME

November 2006

AND GARDEN

Special Section:
**Liven up Your
Living Room**

House Parties

- Cards
- Kitties
- Wine & Cheese

Microwaves

**125 Good
Options**

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Smartest Shopper**

International Trend:
Colours of the Harvest

Bloom and Glow
Flowers and Festivities





"It's formal yet soft. It's warm. It's a place I seek comfort in at the end of a weary day. I travel a lot but there is no place as beautiful and comforting as my home."

— Anu Khatwani, designer and proprietor, a & more

The massive iron gate at the entrance invites you into a tiny garden with a cobbled path, leading to a narrow hallway. The building is two-storeyed, and the second level is Anu's personal space. The place she loves to experiment with. Her living room is an amalgamation of class, style and timbre. Pleasant English colours dominate the look. Some self designed, some sourced from around the world while travelling, the mantles and artefacts speak beau ideal. Artificial flowers and pictures give this room of perfection a personal touch. The look is well coordinated, almost ornately antique. Every corner talks a different style yet blends into the peculiarity of the theme.

Anu says she loves the glistening of crystals. Crystal chandeliers adorning the room go well with the crystal drops that hang above the centre table. The animal printed chase stands out as a separator distinguishing the dining area from the entertainment porch. The antique expression defining the treasure chests, the ground vases and the telephone is another outstanding component. Anu also has an immense collection of cushions and throws that she likes to scatter around the house. They add to the elemental touch.

Just off the living room is the master bedroom. It is spacious and personalised. The ambiance reminds me of a high end serviced apartment but what makes it special are Anu's favourite pictures of her husband and herself. The crystal lamp on the side table looks chic. A huge window runs across the front wall. It looks down on the tiny garden at the entrance. The opposite wall is occupied by a row of wooden closets.

The attached bathroom is a another treat. The knick knacks spread across the basin counter are inviting. The space is almost enchanting. From colognes and skin products to grooming accessories, the bathroom is a bar of indulgence. A slender glass closet stands neat in the corner. A dressy glass door separates the bathing area from the dressing area. Exotic flowers and ornate candles give the room a sensuous touch.





(Left) The living room from a distance
(Below) The Roman Gothic clock in the master bedroom
(Bottom left) Crystal chandelier...also Anu's style statement for the season





The master bedroom as well as the children's room are seasoned with pretty photoframes, lamps, candlestands and other knick knacks that make the space look well loved and lived in



Down the hallway, on the way to the kiddie's room is the kitchen. It's almost like a pit stop. Basic and compact, yet prettily done, it seems well looked after. Lemon curtains and white storage cupboards paint a serene picture.

The kiddie's room is my favourite. It makes me wish I was a child so I could jump on the bouncy mattress. Pastel shades and more than a dozen stuffed toys make the room soft and cosy. Out of a fairy tale, the room screams comfort. Even the bathroom is colourful and child-friendly. Fancy props and bright tints give it a pally appeal. Attached to the room is a small play area, almost like a miniature terrace. A midget coffee table and chairs enhances the fairy tale look.

Plush and aesthetic are the only two words that strike my mind when I close my eyes and picture the house now.



The bathroom is luxurious and almost sinful.
It gives you every reason to spoil yourself.
The angel in stone sits in pride above
the glass door. Small it may seem,
but it doesn't miss your eye