

WORDS ON THE WALL

With cryptic ciphers, mystical indentations and hidden lighting, the walls of this Mumbai home by Annkur Khosla speak a secret language

WORDS BY VAISHNAVI NAYEL TALAWADEKAR PHOTOS BY PANKAJ ANAND
STYLING BY SAMIR WADEKAR

The living room is a smorgasbord of curvilinear forms and colourful accents. The curved sofa and the centre table are from Secolo, while the chairs are from Moroso. The wooden inlaid table was sourced from IDLI Design, Jaipur



Annkur refurbished old sofas from Pinakin Design Studio to suit the contemporary aesthetic. The carpets and accent pillows are from Pure Concept Home and the metal bench is from Formus. The artworks were variously sourced from a Pichhwai gallery, Srimoyee Mitra, and TARQ



Annkur Khosla may be a seasoned architect, but when a brief for a new home demanded that the walls be made the tour de force, she was admittedly a little taken aback. “Just a little,” she quips, explaining that on further discussion, she quickly learned the rationale behind the curious ask. The father of the couple had lost his eyesight and relied on surfaces to identify his location. The walls would serve as language for him as he moved from space to space.”

Before long, the brief had taken on a life of its own in Annkur’s head. If the walls were to shine, she would give them more reasons than one, she reasoned. And so, she decided to give each wall a multipurpose avatar. Concealed lighting went up, metallic planters were made into accents, and a drop-down counter with hidden storage was added. “We aimed to maximise the potential of the walls with a clever mix of secret storage, artworks and lighting,” avers Annkur.

When it came to the design process, Annkur was given carte blanche. “The house was completed just 6 years ago and the only thing the clients desired was that it be imagined in a totally different way. And so, the interiors were revamped to give new life to the space,” recalls the architect, who reused a handful of items including two sofas from Pinakin Design Studio, and restored the couple’s parents’ walk-in wardrobe. In an effort to give the aesthetic a debonair spin, Annkur handpicked the furniture from a bouquet of international brands, including such picks as a charming curved sofa from Secolo, chairs from Moroso, and a dining table and chairs from Cattelan Italia. For the floor, she chose an exquisitely veined marble that held a mirror to the artworks around. The house also features a plethora of sustainable elements, she informs me, including a sculpture made of recycled materials from TARQ, and a carved wood block artwork behind the dining table.

As you observe the walls, with their subtle indentations and Da Vinci code-like ciphers, you’d be forgiven for losing track of your bearings. Indeed, this is one parallel realm you might never want to leave. ♦ annkurkhosla.com



Salsa-toned prismatic chairs from Moroso serve as showstoppers in the living room

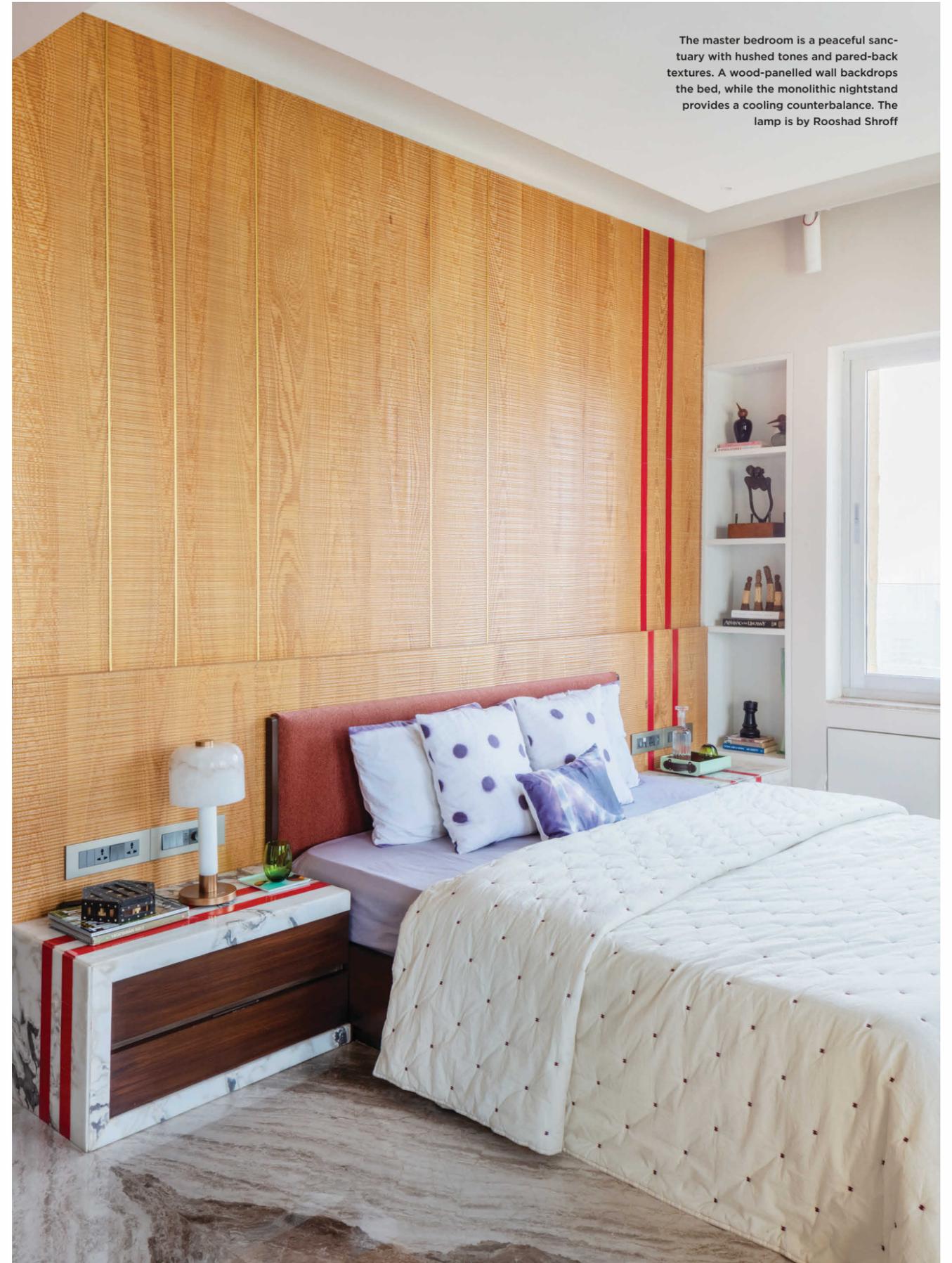
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The kid's bedroom is a sage bolthole with whimsical flourishes, including a badger-shaped mat that stands sentinel on the floor



The dining room is a vibrant space dominated by emerald and crimson tones. The table and chairs are from Cattelan Italia.



The master bedroom is a peaceful sanctuary with hushed tones and pared-back textures. A wood-panelled wall backdrops the bed, while the monolithic nightstand provides a cooling counterbalance. The lamp is by Rooshad Shroff