







n the outskirts of Jaipur, amidst 22,000 square feet of lush acreage, sit three side-by-side houses. "Well, it's technically one house, one bar and one library," smiles Sachin Gupta, founder and principal designer of Beyond Designs, of the holiday home he and the firm's

other half, Neha Gupta, were tasked to redesign a few years ago.

For Sachin and Neha, the project was special in more ways than one. Not only were they familiar with the owners (having previously designed their Delhi home), but also with the architect, late veteran Pradeep Sachdeva, who had recently expanded the thirty-year-old property to include several more quarters. Little did they know at the time, this would be the master architect's last project, for he passed away not long after, in 2020.

The inspiration for the design came from the surrounding green landscape, as well as the existing tropical modern architecture à la Geoffrey Bawa. "The expansive footprint called for an unconventional design plan," says Neha, adding that the owners' appreciation of the finer things in life inspired them to go bold

with the decor. And so, in a bid to give the decor pride of place, she and Sachin put a twist on their signature maximalist style by opting for a clean, neutral backdrop. Marble went on the floors of the common areas, while wood was chosen for the bedrooms, TV den, bar and library. The walls, meanwhile, were facelifted with muted tones.

Pared-back the shell might be, but there are plenty of details to go around: gothic carved panels here, gleaming brass accents there, gabled roofs, raftered ceilings and crystal objets d'art. Not to mention, a kaleidoscope of artworks, from mythological to contemporary and everything in between. The lights, wall panels and mirrors were specially crafted in-house to reflect the family's sensibility of understated luxury, as was the furniture, barring a few heirloom pieces that had been in the family for several generations. Even with such an eclectic mix, the aesthetic is gentle on the eye, with one element parlaying into another in a light, breathe-easy way.

Most evenings, when they're in Jaipur, the family likes to gather over freshly made kachoris and masala chai (although lassi is a perfect swap on warmer days). "It was a ritual we would enjoy with them whenever we met up for a work update," says Sachin. Evidently, it's a holiday tradition that's stuck—and no one's complaining. • beyonddesigns.in



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From left: In the library a petite seating nook makes for the perfect sunset perch; Another corner of the dining room, where black-and-white bird artworks, picked up by the owners on their travels, preside the wall. The sideboard is a Beyond Designs creation





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From left: A sun-dappled sit-out on one of the home's many balconies; The staircase is a marble curiosity lined by brass-finish mirrors

