



Photographs: Ravinder Reddy

riyaz & simeen quraishi's home

The bedrooms are designed like suites, each with glass doors opening onto a jacuzzi and a private terrace. On the ground floor, stylish glass replaces bulky walls to separate the rooms

Designers: Riyaz and Simeen Quraishi

out of the closet

In the past couple of years, the importance of certain rooms has shifted, new rooms have emerged and in the case of bathrooms, the spaces have multiplied. "Earlier, houses had only one, or maximum, two bathrooms," says Narayan. "Now they have six or seven. In a three-bedroom house, there are three en suite bathrooms, one powder room for the guests, one bathroom on the terrace in case you're throwing a party, and one or two bathrooms for the staff."

looking ahead

On the contemporary side, internationally, homes will feature everything from exposed structural elements like beams and window frames, to the more extensive use of glass for furnishings and finishes, plus there will be more attention to the detailing provided by patterning in textiles, flooring, and wall coverings.

retro modernism

According to Françoise Serralta of Peclers Paris an international trend-forecasting agency, Retro Modernism – a fusion of nostalgic design and up-to-the-minute functionality – is the strongest trend in all creative industries at the moment. So, look out for the colours fuchsia and red and elements like flowers and plastic moulded furniture.

INTERNATIONAL TRENDS



what's in

Minimalistic: Simple, straight lines with no clutter and no collections of crystal. White rules.

Moroccan style: The contemporary version with rich colours, latticework, and dark wood contrasted with light walls.

Glass: Whether clear, sandblasted, frosted, back-painted or etched, glass provides a modern edge to cabinetry, doors and interior spaces.

Pattern: Textile, flooring, wall covering and tile manufacturers now offer an incredible array of surface treatments that can add subtle elements of design to any surface or interior space.

Colour: According to the Colour Marketing Group, rose tones ranging from deep to pale pink and teal will begin to creep back into the marketplace. Colours to watch for include navy and cobalt blue.

Blinds: Chik, cloth, wood... take your pick. Easy to maneuver and chic to look at.

Technology: Everything from biometric doors to self-cleaning glass to glass filled with argon gas (which lets in light but not heat) and self adjusting louvers.

The bathroom has become the ideal place for escape and retreat. In Parvati Reddy's house, the bathroom is almost a tropical paradise, filled with plants, made of stone with fittings that are the latest in technology. There are even window seats!

In Vishwas Raju's house, the bathroom has no door and leads out into a small open corridor with no roof. Raise a blind in the kitchen and you can see straight into the loo. And he has a jacuzzi built in the corner of his bedroom.

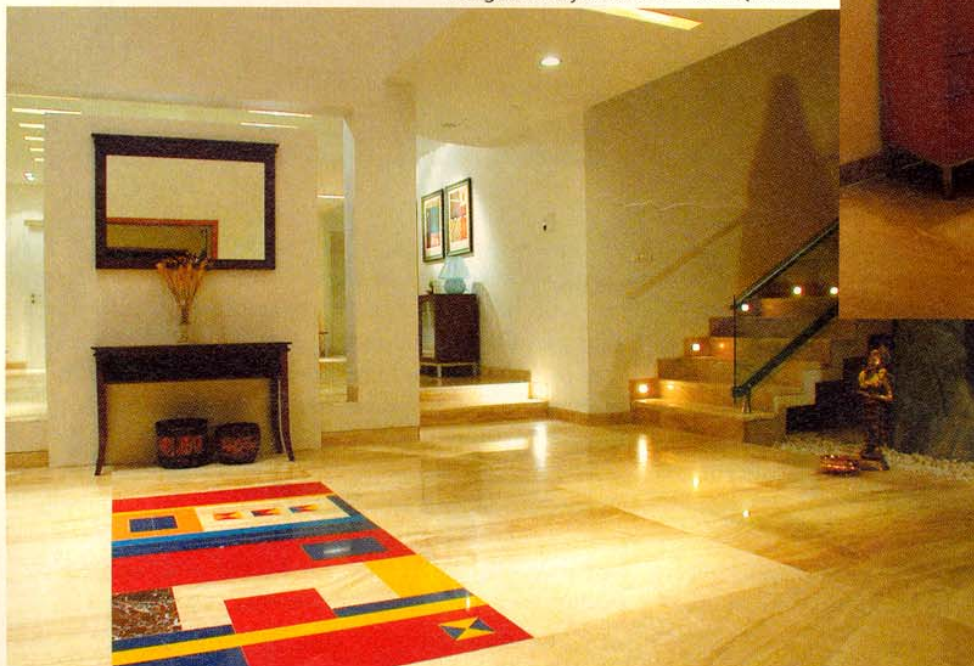
Architect Yeshwant Ramamurthy is in the process of designing an open air shower for a client. Dry and wet areas are being clearly demarcated. Shower stalls and cubicles are ensuring that. Basin designs are getting bolder and those that sit above the counter are in favour, in square, rectangular and elliptical shapes, as well as in glass. Massage and 'rainspray' showerheads too, are in demand.

Kitchens too are changing. Directly influenced by the West, kitchens have also become open and efficient. They are being displayed rather than hidden away. Breakfast nooks and centre islands are becoming de rigueur. New shelving – metal and marble – is being used to avoid household pests.

And a new room is being added to the house – the home theatre room. With specified thickness to walls and curtains for soundproofing and comfortable seating, people are even devoting entire floors for it.

rammoorthy's home

Designers: Riyaz and Simeen Quraishi



The colours of the stone carpet in the foyer (left) are echoed through out the house; like in the prints on the walls (above)