Kitschy on the inside Bypass those floral Monochrome

statement with these ideas

VISHAKHA AVACHAT

ARE YOU TIRED of buying the same old bed sheets, cushion covers and pen holders for your house? If yes, it's time to give your home a makeover with some kitschy and fun stuff. You could choose to adorn your home walls with a desi clock or add a dash of Bollywood with a B-town inspired chair or a poster!

City-based store Either Or has some fun stuff, which ranges from minimalist to serious kitsch that you could choose from. "We have clocks which are anti-clockwise, with autos and funny messages. Then there are Bollywood handpainted cushions, retro cushions with the Beatles and Marilyn Monroe," says Ritika Narang Tickoo, cofounder of the store. The store also has some funny laundry baskets, floor cushions and hangings to create a fun look at your den.

Mumbai-based Indian Hippy products offers Bollywood printed chairs and other knick knacks. Hinesh Jethwani, founder of Indian Hippy says, "You can beautify a corner of your house with customised

posters that we offer." One can buy the Indian Hippy prodonline through their site hippy.in. Another Mumbai-based store called Loose Ends, which also has a website, has interesting Hindi alphabetic cushion covers, a tray with a menu board, a clock that says, 'Time kya hua hai bhaisaab'. Madhumita Goswami, owner of Loose Ends says, "The kitsch cushion covers, fun lassi

Bollywood film

e have clocks which are anti-clockwise, with autos and funny messages. The Bollywood hand-painted cushions and similar stuff are also popular

-Ritika Narang Tickoo

glasses are quite popular with our customers.'

stuff to choose from. have a fun key chain holder which looks like a truck's posterior called 'Dil Ki Chaabi'. We also have interesting doormats with stuff like 'Don't treat me like a doormat' written on

Another website called Happily Unmarried, based in Delhi, has some really cool stuff to choose from. "We DOORMAT them," says Rajat Tuli, Make your home a



co-founder of Happily Unmarried. With so many products to choose from, you can certainly shoo away boredom from your house and add some fun and zing, to make you feel

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Forget the mix-and-match mantra. Try to be 'neutral' to one colour, says architect Urmi Popat

s you begin planning the colour scheme for your home interiors, take the time to consider some important questions. Think about the colours that you enjoy most and the room that is to be decorated.

A lot of people think that a monochrome interior is just black and white but it can be so much more. In a monochromatic colour scheme, one colour completely dominates a room.

One could go with a neutral such as white, off-white, grey or beige for a sophisticated, versatile, serene scheme. Painting a room white can lend it surprising depth. Put tiny sparks of colour in multiple places in the room to add verve. Think about arranging a bouquet of brightly coloured flowers in a monochrome room, as they will stand out. Create interest by using different patterns and textures; like a different fabric for each accent item. To link your monochromatic-scheme room to adjoining spaces, continue the main and ac-

Keep it simple and clean — monochro- 'monochromatic'.

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Urmi Popat

matic is all about uncluttered and relaxed. A monochromatic colour scheme can look sophisticated and unified.

The key to success with this scheme is creating variation in the colour you choose. Now, that doesn't mean the same colour everywhere — a room with dark green couches and light wood furniture would still be considered monochromatic. In this colour scheme use only one hue (colour) and all values (shades or tints) of it for a unifying and harmonious effect.

Monochromatic is not boring. All-white hospital rooms and classrooms in utilitarian grey should not be the images that come to mind when you first hear the term



ISMAT TAHSEEN

hey stay in a lovely farm area in Chattrapur, Delhi and for Raseel and Naveen Ansal who are passionate about interiors, their home is a place that they love to retreat to. Says Raseel, "My favourite corner is an outside/inside verandah which has a courtyard on one side and a garden and swimming pool on the other side. It helps me connect with nature and is my calming spot in the house." The duo present 12 ideas on how lighting, colours and knickknacks in your home can bring about a mental state of happiness and energise and re-charge

The colour palette, floor and ceiling should be in harmony with each other to give a calm-

The furniture should be arranged in a non-cluttered way to allow free movement.

Everyone responds to different colours differently.

There is also a climatic difference representation of the colours of the ence — what may work in London may not work in Mumbai and vice versa. So be



sensitive to the environment are objects of beauty. When one when choosing colours.

Raseel and Naveen Ansal

One should be true to one's interests rather than following fads. Art, patterns, textures

should all appeal personally. Accessories like lamps, cushions, art and carpets

conects with these they give immense joy provided they perceive it as being attractive.

Art constantly gives back something of interest to the owner. It is imperative that the right art is selected for the right and **NAVEEN ANSAL** explain how the right colours and accessories can add a zen quotient to one's home

PEACE HAVEN

place. For instance, the entrance should have a striking artwork and something that is too loud should be avoided in the bedroom. Also, there is no substitute for original art.

Lighting in the house is important. There needs to a balance between natural and artificial light.



Artificial light should always be used to enhance natural light. Lights should not be overtly



bright and should pool in the right places. It should not look clinical.

Cushions are seasonal and bring in mood change. For winters, use warm tones and colours like fuchsia, sapphires, coral and purples whereas apple greens, ultramarine, cobalt and other shades of blue are just right for the monsoons.

Fragrances are also mood altering. Use one that suits you and your personality.

Every house should have a corner/area which compels you to be meditative. This could be a focal point like a water body, a sculpture or even a *champa* tree in the backyard. I have rose petals in silver bowls spread across the house.

A house should have loads of personal memorabilia like pictures and objects which bring back fond memories.

Even books, be it art books Even books, be it all to view or literature to read, these add to one's well being.

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