

HOME

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Made to suit

The architects used an oddly-shaped plot to build a linear house that stands out for its facade

While building a house, an architect comes across many challenges. A restrictive plot can sometimes compel architects towards spaces that they otherwise would not have encountered. The plot size is a critical aspect in giving any house its desired shape.

But there are also some plots that don't provide room for experimentation and in such cases, designing a luxurious residence for a large family can be tricky.

When presented an unusual plot of 37ft x 150ft, New Delhi-based architects

Kapil Aggarwal and Nikhil Kant of Spaces Architects, turned it into a lavish, 7500 sq ft residence.

"The narrow plot did not allow us to expand the house in width. The only option we had was to create a linear structure," says Aggarwal. "While designing the interiors, we made a conscious effort to demarcate spaces in a way that they did not fall next to each other, like in a train compartment, while allowing the owners privacy."

The owners asked for a house that

would present them views of the outside and would also have distinct areas for entertaining guests. The elevation stands out for large glass windows and straight lines, with the exception of a curvilinear front facade that has been clad in copper, both in the front and at the rear.

The architects have used a variety of materials, such as wood, glass and copper on three sides to give the structure an unusual look. While the front facade is low, the side is intricate and the rear connects to a landscaped court.





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A double height entrance on one side with a long, glass puncture, marks the entrance to the house. A perforated wooden panel is installed over the door, and appears in the master bedroom balcony as well. The doorway opens into a corridor with the formal living room at one end and the dining on the other.

Along with the formal living room, dining and the kitchen, the ground floor has an informal family lounge, two bedrooms and a powder room. The living room is a spacious area that opens out to a

garden on one side.

"We have tried to draw attention to the furniture," says Aggarwal. "We designed two distinct seating areas and added stylish pieces of furniture. We have gone easy on the accessories and have maintained the formal tone for the living room as desired by the clients."

To maintain connectivity between the dining and the kitchen, the architects have merged the areas. The kitchen's wooden flooring differentiates it from the rest of the house.

Facing page: Architects Nikhil Kari and Kapil Aggarwal of Spaces Architects have designed this 7900 sq ft house on an unusual plot size of 37ft x 150ft. The facade showcases various materials, such as copper, wood and glass. Screens in the front elevation allow light and air and the glass panels on the side connect the indoors with the outdoors.

Above: The lobby holds a glass and wooden staircase with a glass covered pebble bed underneath. The mirror installation art is designed by the architects.







Preceding pages: The architects have designed the living room to be a formal seating area. Concrete fish tile has been used on one of the walls and a modern abstract painting by artist Ajay Kumar has been installed to add colour. Another unique feature of the living room is the two-inch fretwork in dolomite stone that allows views of the lobby.

Above and right: To demarcate areas, the architects have used wooden flooring for the kitchen and travertine for the dining. The dining table and the chandelier have been bought from China.



The dining extends to form the informal lounge that looks over a garden and a water body. Instead of one staircase, Aggarwal and Kant have planned different staircases for different levels.

"The staircase from the ground to the first is a combination of wood, glass and steel whereas the staircase from the first to the second floor is completely built of glass," says Aggarwal.

The master and children's bedrooms are on the first floor. An informal seating area and a lounge are also located here.



The master bedroom looks over the double height space on one side and has a balcony on the other. Italian marble cladding and floral wallpaper draw attention to the walls here.

The second floor is reserved for social gatherings. A bar, lounge and a terrace garden provide the owners multiple options to entertain in.

A corner landing makes up the bar. Although small, a long table with a bench and stools provide sufficient seating for a casual drink.



Above and left: The dining room leads to a lounge on the ground floor. The area looks out to a garden that has a seating along with a water body. The furniture in the lounge is from IDUS, a store in New Delhi. The seating in the garden has been created under a wood and glass ceiling that has in-built lighting.





Kant says, "The bar leads to the terrace garden. A Jacuzzi and two seating areas complete the uppermost level."

Lighting has been given special attention to. Varied shapes of light fixtures have been sourced from China and Indonesia to give each space the desired ambience.

"The elevation is a mix of materials, but we have mostly used marble and glass in the interiors," says Aggarwal. "The right combination of materials is what gives this house its plush yet understated atmosphere."



Facing page: Instead of making it an all-wood staircase, the architects used glass and steel along with wood for a contemporary touch. The staircase wall is done using vitrified tiles in different shapes for an abstract appearance.

Top, above and left: The casual seating area and the lounge on the second floor are reserved for informal gatherings. Furniture has been sourced from Indonesia and China. The lounge has polished concrete flooring in opposed to travertine seen in the rest of the house. Blue wallpaper along with Indian marble cladding gives the bedroom a modern look.





Architect/Designer: Kapil Aggarwal, Nikhil Kant, Spaces Architects
Builder: Spaces Architects
Kitchen manufacturer: Spaces Architects
Clothing: Fundamenta
Window/Door: Jewels Priced and Co. Pvt. Ltd.
Tiling: Marble Home, Porcelanosa, Rocell
Flooring: Ramdhan Moharal and Co. IP Ltd., Pergo
Wallcoverings: Elements, Ego
Paints: Asian Paints
Lighting: M R. Light, RahaLights
Heating: Panasonic
Furniture: Showman, Corvea, IGUS
Benches: Jashree Industries
Splashback: Granite Pvt. Ltd.
Stove/Hob: Coto
Ventilation: Coto
Microwave: National
Refrigerator: LG
Dishwasher: FB
Bath: Roca
Taps: Roca, FCMIL
Hot water systems: Solarhart
Ventilation: Reinco, RK Electricals
Accessories: Viking, Indonesia
Bedroom suite: China
Bed Linen: Mispur
Mirrors: Sarrt Goban
Artwork: Ajay Kumar
Accessories: FCMIL, Apartment 9
Paving: Nitro, Junesa; Gold Stone
Outdoor lighting: Crystal Lights
Outdoor: Loom Craft

Story by Karissa Malik
Photography by Akhil Bakshi



Left: The bathroom on the second floor looks out to the terrace garden. The walls have rough finished tiles that have been lit up from the metallic floor. The Jansart against the glass walls allows a view of the terrace.

Above: The terrace garden has a water body and a deck with seating options. It is an extension of the lounge and is used for social gatherings.



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