

# HOME-DRIVEN!



**Minnie Bhatt**, design director, Minnie Bhatt Designs shares her thoughts on sustainability and its relevance in design

make sure the space adapts to a family's lifestyle. How the spaces in a home are utilised are also important. Providing for all the family's needs comes first and the design has to lend itself to this. Sufficient storage has to be created in clever ways to save on space.

**How would you define your design sensibilities?**

My design sensibilities are contemporary with an old world influence making them eclectic and timeless too. I like to use pure materials like wood, stone, marble and stay clear of look-alike finishes.

**What should one keep in mind while designing a space?**

One should consider the client's requirements along with the energy of the



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**Tell us about your professional and personal background.**

I come from a business family based in south Mumbai. Having grown up in the heritage precinct of Opera House and completing my degree in commerce from HR College at Churchgate and interiors from Sophia polytechnic at Pedder road, the old culture of Mumbai has greatly influenced my approach to design. I have been in this profession for 22 years. I started my career as an intern with Sunil Jasani and Sangeeta Mansharmani of Finelines designers. I then went on to working full time with them for four years, after which I worked with a couple of architects on residential projects for about nine years. I then founded my own design studio in 2008. Over the years, we have grown in this field by being true to our work and aesthetic language. We have now com-

pleted close to 50 F&B projects and are working on many commercial projects like offices, showrooms and restaurants.

**What is unique about your brand?**

My brand's uniqueness lies in the fact that our work is not repetitive and each project stays true to the brief given by the client. I can proudly state that there is a lot of versatility in our work, while staying true to an eclectic design language.



**A lot has been said about futuristic and sustainable living; what are your thoughts on the same?**

While futuristic living is the way forward, I feel that incorporating something familiar from the past leads to a lifestyle that at its core is 'close to home'. Sustainable living is very important as it is our responsibility to do our bit for the planet we inhabit.

**What should one keep in mind while designing a modern home with space constraints?**

While designing a modern home, it's important to

space. At times the space itself gives direction to the design and aesthetic language.

**Your design inspirations?**  
My design inspirations are the late architect Charles Correa, Antonio Gaudi and Frank Gehry.

**Design trends for 2019**  
The trend for 2019 is to move away from industrial style interiors and veer towards a fresh and radically different approach to design. Another trend is to explore exciting new ways to use adaptations of evergreen finishes.