

comfort zone

CLASSIC APPEAL

Her living room effortlessly blends old world charm with classy urban style. SUMAN RANGANATHAN shows off her space to SAVIA RAJAGOPAL

COMFORT ZONE:

Living room

AREA:

approx. 400 sq. ft

SET-UP TIME:

Three months. "This room is what I call the mix and match room. It has taken me time to find all the pieces that go together."

INTERIOR DESIGNER:

"Rajiv Patel, a very close friend of mine, and I have put this room together."

SPECIAL BECAUSE:

"I just love this room because there's so much light coming in here. I don't feel like the ceiling is closing in on me because of the high ceiling. I love the space it offers. The sofa is a formal one but it also gives an informal feeling where I can lie down and read, put my feet up and just be myself. When I look around the hall, there are things I've picked up from here and there which gives out this great energy. "

IDEATING IT:

"One thing I was sure of was that I wanted a lot of mirrors in the house. I also wanted was a lot of candles. Other than that, I didn't really have a particular idea but I knew it had to be something different. I wanted it to suit my personality and my ideas. I did browse through magazines but I think ultimately it's just something you know. It was more spontaneous. I am not into fine lines — I'm not into the zen look or fine lines. I love a lot of colour and dark coloured wood. Every item of furniture has been made to order."

ELEMENTS IMPLEMENTED:

"Every corner has its own character. The dining table is entirely Gothic which gives me a feeling like I'm in a Church. I sometimes sit at the table and play scrabble. I have this wooden shelf which has different things put in there — some things are hand-made, some are from different places I've visited or things that I've received as gifts. The centre table is completely different from what you'd see otherwise; it's a glass top placed on stone stands. There is a huge mirror at the back. The sofa is a formal one but it also gives an informal feeling where I can put my feet up and be myself. The lights look better of the high ceiling and are in wrought iron and

have their own charm.”

FENG SHUI/ VAASTU:

“I don’t believe in Vaastu and Feng Shui. But if someone else who was doing up the house along with me believed in it, I don’t think I would have problems with it..”

MAINTAINING RIGHT:

“You have to clean it often, using a particular kind of oil and a particular cloth. I’m quite a stickler for cleanliness! I love my space and respect it.”

INNOVATING SPACE:

“I add things to the shelves, sometimes I put more candles out. I may add a plant somewhere or move a lampshade around. Other than that, I don’t really like moving things around. I plan to change upholstery after a while but not right now.”

GUEST LIST:

“This room would suit a more formal dinner. I like having my friends over, to just sit and chat.”

BEST COMPLIMENT:

“One thing I’ve always heard is that this room has a lot of character.”

DEFINING COMFORT:

“Pretty much every room has its own charm for me at any given point in the day. I think it also depends on the state of mind. I like the very lived in, lounge look where it looks sophisticated, and still is comfortable.”

