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This Bangalore penthouse is a plush oasis in the garden city

Amitha Madan, Principal Architect at Treelight Design, gives life to a beautiful space called Magnolia for a family of three

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Photo Caption: Helmed by principal architect Amitha Madan, this duplex penthouse in Bangalore called Magnolia houses a couple and their son. All photos courtesy: Manoj Masand

The IT boom and the bevy of start-up companies may have put **Bangalore** on the real estate and tech map, but the capital of Karnataka is best-known for its pleasant weather, green lanes, and breweries. While high-rise realty projects are flourishing, there are still spaces that take you back in time with their quaint charm. One such property designed by Amitha Madan, the principal architect at Treelight Design, is a duplex penthouse called Magnolia and houses a couple and their son. The house is designed to feel like a soft, lush oasis in the

garden city and keeping this theme in mind, the larger areas are dedicated to outdoor spaces. Take a virtual tour of this beauty in Bangalore that was completed in eight months.



Photo Caption: The 4,600 sq ft duplex penthouse is a project by Treelight Design

Bangalore Penthouse | Tranquil Haven

The 4,600-square-foot duplex **penthouse** has a living room, dining room, two bedrooms and two decks on the lower level, and a living room, bedroom, and two more decks on the upper level. While the couple resides on the lower level, the son occupies the upper floor. What makes this space distinct from others in the vicinity is its aesthetic appeal that instantly draws your attention. The neutral colour palette blends seamlessly with the natural texture of sandstone, fabric and cement used in various ways in the penthouse.

“The client wanted to have a space that reflected serenity and had a natural flow through the house. They wanted it be a place of tranquility and quiet, a contrast to its surroundings,” says Madan about the family’s brief to her.



Photo Caption: The neutral colour palette blends with the natural texture of sandstone, textile and cement in this Bangalore penthouse

Bangalore Penthouse | Art-Inspired

Another important design aspect that is a highlight of this Bangalore penthouse is the influence of American abstract-expressionist Mark Rothko. “The upper level has been inspired by Rothko’s style of art with pigmented, cement flooring and walls in different, muted colours. This becomes the canvas for wall art like the cross-section of the bark of a tree in the bedroom hand drawn by artist Ashu Gupta in her signature stippling style,” adds Madan.



Photo Caption: The cross-section of the bark of a tree, hand drawn by artist Ashu Gupta in the bedroom of this Bangalore penthouse

Bangalore Penthouse | Vintage Decor

The main decor element in the house is the vintage astro-globe sculpture in the living area on the upper level, which is suspended from the ceiling and has been sourced from Jew Town in Fort Kochi. Another interesting feature is the *tree of light* jali partition between the prayer (puja) room and living section. The intricate detailing of leaf motifs has a wonderful play of patterns in the living area thanks to the prayer room lights being on throughout the day.



Photo Caption: Another interesting feature is the tree of light jali partition between the prayer room and living section of this Bangalore penthouse

Bangalore Penthouse | Play of Light

The lighting is designed to create a warm, ambient environment with highlights on certain features like the art and furniture accents, and in some places, the fixture itself is the highlight. All these decorative fixtures have been custom designed in-house, reveals Madan. “We designed the wall lights in the living room, the light installation above the dining area and the yin and yang installation in the upper level living room,” she says.



Photo Caption: All the decorative fixtures in the Bangalore penthouse have been custom designed by Treelight Design

Bangalore Penthouse | Back to Basics

Following the client's brief of keeping things natural and organic, the Bangalore penthouse is home to a number of plants, especially in the open deck areas. Even the flooring is in-tune to match the aesthetics of the space. You'll find sandstone, kota, wood, and pigmented cement flooring in different rooms. The furniture has been custom-made by Magari in Bangalore - be it the log dining table with cane weave chairs, a low daybed, the soft sink-in sofa, or the bean bag.



Photo Caption: The furniture in each room has been custom-made by Magari in Bangalore

The most appealing thing about the design of this Bangalore penthouse is the seamless flow of the indoor into the outdoor, making it an apt habitat for the owners, and a space to admire by others.





Photo Caption: There are several decks in this Bangalore penthouse
