

HYGGE HIDEAWAY

Rasneet Anand turned a couple's existing apartment into a cosy nest with a Scandinavian sensibility

WORDS VAISHNAVI NAYEL TALAWADEKAR

PHOTOGRAPHS YADNYESH JOSHI STYLING SAMIR WADEKAR

"The living room is our favourite part of the home. It's cosy and serene and an ideal spot for us to unwind after a long day," says Pooja. The curved sofa is from Blue Loft, while the coffee table is by Pinakin Patel. The armchairs and floor lamp were respectively sourced from The Pure Concept Home and The Kaleido Store. The artworks are from The Poster Club and Gradient In

M

inimalist and elegant, with a decidedly Scandinavian air, Pooja and Ankush Kedia's Mumbai apartment is the sort of place you'd happen upon in Stockholm, Oslo or Copenhagen. Certainly not in Mumbai's colourful milieus. "It wasn't always this

way," muses Pooja. "But after living in the same home for a few years, we decided we needed a change." An Instagram search led them to Rasneet Anand—founder and principal architect of her eponymous architecture and interior design firm—whom they presented with a brief that was years in the making. The three overarching descriptors? "Simple, swish, stylish." The rest, they insisted, was up to Rasneet.

With cosy furniture, clean-lined accents and subtle pops of colour, the home is inspired by the Danish concept of hygge (a cultural quality of cosiness and contentment). "Pooja and Ankush wanted understated luxury with minimum clutter, so the aesthetic became a contemporary take on Scandinavian style," says Rasneet. The flooring, for example, is characterised by warm wooden panels that evoke joy when walking barefoot. The walls, meanwhile, wear a soft ivory that marries into the classic wainscoting. "We played with heavily textured fabrics, cane, and vintage hand-knotted rugs to give the home a layered character." The interplay of textures is equally embodied in the bouquet of artworks, which appear in various mediums including plaster, embroidery and paper.

Like most homeowners in the Maximum City, Pooja and Ankush were keen that the home pack a multifunctional punch. "Ankush works from home, so the focus for him was to make sure he has several comfortable corners to work out of. Pooja loves hosting people so it was important to her that the home has intimate spaces for entertaining," explains Rasneet, who tailored functional zones in the common areas.

The biggest challenge for Pooja and Ankush, and in turn,



The son's bedroom is a monochrome cocoon enlivened by colourful artworks from Art&Found and Calcuttan

Rasneet, was that the home had to be overhauled in phases. "They were living in the home when the work was in progress, so we had to minimise the civil work and layout changes to ensure little disturbance. Of course, the end goal was still to achieve the makeover of their dreams," shares Rasneet.

For a home with so much history, Rasneet was careful about preserving preloved elements. "We refurbished their old dining table and dining chairs. The original wooden table from Gulmohar Lane was stripped of its dark polish and topped with pristine white marble. The dining chairs were similarly sanded down to a lighter finish," she says. With time-honoured pieces inhabiting the same air as newly-acquired novelties, the home is an ode to memories old and new. ♦ Instagram: @rasneetananddesign



The passage features terracotta faces from Claymen and planters from Plant People. The monochrome floor runner and side table are from Jaipur Rugs and Arjunvir Gujral respectively

“Pooja and Ankush wanted understated luxury with minimum clutter, so the aesthetic became a contemporary take on Scandinavian style”



From left: The son's bathroom is a lighter, brighter version of the bedroom. Artworks from Art&Found add a pop of colour to the dove grey walls; The guest bedroom is an Indie-chic oasis with wallpaper from Kalakaari Haath. The artwork is by Richa Kashelkar



The primary bedroom echoes the overarching Scandinavian aesthetic with mellow tones and textures. The artworks on the wall are from Calcuttan