

THE HOMES MAGAZINE FOR MODERN LIVING

# Livingetc

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INDIA EDITION

*All you need  
to know about*  
**Home  
Automation**

Exciting  
ideas for  
**KIDS'  
ROOMS**

## SHOPPING EDIT

- \* Wood accessories
- \* Bath tubs
- \* Fun stuff for little children

**HOMES THAT  
NURTURE**

*fun* with  
*family*



*House of the Month*

# BIRD'S EYE VIEW



Atop a high-rise in Mumbai, the Mistrays' home is a complete world in itself for their three children, friends and extended family

Photography/Atul Pratap Chauhan \* Words/Mridula Sharma



**FORMAL LIVING-DINING**  
Double-height ceiling with glass walls along the length of the floor fills it with natural light. All furniture is upholstered in white leather and complemented with glass tables and table lamps. The side tables are bent glass placed over a marble block on castor, for ease of movement. Get the look For large size porcelain pieces check out Lladro. Try Rosenthal and Villeroy & Boch for plates, glassware and fine cutlery. Lalique and Klove Studio have clear glass lamps.



## HOME PROFILE

**THE OWNERS** Jimmy, owner of Della Group, and Delna Mistry; their two daughters Pearl and Natalia and their son Farhan.

**THE PROPERTY** Top five floors of Della Towers, a luxury residential tower in the Parsi neighbourhood of Dadar, Mumbai. The first level is the foyer, entrance and a small home office. On the second level are the private rooms for the family; the third level has the family area and the kitchen, while the fourth and fifth floors are for formal entertaining, with a terrace lawn and a rooftop pool.

# 'D

esigning for oneself comes with a great sense of freedom, especially when you have done enough work for others, built their homes and buildings,' says Jimmy Mistry, a self-taught designer who hasn't stopped learning since the time he dropped out of college.

'It's a different thing that I am obsessive about processes, which might appear to run counter to the liberal creative mindset usually

associated with designers, but it has worked very well for me and my company. That is how we have been able to scale up,' tells Jimmy in a candid chat. After executing huge projects like the UB City in Bengaluru, when it came to his own home, scaling would surely have been an issue, we quiz. 'Besides, having "all that a home needs" for us as a family, I wanted it to be logistically stocked enough to host our extended family for special occasions and festivals. At the same time we wanted all the areas demarcated very clearly; not exactly a challenge when the house is on five levels. The formal living and dining areas are located at the top level with a huge terrace lawn and a rooftop pool. The family area is one complete floor with recreational, TV and chill out zones and a bar. The main kitchen is also on this level. All bedrooms and private areas make another floor, all connected with a capsule lift.

Occupying the top five floors of Della Towers, 'our home is a reflection of who we are. We travel a lot and like to bring back interesting pieces. Once they find their place around the house, they don't remain objects but become a part of memories!' Interestingly thus, the colour palette all across is shades of white and a lot of clear glass, which keeps the line of vision clear for the heroes to pop up. Flooded with natural light, and with sheers blurring away city skyline,



### FORMAL AREA BAR

Fond of all things nice, the dramatic volume does well to host Jimmy's collection of XL pieces, such as the Visionnaire Horse lamp and the chandeliers. In the formal bar, it's the bottles that are collected for their design that jostle with each other while the regulars are stored away.

Get the look Visit the Lladro boutique for porcelain busts and figurines. The Smoke Company has a range of cigar boxes and accessories.

the drama created by the double-height ceiling adds immensely to the experience in the formal living area. Talking of scale, 'I wanted to be able to entertain upto 200 people during festivals. Hence the storage for all logistics also needed to be built-in.'

Jimmy's first experience in designing for himself came when he decided to develop the Della Adventure Park in Lonavala in

2009, which is when he felt the first rush of freedom. 'I changed the format of rooms and broke away from a typical resort. Even now when I travel, I am on the look-out for new things and products as small as door hinges and stoppers.' Office and home are in the same building and that keeps the family closer. 'The children are growing up and getting involved in office work. Hence our family time and work time are getting more and more synonymous. Typically, I keep the morning for myself, it's my strategy time. Work starts at 2 pm and goes on till 2:30 in the morning. I don't use emails at all and prefer to talk and keep the human connect. Don't get me wrong, I do spend 5-6 hours every week on software development for our company processes but in my personal space I prefer the human voice!' says Jimmy as he gets ready for another mega-project that's in the pipeline.

**TV CORNER**

A clean open area leaves you free to fill the space with activities and fun. The colour palette is neutral and furniture has simple, straight lines. 'Most of our time is spent in this area,' tells Delna. Get the look The ceiling lights are from Visionnaire; Oma has clear lamps. Visit Natuzzi for white leather furniture.

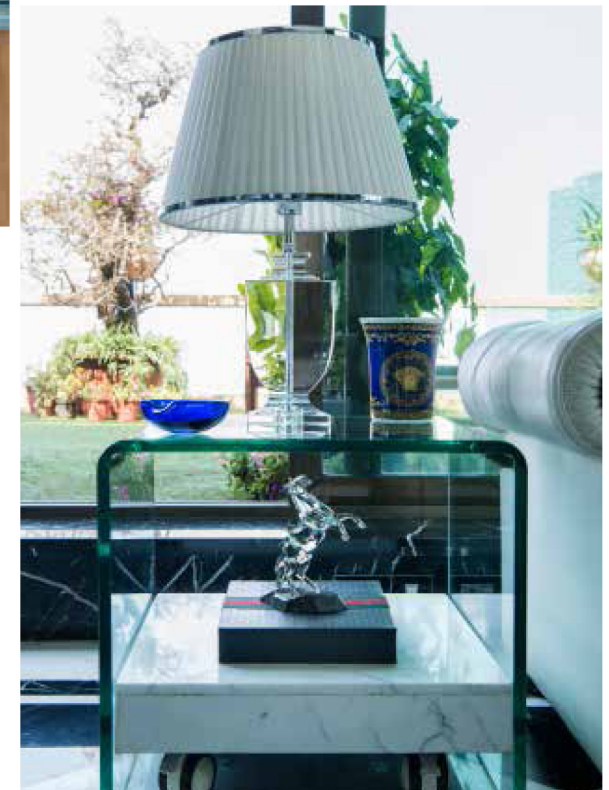


**CLEAN OPEN AREAS GIVE AMPLE ROOM FOR FAMILY ACTIVITIES**



↑ **SIDEBOARD**  
 'I found this beautiful natural stone from a lot that came from South America and decided to have it on the wall instead of getting an artwork over the sideboard'. Get the look Antolini has a great collection of natural stone.

→ **ACCENTS**  
 These side-tables are an in-house design where a bent glass sits like a hood over a marble block on castors for convenience. Get the look InVHome and Ekaani sell Versace vases. Find indigo decorative glassware at Moonriver.



'LEARNING  
AND GROWING  
ARE THE TWO  
CONSTANTS  
HERE'

**TERRACE  
GARDEN**

In a city like Mumbai any kind of garden is a luxury and one this size with a lawn and flowers is an absolute luxury. The garden runs along the length of the floor and has a sitting and dining area with a barbeque pit et al. The pool is on the level above. Get the look Warisan has a range of outdoor furniture like this.



← **BREAK-OUT ZONE**

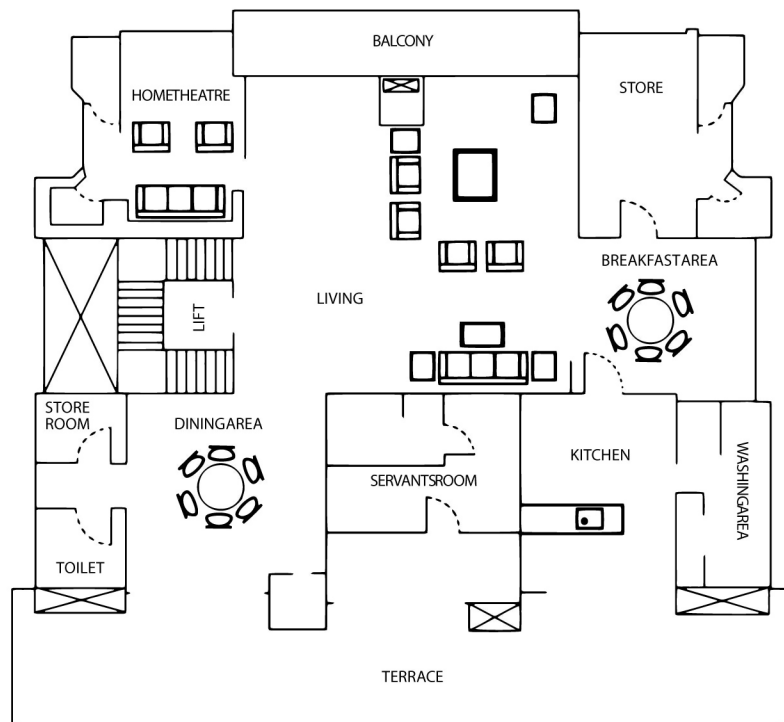
An Austrian crystal installation is one of Jimmy's favourite collection pieces. 'At night when the light falls on the crystals, the effect is amazing!' Get the look A chess table along the glass wall on the dining side of the room makes for a quiet intimate corner.

↑ **STUDY AREA**

For a person as busy as Jimmy and who doesn't believe in emails, he needs a study wherever he is to work from. This study is a part of the master-suite. Get the look The desk is custom-designed and made. The chair in front is a Fiam piece. Find carpets like this at The Carpet Cellar.



THE BLUEPRINT



LIGHTS

'Dad designed these lights,' says Pearl. The kitchen gets the cutlery light and the bar gets the one with shot glasses!

KITCHEN

'The kitchen chimneys were a fiasco. One of them came down just before the house-warming event! Then we had to wait a long long time to get a replacement because back then each piece was individually ordered with the company in Italy,' recalls Delna. A part of the building's grand facade can be seen through the kitchen windows.



← **MASTER BEDROOM**  
 A buttoned leather headboard takes pride of place in a simple clean bedroom. No clutter because a lot of storage was planned into the design. Get the look Fendi Casa makes beds with leather headboards. Visit Ace Maison for Fendi Casa pieces.



**'A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING AND EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE'**



**DRESSER**  
 The spacious en-suite dresser and walk-in wardrobe is organised very neatly for easy access and a quick cleaning! Large mirrors and ample storage make these a dreamspace for any urbanite.

**HOME TRUTHS**

You can't live without...  
 My work and design.  
 Your design icon...  
 Thomas Hetherwick.  
 Your secret to success...  
 Hardwork, passion and vision.  
 Your dream dinner party guests...  
 The same set of people that I party with in Mumbai, some new some old, they are all a part and parcel of my life.  
 Your comfort food...  
 Home cooked Parsi food.  
 One piece of advice for your children...  
 Stay grounded, what goes up comes down, that's Nature's law.  
 Which one work of art would you like to own...  
 A fantastic public art installation dedicated to Mumbai city and the people of the city. Even if I own the piece, I would want it dedicated to the city and to its people.

↑ → **DRESSER AND MASTER ENSUITE**

No prize for guessing Delna's fondness for shoes! Vanities, flooring and walls of the master ensuite are clad in gorgeous marble. White on white adds to the feeling of spaciousness.







**KIDS' ROOM**  
 'We didn't want the children to be locked up in their separate rooms, hence semi-rooms have been carved out of one large area, actually half a floor'. This way they are connected yet have their individual zones, and they are a happy lot!

## IDEAS TO STEAL

White surfaces and clear glass objects – a classic combination.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP White leather is available at Stanley; check Antolini's range of natural stone; Sea glass tile, price on request, Palladio.

CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT KTL08 glass table lamp, ₹25,000, Klove; Quartz Buffet cabinet, price on request, La Tendenza; Grace white wine glasses, ₹12,815 for set of 2, InV Home; Carafe, ₹1,07,518, Lalique; Emissarius Gold Horse Bust bookend, ₹5,490, Address Home; Kasey crystal candelabra, ₹28,500, InV Home; Wing bed, price on request, Grandeur; Duca white leather sofa, price on request, Natuzzi; Jalan pool lounge, ₹1,60,000, Warisan.

FOR CONTACTS, SEE STOCKISTS PAGE