

The revamped Central Park in Bangalore underlines its newly acquired image of a hip business hotel.

Designs on Business



Modern, stark, minimal. It is amazing how the words can be associated with varied and remarkably contradictory spaces. Architect and interior designer Khozema Chitalwala looks around the revamped hotel Central Park and is visibly pleased with the brilliant white walls that beautifully complement the richness of colours all around. "The colours come from the fabric," he says pointing to the purple carpets, violet loungers and sheer red curtains. Put together, the look reads young and chic, yet formal and serious befitting the lobby of a business hotel.



ARCHITECT AND INTERIOR DESIGNER KHOZEMA CHITALWALA HAS GIVEN CENTRAL PARK BRILLIANT WHITE WALLS BEAUTIFULLY COMPLEMENTED BY THE RICHNESS OF COLOURS ALL AROUND.



The new look is a far cry from the erstwhile Central Park lobby that was a claustrophobic, dingy looking space totally out of tune with the current hospitality industry design trends. Khozema's brief included a requirement to transform the space into a revenue generating area as well. Thus began the resurrection of the lobby, which was opened up and given a younger feel. He came up with a unique idea to enliven a grey corner here by adding a DJ console to it. The lobby is now a warm welcoming area

that flows smoothly into the elegant ambience of the 24-hour coffee shop cum restaurant Pinxx. The challenge was to complete a smooth transition from the serious mood of the lobby to a peppy tone of the restaurant and any visitor can see that it has been achieved without so much as a hiccup.

The very first look reveals the attention that has been given to detail and on accessorizing. An old found-in-the-flea market gramophone holds pride of place in the



lobby. A long scoop, sourced from Kerala, is set up at the reception to hold petals and flowers. The antique design of the house telephones are accentuated by the marble-topped counters that are lit from within.

Khozema reveals that the graphic team of Edesign and their innovative ideas has added verve to the decor. Instead of the customary "May I Help You?" the reception counter finds "Yes? Yes. Yes!" etched on its glass apron. The house phones have a "Hello!" and "Hi There!" to advertise their services. Modish smart Alec quotes about being a woman are sprinkled in as decor elements in the restaurant that is designed as a tribute to women. Flowers, feathered stoles, skirt-shaped lampshades and if you please, pink sandals dot the expanse quite liberally!

Another 'mood modifier' is the use of a small open courtyard complete with its own waterfall that acts as a relaxed lounge space.

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