

# Japanese Elegance

Mosh Interior improves the functionality and sense of calm in this home for a family of six through a streamlined Japanese sensibility.



With the generous use of blond wood and a calm ambience, this apartment evokes a minimalist Japanese home. And it is home to a Japanese couple with four children. The 3,477 sq ft, five-bedroom apartment is located in an upscale condominium, Nassim Park Residence. It was rented out when the family lived abroad but now that they are based in Singapore, they wanted to tailor it to their needs.

Shermaine Ong, who founded Mosh Interior, worked on the project with interior designer Yann Guo. She highlights that the project faced a challenge of time. The construction period was broken into two phases due to the children's summer holidays when they were home and renovations had to pause.

## SMART PLANNING

"The toughest part was during phase one, which was only a two-and-a-half-month renovation period. To ensure a smooth operation, we worked closely with the client on the preparatory work—from the design stage and material selection—as well as ordered materials early so that they will arrive on time and in turn keep construction to schedule," says Ong. The more complicated works of renovating the kitchen and one of the bathrooms was left to the second phase, which was longer.

"The family wanted a house that is timeless, simple, sleek, functional and of good quality. As they have four children and each pair share a room, we needed to carefully

**This spread, clockwise from top left:** The living room features a timber-finish nook reminiscent of Japanese tokonoma; the foyer has been reconfigured to include six niches for the family members; the kitchen, featuring Arclinea system, emphasises simplicity and functionality; Shermaine Maena Ong; the living-dining area can be expanded to include the outdoor area



plan the spaces to avoid the feeling of clutter," says Ong. Being an organised person, the wife wanted everything to have its own place.

One of the key parts of the project was expanding the original foyer that was so small it could only fit

three people. The wife requested to have six niches for each family member to put their bags, hats and shoes at the foyer," shares Ong. She shifted the door between the lift lobby's foyer and living spaces to create a larger foyer, and stole some floor area from the adjacent study room so that there is some space for a small bench to facilitate wearing and taking off shoes.

## NATURAL ELEMENTS

As the sliding door to the study room was in this foyer, it was made more secure with an EM Lock system. "A French door with a glass panel brought light into the previous dark space," adds Ong. Large, slab-cut granite stone provides an elegant base for the white doors and timber cabinetry that is accented with rattan doors.

The herringbone-patterned solid walnut flooring in the living and dining room creates a sense of natural elegance. To distinguish the different spaces, a timber strip feature wall was added in the main area. It incorporates a door

## MOSH INTERIOR

Mosh Interior was founded by Shermaine Maena Ong to create bespoke homes grounded on liveability, practicality and delight. The firm has not only designed apartments and houses across Singapore, but also elegant workspaces are both functional and inspiring. Ong and her team eschews trends for timeless, human-centric and problem-solving solutions.







“The family wanted a house that is timeless, simple, sleek, functional and of good quality.”

#### PRACTICAL TOUCHES

As the clients wanted a high-end kitchen so after shopping around, they selected Italian brand Arclinea. It is complemented with grey cabinetry, as well as a white backsplash and countertops. The walk-in wardrobe also has a monochromatic scheme. Instead of

a closed door, this space is separated from the master bathroom with a glass panel at the centre, which also provides privacy for the bathtub.

The animated marble chosen for the walls and floor in these two spaces give the spaces an artful vibe. The boys' bedroom was also given definition through blue joinery

**This spread, clockwise from top left:** The material palette embodies the Japanese sensibility; the aesthetic extends to the master bedroom; blue-grey finish lends an accent colour to this shared bedroom; another bedroom features a clever bed configuration that retains privacy; the stately, black-accented master bathroom



separating the kitchen and dining room, as well as a corridor leading to the back door. The timber surfaces, extended to the ceiling, create a portal defining storage and access.

In the home, a selection of furniture from reputed brands like Minotti and Space Furniture matches the requirements of a timeless and high-quality home. Neutral-coloured upholstery matches easily with the apartment's many timber accents. The master bedroom follows the colour theme, with grey curtains that rise from door to ceiling to accentuate the verticality of the room, timber joinery on the walls to create a more intimate scale for rest, as well as plentiful storage to keep clutter hidden.



running along one length of the space. Here, a bunk bed helps with space saving and twin Wishbone chairs from Carl Hansen & Søn add to the timeless feel of the room despite it being for children.

The entire project was a pleasant process for both the clients and interior designers. “I think what Yann and I enjoyed the most was that the clients were open with new ideas for design and space planning. As we did not have to worry about indent timing, that gave us enough time to choose from a wider range of materials and furniture,” says Ong.

*Mosh Interior*  
#06-00, Jun Xin Building  
402 North Bridge Road  
Tel: 8838 3723, 6908 0500  
moshinterior.com