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Modern design in India is a confluence of traditional craftsmanship with a modern aesthetic.

The Contemporary Classics collection has two products – Robinson and Warhol. Crafted in solid wood and steel, they are unorthodox, contemporary pieces of furniture with a classic appeal.



THE MOST ICONIC DESIGNS

- The Apple Personal Computer designed in the '80s broke the mould and disrupted the market as a scaled-down version of a traditionally large computer into a user-friendly home device.
- Olivetti's Valentine Typewriter, designed way back in the '60s, challenged the concept of boring office machines by adding aesthetics and colour to a product that was purely functional.
- Verner Panton's Panton Chair is a single form injection moulded stackable chair designed way back in the '60s but is still timeless.

FYI

The duo would like to restore the ruins of Hampi.



**SHWETA MEWARA
GULMOHAR LANE**

Shweta Mewara of Gulmohar Lane blends contemporary sensibilities with traditions of excellence in craftsmanship and quality.



Founder of Gulmohar Lane, Shweta Mewara likes to create designs that have the potential to add value. The award-winning designer says, "We take great pride in the design and craftsmanship of our products. Our in-house designers create time-honed designs, and the expert craftsmen, whose families have been working for the royalty in Rajasthan, transform these designs into timeless products. Our core desire is to make beautiful and rich aesthetics that appeal to a larger section."
On a daily basis, Mewara loves to brainstorm with her design team. On her drawing board now is the desire to create something new and exciting in rattan and concrete for the European market. "For the future, I would like to work with

Sabyasachi Mukherjee." Her affinity for Indian prints also comes across in her love for the Indian block print, something she would like to take to a global platform. A structured designer, she finds the planning of a design more engaging. With a strong leaning towards handwoven cotton fabrics, her preferred canvas of white comes alive with pastel notes.
Besides products, Mewara finds solace in spaces as well, especially those designed by Geoffrey Bawa, for his inclusive approach to the outdoors. "Balconies as a space inspire me and sunshine on it makes it even better. I'd love the opportunity to restore a heritage building for a government establishment, or even The Royal Bombay Yacht Club in Mumbai," she concludes.

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In Indian design today, there is a renewed sense of pride in our handwoven textiles.

A DESIGN STYLE YOU CANNOT RELATE TO

Bling

A DESIGN PERIOD YOU WISH YOU WERE BORN IN

Design styles can comfortably co-exist today, now is when it's the most fun.

BEFORE YOU START DESIGNING A PRODUCT...

I de-clutter

A DESIGN PRINCIPLE YOU FOLLOW

Keeping it non-fussy.

THE MOST ICONIC DESIGNS

- Chesterfield
- Wingback
- English Roll Arm



"The Morris Sofa Collection is the perfect form for our signature prints."



**SOHEL CONTRACTOR
SOLLI CONCEPTS**

Form and function come together beautifully in Mumbai-based Solli Concepts' furniture designs.

A random favour for a friend which involved woodworking, Sohel Contractor's oldest passion and hobby, became the coup de grace of his automotive career in New Zealand and gave rise to another in India. Armed with an engineering background, Contractor took on multiple home and office renovation projects, before setting up Solli Concepts in 2006, in Mumbai. Sohel's furniture ably reflects the skillful application of his engineering knowledge in his linear and methodical designs, while also giving him an edge when combining wood with different materials.

He thrives on innovating and experimenting with different materials for various applications and utility. "The process of building furniture by hand, particularly something that has

multiple functions, really appeals to me. Design to me comes alive and takes form as I build it. At Solli, a product is designed from the heart. Function and design are of equal importance and we believe one cannot work without the other," says the organic designer.

MATERIAL PLAY

With a strong leaning towards wood as a material, he celebrates the magic of Indian teak. "Sustainable Indian teak is synonymous with fine Indian furniture. It is a beautiful wood to work with and I use it for a lot of my furniture." Whilst wood plays the hero, handwoven fabrics, leather and stone are his preferred materials.