

DESIGN AT HOME

# GOTHIC TONES

INTERIOR DESIGNER THÁI CÔNG QUACH DESIGNS A SUMPTUOUS SPACE WITH OPULENT FINISHES FOR A 1864 Victorian House in Hamburg. Even as it is given modern touches, it retains the zeitgeist of the times through motifs and décor ambience





Shades of beige and brown stand out in the dining area with portrait shots of celebrities that dress the wall. Spot lighting is consciously added to give a soft touch to the space

The challenge in redesigning this apartment, that's over 3,000 sq ft large, was to give it the compactness of being a single-family residence even though it was used as a home for three families. The owners wanted it revamped as a cosy place, without it being overwhelmingly big for them. Therefore, the layout of the house had to be changed completely. Inside walls had to be torn down, doors had to be enlarged, and the stucco on the ceilings had to be completed. With all this work, the historical appearance of this English house also had to be maintained.

Spread over three floors, there are nine rooms, a kitchen, two bathrooms, a small winter garden, and a large terrace. Additionally, the basement houses a fitness room, a Finnish sauna, a billiard room, storage and other functional rooms.

Furniture is made of macassar wood (chairs), ebony wood (chests), galuchat (tables), with additions such as goat skin parchment (chairs, sideboards), buffalo horn (lamp stands), and rock crystal (chandeliers).

Black was fashionable in France under Napoleon III and during the neo-classicism age. So here, the dominant colour in the house is black (seen in the timber flooring, window and door frames, kitchen surfaces, and staircase handrail). Bronze is seen in the wallpaper in the garden room and the dining area while shades of beige and brown are also used. This colour scheme is accentuated with sprinkles of red, purple and bright green on carpets, and red Japanese cranes on wallpapers.

While the overall intense layering seems to distract spatial harmony, each corner of the house, holds its own with fine detailing in the interior design.

Black as a predominant colour theme is juxtaposed with wallpaper of varying hues, from red Japanese heron prints to dragon motifs, along with muted furniture upholstery and green carpets





Marble, beveled mirrors, clean-lined cabinets and state-of-the-art fittings in the bathroom get that added chic touch with art photography and designer lights