

COMMUNE

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A lifestyle magazine of DLF Midtown

**INTRODUCING
AN URBAN
LIFESTYLE
LIKE NO
OTHER**

DLF MIDTOWN

AN INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM THAT WILL OFFER HOLISTIC LIVING EXPERIENCES.

ALLOWING ACCESS TO EXCLUSIVE EXPERIENCES, ALONG WITH AN EXPANSE OF BEAUTIFULLY LANDSCAPED EMERALD COVER.



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ONE MIDTOWN

#MyTownMidtown

*Artistic rendition

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COMMUNE



ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT - FACILITY MANAGEMENT, DLF
Hemraj Dabur

GENERAL MANAGER - PUBLIC RELATIONS
Gaurav Singh
E: singh-gaurav2@dlf.in

ASSISTANT MANAGER MARKETING
Sreeya Bhattacharya
E: bhattacharya-sreeya@dlf.in

GENERAL MANAGER - SERVICES, DLF MIDTOWN
Virender Rathee
E: rathee-virender@dlf.in

CONTENT CURATION
Firefly Studios

MANAGING EDITOR
Rohie Singh

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Arshmeet Kaur

SENIOR DESIGNER
Harpreet Singh

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
Ellora Aggarwal
M: 9871048666
E: fireflystudios51@gmail.com

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Dear Residents,

Despite the looming uncertainty around the third wave, the year 2022 started with renewed hope and positivity, with the sweet promise of new opportunities and possibilities and an intrinsic delight that comes from... just simple newness. With the fragrance of fresh blossoms in the air and myriad colours coming back to life, we are all set to present you with a new chapter in the tale of DLF Midtown. A new year always brings with it new beginnings, and 2022 is no different. To make our relationship stronger and strengthen the bond of our community, we are thrilled to unveil the first issue of DLF Midtown's very own magazine - Commune. It is dedicated to and inspired by the dynamic residents of DLF Midtown. Commune is a next-generation community platform that chronicles and celebrates the stories, people and voices that inspire all of us, ranging in topics from pop culture, lifestyle, community news, all through the lens of today's engaged reader. Every page unravels the latest trends and designs in home, fashion, health, beauty, tourism, leisure, culture, and automobiles among other topics.



I am incredibly honoured to write this letter for the first issue of Commune. When we started putting together this first issue, we were sure that this magazine will become an intrinsic part of our life and many experiences at DLF Midtown. Through this magazine, we aspire to bring our community even closer by sharing experiences and knowledge with your contributions. It will enable us to grow together and celebrate each milestone in this journey, thereby making our community as one of the most aspiring communities in West Delhi.

At DLF Midtown, we lay a lot of emphasis on a well-rounded lifestyle, both as a community and as individuals. Our fun get-togethers and meaningful interactive sessions have become events that every resident looks forward to. They also highlight how well our residents strike the work-life balance. As the year progresses, we look forward to creating more avenues for interaction among us, as well as unique experiences that are both engaging and entertaining and capture the memories forever in every new issue of Commune.

I want to take this opportunity to extend gratitude for everything that we do as a community and my very best wishes for the New Year to all our residents. As much as we are excited about all the new offerings for you all, we also wish for your good health and safety in these unprecedented times.

We hope you enjoy reading the magazine as much as we did in making it.

Vishal Damani
Business Head - Metros, DLF

CONTRIBUTORS



Kanak Nanda

An inborn artist, Kanak realised the power of colours and how it affects moods and behaviours while studying Psychology in her masters. When asked about how it feels to choose colour and art as a profession, she shares, "I want to reduce the gap between art and people, make it affordable, accessible and appreciable." Kanak's go-to colours are bright pinks, yellows and blues. In this issue, she has written about colours and textures trends that are going to be everywhere in 2022. Her resolution for the new year - to spread more colours.



Parineeta Singh

Growing up in beautiful bungalows on the tea plantation and watching her mother curate and put beautiful art up from bungalow-to-bungalow is the reason enough for Parineeta to be an art curator. Founder of Art O'er Tea - a brand that promotes art and helps art lovers in wall styling and wall arts - Parineeta says, "Art is a language that speaks to me in a way that keeps my smile on." In this issue, Parineeta has talked about pop art and shared the names of a few artists to follow for such art. Her new year resolution - to prioritise well, stay focused and stay vocal for local.



Akhil Nanda

A passionate coffee drinker, Akhil Nanda's love for coffee started at the age of 16. "Coffee for me is like connecting with like-minded people," shares Akhil who writes on travel, food and all-things coffee in his blog. In this issue, Akhil shares his favourite coffee cocktails recipes which can be enjoyed without alcohol too! When asked about his new year resolution, "To write more often and to eat healthier food."



Upasana Bora

A passion to learn, evolve, and will to use new platforms kept Upasana motivated as an architect and influencer. "I believe social media is our business card in this technology-driven era, and marketing is all about influencing people, whether we admit it or not. When you put your brand out there, you don't just want to show it to people. Instead, you employ approaches that make people buy it eventually." As part of this issue, Upasana has compiled a list of the five hottest online shopping destinations. Her new year resolution - keeping it simple and realistic. Investing in technology, watching more informative videos, working on healthy sleep habits, sticking to a consistent skincare routine and definitely focusing on mental health.



Samiksha Shetty

Yoga had a positive impact on Samiksha's mental and physical wellbeing, so she decided to share it with the rest of the world. For her, yoga is a connection. "Yoga helped me connect with myself. It was like finding my way back home. My daily practice on and off my mat built more self-awareness and inner mind-body connection, allowing me to create my own happiness," says Samiksha. She has talked about why yoga is so popular in this issue. Her resolution this year is to keep everything in check. Eating well-balanced meals without dieting, doing balanced workouts without overworking myself and listening to my body, and maintaining a decent work-life balance.

WHAT'S NEWS?

Here's a look at what tops the list in market today.



CELEBRATE IN STYLE

Reminiscent of the mood and prosperity of 19th-century French salons, Madame - the charming collection of footed bowls and trays by Sambonet - comes into being. Light, elegant and a bit mischievous, like the noblewomen of Marie Antoinette's court, this footed serveware features contrasting volumes and heights and unique colours. (sambonet.com)



PLATE IT WELL

Add quirk to your snack time with bright coloured plates from Nestasia. The vibrant tone of the ceramic plates help add a touch of cheerfulness and makes your eating table a little more stylish. (nestasia.in)

FRESH & CLEAN

Dyson's Hot and Cold air purifier reflects the latest technology in two core areas: filtration and acoustics. It captures the H1N1 virus and 99.95% of particles as small as 0.1 microns such as allergens, bacteria, virus, pollen, and mould spores. This 2-in-1 product is a purifier as well as a heater. The auto mode enables the machine to maintain a preferred room temperature and air quality levels, while the machine can be entirely controlled by the Dyson Link App and activated by voice control. (dyson.in)



GIFTS FOR ALL

Dots & Doodles, a Delhi-based design studio that specializes in premium stationery, has come up with an exclusive collection of gifts ideal for kids and adults alike. Be it gifting something unique as season's greetings, sharing personalised stationery, or introducing new habits like journaling among kids, there's something for all. You can also get your hands on their illustrated scarves and pocket squares in striking colours, personalized mugs, notepads and other stationery items. (dotsanddoodles.in)



INSPIRED BY NATURE

The latest collection from Raw Mango, Sher Bagh is a collaborative effort between Raw Mango and SUJAN's Anjali Singh. A collection of garments and textiles, it is a result of ongoing wildlife conversations and woven textile explorations, advocating for the conservation and coexistence between mankind and nature. (rawmango.com)



STYLE ALERT

Specialising in premium quality leather accessories- Brune & Bareskin forayed with the launch of its second brick-and-mortar store in Vasant Kunj, New Delhi. The products stand out with leather products such as men and women's shoes, boots, jackets, wallets, bags, pouches, travel and work accessories, etc. featuring multiple hues that are perfect for all trends. (voganow.com)



ELEGANTLY YOURS

Studio Palasa is all set to launch their new décor items and their theme this new year is 'Minimalistic Elegance.' From planters to home accents, the collection is minimalistic with a touch of elegance and a subtle colour palette. The new range can be placed as a set or individually as well and works all year round. With their soft and pastel colour palette, these pieces can be used in any space to add a fresh appeal. (palasa.co.in)



A PERFECT CUPPA

If you are a tea lover, we have good news! Octavius has introduced unique tea blends such as lemon balm, liquorice, orange peel, sage, rosehips, cinnamon, rosemary, etc that will surely make the best new year gifts to kickstart your day. The teas are also the best gifts for your dear ones as it comes in beautiful packaging. (octavius.in)



IDEAL FOR WINTERS

Offering a perfect combination of world-class technology, stylish design and ease of use, De'Longhi's advanced Oil Filled Radiators come with a promise of providing effective and long-lasting heating. The product comes loaded with an array of user-centric features such as a Dual Thermostat for ideal room temperature and overheat safety, Patented Thermal Slots Technology for uniform heat distribution, 3-level heating system, castor wheels for easy storage and movement, and an additional fan heater for instant and powerful heating.

FOOD FOR SKIN

Bid farewell to your winter skin woes with a Christmas hamper by the Paris-based skincare and beauty brand - Mary Cohr. Kick-start your skin regime with their Hydrosrose Mask that leaves your skin with a radiant complexion and hydrates it for that flawless party look. Follow this up by applying Hydrosrose Eye Contour to get rid of fine lines and dark circles and erase all signs of fatigue. Finally, treat your skin with Hydrosrose Cellular Moisturisation Cream to provide your skin with a non-stop source of hydration all day long, and regain comfort and softness. (marycohr.co.in)



SMELLS DIVINE

Bring aroma to your space with Rad Living's 3 'Hope' scented pillar candles that come in Cranberry Red, Forest Green, Pearl White colours and the fragrances include Bergamot & Vanilla, Mahogany Shea, Cinnamon Roll. The candles are made of soy wax and are priced at ₹1,299. (radliving.in)



A RELAXED FEEL

High-end furniture, accessories and lighting solutions brand, Sources Unlimited unveils Bardot chairs by Gabriel Scott. The epitome of chic, with distinct legs and a beautiful silhouette, the Bardot series is aptly named after the French style icon. Strutting atop a base of black steel with distinct brass, copper and nickel hardware; thin profiled seats and back cushions are hand-stitched in fine French pebbled vegan leather – available in nude pink, slate grey or navy-blue options. sourcesunlimited.co.in

FUNCTIONAL ART

Laura sling bag by Paul Adams showcases contemporary art of the pathos of human existence with the experiences that the world offers. A visual story that pulls at your heartstrings, this acrylic on canvas is nothing short of pure expression and magic. The softly structured rectangular silhouette has been designed with rounded edges for a contemporary feel. Crafted from smooth deep black ethical napa leather, this piece shows an exquisite mix of the cool and warm colour palettes in its artwork. (pauladamsworld.com)



HEALTHY LIVING

Hea recently launched their Metabolism Boosters - delicious gummies that contain chicory inulin and pure Apple Cider Vinegar (ACV) with 'mother' that are extremely effective at increasing your metabolism, improving digestion, reducing cholesterol and keeping you full for longer. These gummies offer you all the benefits of ACV without the nasty taste or smell so you can literally enjoy the taste of red apples, instead of starting your day on a sour vinegary note. (heaboosters.com)

SOPHISTICATED ELEGANCE

The new Flora Collection from Ritu Kumar has been crafted with intricate details for this festive season. The collection has a playful botanical floral print on its linens and crockery which is classical yet accessible. It is a version of a modernized chintz which borrows from traditions of 19th century Europe and the floating voyages from the Machilipatnam coast. (ritukumar.com/in/home_living)



EAR HOOPS

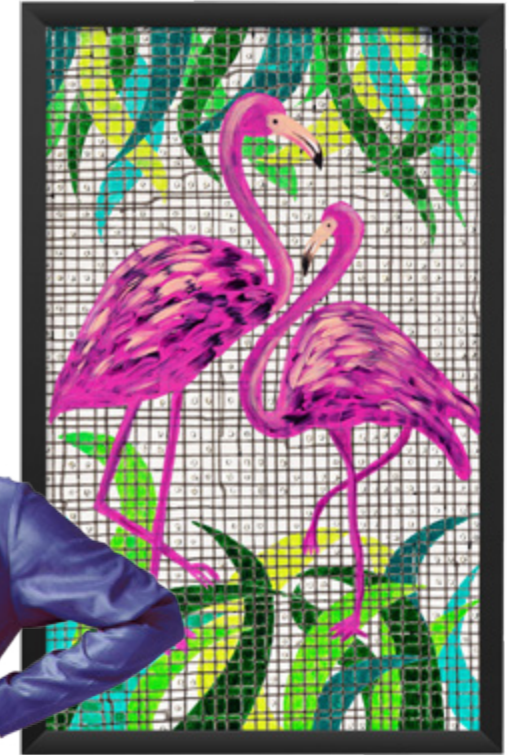
The Spring Hoop earrings from Outhouse are handmade in 22K gold finish and are a perfect addition for any dressing style. The right dose of gold enhances the OH Poppy monogram, recently unveiled by the brand, through mesmerising handcrafted techniques. (outhouse-jewellery.com)



Luxe Lifestyle

Colour of the year 2022

Very Peri



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Little America Backpack, ₹8,000 approx, **Herschel**; Pant suit, **Label Asha Gautam**; Flamazing artwork, ₹34,950, **The House of Things**; Instax Mini 11, ₹6,899, **Fujifilm**; Keratin Smooth Perfect Conditioner, ₹900, **Schwarzkopf Professional**; Lily Flower Quilted Bean Bag, ₹4,500, **Safomasi**
*prices on request

COLOUR OF THE MONTH [pg13](#) HAUTE ON WEB [pg16](#) TAP THE TREND [pg19](#) TECH TALK [pg22](#) SPARKLING HEALTH [pg24](#) MUST BUYS [pg26](#)
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Aster Cucine, available at Ottimo



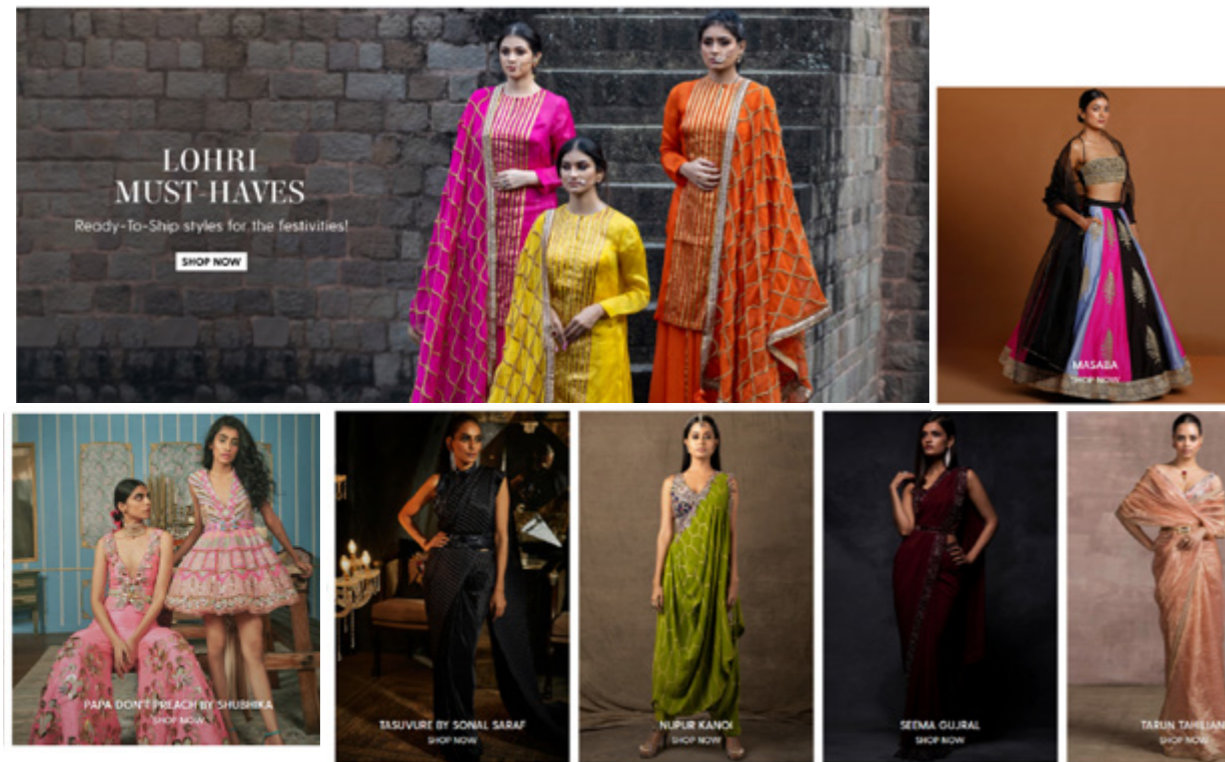
The Kashmir Collection, ₹2,141 approx, for set of 2, **Images d'Orient**

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:
Jewel Collection Set,
₹17,000 approx, **Izzaar**;
Heritage Turan Dot Vase*,
Rosenthal; Diamond
Amethyst Sideboard*, **Boca
do Lobo**; Amethyst*, **Bodh
Gem & Crystal**; Unicorn
Décor, ₹890, **Nestasia**
*prices on request



Luxe Buys

The Indian E-commerce industry has been on an upward growth trajectory. With a turnover of \$50 billion in 2020, India became the eighth-largest market for e-commerce. Technology-enabled innovations like digital payments, hyper-local logistics, analytics-driven customer engagement, and digital advertisements have supported the growth of the sector. Architect and an active influencer on social media, Upasana Bora takes us to luxury portals that are not just her favourite but hot picks of many celebs too.



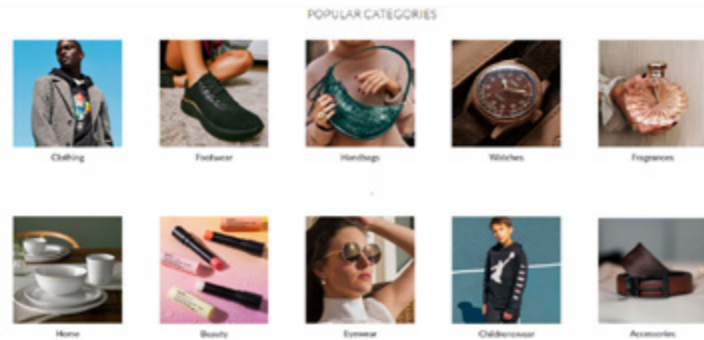
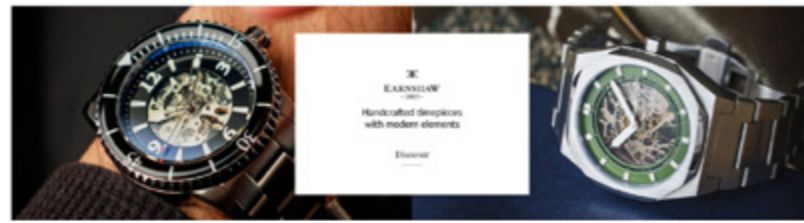
I like experimenting and redefining fashion boundaries so, for fun outwears, innovative drape sarees, embellished gowns, my preference is **Pernia's pop-up shop**. Launched in 2012, it showcases carefully handpicked pieces by Pernia Qureshi and includes a wide range of trendy fashion pieces from the best designers across India. (perniapopshop.com)



For Indian Ethnic Wear, I prefer **Aza Fashion**. Launched in 2004 by Dr Alka Nishar, Aza showcases the country's most highly acclaimed and celebrated designers' outfits and accessories. With over 400+ designers on board, it retails an extensive range of designer bridal, couture, and pret collections for women and men. (Azafashions.com)



Nykaa for health products and cosmetics. Founded by Falguni Nayar in 2012, Nykaa is an e-commerce portal curating a range of fashion, beauty, and wellness products. It retails over 2,000 brands and 200,000 products across its platforms. (nykaa.com)



For Home furnishings, I wish India produced more brands but, for now, I rely on **Tata Cliq Luxury**. Launched in December 2016, a flagship digital commerce initiative of the Tata Group with over USD 100 billion in annual revenue. A premium and luxury fashion and lifestyle destination with a wide range of apparel, accessories, and decor by luxury and bridge-to-luxury brands. (luxury.tatacliq.com)



AND A LITTLE POP...

Bold hues and elements of surprise, Pop Art calls for an impactful statement wherever you put it. Art curator and founder of Art O'er Tea, Parineeta Singh talks about this form in length and shares that pop art in one word – 'Attitude'



The Collective cover all wardrobe needs from formal to semi-formal to casual and denim. Launched in 2008, it is a wholly-owned subsidiary of listed Aditya Birla Nuvo which retails more than 100 luxury fashion brands. (thecollective.in)

And a little pop...is usually the reference made by home owners to infuse pop art in the corners of their homes. Talking about this art form, pop art came alive as a movement in the 1950s and 60s in Great Britain and the United States of America. Pop art is seen as a movement that took shape because of the considerable amount of rebellion from young artists who felt that what they were taught at art schools and what they saw in museums did not have anything to do with their lives or the things they saw around them every day. And that's when there was a tilt towards imagery from Hollywood movies, pop music, comic books, advertising and product logos. The movement hugely took shape with artists Richard Hamilton and Eduardo.

We cannot talk about pop art today without mentioning Andy Warhol, one of the greatest pop artists who blurred the lines between fine art and mainstream art. Product labelling and logos were used effectively as imagery by Warhol. Now if we talk about pop art in the present-day context like they say, pop art and printing is a match made in heaven. There is often mass production involved with pop art and the same image is used with different colours and backdrops. Today with the no. of high-resolution printing options available in the market, pop art is widely used in the form of a print on various mediums like canvas, vinyl and paper of course! Also talking about my experience as a person who curates wall

“POP ART IS POPULAR, TRANSIENT, EXPENDABLE, LOW COST, MASS PRODUCED, YOUNG, WITTY, SEXY, GIMMICKY AND BIG BUSINESS.”

~Richard Hamilton



Manish Mansinh



Seema Singh

spaces most often; clients use pop art in corners of their homes - family and children's rooms. And given the printing options available, higher resolution prints is most often the preferred option.

In rarer cases some people who choose to fill their houses up with pop art; mainly the younger generation given the relatability and cost factor. The art resonates with the youth well, given a bit of quirk, eccentricity and the eclectic appeal.

There are also a lot of people to get the art in the form of a mural directly up on the wall. In India, pop art is also hugely present in many lounges, cafés and bars.

From an overall perspective, pop art is definitely on an uptake amongst the youth owners of cafés and bars. And my go-to place for pop art prints is definitely DayDream Art Prints by renowned photographers Prasad Naik and Manish Mansinh.

Smarter than you think

A great watch is indeed a symbol of good taste and luxury but now it's time to get smarter with a 'smartwatch' which is now a matter of smart-taste, smart-need and of course, smart-luxury. Read on as we give you the smartest choice from the most loved, most luxurious art of piece from the world of 'SMARTWATCHES'.



MONTBLANC TIMEWALKER e-STRAP
Price : \$4,000

Montblanc, a renowned name in the world of luxury has taken a step ahead with the launch of their watchmaking skills to the next level. A wearable techy smartwatch has an intelligent solution named as e-Strap. The classy looking watch is made up of a tri-compax style chronograph layout in a steel case. It does all the smart things from sending messages, emails, and notifications. This one goes a step ahead with tracking your health activity as well. It connects to both Android and iOS platforms.



Lux Watch 'OMNI'
Price : \$114,995

This piece of art is an apple-based custom luxury watch on our list and it's called Brikk Lux Watch Omni. The out-of-the-world feel of the watch is equipped with 18-karat yellow gold and 12ct diamond which is given on the face, buttons and straps. Not just this, the same luxury smartwatch comes in 18-karat rose gold, 42-karat yellow gold and a 950 platinum with sizes in 38mm and 42mm. These are all hand-crafted pieces of luxury and has a zero-aluminium Halliburton case made from carbon fibre and an interior from suede leather.

BREITLING EXOSPACE B55
Price : \$8,900

Just as the name suggests, the masterpiece leaves you with imagination as open as space. The company is known forever for making aviator watches and for someone who is an avid watch collector will surely have this watch in their cupboard. A symbol of class, luxury and design, the smartwatch specification makes it go a step further with technology that fantastic! A combination of titanium and glass which is anti-glare and is coated with sapphire crystal, it has all the interesting features of a smartwatch like sending instant messages, emails, calendars, etc. What's more, you can even set reminders and also use them for long flight data and measurements. The user-friendliness of this model is enhanced by the simple and logical control mode, and two ultra-legible LCD screens with a backlighting system that can be activated by pressing the crown or tilting the wrist. This futuristic, high-tech innovation features a titanium case with a rider-tab bezel as well as a sturdy, sporty strap.



TAG HEUER CONNECTED MODULAR FULL DIAMOND
Price: \$180,000

The most expensive smartwatch in the world TAG Heuer 'Connected Modular' is liked by the connoisseur for its classy and traditional appeal. It runs on an Intel processor and custom Android Wear OS. The watch comes with 512MB RAM, 4GB internal storage whereas the battery lasts about 25 hours. Equipped with a gyroscope, microscope, accelerometer, and super AMOLED touchscreen, it surely has an interesting line of specifications. If that doesn't amaze you much still, then take a look at the casing, the band and the watch bezel of this smartwatch which is decorated with 24-karat gold or 589 diamonds. All said and done, with all that it is made up of, it's sure worth being the #1.



de Grisogono SAMSUNG Gear S2
Price : \$15,000

What you get when a tech-brand like SAMSUNG partners with Swiss jewellery brand de Grisogono? Perfect for users who love technology with luxury, the smartwatch is a round shaped face with a gold body studded with 127 black & white diamonds. The watch is designed by Fawaz Gruosi and is an obvious trademark of the brand and its making. It has Super AMOLED display with 4GB internal storage and 512MB RAM. It has wireless charging and the battery lasts as long as up to 2-3 days.



WHY IS YOGA SO POPULAR?

“It is a well-known fact that yoga is a fantastic way to keep our body, mind, and soul healthy. Recently millennials across the globe have felt the power of yoga and its effects on their hectic lifestyles through the large-scale transmission of education,” shares **Celebrity Yoga Instructor Samiksha Shetty**



The only system that has lived for 15,000 years without enforcement is yoga, and its survival is only because the process of well-being is incomparable. Unlike fashion that comes and goes with season or year, yoga has survived for thousands of years, and it is still picking up momentum. To talk about yoga's popularity in millennials or GenY; they are looking for logical solutions when it comes to stress and well-being. Their inclination towards science and technology to look for a solution have made them inclined towards this age-long practice. Yoga is an ancient technology towards well-being and ultimate liberation. Practising it regularly can become an integral part of your treatment and potentially hasten to heal - we have been listening and reading about this a lot. Several benefits have made yoga so popular across the globe.

4 HEALTHY MIND = HEALTHY BODY

Millennials are obsessed with yoga because yoga goes way beyond our mats. Yoga not only works amazingly on your body but also works on calming the mind and the nervous system. Yoga enhances your mood and overall sense of well-being. Yoga creates a healthy mind, and when you're in a good frame of mind, it's easier to eat better and develop healthy lifestyle habits. Thus, making you healthy, both physically and mentally.

1 DE-STRESS

In our generation, work opportunities are plenty but with that also comes intense workload and high competition. Thankfully yoga is there for the safe, reminding us to take a deep breath and that we will get through this because everything in life is temporary. Yoga provides us with tools like pranayama, meditation, asanas to help us de-stress and manage our stress and emotions.

3 A GOOD SWEAT SESSION

Don't be fooled by the relaxing yoga stretches. Yoga can also provide a good sweat session and burn some major calories. A good ashtanga or vinyasa session can set you up for the day. All you need is a mat, and you're good to go!

2 SCULPT AND TONE

Millennials know that every yoga sesh is a great way to tone and stay fit. The best part is yoga makes you strong without even knowing. In one moment, you think that you're relaxing, stretching, and having a good time, and then BAM! You can now hold Chaturanga. It can help tone and sculpt the entire body without causing stress to the body or mind.

5 LIFESTYLE DISEASES

There is a huge shift that has taken place for millennials from unhealthy lifestyle habits to a more mindful way of living. With the vast amount of information out there and with the increase in several lifestyle diseases, millennials have become more aware of the benefits of yoga to combat these diseases.

6 DETACHMENT

Possibly the best part about yoga is that it teaches millennials the art of unattachment. Yoga teaches to be honest, care for all and keep working with a good heart but to remain detached to the outcome. Yoga teaches us to be present in the NOW. Detach yourself from anything that does not support or serve your true self or true purpose in life.





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Honeycomb wine bottle rack, ₹2,999, **Serein Decor**; Wine cooler, price on request, **Beyond Designs Home**; Tray table, price on request, **Beyond Designs**; Bar accessories by **Ikkis**, starting from ₹2,250, available at **The House of Things**



RAISE THE BAR!

A collection of bespoke bar accessories and bar furniture to add oomph and class to your bar area. Whether you prefer a contemporary atmosphere, vintage, or rustic, there is a design for every enthusiast!



—
Create the perfect bar setup with these beautiful barware accessories. From bottle quirky tumblers, geometric bottles holders shakers to baroque tray stands, these bar essentials are sure to catch the eye of your guest
—



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Sienna Terracotta Bar Accessories, starting from ₹390, **Ellementry**; Bar Accessories, price on request, **Beyond Designs Home**; Home Accessories, price on request, **Sieger by Furstenberg** at **Sources Unlimited**; Kawali Amber Crystal Champagne Flute, price on request, **Christofle** at **Emery Studio**; Fryst Wooden Ice Bucket with Glass Insert, ₹4,450, **Ellementry**; Whisky Tumbler + Decanter Set, ₹11,280, INV Home available at **The House of Things**





Hues on Top

From pale purples to dusky pinks, the latest colours for 2022 will inspire your space today and always.

Words: Kanak Nanda

THE COLOURS WE SURROUND OURSELVES WITH CAN DIRECTLY IMPACT OUR EMOTIONS AND THEREFORE, MORE AND MORE DESIGN ENTHUSIASTS ARE TURNING TO COLOUR TO LIVEN UP THEIR HOMES AND CREATE SPACES OF INSPIRATION. THIS IS ALSO TRUE THAT APPLYING A COAT OF PAINT TO YOUR WALLS NOT ONLY DOES WONDERS, BUT ALSO GIVE YOUR SPACE A FRESH FEEL.



Colours that go well

There has been a rise in uplifting shades this year, yellows, pale purples and dusky pinks, which once may have sounded a bit saccharine are all seeping into the home fashion in a very sophisticated and grown-up way. The combination of the dull and muted shades creates a calm but sumptuous aesthetic for all four walls. It is advisable to ditch using traditional black, instead add a twist by using colours such as a deep and dark aubergine. Dark hues can be incorporated into interiors anywhere from dark terrazzo floors to dark walls when blended with neutral furnishings add a bold, classic monochromatic feel.

Covering living room to kitchen

Choosing the right shades for different spaces in the house will make all the difference in creating a mood and the right ambience. Starting with the living room which is the family and guest space, dark neutral like earthy browns add elegance that is truly sophisticated and versatile. Pastel lilacs and grey greens have a calming effect. A great way to add playfulness and depth to existing colours, a gloss

finish on the ceiling is an ideal choice. Try chalky pinks, aqua, sage greens in the bedroom to make a pleasing atmosphere perfect for a good night sleep. Let's move to the cookhouse and dining area, and go ahead with subdued greens and mustard toned yellows which are unexpected shades but are surely a great combination. Don't worry about small cosy corners - moving away from greys and blues, using warmer tones of reds and plums give a cosy feeling to small corners by adding a luxurious feel.

Patterns and prints

~ Statement art and wall murals

Trends for 2022 will be focusing on one highlight artwork in a room that resonates with you. Vibrant colours and graphic prints will be more popular. Maximalism is back with bolder prints and colourful patterns to get the wow factor.

~ Nature inspired art

As people appreciate nature and the great outdoors more after the pandemic, scenic landscapes and destinations with lakes, sunsets, and greenery are more popular.





MORE *than* a *CUPPA!*

You may have offered your guests whiskey or coffee? But, have you thought about offering them both as a pair? Read more...

Words & Recipes: Akhil Nanda

For most of us, coffee is a morning “wake me up” drink. For some of us, it’s a ritual to enjoy a good cup of coffee every day, and for a select few of us, coffee is one ingredient we can’t get enough of... right from tiramisus to chocolate, ice cream and cocktails, we want to enjoy it all with the flavour of coffee! Though India is still on the verge of elevating its thirst buds with coffee, internationally coffee cocktails are a huge hit.

If you start exploring coffee and alcohol, you may find that the possibilities are limitless with citrus fruits like orange, lime and

yuzu being the perfect match for spirits like gin, vodka, white rum and tequila or relishing a little sour taste with whiskey or cognac. The proportions of sweetness, sourness, bitterness, and saltiness are balanced by different mixes of coffee and alcohol. You can play around with the ingredients as long as there is a corresponding level of flavour to match the intensity of the taste.

Here are four coffee cocktail recipes to help you achieve your two greatest desires: booze and caffeine, all at once. The following recipes can also be used as coffee mocktails if you don’t want to drink alcohol.



POMO FOMO

INGREDIENTS

- 30ml pomegranate juice
- 30ml cold brew coffee
- 45ml tequila

METHOD

Glassware: Martini
Take a shaker, add ice and all the above ingredients. Shake well and garnish with pomegranate.

TIP

Serve the drink in Martini glass. You can make the drink without tequila as well.



TWISTED ORANGE G&T

INGREDIENTS

- 60ml orange juice
- 60ml cold brew
- 30 ml Gin
- Rosemary and orange to garnish

METHOD

Prepare the coffee in advance (12+hours). Over plenty of ice, with roughly equal parts of cold brew and orange juice, add gin. Stir well. Garnish with a sliced orange or orange peel with a string of rosemary.

TIP

Serve the drink in tall glassware. You can also burn the rosemary a little for a burnt smoky taste. The drink can be had without Gin. And lastly, in case you don't have the time to cold brew the coffee, instant coffee with ice works too.



AVOKAFFEÉ

INGREDIENTS

- ½ avocado puree
- 90ml espresso coffee
- Whipped cream for topping
- 45ml white rum

METHOD

Pour espresso coffee in a mug and add white rum. Add the avocado puree in the coffee and top it with whipped cream.

TIP

- Serve the drink in Irish coffee mug. Same can be had without Rum.
- You can also use a strong instant coffee, if you don't have espresso machine.



STRAWBERRY AFFOGATO

INGREDIENTS

- Strawberries (sliced)
- 60ml Espresso coffee
- 1 scoop strawberry ice-cream (fresh)
- 30ml whiskey

METHOD

Slice a few strawberries and place them in the glass. Add a scoop of strawberry ice-cream and then pour the whiskey. Add espresso coffee and cheers!

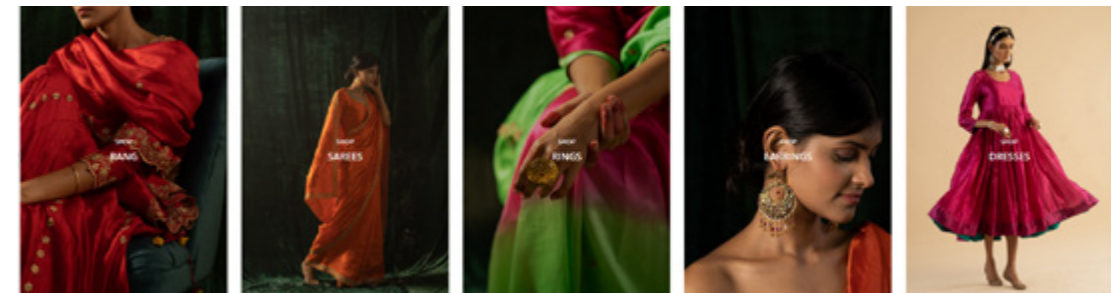
TIP

Serve the drink in old fashioned glass. Same can be had without whiskey. If you don't have an espresso machine, you could make the espresso with a moka pot.

WHEN LUXURY FOUND Sustainability

Presenting you five brands that are bridging the gap between style and sustainability one cause at a time. From fashion, home decor to cosmetics, these brands let you enjoy the best of life and style while also leaving you with a sense of fulfilment.

Words: Arshmeet Kaur



DIARIES OF A NOMAD

NOMAD's love for nature is best portrayed through its sustainable fashion line. Sourcing almost 70% of their fabric directly through weavers and the remaining through ethical suppliers. Nomad does its part in protecting Mother Nature by adopting a zero-waste policy. The brand offers a huge collection of home linens, handcrafted jewellery, and fashion attires inspired by the unique culture & bohemian lifestyle. (diariesofnomad.com)



11,060 THE FLOWERCYCLING PROCESS recycled

73 full-time employed

11 tons pesticide offsetted

19 children started school

Each pack saves **125 Kgs** flowers from being dumped in the **Ganges**

THE FLOWERCYCLING PROCESS

PHOOL

Phool was founded on the beautiful idea of recycling temple flower waste, and turning it into something more meaningful and beautiful. The brand offers a wide collection of incense sticks and incense cones made with converting temple-waste into biodegradable packaging. Through its organically produced charcoal-free fragrances, the brand aims to make a difference one incense stick at a time. (phool.co)

MIO BORSA

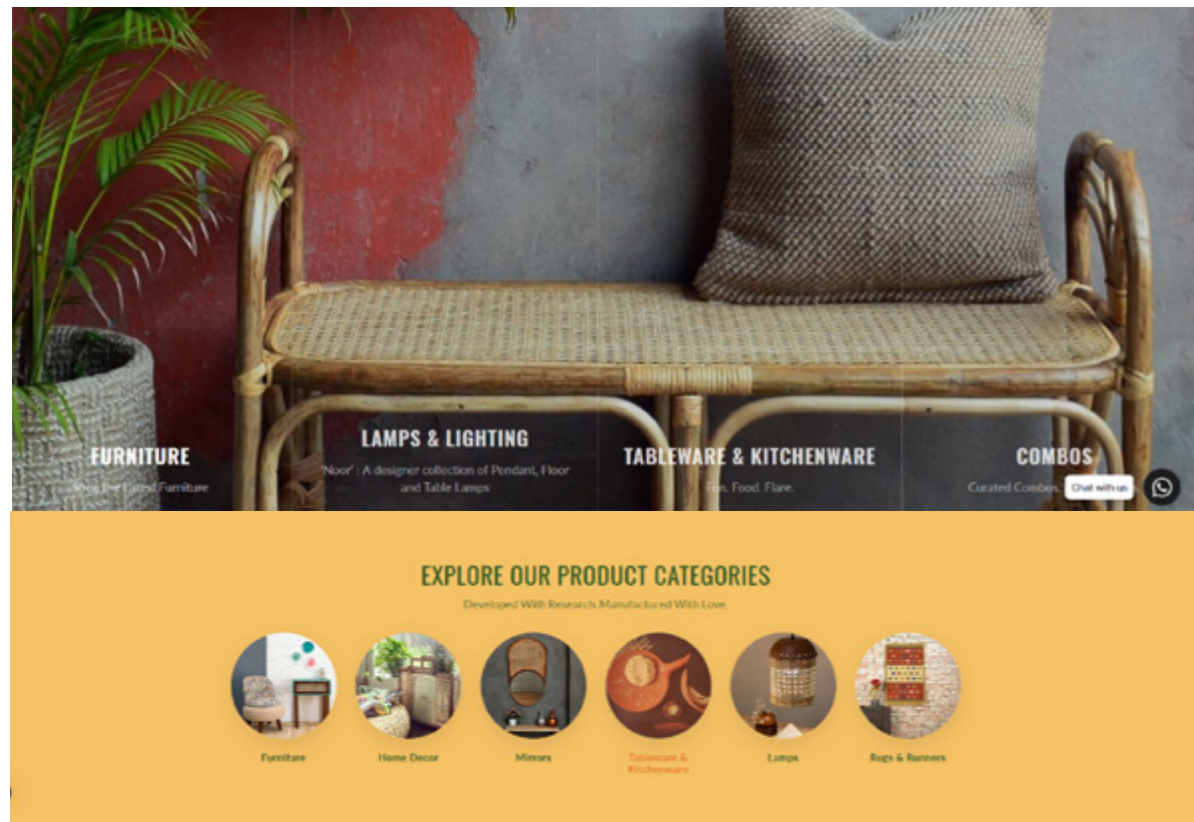
Based out of New Delhi, Mio Borsa is the first Indian brand to produce vegan leather and merge sustainability with functional accessory designs. Their eco-friendly leather is made with plant Pu and pineapple stem extract called 'pinnatex' and their chic bags are perfect for all your outfits. (mioborsa.in)



NATHABIT

Nathabit brings you freshly made beauty and wellness products inspired by ancient solutions prepared in the kitchens of our mothers and grandmothers. Extensively rich in grains, grams, nuts, milk, yoghurt and/or fresh herbs and flowers, each product is packed with the necessary nutrients to pamper your skin cell. (nathabit.in)





OPAQUE

Opaque Studio is a product design studio that manufactures furniture, home décor and accessories. Conceived with a passion for design, up-cycling and unfolding unconventional ways to dress up homes and spaces, Opaque translates creative thoughts and dreams to eccentric designs. Working with sustainable, renewable and natural materials, the brand produces an extensive range of hand-crafted furniture and décor. (opaquestudio.in)

Plush escapes

If luxurious stays are what you are looking for in the coming vacations, AirBnB is offering you splendid options across India.



Gudliya Suite at The City Palace, Jaipur

The impeccably styled Gudliya suite is located in The City Palace, Jaipur. This 300-year-old palace has seen guests of the likes of Princess Diana and Oprah Winfrey. Located bang in the city centre, The City Palace is one of the most iconic spots in Jaipur and is home to the Royal Family. Staying at the City Palace provides a fascinating glimpse into Jaipur's rich history, cultural heritage and artistic traditions. A professional butler will pamper guests with selected city experiences such as shopping trips, guided walks through local museums, and other excursions. Authentic Rajasthani cuisine is served on the terrace overlooking the Aravalis, and tranquil daily breakfasts are served in the presence of peacocks who frequent the Palace's verdant gardens. Authentic Rajasthani meals can be enjoyed at the terrace overlooking the Aravalis and peaceful daily breakfasts can be had in the company of peacocks who are often a sight at the Palace's lush gardens.



Mawi Infinity Villa, Lonavala, Maharashtra

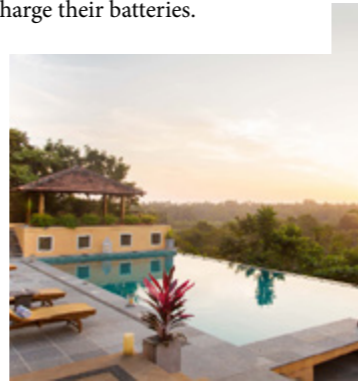
Mawi Infinity Villa offers you the perfect haven for a memorable holiday. This luxurious holiday villa is nestled close to the verdant mountainous terrain that houses the famous Tung Fort, which overlooks the Pawna Lake. Thus, giving it a quiet, peaceful and alluring scenic abundance surrounding the Villa. The 'lost in the wilderness' feel is the right concoction to soothe your frayed nerves and rejuvenate your soul. The 5-bedroom Infinity Pool Villa is split into 2 and is surrounded by nature and overlooks the stunning Pawna Lake. In addition to the infinity pool and heated jacuzzi, the villa's lower floor includes two bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms, a spacious living area, dining area, kitchen, and a bar. The area enclosing the pool has a large deck with outdoor furniture, where you can chill and soak in the scenic beauty surrounding you. The upper villa also has 2 bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms on either side of another living room which comes equipped with a pool table and a 65" TV, the perfect combination for a game night or a movie marathon with your loved ones. The third bedroom is actually a suite, with an ensuite bathroom and it's located a few steps below. It has its own living area and an outdoor deck which overlooks the garden.





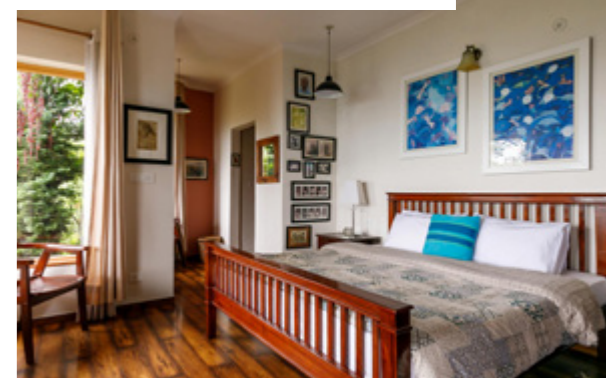
Summertime, Calangute, Goa

Despite being a stone's throw away from the hot spots of North Goa, Summertime is an oasis of peace and serenity. Located in a quiet, green and forested area full of birdlife, the villa is a perfect place to relax and recharge your batteries. No matter where you are in the villa, the views are lush tropical gardens and pools. It is a joy at any time of the day, whether you are waking up to the birdsong, feeling the breeze as you sit under a tree, or watching a koi fish jump up. Inside, a double-height living-dining area is filled with light and breeze. Each of the three generous master suites features spacious dressing areas, palatial bathrooms, and furniture from the host's travels to Bali and other places in India. Fully staffed with a cook, gardeners and security, Summertime is a perfect place for a family or a group of friends to relax and recharge their batteries.



The Verandah, Bhimtal, Uttarakhand

The Verandah is just the right blend of traditional and modern design. This 5-BHK Airbnb villa in Bhimtal is equipped with a modern kitchen, clean and comfortable beds and a porch to spend your evening while you sip on some martinis and laugh the night away. True to its name, every room has a verandah for the perfect view of the mountains. From here, you can go for a trek with the host itself, or if you choose to go paragliding, that too can be achieved as everything adventurous is just a short walk away.



Commune Life

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**A
HOME
THAT
DEFINES
LUXURY
AND
WARMTH!**

A beautiful contemporary home in Delhi sprinkled with Indian elements and filled with comfort.





A home is the true reflection of its owner's personality - this statement stands true for this simple, yet elegant abode spread across 3,350 sq. ft and located in DLF Midtown, Delhi. The house exhibits a fusion of contemporary

and Indian design elements. Each corner of the house is carved with a meaning that is both comfortable and luxurious. "Our house reflects ourselves and at the same time comforting too. So, the design is beautiful and useful," shares the houseproud Priti Arora. As you enter the home, a

beautiful console adorned with contemporary decor elements graces the foyer. And, as you move ahead, the space opens to an expansive and grand living room that houses contemporary decor elements along with leather upholstered furniture that adds

balance to the modern vibe of the space. On the other end of the living area is the dining space that exhibits a very familial appeal. This area of the house is all about family and celebrating the moments that they have shared together. Colourful artworks dot the walls of the house while elegant lighting fixtures add a touch of opulence to the spaces. The owner's bedroom displays a modern appeal and reveals a geometric quilted headboard. The mother's bedroom presents a warm, and understated appeal. The children's bedroom is filled with playful colours and a cosy vibe. The floor-to-ceiling glass doors allow ample natural light in the house which complements the off white walls across the house. The home is a true blend of luxury and comfort while also retaining the cultural elements of the country.





IN
CONVERS-
ATION
WITH
TENNIS
SUPERSTAR
**SUMIT
NAGAL**

How did your journey as a tennis player begin?

I actually wanted to play Cricket, but my father was not inclined to a team sport. One day we went to a DDA sports club in Paschim Vihar and, there was tennis. It was very random. For the first two days, I could not hit a single ball with the racket but, from there on, I started playing every morning and started putting in a lot of hours.

What do you feel is your greatest accomplishment in the field so far?

Playing in the Olympics - the joy of wearing the Indian jersey and stepping on the court. I got the opportunity to share the court with four big names; Roger Federer, Daniel Madrid, Dominic Thiem, and Stanislas Wawrinka.

What helps you keep calm during a game?

Generally, I am not a calm person at all but, I have been trying to work on it for quite a bit. I have been training outside the court as well since it is a big part of my game, I need to be better at it.

What do you feel is one thing that keeps you grounded?

I cannot name one thing but it is just my personality. I am a very simple person. I still have the same friends and I still do the same things. My parents have always taught me to be humble and grounded. I feel being humble gets you far be it sports or life in general.

How much would you say lifestyle impacts in the making of a sportsman?



I think it plays a huge role. People normally think being a sportsperson is just about going on the court or playing for a few hours and coming back. But, I do believe it takes a lot more than just this.

How would you define your style of living and in what manner it works for you?

I'm not an outgoing person, I like to be at home, in my room. If I have nothing to do I'll just sleep. My style of living is all about home. All I need is a Wi-Fi, a roof, a bed and a phone or a computer and I'm good to go.

How much would you say your surroundings impact the behavioural growth of a human being?

Your surroundings matter a lot because what you learn comes from what you see around you. If you are

surrounded by the right people it just guides you in a better way and towards a better life.

What made you settle with DLF Midtown?

I would say it is the location that really excited me. I had enough of living in a private house and I wanted to try something different but I still wanted to be in Delhi not too far from my sister. This is the perfect place in Delhi, everything is 45 minutes to an hour away to one hour away, the three biggest metro stations are close by and 2-3 biggest markets are close to the area. So this is just perfect.



MEET, GREET & CELEBRATE

It's time to travel down the memory lane and cherish our good times at DLF Midtown





Events and festivals in the community are an important part of our lives. Not only they help build our network and relationships, but such celebrations and togetherness add value to our lives too. The year gone by taught us that there is nothing more important than mental-health and well-being. The celebrations, meet and greet events at DLF Midtown have been appreciated by many. The great success of such events is all due to the positive involvement and engagement of our residents. From sports day, Diwali and Karwachauth celebration to Senior people engagement session and Yoga for all; the management at DLF Midtown

tries to keep a variety in all the celebrations. The aim is to have maximum participation and sessions for residents of all age groups. "We try to maintain a cohesive environment; the idea is to celebrate good life and good moments with one and all. We keep residents of all ages in consideration while deciding on our sessions and celebrations," shares Virender Rathee, General Manager – Services, DLF Midtown.

NOT JUST A HOME, A WORLD OF YOUR OWN!



A

A home promises a secure and cosy escape from the mundane challenges of the world. From celebrating milestones of your life, spending lazy days on the couch to enjoying endless conversations, it witnesses and embraces all your moments. A home is also the starting place for your hopes and dreams. Therefore, when looking for a permanent abode it is important to feel like an extension of it. As much as bricks and mortar help build a home, so do its surroundings. Clean and beautiful surroundings are all that we desire when finding a haven to settle in.

But what makes your home feel complete? It is the surroundings that must offer everything you wish and need within walking distance. DLF Midtown has managed to breathe life into this residential dream of many people. Located right in the heart of Delhi, DLF Midtown enables a lifestyle uninterrupted by everyday concerns. The infrastructure of the project has been designed keeping in mind the comfort and personal well-being of its residents. Surrounded by 128 acres of greenery, the project's ecosystem offers wide internal roads, green boulevards, and beautifully manicured rolling landscapes. The vibrancy of DLF Midtown is best enjoyed on foot, and walking becomes pleasurable with wide internal roads, green boulevards, and beautifully manicured rolling landscapes. Try to disconnect from the chaos of the city, and experience something different every day at DLF Midtown.



Right from a 7-storey office space fully air-conditioned with superior ventilation, to supermarkets taking care of your daily needs, coffee shops to unwind and relax, in-house schools, hospitals, and much more, the project is the definition of a self-sustainable community and luxury. You can walk your way to unwind yourself with a fresh cup of coffee or meet a friend to dine at some of the best restaurants located within the development.

Placing its resident health on high priority, the project offers a dedicated

ambulance for any medical emergency on-premises. This service ensures rapid transportation to any of the several high-end specialty hospitals in the vicinity. Well-equipped to face any crisis, the project ensures the security of its residents through a 3-tier security system that covers the perimeter, vehicular access to basements, and passenger access to elevators from the main lobby or basement lobby. Additionally, they have RFID-enabled vehicle entry, CCTV coverage with 500+ CCTV cameras working 24X7, and access-controlled lobby entries.



With parking one of the biggest challenges of the city, DLF Midtown ensures a hassle-free parking experience for residents and guests alike. Its streamlined and well-designed parking facilities offer enhanced security, all-season weather protection, and designated parking spots. Easy transportation with modern golf carts for residents looking to move within the development is something that we all wish for on those tiring days. The independent ecosystem of DLF Midtown caters to all your desires of all magnitude. It is the home you need to build an elite future for your family.

Sustainable infrastructure supported with future-led innovation enables a quality lifestyle. DLF's aims is to build happy communities with a focus on their holistic physical and mental well-being. DLF stands as the pioneer in the industry by building magnificent neighbourhoods like DLF5 that bring together exceptional residential communities, state-of-the-art offices, dynamic dining, shopping, and recreational avenues.



An urban lifestyle like no other.



Artistic rendition of apartment balcony

Setting a new benchmark in urban luxury, One Midtown promises the joy of community living with exclusive privileges that define a coveted lifestyle. Wake up every morning to views of beautifully curated gardens within the premises and abundant greenery right outside of it.

Air-conditioned, double-height entrance lobbies manned round the clock by trained service staff

Professionally managed 5-tier security system with video phone outside the main door of every apartment

Dedicated multi-level clubhouse with a café, restaurant, bar and multi-purpose room for a vibrant social life

5-zone infinity-edge swimming pool with poolside cabanas and a juice bar

Fully equipped gym, spa, salon, games room, kids club, outdoor spaces and more for the enjoyment and well-being of the entire family

Spaciously designed 2, 3 and 4 bedroom apartments
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ONE MIDTOWN

At DLF Midtown,
the new heart of the Capital

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 **DLF**
MIDTOWN

WEST DELHI

