





Bright yellow vases add the finishing Asian touch to the corner.
 RIGHT The modern bathroom features cool, linear lines.

Red is favoured in deference to the owner's Oriental inclinations, but there are plenty of other colours for balance

Subtle touches such as the elegant Oriental chairs, discreetly positioned and updated with cushions in the same soft colour as the plush sofas, reinforce the Oriental flavour of the modern living room and give it a sense of warmth. TDC also replaced the door overlooking the yard with one made of glass. At night, the glowing garden lights steal into the living room and create an intimate, cosy ambience.

The dining area also has an intimate feel with a low wall lined with textured wallpaper built around it. The combination of a two-seater dining sofa and four Barbara Barry designer chairs add a luxurious touch to the space, while a large mirror behind the low wall reflects the garden and brings a touch of nature into the room.

The owner's passion for Oriental art is reflected in the master bedroom. A spectacular antique red and gold carved wood screen hangs suspended behind a headboard made with matching coloured fabric, and is clearly the focal point of the room. Soft neutrals provide an effective foil to the dramatic look, while the Oriental theme is subtly reinforced by smaller elements such as the red and gold cushions and lacquered cupboard.

By contrast, his children's rooms are sleek and modern. They are furnished with big glass-fronted wardrobes, double beds and side tables in clean,



When TDC & Associates began work on this large 280 sqm house, they quickly realised that there could easily be a clash between the owner's passion for Oriental culture and style, and his children's preference for clean, modern lines. Instead of choosing to persuade one or the other to get used to something that wasn't their choice, TDC chose to follow through on their philosophy of working with their clients as a team and created a striking home that melds a clean and contemporary look with Oriental elements.

Soft neutrals form the basis of the colour scheme, with vivid tones to add interest and brighten up the rooms. Red is favoured in deference to the owner's Oriental inclinations, but there are plenty of other colours for balance. The warm natural hues which form the base colours are also perfect for highlighting the owner's collection of Oriental *objets d'art*.

One of the most interesting puzzles for TDC in the design of this home was the storage and display of the owner's collection, which comprise items of different sizes, style and weight. Not only was it necessary to create proper storage space, TDC had to find a way to create a display for some of the owner's more favoured pieces without overwhelming the home.

Taking a leaf from the owner's book, TDC settled it with some inspiration from the Orient. Two huge and sturdy glass-fronted showcases with clean and modern lines were custom-built in the living room and linked to a hidden storage space with a mirrored door featuring an Oriental lattice design. The showcases not only help to define and give focus to the living room, but also allow the owner and his family to enjoy the collection.



The intimate setting is enhanced with a large and striking red artwork and elegant candlesticks.
 TOP The owner's personal collection makes a dramatic backdrop.



home

Subtle textures come to play in the son's room

TOP A perfect marriage of Asian warmth and contemporary comfort

sharp lines. The son's room has an unadorned, more masculine look with earthy tones and wooden blinds, while the daughter's room is bright and cheery with a white and orange-red colour scheme, and a light beige and white fabric headboard.

The kitchen follows the same concept as the rest of the house. It is divided into an Asian outdoor kitchen, protected from the natural elements by a waterproof covering held up by galvanised metal rods, and an indoor Western kitchen. Situated next to each other and connected by a sliding glass door, both follow a white colour palette and have cabinets in laminated film glass for easy maintenance.

Cleverly incorporating different design elements into a beautiful whole, this home shows that beauty, passion and practicality need not be mutually exclusive and that differing home décor tastes need not always ignite tension. With a little give and take, and some creativity, an enchanting yet practical home can be yours. **hc**

GET THE LOOK

- :: Select warm and rich colours such as deep reds and dark browns and blend them with more neutral shades
- :: Choose Oriental furniture with clean and elegant lines instead of ones with ornate carvings
- :: Don't be afraid to combine modern and period accent pieces to enhance the look

Designer Contact:
TDC & Associates
 3791 Jalan Bukit Merah
 #09-01 E-Centre@Redhill
 Tel: 6295 6883