



As we walked through the place, Fida discussed about the more technical aspects of the house. "A brick is a module in the sense that you place one on top of the other to make rooms that eventually turn into a house or apartment with fixed space for bathrooms, bedrooms and kitchens. In this case, the entire container is the module of linear space or a width of roughly eight feet. How to make the most of a fixed space like this became an entirely new challenge," he said

Fida was set on breaking out of conventional designs that most existing container houses have, and rather, drew inspiration from how rural houses are designed and translating that with a modern twist using recycled and sustainable materials.

The first floor contains a kitchen, a small lounge, dining space, and a toilet. An extension of the container allows the kitchen space

to be closed off by a metal glass screen door, transforming the outside dining space into a ship deck on land. The view from the first floor is breathtaking, as it pans out to the entire front lawn up till the boundary of the property that is fenced with 'shaal bolli' and 'bamboo'.

It must be mentioned that the lounge on the second floor does have a splash of explosive colours that gives it an overall vibe of a space where one can sit, chat and spend time with friends and family, playing fun games, or just reminiscing about old times.

The two bedrooms on the top floor are situated one behind the other. The rooms were carefully designed with optimum usage of space; the comfortable beds are carefully positioned so that no matter where you look, you either have a view of the lawn or the infinite sky.

A small little spherical staircase beside the

room leads to the terrace where there is a small patch of green that aids with insulation.

Despite the initial impression of a container house, it manages to create a space around itself; a one of a kind home, that exudes rural vibes onto a modern structure. 'Escape Den' is the weekend getaway within Dhaka, without the inconvenience of travelling miles away from urban life.

**By Supriti Sarkar**

**Project Name: Escape Den**

**Architectural Consultant: River & Rain Limited.**

**Architect: Kazi Fida Islam, Md. Abdul Awyal, Sumaiya Shameem, Mousumi Kabir, Irtefa Iradat**

**Structural Engineer: Ruhul Alam**

**Constructed by: River and Rain Ltd.**

**Photo Courtesy: Hasan Saifuddin Chandan**

