

Sprucing Up the Guest Room

Decorating a guest bedroom is a very tricky deal, if you ask me. On the one hand, you need to consider making the room feel cosy, welcoming and of course, comfortable. On the other, it also needs the proper embellishments to give it a classy and individual vibe, as it is still a part of your home. You want your guests to feel welcome, and appreciate the look, but not be overwhelmed by everything, and leave a sliver of space for individual expression. Here are some of the basic tips to consider while decorating your guest room.

THE ESSENTIALS

When it comes to designing a beautiful bedroom for guests, comfort is key. A guest room should be a welcoming space that



combines the amenities of a hotel, with the intimacy and charm of a home. To create an inviting design, consider the essentials for any road-weary traveller: a luxurious bed, a chair for reading or making phone calls, and those frequently forgotten items such as



phone chargers. A good reading lamp, a throw for chilly nights, and maybe a table fan for those humid days if the room isn't air conditioned.

SCENTS

Nothing says welcome home like a familiar scent. If you wish to go the extra mile then please find out the type of scent your guests fancy; it is a gesture they would never forget! Scented candles besides the bedside table look serene, while perfumed potpourri helps uplift the spirit. Diffusers can also be used in various scents helping to create a soothing and relaxing atmosphere. If you do not know what your guests favourite scents are, opt for something neutral in earthy and woody fra-

grance. Avoid floral and fruity scents which are stronger and might come off as irritating to certain people.

TOWELS FOR ALL

Just like fresh linens, fresh towels are also appreciated and expected in a guest room. If you have more than one person staying over, provide a towel per head, instead of one to share. White towels look best, but you can also opt for soft pastels like lilac and sea-green. Roll them up and tie them with a ribbon for a more welcoming effect. Guests love it when they know the hosts have put-in extra effort for their stay.

THE BATHROOM

Guest room décor does not end at the door; it stretches far beyond – into the bathroom

as well. Have a special rack for amenities and stock it up for the guests. Your list should include bath salts, toothbrushes and paste, extra toilet paper, clean shower curtains, new floor mats, and maybe even bath bombs! Especially if there are children involved.

A GUEST ROOM FOR EVERYONE

You will, at some point or another, have a variety of guests visiting you, starting from doting young couples to elderly ones, distant family from out of the city, or even close friends from university. So it is absolutely crucial to prepare the abode with strokes of neutrality, which will enhance the versatility of the room, making no one feel out of place. The secret to a guest room that can please any guest is finding a style that is unique and memorable, but not so specific that it feels awkward to any of your guests. Going for friendly neutral tones and classic, but not avant-garde. Classic paintings are some of the few ways you can make your guest room seem welcoming to anyone visiting your house.

Style and comfort should go hand in hand. If you want guests to leave with a smile and some good memories, these little tricks should come in handy. From the bathroom to the bed, when everything screams 'WELCOME,' it will be a stay your guests would remember for ages to come.

By Jahanara Tariq & Anisha Hassan
Photo: LS Archive/Sazzad Ibne Sayed

Decorating a teenager's room

Thanks to Hollywood and other existing norms, we often relate teenagers and their rooms to be their den, a place for meditation and salvation, either flamboyantly decorated in hues of pink and peach, or overlaid with clumsy posters of celebrities with loud music blaring from speakers. It is about time to step out of that line of thought and think up a way of décor which adds a touch of sophistication to these otherwise juvenile ideas of ornamentation. Here are some of the ideas to consider while decorating your teen's room.

SELF-EXPRESSION

If you are searching for teen bedroom ideas, firstly think of what your son or daughter loves and try to see it through their perspective, because it is very crucial for them to see their own selves getting reflected in their abode. A corner of the room should definitely be devoted to whatever your child is devoted to; if it is painting- adornments should be in the form of brushes and paints of all sources as this adds character to the room. If sports or music is the preference- maybe place an acoustic guitar rather than boxing it up or maybe showcase a picture of their famous musicians or athletes in a chic frame to add a bit of a flair. The colour scheme should also be taken into concern; if, for example, they show

preference to either earthy tones, bright hues or pastel shades- the décor should be done accordingly as colour plays a vital role in interior decoration. Do account for the opinions of the residents of the room!

PAINTINGS INSTEAD OF POSTERS

As much as it is a delight to have a life size poster of the new singing sensation which is gripping the teen nation, when it comes to home décor, it ends up looking rather ludicrous. Instead, opt for paintings. With social media working as grounds to promote modern digital art, many terrific pieces of art can be found and printed out, which may be used for home décor in a teenager's room. This could be mere sceneries, classic paintings, paintings of vintage icons such as John Lennon or Marilyn Monroe, self-portraits ranging from Gogh to Kahlo, neon shaded rickshaw paintings and more. The choices are innumerable, and once you know what you are interested in, it proves to be a very easy task to swap posters in for more elegant looking paintings or black and white photographs. Speaking of photographs, feel free to adorn your room with photographs of different sorts.

A STUDY CORNER

Study corners are a must in a teenager's room. It might be planned in various careful



ways to avoid monotony, such as using a vertically oriented study area, creating a small surface for writing and using the vertical space above and below the table surface for storage of study materials and books and necessary text items. The shelves could be adorned with books obviously, and simple showpieces devoted to taste, but do try to keep accessorising to a minimum as it might otherwise clog up the place and make it look rather clumsy. Keep it simple, efficient and welcoming enough

to inspire long study sessions.

BOLD AND CREATIVE

Teens prefer vibrant colours with high energy content, and patterns which will boost up their creativity. A simple way to do that is to have a large space within the room dedicated to bold and vivacious designs and creative textures. The wall is the biggest place you can work with- try adding a shade of a bright colour instead of opting for the usual shades of white and grey. Maybe a custom wall treatment or funky wallpapers?

FUN ELEMENTS

Bold imaginative elements will excite a teen like nothing else. Some unique teen bedroom ideas that add fun to a room include- a creative swing or a hanging chair or a round bed instead of a regular rectangle one. Nowadays, fairy lights seem to be in vogue – outlining the room with streams of those twinkling chains of light adds an elegant flair to the aura of the room. Opt for feel-good textures to add a layer of flamboyance to the room. Examples include maybe flowy curtains, faux fur rugs, velvet wallpapers or leather and raw wood embellishments.

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Photo: LS Archive/Sazzad Ibne Sayed