



Eco-friendly interior design: WHAT'S TRENDING?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30

RENEWAL OF RATTAN AND NATURAL MATERIALS

"If you go back to the early '80s or '90s, you would find houses having at least one rattan furniture along with their wooden ones. But now, rattans are used not only in furniture, but as screens and panels. However, most are artificial ones," informs Bristy.

While minimalist aesthetics are quite prominent in contemporary interior design, many homeowners are nowadays choosing natural materials such as cane, rattan, terracotta, and wood. Once a common feature in Bangladeshi households, cane and rattan furniture is making a stylish and strong return as screens, wall panels, partitions, and even decorative elements.

Today, preferred due to its lightweight and sustainable nature, and unlike bulky furniture, rattan pieces are easy to move, eco-friendly, and provide a rustic feel to modern interiors. Examples of rattan being used in modern homes include chairs, coffee tables, bed frames, and storage units, which add a textured and organic touch.

THE FUTURE IS HIGH-TECH AND ECO-FRIENDLY HOMES

Thanks to technological advancements and urbanisation, the preference of homeowners is shifting. According to Bristy, two major trends are influencing modern home décor: smart technology

integration and eco-friendly, sustainable design.

"Smart security systems are trending these days, as people tend to prefer smart locks and lighting systems in their homes and offices. Homeowners are becoming increasingly conscious about the environment and their health. Hence, they use indoor plants to decorate the interiors – especially the ones that remove toxins from the air, and are good air purifiers like snake plants, spider plants and so on," shares Bristy.

Digital and biometric locks can be seen replacing traditional keys, which usually offer better security and remote access, and many use Wi-Fi-connected security cameras that can be monitored via smartphones. Homeowners are buying energy-efficient smart ACs that can be controlled via smartphone apps to optimise cooling and power consumption – although it is still a relatively new concept in Bangladesh.

While minimalism and multifunctionality dominate in many contemporary homes, a considerable number of homeowners are seen embracing traditional elements. Nevertheless, one thing is clear: modern Bangladeshi homes are a perfect blend of global inspiration and local adaptation.

By Ayman Anika

Photo: Arifa Malik Bristy



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