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LARGER THAN LIFE

GLASS WALLS, SLIDING PANELS AND HIGH CEILINGS GIVE
THIS PENTHOUSE A SPECTACULARLY SPACIOUS AMBIENCE

BY TANG PIN-JI PICTURES COURTESY OF DESIGNWORX INTERIOR CONSULTANT PTE LTD



The living room's double-volume height brings in light to make the room feel airy and spacious.



The open-plan
kitchen and bar
counter concept is
practical and chic

Creating a greater feeling of space within an already spacious penthouse might sound like a tall order, but that was the design brief prescribed by the homeowners to Eleanor Kor and her team at Designwork Interior Consultant Pte. Ltd.

In order to achieve that, one of the things they did was to open up the adjacent junior master bedroom to double it up as an entertainment room with a simple slide of a panel, thus allowing the homeowners to be connected to whatever was going on in the living and dining areas while enjoying acoustic sounds contained within the bedroom.

The wide and luxurious junior master bedroom eventually turned out to be the homeowners' favourite room in their 3,000-square-foot, four-bedroom

penthouse. The semi-retired couple, who enjoy doing a fair bit of volunteer work in their free time, used to live in a bungalow in the East but moved to their current home in Newton as they wanted something smaller and more centrally located after their children had grown up and moved abroad for work.

Set in a modern classic style, this two-storey unit comprises a senior master bedroom and a bedroom on the upper level, as well as a junior master bedroom and study room on the lower level. The homeowners had wanted interiors that would not look dated over time, which explains why the designers created something that was contemporary, timeless and warm.

Work on the home took three months to complete. Says Kor, "The original double-volume space [of the living and dining area] was rather boring with a



The senior master bedroom exudes masculine charm



The bedroom's neutral palette ensures a serene ambience

huge blank wall on one side, so they asked us to create some elements of interest and to make the penthouse feel more spacious." Therefore, the design team went about opening up the wall of the senior master bedroom to overlook the living and dining areas at the lower level with the use of full-length glass panels.

Glass is also used to connect the dry kitchen to the living and dining areas, which results in an open, see-through concept throughout the home. The kitchen was also fitted with an island for a more open feel. Ceiling lights from above the island not only enhances an intimate mood with their warm glow, but also accentuates the spaciousness of the area.

Similarly, two oversized hanging cream-based lamp shades make for interesting features in the double-volume living and dining areas, where they complement the rich woody hues of the furniture.

This is in contrast to the black and grey shades found in the senior master bedroom, which exude a sophisticated, relaxed vibe. The unique glass bubble chandelier suspended beside the glass panels adds a touch of quirky charm as it offers an attractive focal point when one



The practical dressing area behind the bed head

looks into the senior master bedroom from the living room downstairs.

Renovation for the home did not come without any design challenges. In fact, one of the challenges faced by Kor's team was to tackle the irregular shape of the senior master bedroom. To "square off" the room, her team proposed a full-height bug storage at the vanity area, strategically located behind the bed head. This brilliant suggestion also resulted in a clean division of the senior master bedroom into separate sleeping and dressing areas.

According to Koo, their main challenge lay in having to take extra care so as not to affect the structural integrity of the block while hacking away the walls of the senior master bedroom and junior master bedroom. But that was essential in creating a visual flow of spaces throughout the penthouse while maintaining privacy in the senior master bedroom, junior master bedroom and study room – something that the homeowners are very happy with.

And nothing says it better than the affirmation you get at a job done well. "The first time they stepped into the remodelled penthouse, they were amazed at how spacious it felt," Kor beams. ☺