

Lookbox

THE GARDENS AND
LANDSCAPE ISSUE

a showcase of the latest trends in urban homes, furniture and home accessories

The Green Green Grass of Home

*Ideas for the great outdoors and
tips for green interiors*



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PORTABLE MUSIC PLAYERS THAT LET YOU
TAKE THE FUN OUTSIDE

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THE STYLISH WOMEN BEHIND
GALANGA LIVING

INTERIORS, PRODUCTS, AND IDEAS FOR
LIVING THE LUSH LIFE



"...louvred shades give some character, create a natural, open feel and, at the same time, provide privacy for the owners whenever it is needed."



Text by Michelle Tan
Photography by Alan Lee, X Studio

living large

ASIALAND ID CONSTRUCTS AN ENTIRELY NEW AND SPACIOUS MODERN HOUSE TO ACCOMMODATE THE NEEDS OF A BIG FAMILY.

It was not an easy task for Ron Leow to convert a one-storey house into an abode that is large enough to accommodate his client's family of ten. Still, the designer from Asialand ID adeptly gave the house a complete overhaul and emerged with a 418-square-metre, two-and-a-half storey construct that caters to the large family's everyday needs and penchant for entertaining. Spacious, airy and distinctly modern, the house is as practical as it is stylish.

FRESH START

Seeing that the original house could not comfortably fit all the members of the family, Ron decided to tear down and rebuild the entire house from scratch without hesitation. The new construct is a modern piece of architecture that allows plenty of natural light into the interior. This was deliberate on Ron's part as he purposefully composed the house such that "no one corner is dim". The liberal use of full-height glass panels around the house was instrumental in creating a light and airy home.

OPEN SPACE

Walk past the front door and an expansive area comes into view right away. Here, the living area offers much room for movement and is privy to a healthy deluge of sunlight, filtered only by sheer curtains that bring a certain lightness to the space. Almost all furnishings have been brought over from the old house, including a sleek coffee table and plush sofa that form the simple set-up; their muted grey tones add touches of understated luxury to the space.

The dining area is located deeper into the house. Though it is at a distance from the living area, both areas remain visually engaged to each other. What is most pronounced here is the high ceiling that reaches up to the second level, where the family room overlooks the dining area. Ron explains, "The void is intentional. Besides improving ventilation, this double volume enhances the sense of depth in the space over here."

Adjacent to the long dining area is an open-concept dry kitchen that caters to light cooking. All the same, it has been outfitted to be an efficient workspace, replete with full-height storage cabinets kept flush against the wall. A bar counter has even been incorporated into the worktop, serving as the perfect spot for pre-dinner aperitifs. And for times when there is a need to cook up a feast to feed many more mouths during gatherings or parties, the wet kitchen area at the back is put to work.

GOING MONO

Linear elements that define the modern, fuss-free aesthetic of the main living spaces continue into the master bathroom, tying the interior as one. However, the master bathroom deviates slightly from other spaces in the house, in that a grey monotone scheme is used over most surfaces, like the homogeneous wall and floor tiles, and even the countertop. Juxtaposing the largely modern concept are traditional louvred shades attached to the windows. Ron says, "These louvred shades give some character, create a natural, open feel and, at the same time, provide privacy for the owners whenever it is needed." ■■■

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