

THE HOMES MAGAZINE FOR MODERN LIVING

Living etc

December 2018 ₹150

INDIA EDITION

HOUSE OF THE MONTH
Apartment in Mumbai by Kunal Shah & Krupa Patel

DESIGN PROJECT
DINING AREAS

BUYER'S GUIDE
HOME THEATRES

Studio Lotus' twin bungalow design in New Delhi

ACDS' opulent penthouse interiors

Design Diva Nina Campbell's decor secrets

30 pages of
X-Mas Decor

GET SET TO ROLL IN THE NEW YEAR

Buyer's guide to HOME THEATRES

If you are a true movie buff or a music aficionado, then you need a theatre experience right in your own home. Follow our complete guide to help you set up the best personal cinematic experience. Sit back and relax.

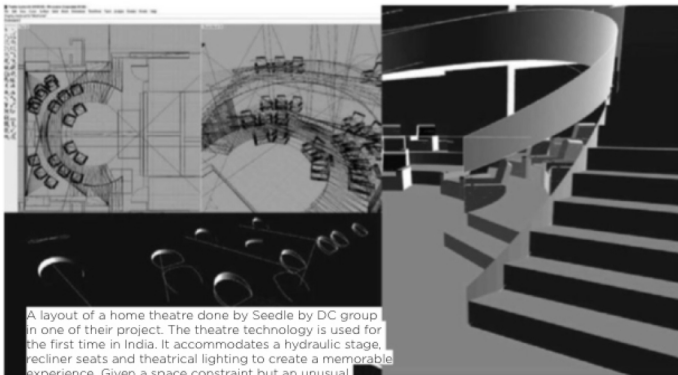
Words/ Vanita Arora



Revealing new dimensions, Samsung India recently launched world's first 'LED for Home' in India. Also called as Active LED, it aims at giving new, sophisticated and intense visual experience. For home theatres, it delivers incredible visual definition along with bespoke cinema experience where even the display can be made to fit any setting due to its modular configuration and device agnostic features.

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY THE BRANDS

I imagine yourself as a visitor to your own home theatre. Walk through the front door and gaze at the stunning screen with your favourite blockbuster playing amidst a multiplex like set-up — Lazy Boy chairs, surround speakers, quirky headphones and much more. This is exactly the flavour your home theatre should exude and make you feel what it's like to watch a movie in multiplex. And now, you can create this experience with your home automation system. After all, just automating the lights, curtains and security is pass...



A layout of a home theatre done by Seedle by DC group, is one of their project. The theatre technology is used for the first time in India. It accommodates a hydraulic stage, recliner seats and theatrical lighting to create a memorable experience. Given a space constraint but an unusual height, a balcony level has been created. [dgroupco.com](#)

"For a home theatre, it is important to identify the room dimensions and the maximum number of people in the room. On the basis of this you can decide on the right surround format — 5.1 (five speakers and a sub-woofer), a 7.1, 7.2.2 or 7.2.4 (Dolby Atmos). Most importantly; speakers, sub-woofers, amplifiers, processors, Blu-Ray player, projector (1080P or a 4k) can be planned depending on your budget. Similarly, cables and acoustics will be depending on the system and room size," says **Denny Jose, Founder, Bass 'N' Treble**.

HOW TO PLAN ACOUSTICS

According to **Alok Hada, Director, Anusha Technovision Pvt. Ltd.**, "One of the often ignored subjects is the proper acoustic treatment of a home theatre. Whatever advances happen in technology, it should still mean an 'ease of use' for the home owner and that is where the system integrator and designer plays a role. The best products from the audio video domain need to be properly designed and calibrated to give the viewer a complete cinematic experience." He further explains that there are two elements to acoustics – firstly, it is the sound isolation of the room from outside disturbance and proper insulation material and treatment of leakage points, such as doors and electrical sockets, that should bring the outside noise level to acceptable levels. Secondly, it is the acoustic treatment for within the room listening. Here, too much absorption makes a room dead and too little would make it 'echo'. There must be a use of absorbers and diffusers, so that the ideal reverberation time is in between 0.2 to 0.5.

BACK TO BASICS

While planning, this space should be a show-stopper as well as welcoming. So, the first thing to do is to work out a detail plan in accordance with the space available for creating the entire setup. Let the wiring go in place once you have designed the final layout of the space, followed by sound systems, projector screens and of course, comfy recliners. An acoustic professional would be best to plan the room when it comes to deciding the sound optimisation systems.

LOOKING FORWARD

Off late, the latest technical interventions have made the 3D formats and Blue Rays passé. "The trend today in picture quality is to go higher and higher in resolution — 4K, 8K and even more," says Alok. "Important features, such as High Dynamic Range (HDR) and a bigger colour gamut — all

An important feature for a home theatre set up is the seamless audio distribution and placement of the right kind of speakers according to the space. "Designed for a residence in Gurugram, it is equipped with speakers from Sonance USA. The source for the music is a choice between stored music on a central audio server, or playing FM from a tuner or even playing music from a personal library on iTunes. Audio distribution is handled by means of the Crestron 24 X 8 multi room audio amplifier with an 8 zone audio expander with an output power of 140 per channel," says Alok



Created by Architect Mayank Paareikh, co-founder, ADDA Architects & Urban Designers for a home in Surat, this home theatre has a rib cage design. "We executed the concept by cladding the walls with wooden panels that act as sound absorbers. We furnished it with beds and relaxing chairs," he shares.



SPEAKER OPTIONS

Centre Channel Speakers: If looking for cinematic acoustics, real-to-life experience, centre channel speakers are the ones that hold the rest of the system together and deliver the clearest sound quality.

Floor standing speakers or bookshelf speakers: These are high quality, full-range speakers that deliver an intense sound experience. They give the much-required effect of booming lows and soaring highs that you would rather not miss out while watching an action movie.

Bookshelf speakers: Talking about space, bookshelf speakers are much sought after as they are easy to place in almost any space without compromising on design and acoustics.

Surround sound speakers: When it comes to listening, surround sound speakers can weave in the right magic for a complete musical and visual experience. The surround speakers are capable of bringing in the full-range sound effects.

Sub woofers: For an heart-pounding sound effect, sub woofers produce a clean, deep bass for your music and sound. It is very important to buy a sub woofer that blends well with your speakers. An 8" or 10" sub can be paired with the bookshelf speakers, whereas a 12" sub will pair well with floor-standing speakers.

combine together to give the viewer a much better picture quality than ever before. The hardware capability is there and if the content is also available, it would match the potential and send the true movie buff into pure rapture. 3D projector technology while still not completely dead, is on the way there and so are curved screens. The focus is back on conventional picture viewing with higher resolution and quality. As for audio, out of the various '3D' formats released in recent times, Dolby Atmos seems to be the most popular one and when viewed in the right setting with correct design, the content would truly enable a difference between a good and a fabulous movie watching experience," he explains

up with the 4k video and Dolby Atmos audio format, it is difficult for the Blu Ray discs to stay in the market for long," he adds.

SOUND AS AN INTERIOR

"There is a trend today within the consumer electronics industry to domesticate technology and make it less prominent and visible in a home. With speakers such as Beosound Edge, they transform everyday mundane to musical mastery and add aesthetic value to the home," says **José Barreiro Lopez, Business Director, TV, Bang & Olufsen.**

TV AND BLU RAY

"In TV, the OLED panels by LG who are the inventors, are the best. Sony and Samsung also lead the pack," says Denny. "Blu Ray players are there but video streaming is also fast climbing the ladder. With Netflix, Amazon and Apple coming

TECHNOLOGY

"Video projectors have become a mass market product as it replaces the LEDs and LCDs big time. It allows you to have a larger screen as compared to a LED which is 60 or 70 inch, and almost half the price. There are now projectors readily available



The range of McIntosh turntables and home theatre systems.