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This Apartment Is Every Minimalist's Dream Home

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AUGUST 4, 2015, 2:40 PM



Decorating with restraint is not always easy. Cramming in a bunch of design pieces to make a space feel bold and dynamic is a cinch; but on the flip side, carefully choosing just a few standout, quality items is a far taller order. We turned to NYC interior designer [Tina Ramchandani](#) for a personal tutorial on how to maximize impact with only a handful of design elements.

Ramchandani's latest project, making over an East Village bachelor pad, provides plenty of eye candy — and food for thought. "The client was attracted to the space because of the large windows and city views. He wanted to let as much light in as possible," the designer explains. This meant no window treatments and an airy, open floor plan populated with subdued colors. Ramchandani shares with us how she managed to create a simple yet warm space that proves less can indeed be way more.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF TINA RAMCHANDANI / [JACOB SNAVELY](#); SHOOT STYLED BY KATHERINE HAMMOND.

The space is super minimal, but still has plenty of personality. How did you map out the inspiration?

"My client chose this apartment because it felt spacious and open, due to the large living area and floor-to-ceiling windows. We chose furniture pieces that felt special, such as the console behind the sofa and the wood coffee table. We added character in the art and accessories, which allows the space to feel personal."



PHOTO: COURTESY OF TINA RAMCHANDANI / [JACOB SNAVELY](#); SHOOT STYLED BY KATHERINE HAMMOND.

The client opted to forgo window treatments. How did you make this work?

"In this case, we wanted a more masculine, clean look, so it made sense to design the space around open windows. In the bedroom, we do have blackout roman shades, because we were aiming for a more peaceful, serene space than in the living area."



PHOTO: COURTESY OF TINA RAMCHANDANI / [JACOB SNAVELY](#); SHOOT STYLED BY KATHERINE HAMMOND.

How do you mix high and low price points?

"Everybody has a budget and can only afford a certain amount. We wanted to make sure we spent our money on [key pieces] — the sofa, the mattress, and the artwork. After we allocated money for that, we looked for pieces that we felt were special to fill out the rest."



PHOTO: COURTESY OF TINA RAMCHANDANI / [JACOB SNAVELY](#); SHOOT STYLED BY KATHERINE HAMMOND.

Putting a TV on an art easel is a bold move.

"We didn't want to mount it anywhere. The easel is on casters, so it can be moved around if there is a large party."



PHOTO: COURTESY OF TINA RAMCHANDANI / [JACOB SNAVELY](#); SHOOT STYLED BY KATHERINE HAMMOND.

The sectional is large with a smaller coffee table. What makes this work?

"In the living space, we have several surfaces where the client as well as guests can place drinks, books, and more. Because we have the large console behind the sofa, we didn't need a large surface area as a coffee table. I think it's always a good idea to opt for a slightly smaller piece of furniture than [to] clutter with large, clunky pieces. Especially in places like Manhattan where space is a premium!"



PHOTO: COURTESY OF TINA RAMCHANDANI / [JACOB SNAVELY](#); SHOOT STYLED BY KATHERINE HAMMOND.

What are your secrets to creating a gorgeous bar cart?

"I love to style pieces so they look like part of the space, in addition to functioning as expected. A bar doesn't always have to look like a bar. This piece is actually an étagère we are using as a bar. I added books, plants, and objects to help this feel like a bookcase in addition to a bar cart. This also helped the bar area seamlessly fit into the space."



PHOTO: COURTESY OF TINA RAMCHANDANI / [JACOB SNAVELY](#); SHOOT STYLED BY KATHERINE HAMMOND.

Do you have any do or don't tips for leaning art against the walls?

"In most of my spaces, I prefer to hang 90% of the art and lean just a few pieces, which are typically large. If art pieces are propped on the floor and leaning against a wall, I like them to be large in size and make an impact. I typically secure smaller pieces that are hung over furniture, so the room feels complete."



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