

**RENOVATION
STYLE GUIDE**

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MATERIAL MAGIC

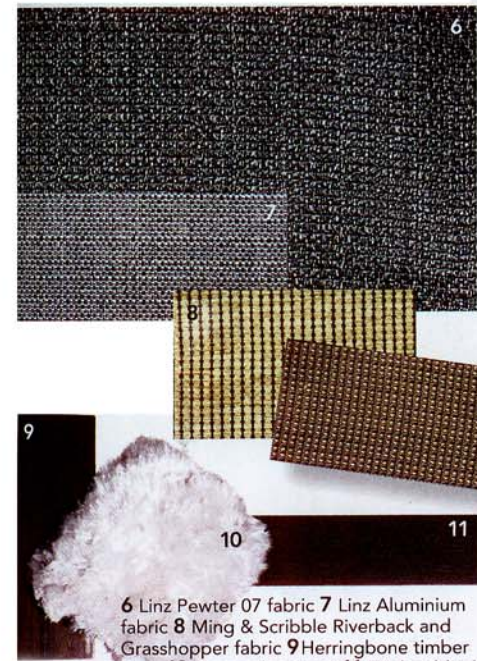
FOR YOUR HOME TO GO FROM BARE TO BEAUTIFUL, A MIX OF MATERIALS IS NEEDED. WE SHOW YOU THREE BOLD LOOKS AND HOW TO GET THEM.

Dreaming of a plush, upscale abode, or a light and bright modern pad? Every decor theme is created by a careful choice of materials in the flooring, upholstery, curtains and so on, picked for the look and function they bring to the space. Space planning is also crucial, especially for a small abode. Designers have to deliver interiors comfortable to live in, with enough storage for the occupants. We tasked three interior designers to design the living and dining areas of a four-room HDB flat, giving the space vastly different in-demand styles. Find out what materials were used and how.



The bare 968sqf four-room HDB flat at Strathmore Avenue (VIEW FROM THE KITCHEN)

- 1 Design Tex synthetic leather in Tan
- 2 Bronze mirror
- 3 Bronze glass (divider)
- 4 Ebony veneer in PU gloss finish
- 5 Formica dark chocolate leather finish laminate



6 Linz Pewter fabric 7 Linz Aluminium fabric 8 Ming & Scribble Riverback and Grasshopper fabric 9 Herringbone timber floor 10 Deep pile carpet 11 Timber blinds

Dark & Sophisticated

DESIGNER BENJEEMEN HENG OF BENJEEMEN HENG I.D.
ESTIMATED COST \$49,000 (EXCLUDING TV, PAINTING AND LOOSE DECOR ITEMS)

ON SPACE PLANNING "It's a small room, so I tucked most of the furniture against the wall to free up the walk space. To do this, I've run the cable points from one side of the room to the other, concealed by the false ceiling. The upholstered dining bench, which is on castors, serves both the dining and living areas."

ON MATERIALS "I went for shades of brown in various materials as it's a warm but chic hue. A dark brown leather finish was used for the TV wall, with groove lines breaking the monotony of the flat surface. The high-gloss veneer of the TV console and sideboard stands out from this matte wall. The tinted-glass panel at the foyer partially screens the dining area, while bronze-tinted mirrors visually expand the space. Next to that is a wall padded with mustard synthetic leather for softness. The flooring is dark timber in a herringbone pattern, which echoes the shade of the timber blinds. Adding metallic sheen are the fabrics for the window bench, sofa and curtains. For cushions, I chose olive green fabrics – without this hue, the look would be dull."

ON LIGHTING "For general lighting, I've used recessed energy-saving downlights. Pendant and table lamps create ambience."

ON FURNITURE "To make use of the window without blocking the view, I built window seats that double as side tables. I also customised the dining table and sofa."

ON WALLET-FRIENDLY ALTERNATIVES "Buy your furnishings instead of customising them. I've used quality materials, but you can substitute them for more cost-effective alternatives. But if you use all cheap brands, the look might end up to be cheap." >

