



GET FLOORED

NEW AGE FLOORING SOLUTIONS ARE ALL ABOUT COMBINING UTILITY, AESTHETICS, AND SUSTAINABILITY TO OFFER SOLUTIONS ACROSS SPACES.

BY BINDU GOPAL RAO

Flooring is the best way to create a good first impression and thanks to relentless innovation in the field, there are choices galore in the market. Old world style or new and modern, there is something for every discerning customer out there.

NEW LAUNCHES

Flooring has seen a plethora of launches and the introduc-

tion of large format tiles is one of the predominant ones. Alok Agarwal, CMO, Orientbell Tiles, says, "We have just launched an exclusive range of tiles called Inspire 800X1600mm, which is an extension of our Inspire series. The Inspire range's large size makes it look even more like natural marble and for a one-time investment, you can have a great looking floor for a lifetime." CMC's Terrazzo is also one of the most trending flooring applications today. Ter-

1. Marble chequered flooring from A-Class Marble who integrate new and advanced technologies such as the Densifier and Streninn Technology in flooring.
2. Amit Shah, Managing Director, Classic Marble Company.

razzo has a new age design with the old-world charm. "Terrazzo slabs have remarkable beauty and strength and are a perfect choice for flooring applications. The range of Terrazzo offered in Kalinga Stone is extensive and suitable for both commercial spaces as well as for bespoke homes," says Amit Shah, Managing Director, Classic Marble Company.

OPTIONS GALORE

Fine quality marbles and hardwood floorings continue to rule the scene. However, there are some unique products that have been launched, like the marble tiles with mix-material inserts to create intricate patterns. "Ceramic tiles with exotic designs are making waves. Using screen-printing technology on ceramic, any kind of design or pattern can be achieved. And wood tones of the floor tiles can be customised to suit the interiors. Installation of flooring is becoming quick and hassle-free. Some wooden floors offer glueless

installations and click and lock systems of laying tiles are available too," say Hardeesh Chawla & Monica Chawla, Founders & Interior Designers, Essentia Environments. Samar Patel and Divya Patel, Livpreneurs, Livspace, say, "Space is very important in the urban landscape. Hence, the trend for flooring in urban cities is hugely shifting towards lighter tones, and monotones in pastel colours to add the feeling of spaciousness."

MATERIALLY SPEAKING

There is a heightened demand for new age flooring solutions keeping modern aesthetics as the primary focus. While natural stone tiles, marble and granite slabs have been around, consumer awareness towards sustainability has triggered a demand for environment-friendly flooring. "The latest marble additions to our Signature Collection and The Opera offer design aesthetics with stunning crevices and hues.



3. The luxurious stones on the floor creates a rich and exclusive space courtesy Essentia Environment.

4. The Vietnam white marble with brass inlay covers most of this living area courtesy Essentia Environments.

5. CMC's KalingaStone terrazzo flooring is durable, hygienic, less porous, and offers fantastic aesthetic.

6. Hardeesh Chawla & Monica Chawla, Founders & Interior Designers, Essentia Environments.

7. Samar Patel and Divya Patel, Livpreneurs, Livspace.

8. Ramesh Bhandari, Director, A-Class Marble.



With meticulous research, we have also integrated new and advanced technologies such as the Densifier and Streninn Technology to process and deliver marbles, stones, and surfaces of supreme quality," says Ramesh Bhandari, Director, A-Class Marble. The recent popular flooring choices have been LVT (Luxury Vinyl Tiles), SPC (Stone Plastic Composite) flooring, large format vitrified tiles, engineered wood flooring, bamboo flooring and terrazzo flooring.

RETRO VIBES

Every element in architecture and interior design evolves and develops with time and often, older styles make a comeback. One such style is patterned tiles. Tiles like At-tangudi, Moroccan tiles, and black and white patterns are now extensively used across residential and commercial interiors. "The use of brass lining for tile joining is a chic way of breaking the monotony of tiles. Another flooring trend

9. Geometric patterns can be achieved in flooring using marble courtesy A-Class Marble.

10. Flooring in urban cities is hugely shifting towards lighter tones, monotonies in pastel colours, to add the feeling of spaciousness courtesy Livspace.

11. There has been a huge shift from traditional tile flooring to wooden flooring as well as carpet flooring, backed by the chic trend of going monotone by matching your carpets with your furniture.



is the use of wall-to-wall carpets. The use of carpet tiles has been extensive in residences, particularly in significantly colder zones, and now there are multiple options available. Brands directly provide one with ample shades to choose from, making it easier for designers to curate carpets to suit the décor," says Meena Murthy Kakkar, Design Head and Partner, Envisage.

DESIGN DETAILS

Sarah Sham, Principal Designer, Essajeje Atelier, says "The 3mm thin tiles are the new favourite. It is a revolutionary product as it can be easily stuck onto already existing flooring and makes the process of change of flooring a lot easier. The minimal thickness is the striking feature, which makes the product suitable for a variety of different applications. Also, these are very light weight and easy to handle. They are sustainable and completely recyclable." Amit Porwal, Principal Designer, Icon Projects Inspace Pvt. Ltd.,

adds, "Resin-based material is more seamless, cheap and strong and works well in industrial and residential projects. Laminate flooring simulates wood and being easy to install, luxury vinyl plank flooring gain popularity. This gives the look of wood floors and benefits of vinyl." Nayana Raghav, Retail Design - Assistant Manager, HomeLane, adds, "There has been a huge shift from traditional tile flooring to wooden flooring as well as carpet flooring, backed by the chic trend of going monotone by matching your carpets with your furniture. Designer tiles are also gaining popularity, with



12. Bookmatch pattern marble at a luxury abode in Mumbai courtesy Icon Projects Inspace (IPIPL).

13. Marble inlay work for a colonial house courtesy A-Class Marble.

14. Span Flooring has a new line of water resistant laminate (WRL) flooring that can be wet mopped.

15. Patterned flooring by Essajeje Atelier for Isprava, a holiday home in Goa.

16. Sarah Sham, Principal Designer, Essajeje Atelier

17. Amit Porwal, Principal Designer, Icon Projects Inspace



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18. Satinder Chawla, Managing Director, Span Floors

19. Ashish Luthra, Founder and CEO, Green Heart Floors

20. Meenu Agarwal, Founder & Interior Designer, MADS Creations

21. The dining area has a stunning marble inlay flooring using Spider Beige marble and the premium White Vietnam marble courtesy MADS Creations.

22. Tiles like Attangudi, Moroccan tiles, black and white patterns are now extensively used across residential and commercial interiors courtesy Envisage Projects.



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printed and shaped tiles creating accents of drama in spaces. Smoked and bleached wooden tones are trending in the wooden flooring styles.”

GO GREEN

Flooring is an investment, and one of the most important factors to consider while selection is sustainability. Flooring materials like cork, artisanal wooden and burnt wood, and linoleum offer beauty and natural resilience as well as less impact on the environment. Polyester berber (P.E.T) is new in the carpeted flooring segment and is made from recycled plastic and is sustainable, spill-resistant, and aesthetically pleasing. Sustainable design also comes through reuse and recycling. With growing awareness, clients are more open to sustainable strategies today. For example, old stone or wood

available in good condition from ancestral houses is reused for flooring and cladding. Handmade tiles and stone mosaics are also some sustainable options in flooring design.

NEW TRENDS

Satinder Chawla, Managing Director, Span Floors, says, “The raw materials that are being used are based on the latest innovations in the wood sector. High moisture resistance, durability and use of benign chemicals that do not negatively impact indoor air quality are the hallmarks of our collections. In addition, all Span floors products come with certified sustainable sources certifications.” Ashish Luthra, Founder and CEO, Green Heart Floors, adds that there is a shift towards a structured and creative, yet sophisticated, elegant, and stylish surface material. “Today, flooring is expected to be aesthetically pleasing and beautifully designed with a blend of artistic aesthetics, he says.” Meenu Agarwal, Founder & Interior Designer, MADS Creations, adds, “For bathrooms, there is an endless choice of ceramic tiles in striking colours and patterns and various finishes, including metals like gold, silver and copper. Grey and beige colours are commonly used for flooring in formal areas, with black as a highlight in informal spaces.” Transitioning times call for carefully curated spaces that provide comfort and are easy to maintain. From work to leisure to education, spaces have transformed drastically. Hence, choosing the right tone, style and material for your flooring is crucial to building a space that feels like your own. ^{AS}

WEBSITES

- **Envisage:** www.envisageprojects.in
- **A-Class Marble:** www.aiclassmarble.co.in
- **Span Floors:** www.spanfloors.com
- **Green Heart Floors:** www.greenheartfloors.com
- **Orientbell Tiles:** www.orientbell.com
- **Classic Marble Company:** www.classicmarble.com
- **Essajees Atelier:** www.essajeesatelier.com
- **Essentia Environments:** www.essentiaenvironments.com
- **Icon Projects Inspace:** www.ipi.pl.in
- **MADS Creations:** www.madscreations.in
- **Livspace:** www.livspace.com/in
- **Homelane:** www.homelane.com