



PHOTO COURTESY: NIOA ARCHITECTS

# DELIGHTFUL DOORS

DOORS DON'T JUST GIVE A SENSE OF SECURITY AND SOLIDITY TO A HOME, BUT ALSO INCREASE THE APPEAL OF A SPACE.

BY BINDU GOPAL RAO

**A**part from separating two spaces, doors also provide a sense of security and privacy to the people using it. With the current work from home scenario, doors can also act as separators between work and personal spaces.

## NEW VISTAS

HDHMR by Action TESA is known for its unmatched quality and endless application. After revolutionising the Indian furniture industry by replacing plywood, now it is all set to transform the Indian door industry. This is a homogeneous product without any separate framing or filler structure needed and can be cut into any dimensions as per requirements. Ajay Aggarwal, Managing Director,

Action TESA, says, "In traditional flush doors, while making dimension adjustments, frames are cut up to 2 to 3 inches, which damages the overall structure of flush doors. This may result in dislocation of the lock position. Whereas the homogeneous properties of Action TESA HDHMR doors make it more durable with easy mounting and proper fixing of hardware. This novel application adds wings to your doors in both the commercial and residential segments. Manufactured by using the finest and strongest wood fibres of eucalyptus hardwood, and the best quality glue made in-house enhance product performance." Rounaq. K. Choudhari, Director, Glass Wall Systems India Pvt. Ltd., adds, "New age doors are designed to tackle extreme weather conditions. The range includes windows with inbuilt vision control function



1. Doors are the window of what to expect within a space.

2. Ajay Aggarwal, Managing Director, Action TESA



3. Rounaq K. Choudhari,  
Director, Glass Wall Systems  
India Pvt. Ltd.

4. Aluminum is one of the most environmentally-friendly metals, which is why it's often referred to as the 'green metal', due to the fact it's 100% recyclable

5. Wooden doors are one of the latest trends being used in the industry, doors made out of timber are not only aesthetically appealing to the eye but also eco friendly

that helps maintain privacy indoors even without curtains, shades, or blinds. Wooden doors are one of the latest trends being used in the industry, doors made of timber are not only aesthetically appealing to the eye but also ecofriendly."

#### OPEN THE DOOR

One of the more important factors to consider when it comes to doors is to look at functionality, affordability, and practicality. Practicality is to deal with ease of manufacturing, quality, maintenance over a period, consistency of colour and grains, and availability of materials. Primarily, doors fall into two categories based on functionality. First is security - doors

for the entrance and others for privacy, as in bathrooms and bedrooms. Doors at the entrance continue to be made with natural veneer finished in PU lacquer. However, privacy doors are made using engineered materials with timber frames faced with imported decorative HDF skin, allowing them to be light-weight yet strong and durable. Geetha K Nair, EVP, Design & Engineering, SOBHA Limited, explains, "What is more interesting is the technique used to manufacture doors and how they are installed. While the general practice is to use a holdfast to fix the door frames into the walls, SOBHA uses its own unique installation - a 'dry-fix' process of using glue to fix door frames, ensuring zero cracks



COURTESY: GLASS WALL SYSTEMS INDIA PVT. LTD.



COURTESY: GLASS WALL SYSTEMS INDIA PVT. LTD.



COURTESY: SOBHA LTD.



COURTESY: SOBHA LTD.

and gaps between the frame and the wall. The fit and finish is extremely enhanced using this approach. Doors can be simply fixed after the entire construction is completed. Typically, a PU foam is injected between the masonry wall and door frame and left for 4 to 5 hours of curing. A wooden stiffener is used to prevent expansion / bulging of the door frame. To add more strength, a single anchor may also be used. A wooden component such as Architrave is used to conceal the glue gap between the door frame and masonry wall. This approach has been proven well across all SOBHA properties, including in high-rise apartments as tall as 35 storeys."

#### LAUNCHES GALORE

The door space is seeing much action in terms of new launches as well. Like Lualdi, an Italian brand that expresses its international leadership in a wide range of interior design doors that create the perfect symbiosis between technologically advanced materials and clean lines. From sliding systems and glass pivots to wood paneling and partitions, the Lualdi collection shows a strong identity and exceptional stylistic recognition.

Meanwhile, Skye is a new partition system designed by Piero Lissoni. Ashok Basoya, Founder, Ottimo, says, "Hidden hinges, an invisible aluminum jamb and the ability to integrate with the wall with perfect mimicry are some new features. There are sliding panels and doors that integrate harmoniously with the architecture and furnishings - the perfect way to obtain visual lightness and continuity in indoor environments. Use of different unique materials like leather and stoneware is also new." Mikasa doors from the house of Greenlam Industries is a complete door set that is easy to install and comes with a single, factory-finished unit. Non-Fire rated and Fire-Rated to Specialty door sets are offered. The specialty of these door sets is the radiation shielding that is constructed for areas exposed to high levels of radiation, such as hospitals, laboratories, and acoustic design to achieve



COURTESY: SOBHA LTD.

optimum levels of sound reduction, starting from a range of 29-45dB and thickness varying between 38mm to 44mm.

#### PURPOSE DRIVEN

The primary objective while building a property lies in protecting the doors so that they have longer durability and restrict the spread of fire. "The utmost factor lies in designs



9

6. Typically veneer is used on block wood for a rich look to doors and their frames.

7. Doors fall into primarily two categories based on functionality. First being that of security, typically doors for the entrance, and the other for privacy as in bathrooms and bedrooms.

8. Sustainability is an 'evergreen' focus for Sobha and they ensure that materials used are sourced from PEFC-certified suppliers (Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification).

9. Geetha K Nair, EVP, Design & Engineering, Sobha



10. Ashok Basoya, Founder, Ottimo

11. The perfect symmetry of the door and the absence of a striker constitute the decorative elements of Altaj with a bronze finish frame and profiles, and a chalk white matt lacquered door.

12. The elegant version of Altaj with bronze profiles and door in woven leather.

that provide optimum levels of fire safety, leading to minimal damage. The doors should be designed with the thought of building optimum levels of sound reduction. In the last two years, the importance of health and hygiene has become of utmost importance, so it is necessary to install doors that have Antibacterial and Anti-Fungal properties. Doors with longevity requiring low maintenance are said to have higher



COURTESY: OTTIMO

durability. Doors should be energy efficient so that they can minimise the amount of UV and IR rays entering our house," says Parul Mittal, Director, Greenlam Industries Ltd. With mere additions of certain accessories like drop-down seals and perimeter seals, we can convert the fire door into a triple-acting door, offering a fire rating of 30 – 60 minutes with smoke arrestor technology as well as sound reduction up to 34dBs – 28dB for 30 minutes.

#### CONTEMPORARY CUES

Doors must balance form and function. Louvered window and door detailing are for the purpose of natural ventilation and to promote proper air circulation by not sacrificing privacy. French doors often open to beautifully curated courtyards and landscaped gardens. The beauty of their design is certainly the divided light glass panels that provide maximum daylight into rooms, something that would forever become their trademark. "Dutch doors embody a functionality trend. The charming design allows the top half of the door to be opened while the lower half remains shut, serving as a focal point, to ensure security of pets or little ones by keeping an eye on them, yet safe by not having them crawl out. Archways and grand entrances/gateways are dominant and yet give you a sense of homeliness and security. UPVC doors can be recycled and repurposed and are recognised as a sustainable option as they have features of being ultraviolet resistant, durable, sound and dust proof," says Lincoln Bennet Rodrigues, Chairman & Founder, The Bennet and Bernard Company.

#### ECO EDGE

Being ecologically sustainable can mainly be achieved through the materials being used and the processes involved



COURTESY: OTTIMO



13



COURTESY: THE BENNET AND BERNARD COMPANY

in production. The acoustic features benefit on a daily basis by keeping out or keeping in the sounds, restricting the noise pollution to a great extent. "With the noticeable effect of climate change, we, as individuals, want to move towards technologies that have net zero-emission. With companies like Dormak, people are moving towards green doors, which have zero emission and work on zero VOC. Sustainable quality doors are good at creating a seal between the outside and the inside, while reducing the energy exchange with the



15

COURTESY: THE BENNET AND BERNARD COMPANY

outside. One aspect of sustainability is that materials should be locally available and renewable. With a wide range of infill material, eco-friendly tubular particle board cores from a PEFC certificate company of German origin, solid particle board, and conventional wooden block, doors are becoming stronger and more durable," say Anand Ojha and Ankit Ojha, Principal Designers, Anand Atelier Associate. Double glazed glasses for the doors and windows also ensure a reduction in noise, ensuring a noise-free and private environment and are very convenient, considering the new normal brought about by the pandemic. <sup>AB</sup>

#### WEBSITES:

- **Ottimo:** [www.ottimo.in](http://www.ottimo.in)
- **Greenlam Industries Ltd.:** [www.greenlamindustries.com](http://www.greenlamindustries.com)
- **Anand Atelier Associate:** [www.instagram.com/anandatelier/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/anandatelier/?hl=en)
- **SOBHA Limited:** [www.sobha.com](http://www.sobha.com)
- **The Bennet and Bernard Company:** [www.bnbcustomhomes.com](http://www.bnbcustomhomes.com)
- **Action TESA:** [www.actiontesa.com](http://www.actiontesa.com)
- **Glass Wall Systems India Pvt. Ltd.:** [www.glasswallsystems.in](http://www.glasswallsystems.in)



16

13. Doors should be designed with the thought of building optimum levels of sound reduction.

14. uPVC doors are soundproof, water resistant and very aesthetic, which is a much-needed value add.

15. Double glazed glass for the doors and windows also ensure a reduction in noise.

16. Parul Mittal, Director, Greenlam Industries