



The Tekku Brass Stool

IRA STUDIO

Locally-sourced materials, the handiwork of master craftsmen, and contemporary design sensibilities come together in the studio's stunning collections. Our favourites include a dome light created with a single hand-beaten sheet of brass, reminiscent of old Indian architecture; Bidri trays with delicate silver inlay on dark zinc; and a brass and teak wood stool, which features a traditional Indian sheet metal technique and a hand-embossed brass plate. www.irastudio.net



Fabrico lamps

GOMAADS

Concrete transforms everyday pieces—bowls, lamps, tumblers, ashtrays, candle stands, and planters among others—into sculptural works of art. The team of product designers creates detailed drawings that are brought to life by expert craftsmen, and then hand-polished, sealed, and finished. A play on colour and texture in each collection comes by way of specially developed blends of cements, admixtures, aggregates, and tints, along with custom casting settings. www.gomaads.com

EASY LIVING

DÉCOR

Our round-up of noteworthy Indian furniture and product design brands that are melding style with sustainability

ALL IMAGES COURTESY THE BRANDS

BOMBAY ATELIER

Everyday life in urban India informs the design language at this Mumbai-based design company. The ritual of drinking tea, for instance, led to Mister Chai, a table inspired by scalloped tea glasses; the terracotta or metal pots used across the country are the starting point for the Handi Man, which features a teak top and wireframe structure; and the cane woven baskets used to separate rice grains are adapted into the Winnow Stool, where a metal lattice framework creates the shape of the basket. www.bombayatelier.com



(From left) The Mister Chai coffee table; the Handi Man side table; the Winnow Stool

SAIF FAISAL

The Bengaluru-based designer draws from his experiences in architecture, the mechanical department of Formula SAE-Racing, and wood working, bringing together craft and technology. The LeggeraGT Series, comprising a chaise lounge, foot stool, and a rocking stool, looks to cars in the '60s; the Optick Lamp incorporates scientific principles of light rays, while the Counterpoise Lamp uses the dynamics of gravity. www.saif-faisal.com



The LeggeraGT Series chaise lounge

STUDIO WOOD

What started as a project to refurbish old furniture has now evolved into a design collective for bespoke furniture and spaces. Their latest collection, Figments, consists of a coffee table, bench, chair, console, and side table, handcrafted using cane, steel, glass, and wood at their workshop in the capital. Centred on the idea of memories, the pieces offer a modern narrative to Indian craftsmanship traditions. www.studiowood.co.in



The Ludwig chair

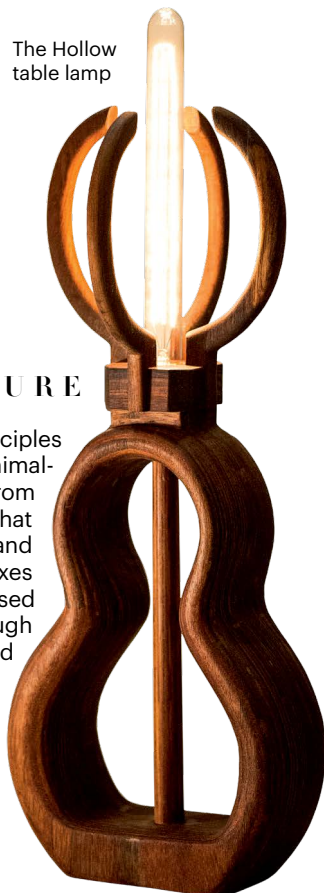
IQRUP + RITZ

Launched in 2014 by mother-daughter duo Iqrup and Rītika Dhamija, the brand works with family-run workshops to offer a range of expertly crafted furniture and décor accessories. Apart from designing in-house, they have also collaborated with independent labels like Safomasi. www.iqrupandrutz.com



The Henry coffee table

The Hollow table lamp



The Angle Mirror

OBJECTRY

How material dictates design is at the heart of Objectry. Its story began at a garage in New Delhi, as an experiment to elevate basic products, while exploring the potential of wood. Over the years, the brand has expanded its use of materials to include metal, clay, and stone as well. From mobile stands and pen holders to crockery, each product is handcrafted by grass-root level artisans. www.objectry.com



DIFFERNITURE

Their philosophy is guided by principles of sustainability: Think zero- or minimal-waste designs, reclaimed wood from shipping containers or from trees that have perhaps fallen in storms, and natural and non toxic oils and waxes for finishing. The collection is based on layers, visible in nature through step farming and the rings formed within tree trunks. This is best evidenced by pieces like the Piano Chair Stool, in which pine layered together creates a carved seat and foldable backrest. www.diffurniture.wordpress.com