





text : fardeen bhamgara



Located in high-end neighborhoods as standalone set ups across NCR, the idea behind the design of Monsoon Saloons was to create a brand identity for the new entrant and position them with a unique language in an already over crowded sector of salons and spas. Playing with the idea of the post monsoon shower washing out all the grime, and emerging with a cleansed sparkling rejuvenated feel, is what M.OFA (Manifestation: Of Fluid Architecture, NOIDA) tried to imbue into the interior space.





The 3,000 sq. ft. saloon is planned as a continuous open space divided in three sections: dry areas, wet areas and spa. The design uses natural materials such as exposed concrete, brickwork and rough-cut wood planks reclaimed from shipping pallets. To emphasize the postmonsoon idea, each material has been kept to its pure form. This idea is further strengthened by a clean, open ceiling where even the electrical conduits and the ac duct form a branching pattern with macro-proportioned light fixtures that hang like tulips in the rain; created out of reclaimed loudspeakers popularly known as Bhompoos*. The saloon branding has customized its floors, language, stationery and furniture items. Built at a cost of ₹ 2,450 per sq. ft., the designers say, "It is almost 50 percent lower than contemporary market rates for saloons. The use of shipping recycled pallets, railway sleepers, keeping the industrial look finished with sealants instead of plaster and paint, exposed RCC, brickwork, and services, have drastically kept the costs down; yet creating a unique identity." if

*classic bike horn



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