

FOR

KID



BRIGHT COLOURS, SAFE FURNITURES AND OPTIMUM USE OF SPACE, THAT'S WHAT YOUR CHILD'S ROOM NEEDS

Aroma Sah

■ aroma.sah@hindustantimes.com

W all papers, stickers, room decorations, paints, lights, clocks, rugs, carpets, bathroom accessories, bunk beds, study tables and other furniture are all specially created for kids but when purchasing products for them, make sure you don't just feature on the bright colours but also on their safety.

Kid-proofed

The world is their playground so it is important to create their space with extra focus towards safety. "We specially take care of kids' safety while designing products. In furniture, we make sure that only non-toxic paints are used as children lick and bite almost anything, we also ensure that there are no sharp ends and the corners are properly rounded," says Sannjay Mahipal of Watermelons.

Parents should keep in mind that solvent-free UV hydro lacquer and heavy metal free paints are used in the products they are purchasing. Even the paint or wallpaper must be lead-free.

"Among the bath accessories for kids, bathmats are the most important. They have to be a mix of colours to add life and energy to the room

and also be made of 100% cotton so that it does not harm the child's skin along with making the product super absorbent. To make it safer for your little ones, these bathmats come with spray backing or latex backing which makes them anti-skid," says Kuldeep Singla of Riviera.

Parent impact

"The first things that parents look for is the product design and its appeal. Then, how practical they are and the materials, paints and safety features follow later. Many-a-times it is only the cost that decides the purchasing factor," says Mahipal.

He adds, "On the contrary, practicality and space available should be the prime factors. Every-thing else such as safety, sturdiness, quality and creativity, must follow next giving equal preference to each. At times parents just look at one feature and forget the other, which should not be the case."

While doing up the kids bedroom parents want the best furniture with great design.

Abhijeet Mitra of Ebony Gautier says, "Parents and kids always first get attracted towards the design. But, parents must look at the practical aspect as well. Kids grow fast and their requirements change. Parents must opt for bunk beds over the usual ones as they can

later be converted to regular beds. Sizes can be adjusted from 90 cms to 120 to 140 cms.

Some beds also come with reversible colours that can be changed with the need of the growing child. There are also products that come with beds with drawer that can later be used for a book-case. So, multipurpose products must always be chosen for kids older others."

Cost effective

While the anti-skid mats can cost between ₹ 460 to ₹ 1150 depending upon the size, the furniture for kids room can cost anything from ₹ 3,700 onwards for study tables and beds that cost ₹ 20,000 upwards.

Here are some options to choose from:

Turtle bean bag

For a kids room, it is not the usual bean bag that appeals. Instead an innovative shape like a turtle or octopus is safe and fun is a better buy.

Price: ₹ 1100

Available at: Watermelons DLF Place Mall, Saket, Delhi

Room makeover sticker

Go beyond the simple and mundane wallpapers and wall paints for the kids room. Give it a complete and easy makeover with thematic stickers by FunToSee.

Price: ₹ 3499

Available at: Lifestyle and other home decor and kids stores across the country.

ONLY

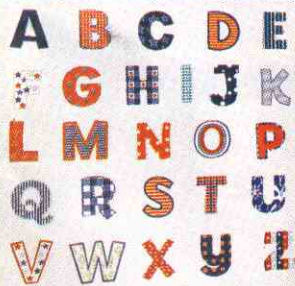
JUST RIGHT

Deck it up for children

BRIGHT FACTOR: The design of the room should be such that there is a lot of natural light. Brightness and colours bring more energy to the room.

MATCH UP: Fabrics of bed sheets, pillows and curtains should go with colours of dolls, toys and furniture placed in the room. It should have a cushy upholstery. Also, you would not want to change the look of the kid's room often.

PLAY SAFE: Furniture should be minimal with no sharp edges. There should be no dangling and poking pieces of decoration or chandeliers in the room. Heavy curtains must be avoided. Using funky wallpapers or vibrant paints can perk-up the space and are much in demand. The glow stars, sun and moon on the ceiling are still a favoured choice by kids.



Anti-skid mats

Make sure that the mat you place in your kids' room is anti-skid. There are colourful options with latex backing created for kids by Riviera Home. Price: ₹ 460 to ₹ 1150 depending upon the size

Available at: Jagdish Store, Lajpat Nagar in Delhi and Bharat Furnishing, Vile Parle & Novelty, Linking Road in Mumbai

Stacking fun

The stackable lion and elephant by Beebop help kids identify colours, textures and stimulate hand-eye coordination. It is made from soft

and kid-friendly material.

Price: ₹ 599

Available at: Shoppers Stop, Landmark, Hypercity, Lifestyle stores across the country

Bunk beds

A space saving option that is available in green, blue and yellow. It can be fixed over the existing bed and double as a playhouse. The sitting stools too can be used for storage. It will brighten the kids den and also make it a safe haven.

Price: ₹ 18,995

Available at: Ebony Gautier, MG Road, Gurgaon and Sector 18, Noida

ESSENTIALS: While deciding on the décor keep in mind the age and sex of the child. For a girl the princess look is still the favourite and for boys, cars top their list of choices. One corner of the room must be their to spoil. The room should have a blackboard to help them become creative. Foldable furniture such as sofa-cum-bed are the best. While the child can sleep on the double bed, during the night, it can be converted into a single bed during the day.

(WITH INPUTS FROM MONISHA GUPTA OF CRAFT HOUSE AND INTERIOR DESIGNER MONICA KAMAL)