

# Desk designs



Furniture designer Kumpal Agrawal studied interior design in UK.

A furniture designer needs to be creative and have good business skills to excel, finds Aruna Rathod

I was interior designing that got Kumpal Agrawal into furniture design. "I chose to do interior designing by chance as I wanted to do something other than BCom. It was only after joining the course that I realised how much I enjoyed it. Furniture designing followed as an extension to it," says Kumpal.

After her diploma in interior design and decoration from Rachna Sansad School of Interior Design, Mumbai, Kumpal went to UK to do her Masters in interior design and information technology from the University of Central England. "My first full time job was with architect Jayesh Shah at Tardeo where I executed my designs into reality.

I started my own practice in 2003. After three years of interior designing, I diversified into furniture designing with my store,

'Ash and Teak'," she continues.

Kumpal explains that the first step is to identify the furniture piece and its functionality. The most important thing is the utility.

"Then you start designing the furniture piece as per anthropometry (designing a furniture piece in relation to human dimensions). Next you have to look into comfort. After taking care of the comfort factor you select your material on the basis of weather (indoor/outdoor) and strength."

Cost is always a part of such selection and depending on the utility, you decide whether to use glass, steel, wood or leather, etc.

Once the drawing is ready, production can begin. Research and development is an important aspect of furniture design, which finally leads to an attractive piece.