

### **ORIGINAL BEDROOM**

Cold and uninviting, the original bedroom lacked warmth and personality, but I felt a sense of space and saw its potential when I first walked in.

The bedroom featured white walls, white shutters and a lot of empty unused space. Originally there was only a side table, a cot and a king size bed – which got lost in the room. The bedroom was unresolved and in need of some serious rescuing!

The large space needed more furniture to maximise the floor plan in order to create separate sitting areas. It was not a place where I could see my clients, or anyone else, retire to, as it was unwelcoming and unfinished and lacked the luxury feel that you would find in a five-star hotel.

After living in the house for two years, my clients needed a retreat in which they could unwind after a long day spent with their two young children – a childfree environment where they could close the door and relax.

### **INSPIRATION**

The inspiration for this bedroom was the photograph of a zebra hanging above the buffet titled 'Wild Beauty' by Peter Lik. When I first met my clients, the husband asked me if I could somehow implement the Zebra photograph, which meant a lot to his wife, into the new design. I took on his request and used the image as a starting point for my creative process for the entire room. I proposed a dark and sexy concept design, which was unexpected and dramatic – a luxurious, young, sophisticated and yet comfortable bedroom.

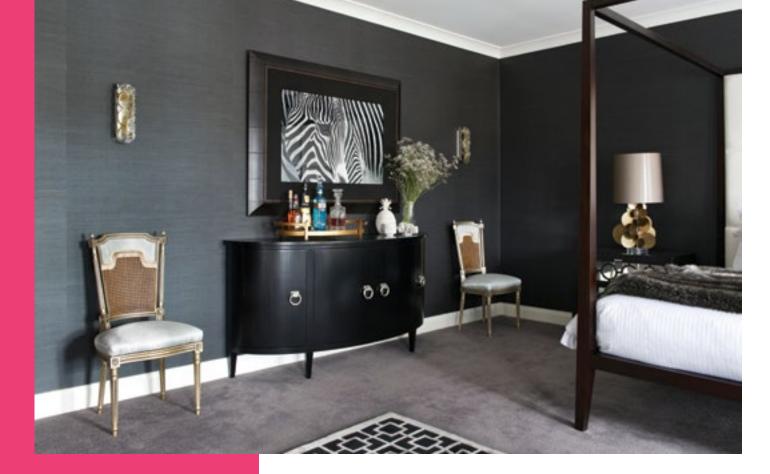
The functionality of the room was also improved by providing two separate sitting areas where my clients could sit down and unwind. The consideration of proportion and scale of furniture are critical in decorating any large room. Here, for example, the four-post bed creates a statement at the back wall, while the blue velvet upholstered sofa takes centre stage and is anchored by the custom designed geometric rug. The two grand armchairs, across the entry, create a beautiful vignette by the windows completing an otherwise empty corner in the room. The result being an inspired fusion of old-world hotel elegance with distinctly contemporary energy and a dash of glam.

### **PROJECT**

The adoption of different materials and surfaces helped achieve a layered effect that this room desperately needed. Graphic patterns and textures bring interest into the room along with accent colours, creating the perfect blend of masculinity and femininity - it's all about layers, light and

a little bit of luxury.

The design is a curated collection of antique, vintage and contemporary furniture. The four-poster bed features a custom nine-panel bedhead upholstered in Billabong



# ABOUT MASSIMO INTERIORS

Massimo Interiors is an interior design firm based in Melbourne, led by head designer Massimo Speroni. Growing up in Milan, Italy, Massimo has a natural instinct for innovative design concepts and elegant finishes that bring a sense of personality and completion to any home, big or small. Offering property styling, custom furniture design, sourcing and more, contact Massimo Interiors on 0414 656 449 or www.massimointeriors.com.au



fabric by Elliot Clarke, it stands out from the wall and provides a comfortable backrest when reading or watching TV in bed.

The lush blue velvet by Schumacher on the sofa takes this room to the next level, it's regal and a safe option for a child free zone. The zebra pattern in the photograph echoes in the fabric by Nya Nordiska in the two lumbar cushions. And on the marble top coffee table an edited array of accessories, books and flowers are the finishing touch, while a cheeky 'wink' candle by Fornasetti adds a lighthearted reference to the room.

### **COLOUR**

As the zebra photograph was my starting point for my inspiration, high contrast colours and patterns play a big part in the design of this bedroom. The size of the room and the natural light coming in during the day allowed me to select dark wallpaper creating drama and cocooning the space. The charcoal grass-cloth wallpaper by Elitis, adds some depth and texture to the walls creating the perfect neutral backdrop for any colour scheme. I also chose charcoal fabric for the wall of curtains, to match the wallpaper. The curtains soften the windows and wrap the room blocking out the light when fully closed.

Brass accent used in the bedside table lamps and gold leaf finish in the coffee table add warmth and sophistication, while the soothing sky-blue sofa and accent cushions bring life into the room.

### **FAVOURITES**

I love the overall transformation we achieved in this room. The sexy atmosphere comes to life especially in the evenings when the two vintage Italian 1940's wall sconces in Murano glass fill the room with soft lighting creating a sense of tranquil serenity – making it the perfect sanctuary.

My favourite pieces are the two grand armchairs by the windows. They are not your usual 'bedroom chairs' but they bring a sense of grandeur and a regal focal point when entering the room. Upholstered in vintage black velvet by Mokum on the outer, and an elegant pin stripe Italian fabric by Rubelli, the chairs are also highlighted by silver studs and a comfortable retreat for husband and wife.

### **BEDROOM DESIGN**

Beauty is just one part of the equation when designing a grand master bedroom. Start by choosing the flooring that reflects your personal style. Even if you have carpet buy a rug for your bedroom, not only is it nice to put your feet on in the morning, it cements your desired look and adds a cosy feel to the room.

The space needs to function and suit your lifestyle, so function is particularly important when selecting furniture. Do you need storage for clothes and accessories? Do you want to hide electronics? Do you have a specific bed size? After considering your options, choose wisely and allow enough room between furniture pieces so that you can move freely.

Privacy is also an important consideration.

### MASSIMO INTERIORS BEDROOM DESIGN TIPS

### **Color and Pattern**

Variations within one colour palette make it easy to properly choose and combine paint colours, bedding, and accessories when decorating a bedroom. Introduce two hues in a range of dark and light tones, rough and smooth textures and solid and patterned fabrics to fashion striking but serene bedroom scenes. Include rugs, accent pillows, throw blankets, and window treatments that present these colours in different scaled patterns to boost the wow factor. This principle applies to combining striped, floral, and geometric patterns.

### Finely Furnished

Create a bedroom design that easily accommodates your morning-to-nighttime needs. Purchase stylish bedroom extras such as storage trunks, garden seats, media centres, cushy reading chairs, bedside tables and dressing tables that meet your every need and make your routine run more smoothly. Abandon 'matchy-matchy' pieces of yesterday and instead fuse new and old furnishings and rustic and refined trimmings to create bedroom designs with that collected comfort.

### **Make a Focal Point**

Elevate a bedroom to new heights with an eye-catching bedhead. Soft and cushy with no hard edges, an upholstered bedhead is an ideal choice. If you crave privacy and a sense of enclosure, use canopies or bed curtains to wrap your bed in luxurious folds of fabric.

### **Window Dressing**

If you are like me and need to sleep in a pitch-black room, window-dressing is probably the most important thing after a comfortable mattress. Bedroom windows generally need room darkening treatments that block light in the morning and provide privacy at night. In addition to such functional considerations, bedroom window treatments help set a room's overall style. Gathered draperies communicate romantic elegance, while Roman shades speak of tailored sophistication, and shutters convey a casual cottage style. Layer room-darkening shades with draperies to address both functional and decorative needs.

### **Introduce Glamour with Mirrors**

A room that sparkles and shimmers radiates soft romance and high-style luxury. Beyond beauty, however, mirrors can serve a practical purpose by reflecting outside views and light that can help small bedrooms feel larger. Hang an oversized mirror on a wall with no windows to create a view where none exists. Or lean a tall mirror against a wall to create an illusion of depth, as well as a handy spot for reviewing an outfit before you head out the door.

### Take a Seat

Having a place to sit down and remove your socks and shoes makes life a little easier. Whether it be a small side chair or a bench at the foot of your bed, try to make room for secondary seating.

### **Light It Right**

No matter how you use your bedroom, you'll need to include layers of light. Use ceiling fixtures, chandeliers, wall sconces and recessed lights to provide general lighting; attach them to dimmer switches and remote controls so you can operate the lights at the touch of the button. Place lamps dressed in pretty shades on both sides of the bed and set floor lamps near reading chairs. If bedside-table space is tight, mount swing-arm lamps on each side of the bed. Or, mount on the wall a pair of sconces or a cool wall fixture that direct light downward.

## "IT'S ALL ABOUT LAYERS, LIGHT AND A LITTLE BIT OF LUXURY."

Like rugs, window treatments also help to control noise, plus they offer the added benefit of masking windows in the evenings and when privacy are needed. From a decorative perspective, window treatments add softness and style, critical to designing a stunning room.

Some of the most important elements of master bedroom design are the details. This is where you can add a few personal touches to the space to create a truly individualised sanctuary. Start by choosing comfortable, inviting bedding, pillows and throws. Appropriately scaled art and accessories add visual interest. Remember, accessories are a

good way to add splashes of colour to your master bedroom. If you like a particular tone — like rich teals, ruby reds or baby blue — select a few accessories that feature that hue and strategically place them throughout the room. Accessories that feature different textures add interest and character as well.

Lighting is also important in the bedroom. Natural sunlight is amazing during the day, but dimmed mood lighting is essential at night. Replacing your switch with a dimmer switch isn't too difficult or expensive and a bedside lamp is also a great way to add subtle light at night.

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