

AS SEEN IN
FLORIDA DESIGN'S
MIAMI
HOME & DECOR

PICTURE PERFECT IN SUNNY ISLES

AN OCEANFRONT GETAWAY SHOWS THAT MINIMALISM LEAVES ROOM FOR MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

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It was clear from the start that the view of the Atlantic Ocean is essential to this home in Sunny Isles, Fla., an area known for its spectacular views and oceanfront property. Situated on the sandy shores of a barrier island, one 2,600-square-foot condominium on the 28th floor of the third of three Trump Towers is the epitome of what such a vibrant location has to offer. And when designer Raquel Mothe took on the task of styling a fitting interior, she did so with the owner's desire for a unique modern retreat in mind.

Working as a team, Mothe and the owner chose the prevalent design features. "It was great," the designer says. "We went shopping to see all of the furnishings. She wanted to be a part of the process and knew exactly what she wanted."

On display in a black-lacquered wood niched wall, white vases add drama to the living room. Here, B&B Italia sofas from Luminaire and MDF Italia cocktail tables covered in leather sit in perfect complement to the pristine white interior.





Immediately upon entry, panoramic water views capture the imagination and elicit a feeling of serenity. Mothe created a symmetrical space in the living room to frame the picturesque image through floor-to-ceiling walls of glass. "Symmetry is the concept here," she says. With the two opposite yet identical low-lying sofas and a trio of linear cocktail tables, the sight lines point straight to the water. Form and function prevail with a custom-designed, white-lacquered panel wall unit that provides ample storage in the sleek, minimalist space.

Nearby, a wenge wood door slides open to reveal a glass-enclosed dining room — converted from the extra area inside the kitchen. "We chose a round table with a sculptural base and glass top," Mothe says, "so that chairs can be easily added or removed as needed."

The floating wall covered in a texturized concrete adds a casual tone in the entry, where art provides the focal point. Strategically placed with the ocean in mind, the contemporary pieces lead the way to the main social spaces and the ocean views beyond.

ABOVE: A clear console appears to float against the mirrored wall in the living room, where contemporary art and bold green Paola Lenti stools add a splash of color to the seaside setting. Here, a large sliding wenge wood door acts as a visual focal point as well as a functional separation from the dining room beyond.



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In the dining room, Flos' hemispherical "SkyGardens" pendant by Marcel Wanders adds a modern flair above MDF Italia's sculptural glass-topped table.

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"When you enter the apartment, the idea is to see the ocean," Mothe says. "The art is the focal point of the hallway, but it was placed with the ocean in mind." Found at a local art gallery, these graffiti-inspired paintings are by famed American artist Keith Haring.

"THE GOAL WAS TO CREATE A SPACE WITH A PURE AESTHETIC AND UNCOMPLICATED STYLE THAT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE ANY OTHER APARTMENT," DESIGNER RAQUEL MOTHE SAYS. "AN IRREPLACEABLE VACATION RETREAT."



"One of my favorite things about my client is her willingness to take risks," Mothe says. "Like the media room with the red felt area rug ... it just pops." Converting empty storage into a useful relaxation destination, this once closet space turns into a cozy television viewing area.

To add a touch of lighthearted playfulness to the otherwise streamlined design, artwork and light fixtures are placed just off center in the master suite. Here, Mothe designed the headboard to pull in the warm wooden accents present throughout the space. "The wall behind the headboard is covered in a light smooth concrete that does not take away from the design in the room," the designer says.

"I went with white in the master bath to keep everything bright and airy," Mothe says. "It's a space you don't want dark wood or other dark tones since it is so close to the ocean." The sleek, lacquer vanity appears to float in a sea of white.

Whether entertaining or relaxing in this condo high above the white sandy shores of the Atlantic Ocean, the modern-minimalist design couples with majestic water views to create this picture-perfect Sunny Isles retreat.

ABOVE: The designer pairs oversized, light gray seating with a bold, red felt area rug to create a cozy and functional media room. A powerful design element, a continuation of the living room's black-lacquered wood paneling covers the expanse of the entertainment area. On the opposite side, *Algues* by Vitra link together to form a whimsical puzzle across the wall.

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ABOVE AND BELOW: In the master suite, the low-lying bed backs the upholstered headboard panels, while white sheers pull open to Miami's vibrant cityscape. Bold pops of color splash nearby, where B&B Italia lounge chairs and a pouf-style cocktail table form an intimate grouping in the sitting area.

SOURCES

BALCONY

Side chairs and cocktail table - Paola Lenti, Luminaire, Miami, FL

LIVING ROOM

Sofas - B&B Italia, Luminaire, Miami, FL

Cocktail tables - MDF Italia, Luminaire, Miami, FL

Green stools - Paola Lenti, Luminaire, Miami, FL

DINING ROOM

Dining table - MDF Italia, Luminaire, Miami, FL

Chairs - B&B Italia, Luminaire, Miami, FL

Chandelier - Flos, Luminaire, Miami, FL

MEDIA ROOM

Sofas - B&B Italia, Luminaire, Miami, FL

Installation above sofa - Algue by Vitra, New York, NY

MASTER BEDROOM

Bed, lounge chairs and table - B&B Italia, Luminaire, Miami, FL

Headboard wall covering, accent pillow fabric, bedside chest and floating cabinetry - Mothe Design, Miami, FL

Bed covering - ThreadCount, Miami, FL

Floor lamp - Flos, Luminaire, Miami, FL

Lounge chairs and cocktail table - B&B Italia, Luminaire, Miami, FL

THROUGHOUT

Recessed lighting - Kreon, Miami, FL

Draperies - RT Decor, Miami, FL

Artwork, accessories and area rugs - Owner's Collection **M**

