

now
PEOPLE

an interior designer journey 1974-1991
an interior design career 1991-2009

who INTERIOR DESIGNER CAMERON WOO
why HIS SHOWFLAT DESIGN IS REPRESENTING THE
ASIA-PACIFIC AT THE CNBC ARABIA INTERNATIONAL
PROPERTY AWARDS 2009 HELD IN THE US
he loves SINGAPORE'S COSMOPOLITAN FEEL
he thinks YOU CAN DO ANYTHING WITH PAINT,
SUCH AS HAND-APPLYING A MOCK-TILE FINISH

Given Cameron Woo's exotic background - he moved from Papua New Guinea to Sydney to Singapore - it's not surprising his work is a mix of international, eclectic and eco-friendly ideas. Although he has does not have a signature style ("my signature" is quality of life, design and material), it is not that hard to spot Cameron's polished touch. Elegantly hand-crafted and embellished bespoke furniture is a key element of his interiors, as are hints of nature like a coral-patterned rug.

"My parents were art enthusiasts, and I grew up around beautiful things. Becoming a Designer was a natural progression," he says. Expanding his Sydney firm Cameron Woo Design to Singapore was also logical. "It's natural and is leading the world in terms of condominium trends and indoor-outdoor living."

The move to Singapore has brought him to the international spotlight. His Showflat for Capricorn The Metropolitan won the Best Residential Interior Design Category for Asia Pacific in the prestigious International Property Awards 2009 by CNBC Arabia. His firm was also featured in the Arabian Interior Design Awards which showcases top designers worldwide.

"I've been working on a Middle-east high residential development in China and a private residence in India, in line of Singapore projects here," Cameron shares. ■

Cameron Woo (check out works by Cameron Woo Design)
@www.cameronwoo.com

Cameron shares
insights and the
hand-painted
wall effect in
his award-winning
showflat.





STANDARD DIMENSIONS TO KNOW

HABITABLE ROOM
30sq ft per person

RESIDENTIAL
70sq ft per person

SEATING AT DINING TABLE
4' per width per person

SPACE TO PULL OUT A CHAIR
22" per seat
22" per seat

22" SPACE UNDER A DESK
30" per minimum

IDEAL WORKING SIZE
10'6" x 7'6"

IDEAL CIRCULATION SPACE
24" sq per foot of a home's total floor area

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Photo: G. Taylor. Built-in appliances and custom built cabinets can help you maximize your small space better.



the place of the shopper's customer interest. Do check if there is sufficient workspace and kitchen storage too.

Unfortunately, "there is no legislation on a minimum size for residential units. But they must be able to function independently, with facilities like a living/dining area, kitchen and bathroom. This gives developers the flexibility to create different-sized units to cater to various groups," says a spokesperson from the Urban Redevelopment Authority.

Interior designers caution that buyers should do a reality check before selecting a compact home. "While there are ways to maximize a tiny space, I don't think these smaller flats are meant for family living," says Cameron Woo, the interior designer of The Metropolitan (17)th floor.

Developers themselves say singles, couples without children, and investors are the target market for the so-called capsule condominium unit. It's up to the buyer if he prioritizes short-term over long-term needs, or tries to squeeze a family of four into a unit intended for one.

Ultimately, it's really your choice. Should you buy a home to fit you, or should you fit yourself into a home? ■