

HOME



ART SMART
INVESTING IN THE
RIGHT PIECE

INSIDE
SONAKSHI SINHA
AND ZAHEER
IQBAL'S APARTMENT

BUY THE WAY
NEW RETAIL
EXPERIENCE

Bathroom
concept
by FCML



BESPOKE BATHROOMS

WHERE LUXURY, DESIGN AND
INDULGENCE CONVERGE

PROMINANCE

UPVC WINDOW SYSTEMS



Window Brand Trusted by Millions

Premium uPVC windows are crafted to bring elegance

28 states • 850 cities • 03 union territories



Colors that captivate!



www.prominace.com | info@prominace.com
toll-free 1800 833 4500 | +91 95008 95005

25,000+ hrs
UV-tested weather protection

IFT-German Certified
Top thermal transmittance



INDIA TODAY HOME

CHAIRMAN AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Aroon Purie
VICE CHAIRPERSON AND
EXECUTIVE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Kalli Purie
GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Dinesh Bhatia
GROUP EDITORIAL DIRECTOR: Raj Chengappa
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Manoj Sharma
GROUP CREATIVE EDITOR: Nilanjan Das
GROUP PHOTO EDITOR: Bandeeep Singh
SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Ridhi Kale
PHOTO RESEARCHERS: Prabhakar Tiwari
(Deputy Visual Research Editor)
and Saloni Vaid
SENIOR ART DIRECTOR: Angshuman De
PRODUCTION: Harish Aggarwal
(Chief of Production),
Naveen Gupta (Chief Coordinator)
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:
Suparna Kumar
SENIOR GENERAL MANAGERS (IMPACT):
Jitendra Lad (West)
Syed Naveed
GROUP CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER
Vivek Malhotra



VOL. 21 NUMBER 6; JULY 2026

Copyright Living Media India Ltd. All rights reserved throughout the world. Reproduction in any manner is prohibited.
Printed and published by Manoj Sharma on behalf of Living Media India Limited. Printed at Thomson Press India Private Limited, 18-35 Milestone, Delhi Mathura Road, Faridabad - 121007, (Haryana); Published at F-26, First Floor, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110001. Editorial/Corporate Office: Living Media India Ltd., India Today Group Mediaplex, FC-8, Sector-16A, Film City, Noida - 201301; Editor: Raj Chengappa.
India Today does not take responsibility for returning unsolicited publication material.



Follow us on Instagram @indiatoday_home
to stay up to date on design, interiors,
products, deals and a lot more.

contents



Photograph by ISHITA SITWALA; Designed by VAISHALI KAMDAR ASSOCIATES; Location FCML MUMBAI

20 BATHROOM SPECIAL

Abhinav Khandelwal, the brains behind FCML, reflects on a 25-year journey transforming Indian bathrooms into haute couture wellness spaces

COVER PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY FCML AHMEDABAD | PHOTOGRAPH BY ISHITA SITWALA
DESIGNED BY RED ARCHITECTS
PRODUCT DEVON & DEVON, BLUES COLLECTION

Note to the reader: From time to time, you will see pages titled 'An Impact Feature' or 'Focus' in INDIA TODAY HOME. This is no different from an advertisement.



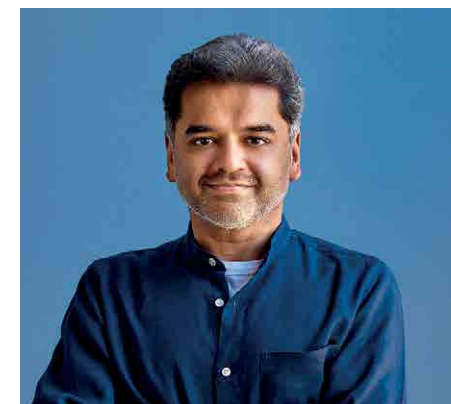
Photograph by ISHITA SITWALA



Photograph by ISHITA SITWALA



Photograph by AVESH GAUR



CURATING CUSTOM COMFORT

Abhinav Khandelwal, driving force behind FCML, trades digital touchscreens for raw sensory luxury. He puts passion and the end user as the priority before, during and after the purchase

Bureau Report

Photograph by AVESH GAUR



It started with a moment of pure, unexpected envy. Decades ago, while walking past a boutique bathroom showroom in the UK, Abhinav Khandelwal found himself staring at custom bathroom setups and realised with sudden clarity that nothing like it existed back home. That singular spark did not just birth a business; it set off a quiet, 25-year revolution in the landscape of Indian design. Long before wellness became a mainstream trend, Khandelwal championed the philosophy that bathrooms could be personal sanctuaries of design, comfort and wellbeing. His unique ability to anticipate shifts, embrace innovation and relentlessly focus on the customer experience has firmly positioned him as a thought leader who helped shape the luxury bath and wellness industry in India. Today, the brand he built, FCML, spans 15 cities, operating less like a traditional retailer and more like an elite design laboratory.

Organic Metamorphosis

"We don't differentiate between product lines," Khandelwal notes, reflecting a philosophy that treats every corner of the home with equal reverence. "Each design is as dear to us as the other." This egalitarian view of space explains FCML's rhythmic, highly organic expansion. Like a well-composed home, the brand grew room by room, layer by layer. Every three to four years over its quarter-century journey, it innovated, adding bespoke tiles, wooden flooring and kitchens to its repertoire. The common thread? A stubborn refusal to compromise on quality, transitioning away from institutional, volume-heavy projects to focus almost entirely on the uncompromising world of high-end private residences.

STAND OUT LAYOUTS

FCML Ahmedabad flagship store designed by Rajiv and Ekta Parekh, reD Architects (far left and middle); FCML Bangalore extension floor designed by Vritima Wadhwa, Project 810 (right and below); Abhinav Khandelwal (above)



Photograph by ISHITA SITWALA

Class Meets Couture

As the Indian consumer matures, the luxury market has bifurcated. On one hand sits the uber-luxury purist demanding bespoke, boutique European craftsmanship; on the other is a massive wave of premium-luxury buyers seeking global quality without astronomical lead times. FCML's genius lies in its ability to speak both design dialects fluently. For the premium market, they have engineered a sophisticated network of global OEM partners and joint-venture manufacturing setups; most notably in their burgeoning kitchen vertical. For the purist, they remain the ultimate gatekeepers of international design, holding a portfolio of over 50 world-class, primarily European manufacturers. These are not volume players; they are future-forward innovators. Take, for instance, their partnership with Gessi, a brand Khandelwal credits with completely revolutionising the design language and materiality of the modern bath. Or Apaiser, an Australian trailblazer whose bathtubs are sculpted from a unique, tactile blend of marble dust and polymer resin. But perhaps FCML's most brilliant coup is in the surface department. Recognising that tiles are the canvas of a room, they have

WASH WARE
(clockwise) FCML Mumbai gets a new look by Vaishali Kamdar, Vaishali Kamdar Associates; followed by images from FCML Pune store, also designed by Kamdar



Photograph by HEMANT PATIL



Photograph by HEMANT PATIL

cover story

Bathrooms | In-Focus

bridged the gap between fashion and form. By collaborating with India's iconic design royalty, including Rajesh Pratap Singh, Abraham & Thakore, Aneet Arora (Pero), Peter D'Ascoli and JJ Valaya, they have turned walls and floors into wearable art for the home, custom-manufactured to perfection.

Architecture of the Modern Bath

According to Khandelwal, the true innovations shaping the modern bathroom are architectural and material, rather than digital. Home-owners are expanding the physical footprint of their bathrooms, demanding larger windows and open layouts that flood the space with natural daylight, seamlessly blending nature with privacy. The current aesthetic zeitgeist belongs to the integrated stone look. Think seamless washbasins sculpted out of single blocks of marble and stone, bringing a grounded, tactile luxury to the space. According to him, the bathroom has fully transitioned into a private spa. Soaking bathtubs, saunas, steam rooms, whirlpools, and chill showers are no longer lifestyle exceptions—they are becoming the standard for the modern, design-conscious home. His absolute bathroom essentials? A cold plunge and an ice shower.

Philosophy of Service

FCML is not resting on its 25-year laurels. While Khandelwal notes their flagship uber-luxury portfolio is perfectly curated—bringing the world's leading bath and wellness brands across an expansive 14-city footprint from Delhi and Mumbai to upcoming outposts in Surat, Raipur and Chandigarh—their retail trajectory is entering an ambitious new phase. The strategy relies on a clear, brilliant distinction: while the flagship FCML tier remains the pinnacle of bespoke luxury, the brand is rapidly scaling BathDetails, its premium, accessible luxury platform. Built around a philosophy of 'Luxury Simplified', BathDetails operates as a hybrid digital-and-physical experience tailored for those seeking uncompromising quality at a more approachable price point. Yet, despite the distinct positioning, the underlying ecosystem remains unbroken; every BathDetails product carries the exact same ironclad warranty, rigorous service standards and after-sales support.

Khandelwal's passion is evident to everyone. "Nearly two decades later, one of my very first clients, a lady from Delhi, met me at a wedding. She told me her bathrooms felt dated and she was ready to break them down completely and spend a fortune redoing them." Instead of capitalising on a lucrative demolition project, Khandelwal took a different path. He sent his team to inspect the space. The bones were excellent; only the hardware showed its age. FCML painstakingly restored, touched up and serviced the existing fixtures, giving the client an experience that was as good as new for a mere fraction of the price. "We are not greedy," Khandelwal says flatly. "We just want to believe in giving the right product and the right service to people."

By treating the bath not as a utility room but as a wellness sanctuary, FCML has subtly written the definitive book on how luxe India bathes. It is a philosophy driven entirely by Khandelwal's passion. Whether it means engineering a client's quietest wellness retreat or bringing their most outlandish, high-stakes dreams to life, FCML proves that true luxury isn't about chasing temporary novelty. It is about a fierce, ethical commitment to craftsmanship and the understanding that the most intimate corners of our homes deserve the grandest, most audacious narratives.