

SINGAPORE

# Flatler Homes

## Art and Soul

Get creative with your interior makeover  
through a curated mix of objets d'art





Consider replacing old sideboards with standout accent pieces that also act as a focal point in your home. “Clients are (increasingly) seeking out cabinetry that is not only functional, but also enhances the spatial design,” says Lim. “There has been a growing interest in products that are out of the norm, such as the Edra Scrigno cabinet.”

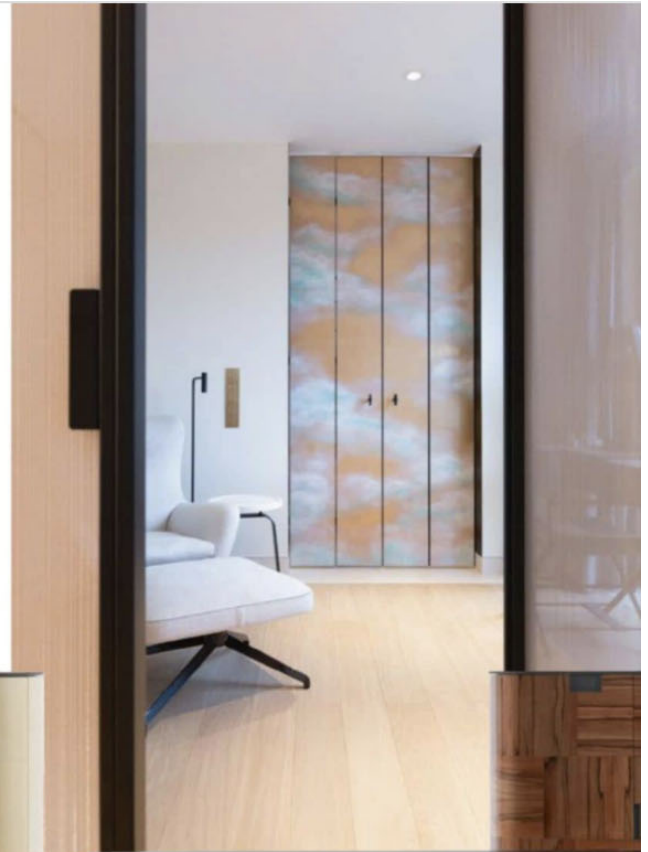
If you’re commissioning bespoke cabinets, Chloe Elkerton, founder and creative director of E&A Interiors, suggests experimenting with a mix of colours and materials to create a layered look. “Add details such as moulding, groove lines, or a trim to stop carpentry from looking too flat,” she says. “Consider incorporating arches, or use rattan-inset panels to add texture as well as a natural touch.”

### A FRESH TAKE

While completely overhauling your home’s joinery might sound like the best way forward, it isn’t the only way. If your cabinets are in good condition, consider giving them a new lease of life by adding decorative elements; it’s also a more sustainable method to update your abode with a decor refresh.

Switching out the handles and hardware is a simple yet impactful way to transform an existing piece. “You can turn a ho-hum kitchen or vanity into a masterpiece just by changing your hardware,” says US-based designer Michelle Nussbaumer. “I don’t think people realise how important hardware is. This small change can make a huge impact!”

Another tip: try applying patterns onto the shelves. Whether you use a wallpaper or a decal, the end result can create a fresh



**Clockwise from top left:** A refurbished cabinet from local vintage furnishings retailer Hock Siong & Co, which also provides furniture upcycling services; the Maxalto Tesauro storage units by Antonio Citterio feature a staggered checker motif with crossed grains, available at Space Furniture; cloud-motif wallpaper adds a playful touch to the cabinet doors in an abode designed by Ina Rinderknecht; RT+Q co-founder Rene Tan incorporates bookcases, shelves and other storage into discreetly designed panels throughout his family home; the Edra Scrigno cabinet by the Campana Brothers from Space Furniture features decorative mirror shards on its doors

and modern look. “Use a beautiful patterned wallpaper as a backing on cabinetry such as a bookcase; this will add colour and pattern to a space,” says Elkerton. “Stencils are also a good way to update a plain chest of drawers and create pattern and texture.”

You can also consider repainting your cabinetry in a new hue. “Colour is very important—be bold and use strong colours on carpentry,” says Elkerton. Rinderknecht agrees, while advising that homeowners should consider leaving this to the professionals so they don’t risk damaging their beloved furnishings. “(While) giving your cabinets a few coats of paint can change the look of your cabinetry quickly, more precise treatments such as sanding, staining, repainting or refinishing depend on the existing finish of your cabinet,” she says.

### VIVE LA VINTAGE

Refurbished pieces from vintage stores can also make beautiful additions to your home, while adding a touch of history to your interior.