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GROHE SMARTCONTROL

Juggling kitchen tasks? Feel like you never have enough hands? The new SmartControl feature is here to make life easier. Instead of grappling with a lever it lets you switch the water flow on and off with just the touch of a button – meaning you even use your elbow or wrist. Turn the button to control volume with ease, from an eco-flow to a powerful jet. To adjust the water temperature, turn the valve at the body gently to the left or right. GROHE.HK

BLUE PURE FILTER FAUCETS
Purer Taste, Pure Enjoyment

Add great taste to your kitchen, effortlessly, with a GROHE Pure Blue Filter faucet. GROHE Blue Filter faucet technology turns tap water into great-tasting filtered drinking water, removing chlorine and other impurities that can impair taste. Separate internal water ways keep filtered and unfiltered water separate at all times. The GROHE filter fits easily under your sink and the faucet still offers all the usual functionality of a standard kitchen faucet. Put pure, refreshing, filtered water at the heart of your kitchen with a GROHE Blue Pure faucet. GROHE.HK

ONLY AVAILABLE AT
HOP LUNG - 290 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai

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HOP LUNG - 290 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai
Back with a vengeance!

As they say, a house is not a home until you have added your personal touch to it in accordance with your taste, lifestyle, habits and pastimes.

Compared to the Mainland, Hong Kong has been relatively slow in taking up online shopping. One reason is perhaps the local custom of mall hopping after a yum-cha lunch. The stroll definitely helps burn off those calories, and retail therapy is serious business!

But Covid-19 has put an abrupt stop to such merry-making activities as we are obliged to observe preventive measures against contagion. And online shopping is suddenly all the rage as consumers try to relieve their boredom by surfing the net for a whole range of novelty products in addition to daily necessities.

With the approach of hot, humid weather, there’s nothing better than browsing through furniture and lifestyle shops as you get to inspect the latest arrivals in cool comfort away from the blazing sun. The easing of the epidemic means more people are venturing outdoors again to the delight of retailers.

The free-port status and our excellent logistics make Hong Kong a shopper’s paradise, as we have easy access to a bewildering range of merchandise from all over the world, and especially now all at bargain prices to lure back shoppers.

As usual, Home has assembled many brilliant ideas and innovative products to brighten your abode.

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RESIGLOW

From artisanal wonders to gastronomical delights, Happy Valley beckons with an eclectic mix of cultures and experiences. Ascending to your private sanctuary in a spectacular glass lift, you are home: a New-York city-inspired, loft apartment bathed in natural light, an ambience which makes the heart soar. For those who aspire to rise above, Resiglow is your perfect abode.

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Founded in 1975, Ulferts is hailed as the first and the largest retail chain store of up-market multi-branded European furniture in Hong Kong. Working with a number of prestigious furniture brands, Ulferts applies its expertise in presenting a range of well-crafted products with the trendiest materials that suit Hongkongers’ taste.

Home to opulent furniture

The brand is in a position to offer an incredible selection of furniture at very reasonable and competitive prices because they have been collaborating with most of their key suppliers for more than forty years. Different from most furniture shops in Hong Kong, Ulferts keeps a large number of its inventories in stock. Ulferts spares no effort in making customers feel at home at their stores where staff share their expertise and professional advice. Over the years, the brand has taken home a wide range of awards for their service excellence, such as HKRMA’s Service and Courtesy Award and Mystery Shopper Programme Award.

Ulferts’ showrooms are well represented all over Hong Kong with branches in Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and New Territories. They are dedicated to delivering a superb shopping experience through their stylish European décor and attentive professional services.

Through more than four decades of unremitting efforts, Ulferts has earned the trust of loyal customers and has grown into a strong market leader. In continuing to bring a premium European lifestyle to its discerning customers, Ulferts has curated their Signature store where they can readily appreciate the concept of ‘Europe comes to Life’.

After going through a series of makeovers and reconfigurations, Ulferts’ Hung Hom Signature store boasts a spacious 3-storey showroom that showcases distinctive styles of European furniture on each storey. Spanning 20,000 sq. ft, the store features masterpieces with sophisticated finishing and excellent craftsmanship, and is geared to serving up-market customers looking for a superior lifestyle.

European furniture is world-renowned for their remarkable design, quality materials and excellent craftsmanship. Ulferts’ purchasing team pays frequent visits to Europe and attends international fairs such as Milan Furniture Fair and Cologne International Furniture Fair every year to bring the latest styles and quality products to Hongkongers.

Furthermore, Ulferts carries a complete range of products, including sofas, dining tables, dining chairs, cabinets and beds, and ensures there is abundant stock to fulfill customer needs in a timely manner. In recent years, Ulferts has also imported a range of furniture of smaller sizes to suit customer requirements. Ulferts guarantees all its products are safe for use, with many accredited by international institutions as environment-friendly, and having caused minimal damage to the natural environment with no harmful substance released.

Your home deserves the magic touch of Ulferts
For customers after classy yet contemporary homeware, Ulferts introduces Tonin Casa, a premium brand featuring products manufactured with trendy, refined and elegant raw materials.

**TONIN CASA**

Founded in 1975, Tonin Casa strives to achieve high safety standards and high reliability. Always embracing totally original character in its creations, the brand couples beauty with functionality, and tradition with innovation; it pays attention to details, and cohesion between the different elements.

One of the distinguishing features of Tonin Casa products is the harmony in the composition. They believe that technique and materials are nothing without the love. Therefore, each single piece has its own soul.

New products from Tonin Casa are now exclusively available at Ulferts. Here are some of the highlights:

**Designed by Tonin Casa, York** is a fixed round table with a solid walnut wood base, whilst its top is available in smoked transparent, transparent or extra-clear glass. It has a geometric tone for those who love to dare with elegance.

**Elegantly crafted by Plurimo Design, Albatross bookcase** is a multi-shelf bookcase with lacquered metal shelves and wooden wall support. Apart from its purpose of being a bookshelf, it can also be sideboards and showcases to reflect your personal charm. It is perfect for a functional and design work environment.

**Designed by Davide Bozzini, Tartan** is a sideboard with varnished metal to support the top, sides and frame. A serigraphy inspired by traditional Scottish costumes, there is refinement in simplicity.

**Designed by Tosca Design, the avant-garde Dalì lamp resembles watches designed by the great artist Dalì. The lamp consists of fused glass dripping over solid oak wood stems, along with a recessed LED light. Adding an extra rustic touch to your home, the suspended version is supported by thick authentic leather details.**

**Desgined by Angelo Tomaiuolo, Sorrento Ésprit**, a classy chair with small but very attractive dimensions, gives an extra touch of finesse to the dining room.

**Designed by Davide Bozzini, Winderly**, a fan-shaped mirror, allows you to add an oriental touch to your contemporary home. It stands on top of a wooden structure, an extremely simple part, enriched by a wonderful black tassel. It will be fun having a fan, a magnificent object characterized by an almost mythical levity, into which one can see oneself, observe the light reflecting and widening the space where it hangs.

**Designed by Angelo Tomaiuolo, Sound Desk breaks the stereotype. It floats lightly in the middle of the wall to which it is fixed. With a simple touch on your phone, you can work wrapped in any of your favourite melodies, as the table can be accessorized with acoustic speakers and LED lighting. Leather or eco leather in a range of color finishes are available.**

**Designed by Plurimo Design, Nipper, crafted by Plurimo Design, marries practicality and beauty with its ideal combination of metal and wood. The latter’s warmth characterizes both the legs and the top, but its presence is interrupted by a metal part - an extremely light and contemporary line that gives this writing desk a touch of elegance and novelty.**

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Working wonders with sofas

To add a touch of avant-garde opulence to your home, sometimes all you need is a comfy and timeless sofa, and Ulferts offers an incredible range for your selection.

Designed by Gamma, a luxury Italian brand famed for elegant designs, Sacai is a modular, modern leather sofa with a special cutting-edge hydraulic "push up" mechanism to adjust the backrest height by placing slight pressure on the top part.

This sectional sofa features unique geometric lines and special edge stitching, heightening its contemporary style. Meanwhile, the seating system interprets the philosophy of relaxation, where comfort and modularity form the guiding principles. The components of the Sacai sofa can be combined in an interactive way to fuel the imagination to devise different solutions for a living room that never looks the same.

This collection also has a dedicated Ottoman that can be fitted to the side of the sofa, or as a corner piece. A third seat can also be added to create a sectional or linear sofa, depending on where it is positioned.

Designed by the Italian brand of Egoitaliano, Beverly is an elegant and comfortable sofa, equipped with relaxing innovative functions. With a strong and geometric design, the sofa confirms the extreme care of the details and the high quality of the material used.

Also from Gamma, Scarlett is a chaise-longue made with leather, adorned by a modern design that boasts a soft cushion and accompanied by a matching pouffe. Along with its enticingly modern design and invitingly curvaceous contours, this set of sofa makes sure that your comfort levels are unsurpassed.

For utter comfort, place a soft seat cushion on the specially designed delicate shell. Meanwhile, its crossover base is a feisty addition made for lazy days at home.

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Cover Story
AXOR

Places of Origin

AXOR, a world-renowned designer brand of the Hansgrohe Group, perfects your bathroom by crafting technology-forward and exceptional taps, showerheads and accessories.

With the brand campaign, AXOR Places, the design brand explores the very personal Places of Memory of well-known design partners, including Jean-Marie Massaud, Phoenix Design or Barber & Osgerby. The designers share their personal memories and individualized design concepts that bring them back to the raw in the over-digitalized world. Starting April 21, all stories come together digitally on the brand website: axor-design.com/places.

Aerial photography by Tom Hegen complements the campaign on a visual level. His pictures connect the very personal Places of Memory of AXOR design partners with the individualization possibilities that the AXOR MyEdition faucet collection offers - maximum freedom in the choice of materiality for the mounting plate.

In addition to the material’s origin, the campaign also highlights its journey of conversion. “With portraits of craftsmen, we are not only focusing on our design partners and the creatives behind the brand, but also on the craft itself, the materiality, and the origin of our products,” says Anke Sohn, Head of AXOR Brand Marketing.

Culture of craftsmanship

From marble, wood, to leather - the finest materials used give AXOR MyEdition an exclusive appearance. Highly specialized enterprises process them near the brand’s headquarters in the Black Forest. Not only does AXOR value these skilled experts, but they are also in demand for outfitting high-quality yachts and private jets.

1. Leather: Sensuous Haptics and Perfect Aesthetics

Coming from cattle from southern Germany or Austria, every hide is inspected by hand while the surface is checked for marks so they don’t run into the cut. The hide is split down to a thickness of one millimeter so that it can be used to cover delicate objects just as the AXOR MyEdition mounting plate. Most of the processes, such as sewing the cover plate or applying the AXOR logo with a hot stamp, are done meticulously by hand. Nappa leather, that is used in the interior design of yachts, gives us the assurance that the leather can also be used in wet areas.

1. Marble: From Cathedrals of White Stone

“It is absolutely extraordinary to produce natural stone in this thin format,” Joshua Walter, master stonemason, says. The Jenn Cliff Massif in South Tyrol provides the white marble for the mounting plates of the AXOR MyEdition collection. AXOR has chosen to use the world-famous Lasa marble of the best quality in addition to the black marble from Basque country. Whilst processing the plates, the specialists encounter challenges as the thin stone breaks easily. Specialists as well have to go through complex procedures such as impregnation, marble lasering and tinning by hand, to make the marble plate brilliant, perfect, and individual.

1. Wood: Art can be Timeless

Described as one of the most beautiful high-grade woods by Jürgen Guiner, the master carpenter, walnut used for the plate of the AXOR MyEdition collection comes from sustainably managed forests in North America and Canada. It is cultivated and processed according to socially and ecologically responsible aspects. The tree is cut down, the logs sawed and then sliced in the veneer preparation area. Only inspected pieces with perfect grain are considered. For additional stability, the wood panel on the back side is milled out and glued together with a stainless-steel plate. A laser is used to apply the AXOR logo to the plate. Then the surface is oiled to protect the material and give it an elegant appearance. The finished plate speaks to the senses of touch and vision as it feels seamlessly smooth and skillfully refined. The wood keeps its natural color and develops an especially individualized radiance.

Setting oneself apart from the masses. Gratiﬁying the need for uniqueness. Striking out in a new direction. This is the mission statement of AXOR MyEdition. Clear, linear design sets the stage for personal fulﬁllment. For one’s own creativity. A personal statement. In perfection. axor-design.com
The kitchen is widely considered the heart of a home, while the bathroom is simply no less important. Let the hearty dinner and the therapeutic shower free you from the fatigue of work.
Blue Pure filter taps: tasty, convenient and safe

Water being a vital resource in our everyday lives, there still exists in some parts of the world where water coming directly from the faucet cannot be used for food preparation or uses in the bathroom due to their insufficient quality.

That is where GROHE Blue Pure comes in. The filter-water tap can be added next to the existing kitchen tap, which allows you to enjoy pure, filtered drinking water on tap whenever you want. Comparable with under-counter water filters widely available in the Hong Kong market, the 2-in-1 faucet for filtered and unfiltered water also saves up space, as no extra filter head or dispenser is required to be installed at the sink.

User-oriented faucets

Never have enough hands when juggling kitchen tasks? Leading global brand GROHE is here to make your life easier.

With the new SmartControl faucet feature, you can now switch the water on and off with just the touch of an intelligent button at the top of the faucet’s head, instead of grappling with a lever. It also works using your wrist or elbow – it comes especially handy when both of your hands are occupied and not clean. Considering the many compact living space in Hong Kong, the omittance of the handle also saves operation space needed for conventional faucets.

Simply turn the button to control the water volume from an eco-flow to a powerful jet, or adjust the water temperature by turning the valve at the body gently to the left or right. What’s more, the pull-out mousseur head gives you great flexibility for rinsing the sink or prepping vegetables. With the GROHE Magnetic Docking, the spray head is gently guided back into its original position after use thanks to a strong magnet.

Gearing up your kitchenette

Bring convenience and state-of-the-art technology into your kitchen with GROHE’s brand new Blue Pure filter taps and SmartControl faucets.

Fusing design and functionality, the GROHE Blue Pure is available as a duo version – with two separate waterways and outlets for filtered and unfiltered water – in three sleek design lines: BauEdge, Eurosmart and Minta featuring a pull-out spout to provide extra convenience. GROHE also offers a mono version of it.

Another value-adding feature is that, while the production of one litre of water in plastic bottles requires up to seven litres of water, GROHE Blue Pure works with just the actual water that is being used.

Aside from the kitchen, the innovation is also applicable in the bathrooms, especially in regions where the water quality makes a straightforward and intuitive bath routine hardly possible. With the integration of GROHE Blue Pure in the bathroom, the faucet turns tap water into a natural source of pure, clean drinking water that can be safely and conveniently used.

Available on 3 tap designs and in 11 desirable finishes, the SmartControl faucet offers the ideal model for every taste and kitchen style. While the Minta design gives a minimalist and cylindrical look, the slim and organic lines of the Essence collection boasts simple elegance.

Besides, the faucet’s A-shaped body is comfortable to hold and visually captures the natural flow of water. The SmartControl not only puts precise control at your fingertips, it creates a sleek and streamlined silhouette to merge utility with style!
With years of experiences in creating total kitchen solutions for homeowners, Mia Cucina (Kitchens by Towngas) has always accorded top priority to details in design, quality and functionality as its team sources quality cabinet materials, kitchen appliances and accessories from Italy and all around the world. Recently, Mia Cucina has launched a bespoke solution to cabinets with a panel replacement service to refresh your kitchen.

To create an ideal and unique cooking paradise, Mia Cucina offers a consulting service to help homeowners realize their dream according to their cooking habits, storage needs and preferences. From professional advice, design to installation and after-sales service, Mia Cucina’s one-stop kitchen service offers a full suite of support.

Mia Cucina believes functionality is a top priority in the kitchen, so they go into every detail in the homeowner’s personal cooking style and needs before crafting a customized kitchen that meets every specification, including such minute detail as material durability and worktop height.

They also take into consideration such factors as functionality versus aesthetics, and storage. For example, they would take special care in the installation of corner units; or introduce accessories such as dividers for drawers to maximize storage by sorting items into various categories. Wherever feasible, kitchen cabinets and premium appliances from one single brand are used to achieve a unified effect and enhance the overall presentation.

Throughout the design and renovation processes, the team maintains close communication with the client, whilst keeping a close eye on quality control and deadlines to make sure that schedules are maintained.

On completion of installation works, all cabinets and worktops are cleaned so that customers are presented with a spic and span kitchen. Customers will also receive a thoughtful box set containing user manuals of purchased appliances and spare parts for future use.

The six-star after-sales service includes 1-year limited warranty for kitchen cabinets, and 3-year warranty with free spare parts for appliances. Customers can also avail of a 24-hour customer service hotline in case of need.

For those who want to refresh their kitchens without a full-scale renovation, take advantage of Mia Cucina’s customized door panel replacement service. You can still keep the original cabinets but effectively lift the ambience of the entire kitchen. Mia Cucina will arrange on-site measurements and check the conditions of existing cabinets in advance. Measurement fees can be waived after order confirmation.

A well-organized, functional and inviting kitchen as manifested in the quality, craftsmanship and flexibility of its cabinets and accessories is often a vivid reflection of the owner’s superior taste and character.
A clientele that spans the globe

With 44 global sales offices demonstrating its wide-spread popularity, Laufen products can be found in many significant buildings worldwide, including Tate Modern art gallery in London, Changi International Airport in Singapore, Olympiastadion sports stadium in Berlin, and Hungerburg Funicular in Innsbruck, Austria.

In Hong Kong, Laufen products are also adopted in notable buildings such as International Commerce Centre (ICC), the tallest skyscraper in Hong Kong, and landmark residence The Lily in Repulse Bay.

A historical brand honoring innovation

Guided by the brand’s motto, ‘to lead in technology, service, and design’, Laufen effectively excels in all three perspectives. Its strong and efficient global team ensures the products receive the very best customer service and support, regardless of the location.

For over 125 years, Laufen’s time-tested commitment to the finest European-made sanitaryware has never changed. As one of the most internationally recognized luxury fixture brands, it excels in both design and technology, revolutionizing every aspect of your bathroom experience.

Embracing the simplicity and fluidity of European design while focusing on expressive forms, Laufen has been collaborating with internationally acclaimed designers to create new meanings for the classic material – ceramic. The unique designs crafted by the masters have won the brand multiple prestigious awards, including IF Design Award Gold, Red Dot Design Award, and Design Plus Award.

Over 125 years of Swiss bathroom culture

At the time of the brand’s establishment in Switzerland in 1892, Laufen was the only sanitary ceramics producer that exclusively manufactures in Europe. Up till now, the brand’s 7 factories are still located in central Europe. Even the acrylic and mineral cast materials for bathtubs are sourced in Poland to ensure quality.

Over 125 years of Swissness, quality and design, Laufen offers complete bathroom solutions to the world. Standing for Swissness, quality and design, Laufen offers complete bathroom solutions to the world.
LAUFEN’S signature collections

VAL

When given the rules-breaking ceramics to ponder with, Munich designer Konstantin Grcic gave birth to this series of sleek, geometric, and minimal bathroom offerings, which garnered the iF Design Award 2016 Gold. It would never have been possible if not for SaphirKeramik.

The wall-mounted rectangular washbasins, with widths ranging from 45 to 120 cm, have rounded corners to soften the razor-sharp impression. The other asymmetric basins show more of a playful character that experiments with lines and textures. The raised areas contrast with the indentations, and provide dry area for storage and placement.

An eye-catching new addition to the VAL series is a 130cm free-standing circular bathtub, which resembles the traditional Japanese wooden soaking tubs but is designed with a strong contemporary style. As an all-inclusive bathroom series, VAL’s elegant design also covers toilet and bidet – it makes matching your bathroom a breeze.

KARTELL BY LAUFEN

From colors to forms, the two esteemed Italian designers Ludovica + Roberto Palomba tested SaphirKeramik’s limits to the fullest extent. Injecting vibrant colors to the angular designs, this series is best known for its intense tangerine palettes which frame the pristine ceramic components, and in turn emphasizes the material’s razor-sharp property.

Taking full advantage of SaphirKeramik’s sturdiness, the series’ rectangular washbasins stretches up to 120cm in length, and is also available in other widths with shelf arrangements. The comprehensive series also includes two bathtubs, easy-to-clean rimless toilet, and space-saving vanity units.

With one of the most interesting visual combinations in Laufen products, this series is best known for the combination of acrylic and ceramics, which is versatile and adapting to the desired effects. The most recent update to the series has brought a new range of surprising finishes for added customizability. Ceramics is now available in matte and glossy, and could be black, gray or white in color. Faucets now come as an option, with lines and textures. The raised areas contrast with the indentations, and provide dry area for storage and placement.

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INO

Before the invention of SaphirKeramik, Toan Nguyen’s previous collaboration with Laufen has already won them a Red Dot Award. With the new material in hand, he has given the classic washbasins a unique reinterpretation which perfectly balances design and practicality. It attained the coveted Design Plus Award 2015.

Built upon the classic bowl shape, Ino’s washbasin is soft and streamlined. For an unexpected twist, a seamless shelf extends underneath the basin, and forms a clean and robust surface for bathroom items. To provide an aesthetically pleasing and functional space for storage, the washbasins could be installed with a drawer or a slender cupboard, finished with ultra-thin panel made from real wood veneer, or mirrored aluminum for a seamless impression.

The shape of Ino bathtub almost fluid itself. The gently extending edge is not present solely for aesthetic reasons, but doubles as a subtly integrated headrest to ensure undisturbed relaxation.

SONAR

Created by internationally renowned Spanish designer Patricia Urquiola, the latest SaphirKeramik series, Sonar, originates from the visualization of soundwaves, and has won the iF Design Award 2018 in the product category.

Commenting on the design concept, Urquiola says, “As a metaphor, the name Sonar is linked to water: in this form of echolocation, acoustic pulses are emitted to identify items under water. I liked the idea of using the little waves generated by sound. The texture on the outside of the washbasin bowls was modeled on these waves. I didn’t just want to work with the lightness of the ceramics, but also to find ways in designing its surface.”

While the floor-standing and wall-mounted standalone washbasins are only available in smooth surfaces, the two washbasin bowls and the double washbasin bowls sitting on specially designed cabinets could be ordered with textured exterior. The series is finished with an equally sleek and elegant bathtub, which has an integrated storage tray and is made of Laufen’s high-tech Sintec material.

LAUFEN’S signature collections

VAL

When given the rules-breaking ceramics to ponder with, Munich designer Konstantin Grcic gave birth to this series of sleek, geometric, and minimal bathroom offerings, which garnered the iF Design Award 2016 Gold. It would never have been possible if not for SaphirKeramik.

The wall-mounted rectangular washbasins, with widths ranging from 45 to 120 cm, have rounded corners to soften the razor-sharp impression. The other asymmetric basins show more of a playful character that experiments with lines and textures. The raised areas contrast with the indentations, and provide dry area for storage and placement.

An eye-catching new addition to the VAL series is a 130cm free-standing circular bathtub, which resembles the traditional Japanese wooden soaking tubs but is designed with a strong contemporary style. As an all-inclusive bathroom series, VAL’s elegant design also covers toilet and bidet – it makes matching your bathroom a breeze.

KARTELL BY LAUFEN

From colors to forms, the two esteemed Italian designers Ludovica + Roberto Palomba tested SaphirKeramik’s limits to the fullest extent. Injecting vibrant colors to the angular designs, this series is best known for its intense tangerine palettes which frame the pristine ceramic components, and in turn emphasizes the material’s razor-sharp property.

Taking full advantage of SaphirKeramik’s sturdiness, the series’ rectangular washbasins stretches up to 120cm in length, and is also available in other widths with shelf arrangements. The comprehensive series also includes two bathtubs, easy-to-clean rimless toilet, and space-saving vanity units.

With one of the most interesting visual combinations in Laufen products, this series is best known for the combination of acrylic and ceramics, which is versatile and adapting to the desired effects. The most recent update to the series has brought a new range of surprising finishes for added customizability. Ceramics is now available in matte and glossy, and could be black, gray or white in color. Faucets now come as an option, with lines and textures. The raised areas contrast with the indentations, and provide dry area for storage and placement.

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INO

Before the invention of SaphirKeramik, Toan Nguyen’s previous collaboration with Laufen has already won them a Red Dot Award. With the new material in hand, he has given the classic washbasins a unique reinterpretation which perfectly balances design and practicality. It attained the coveted Design Plus Award 2015.

Built upon the classic bowl shape, Ino’s washbasin is soft and streamlined. For an unexpected twist, a seamless shelf extends underneath the basin, and forms a clean and robust surface for bathroom items. To provide an aesthetically pleasing and functional space for storage, the washbasins could be installed with a drawer or a slender cupboard, finished with ultra-thin panel made from real wood veneer, or mirrored aluminum for a seamless impression.

The shape of Ino bathtub almost fluid itself. The gently extending edge is not present solely for aesthetic reasons, but doubles as a subtly integrated headrest to ensure undisturbed relaxation.

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While the floor-standing and wall-mounted standalone washbasins are only available in smooth surfaces, the two washbasin bowls and the double washbasin bowls sitting on specially designed cabinets could be ordered with textured exterior. The series is finished with an equally sleek and elegant bathtub, which has an integrated storage tray and is made of Laufen’s high-tech Sintec material.
From opulent black and gold finish, nature-infused warm wood cladding, to subdued oriental minimalism, living room and bedroom appointments speak for the household. As time takes its toll, a makeover would give new vigor to the family-centric space.
It all starts in the bedroom. After all, if you haven’t gotten a good night’s rest, you’re going to be cranky all day.

In a recent survey of 150 customers in Taiwan, Ikea found that 90 percent reported better sleep quality in winter, with 60 percent citing heat and humidity as key reasons for poor sleep quality in summer.

Made with materials impervious to external temperature changes, the Inter Ikea Systems range of cooling and humidity-defying bed items, woven with nylon and gel layers, ensure comfortable contact with the body, resulting in improved sleep quality.

Of the 150 Taiwanese customers invited to test the difference between a standard mattress and an Ikea one, 99 percent found that their body temperature fell when using the Ikea mattress.

Furniture that allows air to circulate is another smart cooling tactic.

The Nordkisa bamboo furniture range does more than just effectively absorb heat and humidity – it is also eco-friendly. As a renewable material, bamboo is known for its fast growing speed, sturdiness and durability.

Also making its debut is the Omtaksam range. Though designed with older people in mind, the products are useful for almost anyone who needs a little bit of extra comfort and peace of mind at home.

The first part of the series includes a comfy armchair that you won’t struggle to get out of, extra-durable plates that don’t slide, easy to grip cutlery, anti-slip coasters, placemats and pot stands, support cushions as well as a jar gripper that helps you get that stuck lid to pop open.

Ikea’s creative leader Britt Monti is particularly proud of this series. She said: “Big and small, all products are designed with our different human needs in focus. They make everyday life a bit easier, safer and more comfortable – and they look good doing it.”
For centuries, designers have devoted their heart and soul to creating the ultimate luxury abodes, marking their inimitable styles with the innovative use of color, texture, space and more. For a glimpse of the latest offerings, read on and be fascinated.
collaboration between world-renowned interior design brand YOO and Europe’s most established hospitality brand Kempinski Hotels has resulted in 8 Conlay – a top-notch mixed-use integrated development situated in Kuala Lumpur’s most sought after location, the Golden Triangle area. YOO8 Serviced by Kempinski being its branded residence component.

Branded residences, in broad terms, refers to the partnership between a prestigious brand – often a hotel group – and a developer; it combines the comfort and permanence of a home with the full perks and luxury of a five-star hotel. This genre of development has blossomed in recent years, but Dr Theresa Fok, Founder and Managing Director of Jade Land Properties (HK) Limited, believes branded residences are much more than just a passing trend. “The surging demand for a quality lifestyle is what underpins the sustained appeal for branded residences.”

Contemporary coolness

For YOO8, the stylish tastemaker is YOO – a revolutionary design and property development brand that pioneered the lifestyle-led branded real estate movement over 20 years ago. With reputed designer Philippe Starck and property entrepreneur John Hitchcox at the helm, the brand’s approach to real estate is unmistakably based on a dedication to thoughtful designs.

What differentiates branded residences from ordinary apartments is the chic and polished interior design, and at YOO8, it is reflected in an interplay between cool, cosy and luxe. The two high-rise spiraled residential towers consist of diverse units ranging from 700 to 1,308 sq ft. In Tower A, Steve Leung & Yoo, one of the world’s leading architect and design firms, deftly blends a modern outlook with distinctively Asian accents. The interiors are defined by the water and wood theme where the material palette – from warm timbers, and contrasting rich marbles to raw concrete with brass detailing – exudes calm and nurtures a natural, earthy atmosphere.

Turning to Tower B, the outstanding design is the work of Kelly Hoppen, a celebrity designer known for her extensive work in crafting abodes for the rich and famous. A Member of The Order of the British Empire in recognition of her distinguished service to interior design, Hoppen brings her reputation to YOO8 with dynamic interiors based on two main concepts: Urban and Spring.

The green-focused Spring concept creates calm and harmonized spaces, making use of neutral materials like weathered surfaces, unbleached fabrics, deep pile carpets and...
Fusing flair with function

YO8 is also where utility melds with style. Zeroing in on the flat, the apartment layout resonates with those who value quality home space. “The key to designing branded residences is to get the best out of the developers and architects – that entails maximizing space as well as attending to every minuita of the property,” Pang notes.

Nice and rectangular, YOO8 flats are equipped with beautifully-done built-in cabinets. Boasting a 10 ft. high ceiling, it allows plentiful natural light in for an airy feel. Every unit is equipped with a balcony and the majority of them overlook the unobstructed panoramic views of either the Petronas Twin Towers or the TRX financial centre. The apartments also come fully furnished, allowing one to readily move-in to their new abode at ease.

5-star hotel service

Residents enjoy the impeccable service by legendary luxury hospitality group Kempinski Hotels, whose signature ‘Lady in Red’ hotel ambassadors have gained worldwide renown. On top of basic services like valet parking, concierge and shuttle bus, premium à la carte services such as butler on call, private chef, housekeeping and emergency maintenance services are also available upon request.

Highlighting the plethora of value-added features of YOO8, Dr Fok points out that such a quality branded residences as YOO8 is a rare jewel in the market. “The brand involvement of YOO and Kempinski not only guarantees the property’s quality, it also drives price premiums,” she adds.

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milky-white glass. Whereas the Urban concept suites reiterate the classic Hoppen style – thick crisp lines and neutral tones. In addition to ambient lighting, aesthetic harmony is achieved through the inclusion of taupe stone, dark timber flooring, as well as specialist plaster finishes and textiles to appeal to metropolitans.

“Despite their distinctive styles, Leung and Hoppen’s designs complement each other,” says Andrew Pang, Managing Director (Asia Pacific) of YOO and Managing Partner of YOO FK. “Co-existing in perfect harmony, the two towers form a tranquil oasis that epitomizes luxury urban living.”

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YO8 Serviced by Kempinski

Address 8 Conlay, Kuala Lumpur City Centre (KLCC), Malaysia
Size 705 to 1,328 sq. ft.
Layout 1 to 3 bedrooms plus study room options
Developer KSK Land
Completion mid-2021
Website https://jadeland.hk/overseas_properties/yoo8-8-conlay/
Enquiry +852 2869 6683
Email info@jlgroup.hk

* Jade Land Properties (HK) Limited is the Exclusive Agent in Hong Kong for YOO8 Serviced by Kempinski. 
Built in 1560 by James Ogilvy, the fifth Lord of Airlie, Forter Castle in Perthshire, Scotland, was the fortified home of the Ogilvys until 1640, when it was destroyed by the Campbells of Argyll as a result of feuding between the clans.

The castle lay in ruins for more than 300 years before Robert Pooley and his daughter resurrected the pile of rubble. “My father had driven past the crumbling castle for 30 years, always dreaming of restoring a small piece of Scottish history,” said Katharine Pooley.

Since 1988, the father-daughter duo has worked closely with Scottish Heritage on the restoration of the castle.

After two years of renovations, Katharine Pooley took over the interior design and carefully restored each of the rooms. To reflect Scotland’s heritage, she went for a baronial-styled appearance, incorporating antiquated touches to reflect a quintessentially Scottish feel with 21st-century amenities for comfort.

At the heart of the 460-year-old castle is the great hall, which spans the entire width of the castle and is furnished with traditional furniture. Crossed Pooley Swords, a traditionally forged weapon for the British and Commonwealth armed forces, are mounted above the stone fireplace that dominates one wall. Opposite the inlet log fireplace are mahogany shelves displaying antique books.

Like banquetting halls of old, the room is also furnished to host parties. The dining table, which seats 16, is lit with wrought-iron chandeliers and antler candelabra and completed with crystal goblets.

Forter Castle’s narrow spiral staircase leads to five bedrooms – all named after Katharine Pooley’s siblings – and the Laird’s room with dramatic views of the Highlands.

As you can guess from its name, the Laird’s room is the main bedroom. Dominating the room is a king-sized four-poster Ralph Lauren bed canopied with cranberry silk, while a large sofa upholstered in de Le Cuona British wool is an invitation for cozy chitchats.

A historic Scottish ambiance permeates throughout the castle, with Pooley tailoring each bedroom using different design components to reflect the unique lifestyle and personality of each family member.

Holland & Sherry Savile Row tweed lines the walls of Sebastian’s and Julian’s rooms, which are filled with antique wood and leather furniture. Katharine’s and Samantha’s rooms are prettily feminine. Katharine’s is elegant with a starburst canopy over a carved wooden four-poster bed, while Samantha’s is cozily furnished with deep-buttoned stools upholstered in houndstooth wool, a dressing table and an armchair by the fireplace.

Robert’s room is the perfect hideaway, complete with built-in bookcases, plenty of reading materials and a deep-buttoned sofa. The basement hides a gem: a chapel. Able to accommodate up to 24 adults, the charming space makes the castle an ideal venue for intimate highland weddings.

If this has whet your appetite for more, you would be pleased to know that Forter Castle is available to rent for wedding occasions and for an exclusive self-catered stay for a party of 12 to 16 people. Something to consider when the Covid-19 pandemic is over, perhaps?
Ulferts Showrooms
275 Chatham Road North, Hunghom (Ulferts Signature)
2336 1828
Shop 602, 6/F, Telford Plaza Phase 2, Kowloon Bay
2333 6281
Shop 1 & 2, G/F, Park Towers, 1 King’s Road, Tin Hau
2512 1988
Shop A8-A9, G/F, 18 Hong On Street, Kowloon
2338 3918
Shop 108-109, Level 1, HomeSquare, Shatin
2634 1318
12/F and Penthouse, Yuen Long Landmark, 123 Castle Peak Road, Yuen Long
2882 7339

Fortercastle
Fortercastle.com

Grohe
Grohe.hk

Hansgrohe
Room 1002, 10/F, 303 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai
2590 0230
www.hansgrohe.com.hk

IKEA
www.ikea.com.hk

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Facebook: towngas.miaccucina

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