

hen you love hosting, what could be better than your very own bar or cocktail lounge.

An area entirely dedicated to entertaining is just the place for a glass of fizz to get the party started or, after a sumptuous meal, you can extend the evening by showing guests into an atmospheric space for a nightcap, or perhaps even some dancing.

Extreme Design's Creative Director,
Marcello Cuconato says, "A home bar can
be an inspiring environment unlike any
other. It is the perfect opportunity to
embrace bold design choices without
being restrained by the style of more
formal spaces. Dramatic angles, statement
finishes, patterns and colours are all
encouraged to give guests a feeling of
excitement and anticipation."

Mix it up

Creating the perfect lounge involves designing fitted bar furniture, and there are specialist companies that can plan and deliver the project for you. Your room will require a water source and sink, a fridge and an island or bench with a resilient surface for the preparation of beverages. Worktops fitted with hard stone such as granite and quartz are more practical than marble and limestone.

When thinking about the cabinetry, a lacquered or gloss finish may be more resistant to the occasional spill.

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Marcello says "It's important to understand how the whole room will function and how the individuals like to entertain. From this, the layout can take shape, anything from a small bar accompanied by low-level soft seats to a larger design in a U-shape that takes centre stage with seating for 10 or more."

Designed by HUX London

If you choose raised seating – so you can watch your mixologist or chat to guests as you demonstrate your own cocktail-making skills – avoid hard materials such as metal and wood: upholstered chairs with a backrest are more comfortable.

And don't leave your guests hanging – ensure each stool has a footrest or that a footrail is incorporated into the design of the bar itself.

Shine bright

Denise Jones, specialist at Dawnvale, says, "We follow a fact-finding process to understand the client's needs. We consider glasswashers, dishwashers, insulated ice wells, wine coolers, draft beer equipment and speed rails to hold bottles. Lighting is important and can include fully illuminated bars, under-counter and back bar lighting.

dexters.co.uk

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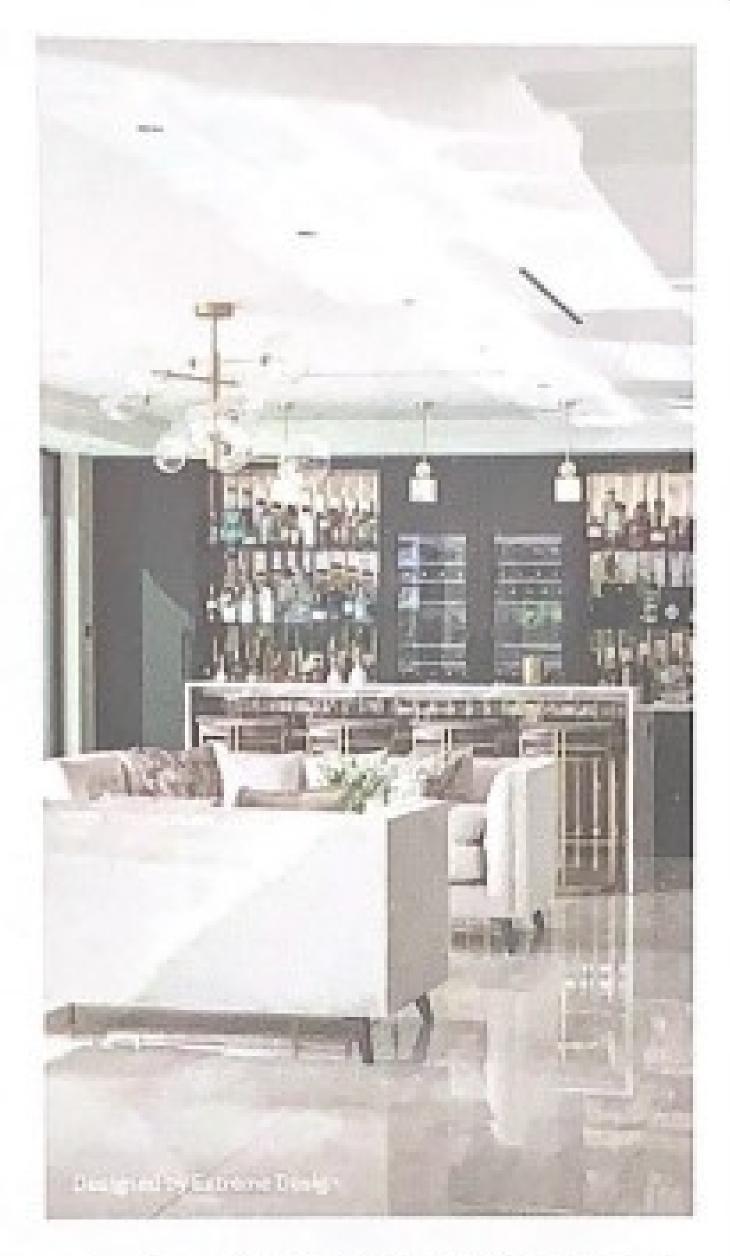
This touch of glamour will be sure to elevate your hosting from home

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Felix Milns, Founder of HUX London, says, "It's interesting to look at how the materiality within the design interacts with lighting. For example, reeded glass will give a delicate glow, a beautiful stone finish will bounce light, and high gloss paint will reflect colour into the room, while a foxed mirror will echo the light with a timeless aura." A room's ambience can change dramatically depending on the position of each fitting and the material used so it's always best to seek an expert opinion when considering the design of your home bar.

Grand designs

Given that your drinks lounge is a place for enjoyment, you can let your imagination run wild. Felix says, "Home bars are where you can really have fun. We strive to create a design that will suit the interior of a room in terms of aesthetic and scale, but also add glamour and a sense of personality. A recent project we created for a client had an interior finished in a fantastic coral pink gloss."



A private bar can be a precious place of relaxation or the ultimate entertainment hub. Whether your taste is for traditional or a more contemporary style, see your vision come to life with a truly spectacular statement bar. One thing is for certain, this touch of glamour will be sure to elevate your hosting from home.

Design directory

Dawnvale

A leading supplier of home bars and accessories. With years of experience and in-depth knowledge, they deliver a turnkey service that takes you from concept to completion.

dawnvale.com @dawnvalegroup

Extreme Design

An award-winning British brand with a home bar design service specialising in entertainment spaces, Extreme Design offers truly bespoke solutions without limitation for super prime homes.

extreme-design.co.uk @extremedesignfurniture

HUX London

With innovative design, craft and finishes at the heart of everything they do, HUX bespoke bars come in all manner of materials, from veneer and stone to antique mirror and crackle-glazed tile.

hux-london.co.uk @huxlondon

