

Charming Chengdu

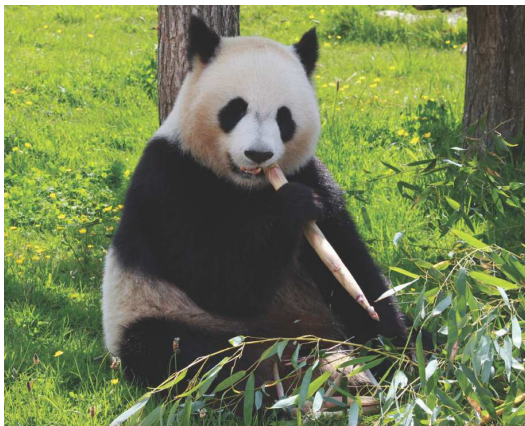
Discover some home décor tips courtesy of the giant panda.

Text: YT Chew Photo: Michelle Goh and stock photos.

Black and white are classic staples in fashion and home furnishing. You simply can't go wrong with either of them. And nothing embodies this quite like the panda. A celebrated icon in Chengdu, China, the giant panda has catapulted the city into worldwide recognition. After all, there are only 1,500 giant pandas in the world and 80% of them reside in Chengdu. Let's take a peek at how this gentle creature made its mark in the remarkable capital as well as other inspiring architectures within the city.



Is it a bear? Is it King Kong? No, wait it's a giant panda crawling up the International Financial Square Mall in Chengdu!



A real life giant panda doing what it does best - chilling and munching away



Starbucks at Kuanxiangzi Alley. An American brand takes on an Oriental look.



Lo and behold it meets a couple of cute Japanese icons at the top of the building. No wonder the panda looks confused.

Put some black & white in your home!
IKEA's Tickar black & white dinnerware



IKEA's Marietorp frame



At the very least, having a black and white kitty will add a living touch of class to your home!

Designer tips:

"Black is the color that I think belongs in every room. I put a splash of true black in each space I design. Black is a mix of all the spectrum's hues. Therefore, it is the deepest color. Having this extreme in one design element (be it as big as a set of dining chairs or as small as a picture frame) puts the room's other colors into context and creates contrast. On the other hand, 10% pops of white are fine, but I hope for your sanity's sake that they are easily washable." ~ Betsy Helmuth, Affordable Interior Designer, NYC.