

# I CAPITAL GAINS

Striking views of the city skyline are the perfect backdrop

for Angie Ma's Mid-Century-style furnishings

## INSPIRING



### HOME TRUTHS

**THE PROPERTY** High-rise apartment, built in the 1960s

**LOCATION** Southwest London

**ROOMS** Kitchen-diner/sitting room, office, bedroom (en suite)

**PURCHASED** 2001

**PREVIOUS PROPERTY**

'This is the first home I have ever owned,' explains Angie.



**1 MUSIC AREA**  
Angie has created a corner for her hobbies. Bevel floor mirror, £199, Next. Hicks' Grand wallpaper, £72 per roll, Cole & Son

**2 & 3 SITTING ROOM**  
The sofa takes full advantage of the views from the floor-to-ceiling windows. Sideboard, £1,295, Lucy Turner. American Black walnut floor, £73.90sq m, Woodcraft Flooring. Copper chair, £945, Out There Interiors. Floor lamp, £249, West Elm

With its impressive views over London, Angie Ma's high-rise apartment instantly appealed to her. 'At one window I can see all the landmarks in the south, and then Westminster and Hyde Park from another,' she says. 'And the New Year's Eve fireworks are incredible.'

At the time of purchase, Angie was new to London and wasn't sure she would be

staying in the city long term. So initially she bought this place as a temporary base and didn't put much thought into redecorating. A couple of years ago, however, she realised she was here to stay and knew it was time to finally put her stamp on the interior.

'The property, which in the 1950s-1970s served the capital as the West London Air Terminal, was brand new when I moved in, but when I decided to

stay for good, things started to go wrong,' explains Angie. 'For instance, there was a constant leak in the bathroom, and as it was such a big job, I decided it was worth redoing the entire flat at the same time.'

At the same time, Angie was setting up her own business and was working 16 hours a day, seven days a week, and didn't have time to manage the building project and source everything she needed, and so she

sought the help of an interior designer. 'I spoke to a few candidates, all of whom were recommended,' says Angie. 'But there was just something about Bhavin Taylor's work that I especially liked and he was very keen to create the look I wanted, rather than impose his tastes on me.'

Angie had been collecting photos of furniture, and pieces of wallpapers and materials that caught her eye. 'Bhavin then

**4 DINING AREA**  
Angie can comfortably entertain family and friends with this extendable table. Black gloss table, £599, Dwell, has this look. Globe ceiling pendant, £79, West Elm. Benedict Blue lampshade, from £69, Hokolo

**5 KITCHEN**  
Although they are about 20 years old, the Poggenpohl units still look as good as new. Runway Grey tiles, £33.31sq m, Topps Tiles, are similar. Le Creuset round dish, £165, John Lewis





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BEST BUY 'I love the pineapple sideboard in the sitting room. It's quite quirky and fits the space perfectly'

**1 ENTRANCE HALL**  
A wall-hung storage drawer saves on space. Pacco floating cabinet, £69, Etsy, is a good alternative. Round hanging mirror, £95, John Lewis. Ribbon coat rack, £70, HeadSprung

**2 & 3 MASTER BEDROOM**  
The crisp white bedlinen adds to the calm and restorative feel of this scheme. Penelope bedside table, from £279, West Elm. Iride ceiling pendant light, £1,100, Rubertelli Design. Finley throw, from £45, The White Company. For a table lamp like this one try the Demijohn design, £169, Humblesticks

came back to me with a mood board that was spot on,' recalls Angie. 'This reassured me I could trust him and from that point forward, I let him take the reins.'  
There were a few pieces of existing furniture that Angie wanted to include in the scheme, such as the dining table, her piano and the double bed. She decided to retain her existing Poggenpohl kitchen, too. 'My only prerequisite was that any new pieces could easily be lifted for vacuuming

underneath, as I have two pet Chihuahuas, Toby and Chibi,' says Angie. Raising most of the furniture would also allow the new heating system to work more effectively. 'Previously, it was controlled from the central air conditioning system, and while this was reasonably efficient, it was also quite expensive. So I decided to install underfloor heating instead.'  
In the sitting room, Angie opted for a bold geometric wallpaper to complement

her favourite modern-retro pieces, while brightly coloured cushions add a homely note. The 1950s theme continues in the master bedroom, where a haberdashery cabinet has been used to showcase Angie's impressive shoe collection. To help the room feel like a sanctuary, a restful grey hue has been used on the walls, which tones with the veins running through the marble in the adjoining en suite. 'My bedroom and bathroom are both lovely

spaces to spend time in now,' says Angie. 'They're peaceful and relaxing.'  
The floor-to-ceiling window is the focal point in the second bedroom, which Angie has turned into a home office with a daybed for guests. 'I love sitting at the desk looking out over the whole of London,' she says. 'But my favourite spot is the sofa in the sitting room, as you can watch the city wake up. At those moments, I guess I can truly say I feel on top of the world.' 25

**4 & 5 BATHROOM**  
Standalone taps add a dramatic touch and allow Angie to lie at either end. Victorian Plumbing's Windsor Imperial bath would work well here, from £450. Metro Mono floorstanding bath filler, £479, Bathstore, is near-identical. Statuary Venato marble, from £46.80sq m, All Natural Tiles, are comparable  
**6 OFFICE**  
Having a design with slender features allows lots of light to flow in to this room. Mid-Century office desk, £499; Saddle dining chair, £349, both West Elm