

# A HOST WITH STYLE



FROM FIRST TO LAST IMPRESSIONS, A SERIES OF DELIGHTS ARE FOUND  
IN THIS HOME DESIGNED FOR ENTERTAINING

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Legendary Hollywood studio boss Louis B. Mayer would have been hard pressed to create a backdrop more fitting for glamorous entertaining than owner Manny Machado has done in his 6,800-square-foot condominium located in Miami. Here, it is easy to imagine Greta Garbo or Joan Crawford sashaying across the rooms, their satin trains sliding silently across the stone floor.



Comfortable furnishings on the curvaceous terrace create a space for dining al fresco against a breathtaking view of Biscayne Bay. Stone flooring continues from outside to inside the home. Here, a Minotti lounge chair offers repose in the library, left, where a sculpture by Oscar Tempête for Daum crystal sits on a cocktail table. Artemide sconces light the dining area in the distance.





Ample windows flood the living room with light. Deep-seated Minotti sofas offer comfort while shapely Kartell lamps and an area rug from Fendi Casa create dramatic points of interest.



FROM RECEPTIONS FOR MEXICAN AMBASSADORS TO SMALL DINNER PARTIES WITH TOP CHEFS, THIS HOME HAS HANDLED TO PERFECTION ALL THAT MACHADO DREAMED THAT IT WOULD.





When Machado began designing these classic interiors, playing the consummate host was his main consideration. "I'm a quasi-productionist," says co-chairman and CEO of Machado/García-Serra, his public relations and advertising firm based in Miami and Mexico. "I was determined to create a venue for entertaining that would be the perfect setting for intimate gatherings, large receptions and everything in between."



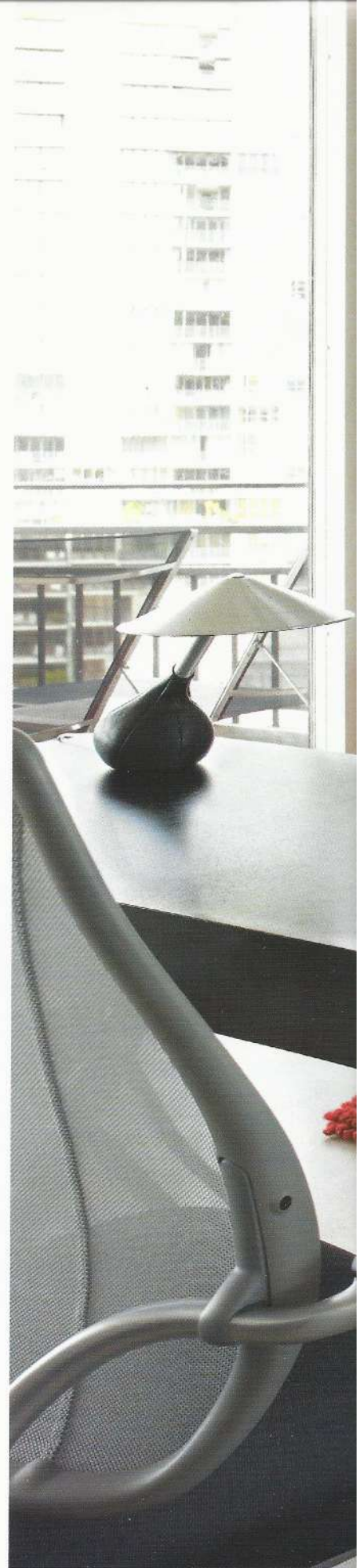


Machado began with a clean slate and a large open floor plan, incorporating a variety of seating arrangements for a crisp, elegant yet livable environment suitable for entertaining. He then brought in sleek but personable elements, adding texture with animal skins, fabrics and area rugs to create warmth. Lighting was also key in the design. "I wanted to keep the ceilings as high as possible, so I chose to light most of the rooms with sconces and table lamps," Machado says.

The home's balconies, one of which measures close to 1,200 square feet, are really outdoor rooms set beyond floor-to-ceiling windows that flood the interiors with light. Machado treated the home's stone flooring with a slightly different effect outdoors for a subtle shift in perspective. "The largest balcony faces views of a string of islands," he says. "I wanted to bring hints of Miami's natural setting indoors."

**ABOVE:** A red Eames molded-plywood chair from Design Within Reach and a sleek cocktail table from Luminaire provide modern contrast to the media room's comfortable sofa atop Artefacto's area rug. A unique light fixture from Farrey's sits on the console as a piece of art.

**RIGHT:** A pair of "Tulip" chairs from Luminaire covered in brick-red leather perch beneath "New York Fish Bowl" by Pedro Sandoval in Machado's office. An area rug echoes the room's signature hue in a brighter shade.















When entertaining, from large receptions for Mexican ambassadors to small dinner parties with top chefs, Machado sometimes chooses themes — an ocean theme will have goldfish ensconced in bowls as centerpieces, and attendees at a party for a client in the wireless industry might find phones tucked into their place settings. “I go all out,” he says. “People don’t realize how important the chemistry at a table can be.”

With as much as Machado plays host, he needed a home that would work as well for large parties as it would for small affairs. His arrangement of a variety of living areas placed without doors provides intimate rooms that can easily be combined into one great space. The living room opens onto a dining area with seating for up to 12 and the main kitchen that includes a full-service butler pantry that is hidden away from view.

**ABOVE:** A lacquered countertop in a pert green and a glass vessel sink serve as the focal point of the powder room. A symphonic pattern of tiles from Bisazza covers the walls.

**LEFT:** Custom-designed cabinetry and shelving by Y&Y Wood Design anchors one end of the library and also the adjacent wet bar stocked with Riedel, Moser and Baccarat glass pieces. “Lady Blues,” a painting by Silvio Gayton, enlivens the space with a spot of abstract color.









IN THE MASTER BEDROOM, A TUFTED HEADBOARD  
IMBUES A SPA-LIKE SERENITY. EERO SAARINEN'S WOMB  
CHAIR FROM LUMINAIRE SITS UNDER "RUNNER,"  
A PAINTING BY ARTIST CALVAN.

Other areas that entice both camaraderie and relaxation are the media room, which offers cozy places to kick back during movie time and the library with its close-knit seating and artistic elements that encourage conversation. "The whole point is for people to enjoy my home," he says. "My greatest pleasure is to see guests lounging around and being comfortable in the spaces I created."

When Machado is not entertaining, a calm feeling of serenity becomes just as important as buoyancy during parties. Case in point is his minimalistic yet stylish office, along with a masculine master bath set in floor-to-ceiling dark tiles, and a master bedroom with its tailored headboard, white bed linens and neutral fabrics. "I don't think bedrooms should be busy," he says. "I wanted mine to be similar to a spa because it's my little retreat."

Other than an ease of hosting events, Machado most enjoys the flexibility he has achieved. "I like the fact that I can exchange the living room for the dining room if I wanted to," he says. "And because I kept the design and the materials consistent throughout, any number of styles would work as well in these spaces as what I have in them now."

**BELOW:** A backlit onyx panel and Philippe Starck's bathtub for Duravit serve as commanding elements in the master bath, where custom-designed wall tiling adds a dark contrast.

