



Home » Insights » How to infuse personality into skyscrapers

**INSIGHTS**

# How to infuse personality into skyscrapers

*Infusing personality, context, and sustainability into urban landscapes.*

by *Gaurav Sanghavi, partner, Pentaspace Design Studio* | April 12, 2024

**SHARE**



Skyscrapers have become a symbol of progress, innovation, and sustainability amid ever-expanding land and cityscapes, with a few of them appearing to touch the clouds, creating a spectacular skyline. However, using the same glass with concrete might cause these superstructures to lose their allure and become monotonous. Certain components, materials, and procedures may transform glass skyscrapers into visually appealing structures that add to the vibrancy of city life.



**Gaurav Sanghavi, partner, Pentaspace Design Studio**

Architect Gaurav Sanghavi, partner, **Pentaspace Design Studio**, discusses how to infuse personality into skyscrapers to build unique structures that blend in with their surroundings. Using references from his two finished buildings, the architect demonstrates how design components bring character to the urban landscape. One of these is the Aroha project, which is located in Sanjay Gandhi National Park and has design elements that reflect the nearby historic caves, giving it a rustic vibe. Second, the Rainforest project is on a contoured site, where the structure interacts with the curved environment, introducing the notion of a tree park. Taking influences from his experience so far, Sanghavi enlists some things that make modern structures stand out from the others:

- **The Context:** Skyscrapers with context, whether historical or locational, provide a distinct identity, character, and personality to a whole area. Drawing inspiration from his design work, Ar. Sanghavi emphasizes incorporating local ideas into architectural design. He says, “If we resonate the skyscraper design with the

context of where it's getting built rather than it being anywhere else in the world, I think that will automatically add that unique identity to the skyscraper.”

- **Materials:** The materials utilised in the structure add to its style and symbolic design, instilling a sense of uniqueness and fun. He adds, “Despite the monotony of glass and steel, modern architects have used a range of materials, such as aluminium sheets, metal fins, cladding systems, and so on, to improve the visual appeal of skyscrapers. Architects blend structure and design seamlessly by using diverse materials and sophisticated techniques to create attractive textures, patterns, and colours for their projects.”
- **Local Culture and History:** Incorporating cultural influences into skyscrapers has diversified with the changing environment, resulting in exceptional designs. These not only evoke memories of the past but also encapsulate a sense of community. Furthermore, they honour the distinct identity of a certain city or area.
- **Public Space and Amenities:** Public areas in skyscrapers allow residents, renters, and visitors to engage and develop communities. Architects may use smart design methods to tastefully turn seemingly inert locations, such as podiums, into stimulating environments. They also offer inhabitants easy access to services that promote physical and mental wellness. It is critical to create a seamless link between the building and public areas, thoroughly integrating the entire idea into the grandiosity of the tower.

Hence, emerging technologies like parametric design, augmented reality, and responsive facades not only contribute to modernistic inventive design but also promote sustainable design principles. Architects recognise the importance of parametric design in complicated projects and highlight its application. These technologies add to the forward-thinking characteristics of modern buildings while pushing the boundaries of architectural innovation. Using such design principles can easily elevate the standard skyscraper to architectural folklore!

