

CTC & G

Connecticut Cottages and Gardens

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CURATED *STYLE*





MEET THE DESIGNER

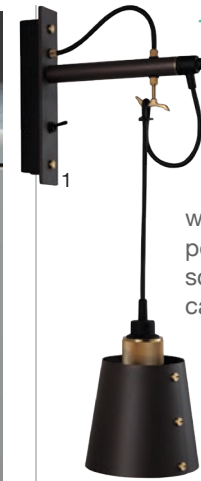
AS SEEN IN
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Massimo Buster Minale

Buster + Punch converts the mundane—light switches, cabinet pulls, cuff links and bracelets—into edgy-yet-elegant home fashions and jewelry. Founded in 2013, the company has been embraced by celebrities and decorators who laud the company’s contemporary industrial style.—*Sharon King Hoge*



Initially, motorcycles were merely a diversion for Cambridge-educated architect Massimo Buster Minale. But after customizing bikes for the likes of Alexander McQueen and George Clooney, he responded to client requests to extend his designs to home interiors. “At the time, all you could buy was standard Scandinavian stuff, neutral and plasticky, and people wanted interiors that looked like my bikes,” says Minale. “So we tried to look at ordinary things and reinvent the way they’re made and the way you feel about them.” Combining his middle name with that of his brother, who hooked him on motorcycles in his youth, he created the firm that has won international awards and garnered a devoted following. Minale and his family now reside in Sweden, his wife’s home country.



1. Penny button screws are a signature feature on some of your products. What are they? They’re screws that you would tighten with a penny instead of a screw driver. Now we can’t send currency through the mail, so we mail out our own special tool to tighten them.

2. What’s behind your signature diamond-cut knurled knob finish? It’s a pattern from guitar volume knobs and amplifiers. Musicians get sweaty, and the texture helps them get a grip.

3. Do you ever consider using an organic material? We’re doing a new Caged lighting range with black and white marble. It has a lovely organic vein.

4. What’s a popular piece in your jewelry line? The Napa leather cord with brass double bracelet. It’s kind of masculine and engineered. But they’re unisex, so everyone buys them.

5. Is there a historic building you would like to work on? In Stockholm, there’s the Södra Teatern [Southern Theater]. It’s very Swedish with lovely ceilings and amazing views.

6. You were designing buildings in London. Why the switch to custom motorcycles? I was working on big buildings that would take four to five years, and I got frustrated at the slow pace, so I reverted part time to bikes which are much quicker to make and sell.