



WHEN I FOUND THE PROFOUND...
MD Ramaswami, Co-founder of Polama.com

"If you live each day as if it was your last, some day you'll most certainly be right."
 — Steve Jobs

A tidy approach

Ashwin Sanghi's three books, *The Krishna Key*, *Chanakya's Chant* and *Rozabal Line* are all thrillers and bestsellers. What does the desk of a bestselling author look like?

A cosy 10' X 10' den located one floor below his apartment, Sanghi's study in Mumbai is a neat space. No books or loose sheaves of paper scattered on the table, no unsightly wires, this is his personal temple hidden from "ordinary visitors" and accessed only by a staircase tucked away in an obscure corner of his apartment.

The small writing desk holds only essentials, and behind it are hundreds of books, neatly stacked. Sanghi faces a window that looks out towards a driveway. "Quite a boring view actually," he says. A bunch of large potted plants are arranged immediately outside the window so he rarely gets to see what is happening on the driveway.

Sanghi confesses to being obsessive about neatness. "I can't work in a place that is cluttered," he declares. Given that he writes for hours into the night and in the early morning, he spends a few minutes every day making sure that his computer, desk and chair are in the most ergonomic positions.

Currently co-authoring a racy, American-style thriller with James Patterson, Sanghi says his writing process is simple. "It is about researching and building the plot systematically."

A bed faces the desk where he plonks himself when taking a break. Strategising means looking at a giant whiteboard on the left of the desk that usually contains the skeleton of the plot that he is working on. "I constantly revise what's on the whiteboard as I develop my story," he says. To his aid comes technology, a Mac and a printer. "I need no other technology here," he says.

—Jayanthi Madhukar

WORK SPACE

Ashwin Sanghi (44)
 Author and businessman

