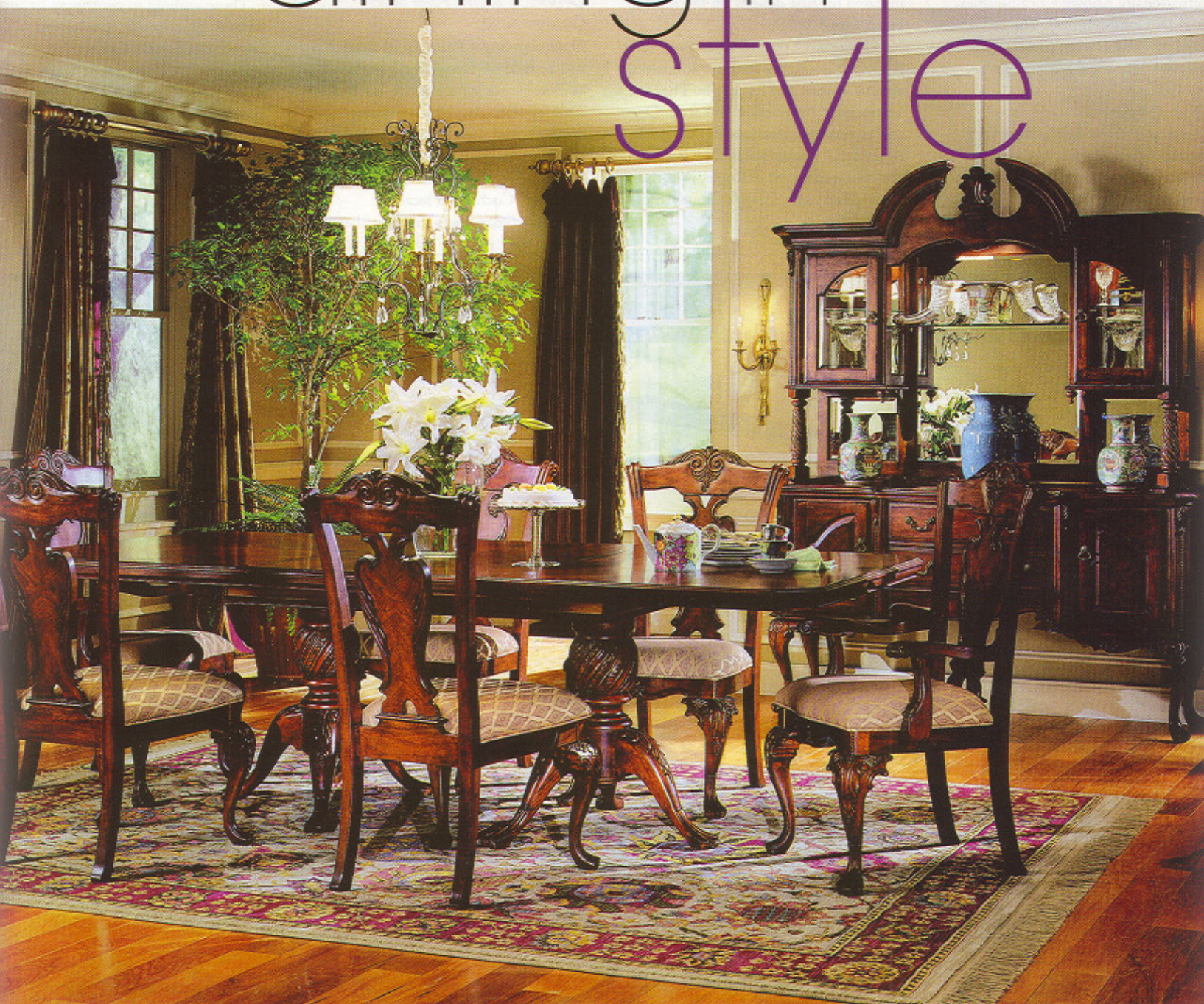


# dining in style



This Georgian style dining set features Pecan hardwoods, Chippendale chairs and Queen Anne features on the table's legs and pedestal. The collection is called "Georgian Meadows." It was designed by Jaclyn Smith Home from Largo with an emphasis on traditional eclectic styling. Available at Homestyles Furniture.

choose  
furniture  
that suits your  
fancy and  
accommodates  
your guests



Queen Anne  
Arm Chair by  
E.H.  
Woodworking.

By Karen Appold

The busiest season of the year for entertaining is upon us. Although proper preparation of the turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, green beans, cranberry sauce, homemade bread and pumpkin pie is very important, there's another key ingredient to making holiday feasts a delightful experience: serving guests in a

beautiful room.

Enjoying a meal in a comfortable, attractive room will make Thanksgiving and holiday celebrations all the more memorable. If you're looking for an entirely new dining room suite or adding to existing furniture, take this advice from local dining room furniture retailers and manufacturers.





*New Look Interiors offers this set, which includes a table with a unique trestle base. The china cabinet has beveled glass with lighting. This traditional design consists of solid cherry.*

A dining room should reflect personal style. "Consider spicing it up by mixing in antiques and accent pieces that complement the set's style," says Rich Pollock, general manager, Brandon Home Furnishings. "Depending upon the room's size, consider purchasing pieces that will enhance entertainment, such as a beautiful bar with a marble top and brass rail that invites guests to linger after enjoying a meal.

A large console or buffet offers additional space for serve ware and extras that could potentially crowd the dining room table while entertaining. Bookshelves or a tall curio cabinet add a spark to the dining room as well, providing a unique alternative for displaying heirlooms and accessories. Tasteful fabrics and

dramatic wall colors will finish the look, offering a comfortable environment for you and your guests, Pollock says.

With smaller rooms, opt for a tall but shallow pantry shelf unit to display a themed collection and give a room a larger look, says Sue Beddia, public relations and Web manager, Domain Home Fashions. For spacious rooms, add a settee and comfortable pillows to soften the hard lines of wood. Iron plant stands or painted wood columns with fluting detail topped with greenery also break up the expanse of case goods and help to create an inviting and fresh environment. Add lamps to a sideboard or a table to create multiple spots of interest to show your room and all of its elements

>>>

CUSTOM HEAVY GLASS FRAMELESS SHOWER ENCLOSURES

## Diamond Dimension

Serving the Delaware Valley since 1985



- Framed Shower & Tub Enclosures
- Custom Mirrors & Tabletops
- Artistic Glass Etching
- Authorized Ultra Glass Distributor
- Closet & Storage Designs

Call for Special Pricing

215.638.1113  
Fax 215.638.7990

"Customer satisfaction comes first"

Photo: Barry Halkin

www.DiamondDimens

BUILDERS • ARCHITECTS • INTERIOR DESIGNERS WELCOME

*Celebrating Our 82nd Anniversary*

## Fine Rug Cleaning and Restoration

Robert Zakian

*Voted Best Rug Cleaner on the Main Line*

*Winner of Main Line Times Reader's Choice Award*

- Rug Cleaning
- Stain Removal
- Expert Repairs
- Scotchgarding
- Deodorizing
- Demolishing
- Hand Cleaning for Older, Fragile Rugs
- Fine Furniture Cleaning
- Wall-to-Wall Carpet Cleaning

# ZAKIAN

The first family of Oriental Rug experts since 1923

FREE Estimates • FREE Pickup and Delivery

PA 610-789-8300

NJ 856-338-0330



zakianrugs.com







A collection with heirloom qualities, intricate carvings and inlay and extra leaf accommodates seating for 12. Table opens to 122 inches. A Domain exclusive.



Elite Table Pads from Century Table Pads offer half an inch of protection as well as 550 degrees Fahrenheit of protection at the table surface against accidental heat sources.



GRANITE GLASS + METAL TILE MOSAICS CERAMIC  
COUNTERTOPS MARBLE LIMESTONE SLATE DESIGNS

**GREAT Art**  
picks UP where  
*nature* ends.

MARC CHAGALL,  
RUSSIAN ARTIST | PAINTER



Westwood Tile & Stone will provide you with a complete range of services including: skilled artisans, interior designers and installers.

Over 1,000 imported and domestic slabs on display, stop by today for ideas — and inspiration.

competitive pricing — superior craftsmanship

**Westwood**  
Tile & Stone

p: 856 795-8900

westwoodtile.com

670 Deer Road, Cherry Hill, NJ MINUTES FROM 295



A French country dining set by Enterprise Midi, sold at Creative Dinettes.

in the best light.

#### CHAIRS, LEGS AND MORE

Table support is also an important decision. Choose from a pedestal base or legs, says George Kull, owner, Creative Dinettes. Both have advantages and disadvantages. Pedestal bases allow for seating around a table without obstruction by legs. Smaller tables have one center column, while larger tables (anything larger than 42 by 66 inches) usually require multiple columns. Higher quality double and triple pedestals provide another advantage: the ability to

open and close the leaf system without the help of another person. These larger bases will usually keep the table anchored to the floor while a gear system aids in the table's opening and closing.

With the center of gravity in the middle of the table, consumers will find more flex when pushing down on a table's corners, Kull explains. On quality double-pedestal tables, this flex isn't anything to worry about. The table won't break or tip over. However, smaller single-pedestal tables can be prone to tipping if pressed hard enough.



A dining set in the country farm style offered by All American Home.





European Home likes to mix and match striking upholstered chairs around a table to add drama to the dining experience.

Consumers who plan to use their table to aid in rising from chairs should avoid single pedestals. Those who want little to no flex in their table should not use pedestals. Leg tables provide the most stability, because their centers of gravity are at the four corners. Leg tables usually provide more size and style options than pedestal tables, as well.

Select a chair based on what is most important: comfort, style or practicality, Kull advises. If comfort is at the top of your list, select chairs that have an

upholstered seat and back. Arm chairs add further comfort for the heads of the table, but are unnecessary. In fact, the latest trend in dining rooms is to forgo arm chairs to achieve a minimalist look. Eliminating arm chairs from the set also adds a degree of practicality, because arms take abuse. Arms are usually the first part of a set to scratch, dent or break. For a greater degree of practicality, choose a chair without fabric seats or backs. Consider purchasing a fabric protection plan from a retailer.

>>>

## Imagine your home, totally organized!

Custom Closets, Garage Cabinets, Home Offices, and more



**\$100 Off  
and Free  
Installation**

Take an extra \$100 off any order of \$1000 or more. Not valid with any other offer. Free installation with any complete unit order of \$500 or more.

Call for a Free in-home design consultation and estimate

**800-293-3744**

[www.closetsbydesign.com](http://www.closetsbydesign.com)

Most Credit Cards Accepted.  
Licensed, Insured and Bonded.



**ClosetsbyDesign®**

## VIKING CASUAL FURNITURE SINCE 1951

LARGEST CASUAL FURNITURE SHOWROOM IN THE AREA

**30-40% OFF Retail • PATIO FURNITURE LIQUIDATION SALE**

**ANYTHING YOU SEE TODAY, WE CAN DELIVER TOMORROW!**



### MANY STYLES OF BAR STOOLS

• See Over 250 Bar Stools On Sale From \$99.00  
• CUSTOM ORDERS FEATURED



### CUSTOM DINETTES

PASTEL OF CALIFORNIA



### Home Entertainment Bars & Stools BY Viking

Largest selection in the area. Featuring custom made kitchen counter stools.



### CUSTOM MADE TILE, MARBLE, CORIAN TAB

Select any chair with any table custom order featured

**CHERRY HILL • 1612 Route 70 West**

Between Garden State Park and Ponzo's Diner • **856-486-1880**

Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri 10-8 • Tues., Thurs & Sat. 10-6 • Open Sun 12-5

Visit our website: [www.vikingcasual.com](http://www.vikingcasual.com)

**VIKING BAR STOOL CITY • Black Horse Pk. & 3rd Ave.**

Runnemede, NJ • **856-939-8211**

Hours: Mon-Sat 10-6

Not responsible for typographical errors.

**CALL FOR FREE CATALOGS! Phone 856-486-1880 WE MEET OR BEAT ANY PRICE**







Double Pedestal  
Table by EH  
Woodworking

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT LOOK

New Look Interiors offers free home design consultations to ensure customers don't make mistakes when purchasing a dining set, says Caterina Gibson, director of marketing, New Look Interiors. A dining suite is one of the most important decisions

homeowners will make because it will function for many years. Consider the room's style, scale and function.

Along with your personal taste, it is important that the style reflects your existing pieces, Gibson says. Equally important is the correct scale of the piece.

# which dining room sets take the cake?

House & Home asked local retailers about their best selling dining room sets. Here's what they told us.



This signature bar armoire from European Home Collection makes a great addition to a dining room in place of a buffet or hutch.

**Jere Bradwell of European Home Collection:** The Tuscan Collection from manufacturer Canal Dover is a favorite. We specialize in European country house furniture which is more relaxed and less elegant than the city counterpart. This collection includes a trestle table presented in a two-tone finish. The base is antique black with an "umbria" wood top. The heavy pedestal bases and 1 1/2-inch top add to its solid old-world charm. Beautiful sideboards and hutches with old-world "seeded glass" can anchor the room as well as provide a showcase for china, crystal and

collectables. Each piece is handcrafted using solid wormy maple hardwood. The collection is available in antique black, antique white and three Tuscan wood finishes and can be ordered in solid colors or a mixture of paint and wood finishes, each softly burnished and slightly distressed.

### Caterina Gibson of New Look Interiors:

We have a unique, contemporary set with an interesting double-pedestal base with matching chairs available in light cherry, teak and maple. We also have many old-world styles with unique solid woods and marble tops from France and Italy.

### Sue Beddia of Domain Home Fashions:

Domain's Manchester Dining Collection was designed with traditional styling inspired by 18th century classics. Hand-carved details, decorative banding on the tabletop and generous scale are just a few of its special features. With two 21-inch leaves, this table opens to 122 inches. The table legs are intricately carved and fluted, a design that is carried to Manchester's dining chairs. The side and arm chairs come with two styles of upholstered seats and carved wood or upholstered backs. Shown with the Manchester collection are Domain's Castlefield dining chairs at the head of the table, covered with a stain and fade-resistant Sunbrella® fabric. The set is made from rubber wood solids, cherry and ash burl veneers.

### Rich Pollock of Brandon Home Furnishings:

Pulaski offers a broad selection of finishes and styles. Its dining room designs are detailed, sophisticated and elegant, providing flair that brings a room alive.

### Larry Tran of Mahogany and More:

One of our best sellers is a high-gloss mahogany dining table that is a reproduction of a 19th-century style double-pedestal table. The tabletop is smooth with perfect color tones and uniform wood grains. Encircling the surface area is a detailed inlaid band. The edge of the table top is decorated with rope carvings. Underneath the table are two solid mahogany pedestals with triple legs. Each pedestal is decorated with leaf carvings. This strong table is made of thick, heavy wood. The center leaves are easy to install or remove and lock into place. A variety of matching mahogany chairs are available in sets of eight.

### Joanne Morton of Morton Fine Furniture Inc.:

Our East/West line, which includes table and chairs, is our most popular style. The chairs are ergonomically curved to provide lumbar support for unparalleled comfort. Its versatility, combined with inspirational lines of the arts and craft movement of the 20th century, make our East/West line both stylish and comfortable. Our East/West line is made with Appalachian Cherry wood with accents of tiger maple. We don't use stains or varnish on our furniture, but rather an oil and wax finish to allow the true natural grain of the premium grade wood to please the eye.

### Bob DiGiacomo of Designers Furniture & Interiors:

We've received great response from our Classic Revival collection from Canadian manufacturer/importer Leda. The basic Neo-classical "bones" of the design have been softened by definite Acadian overtones. A favorite piece is a 60-inch diameter pedestal dining table that expands to 84 inches in diameter by

inserting several curved leaves along the circumference. When not in use the leaves store separately or in the matching marble-topped sideboard. The rich, soft brown cherry finish features moderate physical distressing, abundant highlights as well as walnut band inlays. Two chair styles are offered, the most popular of which is an oversized curved backside chair which complements the round table.

### Eric Dilworth of All American Home:

Solid top dining tables with 18th century company board extensions are popular. With extensions, these tables can expand to 10 feet long. We also sell extension tables over 22 feet long. We recently furnished the dining room for Plain & Fancy restaurant in Intercourse, PA, with tables and serving risers, which have been a popular selling item.

### George Kull of Creative Dinettes:

Our best selling dining room group comes from Enterprise Midi, a high-end wood manufacturer in Canada. Their merchandise is made from solid birch wood, which has a smooth, clean look. Our most popular set is an oval extension table with lyre back chairs in distressed white and honey two-tone finish. This set creates a popular French country look.

### Sydney Burkholder of E.H. Woodworking:

My best seller is a Queen Anne dining room ensemble which includes a table, chairs and hutch. "It's popular because it is ornate, delicate and classy," he says. Customers choose from eight colors, such as natural cherry, dark cherry and oak. Shaker and colonial styles are also top choices.

—Karen Appold

# dining rooms: Lancaster County Style

Creating large pieces is no problem for woodworkers in Lancaster County, PA. E.H. Woodworking creates custom-sized tables up to 26 feet long, which accommodate 30 guests. "I joke with customers by saying the bigger the table, the more you have to cook and the more friends you have to find," quips Sydney Burkholder of E.H.

Woodworking.

E.H. Woodworking works with customers to achieve the right look. Some customers bring in wood flooring samples to match with their dining set. Burkholder cautions against this. Instead, consider a totally different contrast, he says. He also advises customers to measure doorways and archways to ensure large pieces can

enter a room.

Just about anything desired is available, including rustic pine farm tables and Queen Anne cherry tables, says Eric Dilworth, president, All American Home. "We can seat as many or as few people as needed with options for expansion such as drop leaves, self-storing leaves and company board extensions," he says.

All American Home offers custom finishing options which include two-toning and matching finishes. "Our furniture can be customized by style, size and color," Dilworth says. "We often receive e-mails from pictures found on the Web, which we quote and build to match."

—Karen Appold





Queen Anne Hutch by E.H. Woodworking.

Allow at least 2 feet minimum for walking space around the table when the chairs are in use and have been pulled away from the table.

Choosing the shape is another decision. Will it be round, oval, square or rectangular? The number of chairs is dictated by the table's size.

Make this season and the rest

to come extra special with the perfect dining room ensemble. Options for dining room furniture are as varied as the food you choose to serve. **H&H**

Karen Appold is editor of *House* magazine. Contact her at [editor@housemagazine.com](mailto:editor@housemagazine.com).

## resources

### Brandon Home Furnishings

Lawrenceville, NJ, 609-406-9100  
King of Prussia, PA, 610-768-9222  
[www.brandanhomefurnishings.com](http://www.brandanhomefurnishings.com)

### Table Pads

Century Table Pads  
610-617-9137

### Creative Dinettes

Deptford, NJ, 856-853-8808  
[www.diningspecialist.com](http://www.diningspecialist.com)

### Designers Furniture & Interiors

Norristown, PA, 610-279-8980  
[www.designersfurniture.com](http://www.designersfurniture.com)

### Domain Home Fashions

800-4-Domain  
[www.domain-home.com](http://www.domain-home.com)

### European Home Collection

Buckingham, PA, 215-794-4443  
[www.EuropeanHomeCollection.com](http://www.EuropeanHomeCollection.com)

### Le Montage

856-428-4655

### New Look Interiors

Hatfield, PA, 215-997-8100  
[www.newlookinteriors.com](http://www.newlookinteriors.com)

### Viking Casual Furniture

Cherry Hill, NJ, 856-486-1880  
Runnemede, NJ, 856-939-8211  
[www.vikingcasual.com](http://www.vikingcasual.com)

### LANCASTER COUNTY, PA

### All American Home

Ronks, PA, 717-687-7760  
[www.aahomefurniture.com](http://www.aahomefurniture.com)

### E.H. Woodworking

East Earl, PA, 717-445-6595  
[www.lancastersource.com](http://www.lancastersource.com)

### Homestyles Furniture

Gap, PA, 717-442-1942  
[www.HomestylesFurniture.com](http://www.HomestylesFurniture.com)

### Morton Fine Furniture

Leola, PA  
877-656-3799, 717-656-3799  
[www.mortonfinefurniture.com](http://www.mortonfinefurniture.com)

Visit our online resource directory at [www.housemagazine.com](http://www.housemagazine.com) to find additional companies that offer these products and services.



Famous J.B.W. Manufacturer available at Viking Casual Furniture. Choose from casual dining, oak or maple and tile top table. Have it your way...design your own set. Select finishes, fabrics and size, the newest in dining.

# It's All about Taste



**BIG 50 Winner for FINE DESIGN**



**HUB**  
DESIGN / BUILD

Innovations and Solutions

- KITCHENS
- BATHS
- ADDITIONS

Villanova, PA • 610-688-7475 • [www.HUBdesignbuild.com](http://www.HUBdesignbuild.com)

