

Bear's Furniture & Mattress

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THE "BEAR" FACTS

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Meet the Team:

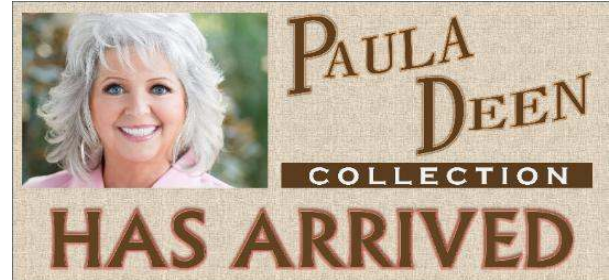
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- Bill Beck,
Mattress Den
Manager
- Harold Deeter,
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- Scott Gibbons,
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New at Bear's!



Paula Deen, the cookbook author and TV star, now has her own furniture collection with Universal Furniture. The 50 piece furniture line from Universal Furniture offers casegoods and upholstery selections for the entire home. When you think of Paula Deen, you think of tradition, comfort, and warmth, and her furniture collection reflects that.

The designs in Paula's collection were inspired by plantation style antiques, coastal design, and of course, Savannah's own distinctive character. All the pieces seem to have aged over a period of time, giving them a warm, comforting feel that is very much like her cooking.

Buying Guide: Dining Room

Whether you dream of dazzling dinner parties or cozy family get-togethers, your new dining set will play a major role. The great news is that there is a style out there for everyone. But with so many choices, there are certain considerations you should keep in mind.

Estimating Needs

The first step you should take before you shop for any kind of furniture is to measure the room it will be placed in. The dimensions of a dining room should inform not only the size of the table, but the general shape as well. A dining table doesn't have to be rectangular. The shape of a table can change the overall impression of the room size. There are great expandable options in round and square tables as well. To get an even better idea of how the space can be laid out, use our online room planner. That way you can tryout round, oval, square and rectangular tables to see what will fit best in the room before you go shopping.

Here are a few rules of thumb to keep in mind when planning your dining room:

- Diners need 18" to 24" of space away from the table to sit down and pull their chairs up to the table.
- Diners should have 24" to 30" of space at the table to dine comfortably without bumping elbows with their neighbor.
- There should be four to five feet of space between the table and the wall to allow the host to easily move through the room and be able to serve the guests.



A table with a leaf is a great way to expand your dining area. If you have the space, you might want to consider keeping the leaf in the table full time.

How many for dinner?

The number of diners you expect to seat affects the kind of table you get. It's easy to get extra bodies around a pedestal table, but beware that a pedestal table can become wobbly and prone to tip when extended with multiple leaves. Round or rectangular tables with four legs can make it hard to pull up an extra chair.

A table with a leaf is a great way to expand your dining area. If you have the space, you might want to consider keeping the leaf in the table full time. A leaf in storage will not age the same as the rest of the table. Coloration may change or the leaf may warp if stored vertically, instead of horizontally, or if it is kept in a damp environment. Leaves are usually not an option with glass-topped tables. Butterfly leaves have become a popular option in recent years because they store the leaf right under the top of the table. It is important to try out the leaf mechanism when you are shopping. It should open and lock into place smoothly and easily without force. Drop leaf tables can allow you to place a table right against a wall for day to day use. You can pull them out from the wall and extend the leaf when you need to seat more people. A variation of the drop leaf table, gate-leg tables include a leg that swings out to support the leaf.

Flip top tables are another great option for expanding seating. A flip top table is distinguished by a table top that is doubled over on itself. As it is unfolded it is either rotated or shifted on the table base for support. In the folded state they can be used as console tables in the dining room, or behind a sofa in the living room as a sofa table.

Continued on next page

Buying Guide: Dining Room (continued)



Dining room furniture is commonly sold in five piece sets. Occasionally retailers will run promotions that include two arm chairs as well. You should buy at least two more chairs than you think you will need. Holiday entertaining and family gatherings can send you scrambling for seating to accommodate everyone. If you buy the extra chairs at the outset you can be sure that they fit with the table. The extra chairs can always be used as accents chairs in other rooms when you are not entertaining.

Mixing and Matching

Eclectic looks are very popular these days, but there are several things you should think about when purchasing tables and chairs separately:

Will it fit?

If you are buying chairs to match a table in your home measure the distance from the floor to the table apron to calculate if a chair will fit. (The table apron is a rail that runs between the legs to support the table top.) If you are buying a table to match chairs in your home, measure from the floor to the seat of the chair and add eight inches to figure out how much space you need under the apron. This will ensure that a person sitting in the chair can actually get their legs under the table. Chairs with arms are another consideration. If you have a tight space, then you will probably want the arm chair to tuck all the way under the table, therefore you will want to make sure that the arm will fit under the apron, but be careful. If the chair arms regularly make contact with the table apron, the finish may be marred. When considering arm chairs, also look at the distance between the table legs and the distance between the arms of the chair to ensure they will fit together easily.

Take a Seat

Sit in the chair for some time; don't go from one to the other too quickly. You will want your guests to linger over dinner conversation, so make sure that the chair is comfortable for a longer period of time. It should be wide enough for your guests to be comfortable. The chair should support the back and allow you to keep your feet on the floor.

Chairs should not be rickety or wobble. If the chair has a padded seat, the corners should be reinforced with screwed-in (not glued) corner blocks. Padded seats should be removable so that the cover can be changed. Fabric covered chairs may not be appealing if you have young children who are messy eaters. Leather is a great option for quick cleanup, as is stain resistant microfiber upholstery. Slip covers on Parson's chairs are another easily cleaned option for the dining room.

Tables

Dining tables come in a variety of styles, sizes and shapes. Whatever the style tables should not be rickety or wobble. Leg tables should have screwed-in corner blocks. Glass-topped tables should come with silicone pads that go between the glass and the base to keep the glass from getting scratched.

Pub-height or counter-height tables have become very popular in recent years. While they have a youthful image, counter height tables are a great option for older people who have trouble getting up and down from low dining room chairs. If your kitchen or dining room has a window with a great view, a pub height table is a great way to enjoy. The higher seating can allow for unobstructed sight lines. The higher levels of these table tops also make them a great additional work surface in a kitchen with limited counter space. Keep in mind though; a pub height table may require you to raise your dining room chandelier.

When you purchase your dining table, you might want to check into table pads as well. Table pads are often felt-covered on the back side and vinyl on the top surface. They are usually covered over with a table cloth when used. The pads protect the table top from hot dishes and moisture and can significantly prolong the life of your dining set.

Bear's Furniture & Mattress

3854 US 322 | Franklin, PA 16323

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Monday thru Thursday: 9am to 6pm

Friday: 9am to 8pm

Saturday: 9am to 5pm

Closed Sundays

Bear's Mattress Den

80 Regina Drive | Cranberry, PA 16319

814.677.1200

Monday thru Friday: 10am to 8pm

Saturday: 10am to 5pm

Closed Sundays

FURNITURE FIRST AID

WOOD FURNITURE

Do you have a piece of wood furniture that's been slightly damaged? Many everyday mishaps can be taken care of with these home remedies:

Problem	Remedy
Water marks/rings	Place a clean, thick paper or cloth blotter over the stain and press down with a warm iron; repeat. If necessary, follow up with cleaning polish or furniture grade wax.
Milk or alcohol	Using your fingers, rub a liquid or paste wax into the area. If that fails, rub in a paste of boiled linseed oil and rottenstone paste (available at hardware stores); use powdered pumice for dull finishes. Wipe dry and polish.
White marks	Rub with a thin paste of wax and mineral spirits. Once dry, apply a thin coat of wax or cleaning polish.
Candle wax	Harden the wax with an ice cube, catching moisture as the ice melts. Using your fingers, crumble off the wax, and then scrape the remaining wax gently with an old credit card. Rub with a cloth dampened in mineral spirits. Or, place a clean, thick blotter over stain and press down with a warm iron. Rub the area with liquid polish.
Cigarette Burns	Rub the area with a scratch-concealing polish. If that fails, apply rottenstone paste (available at hardware stores).

UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE

Please note: Be sure to check your furniture Upholstery Cleaning Codes to determine if a procedure is safe for your fabric. Those codes are:

Cleaning Code	
W	Clean the fabric with a water-based product, such as the foam from a mild detergent or a non-solvent upholstery shampoo. Use sparingly and avoid over-wetting.
S	Clean the fabric with a mild water-free dry-cleaning solvent. Use sparingly, in a well-ventilated room.
WS	Clean the fabric with a dry-cleaning solvent, the foam of a mild detergent or an upholstery shampoo, depending on the stain.
X	Have the fabric professionally cleaned. Only clean this fabric yourself by vacuuming or brushing it lightly to prevent accumulation of dust and grime. If no code exists, try a cleaning method on a hidden spot or call a professional upholstery cleaner for advice.