

The Dos and Don'ts of Secondhand Furniture

If you are interested in refurbishing your home, but you don't have a large budget at your fingertips, don't despair. To have a beautiful home with elegant furniture, you don't actually have to buy everything new. For many people, the best option is to purchase second-hand furniture, and if you know where to look and how to be cautious, you can walk away with some very good buys.

One of the main things to be careful about is whether or not you are getting rid of your own garbage only to take on someone else's. For that reason, the first thing you need to do is check out what you are interested in buying very carefully. If you are interested, for example, in buying a second-hand cupboard, make sure to check all of the doors to make sure that they open and close smoothly and that the hinges work properly. Is the wood scratched? Are the shelves properly fitted? Do they have all of their dibbles and screws? And what about the door handles?

Where are you getting your second-hand furniture from? You can always find offers on various email lists, in the classified sections of local newspapers, or from ads placed on notice-boards in stores, churches, or bus stops. When you find what you need, the first question to ask is why the seller is getting rid of the item in the first place. Does the ad say that the item is in need of repair? If you are not careful, you could end up spending so much money on getting it repaired that you would have been better off buying a new one in the first place.

One source of good bargains is a moving sale. If a family is immigrating to another country, the furniture that they are selling off is not necessarily in bad condition. The reason that it is being sold is that it's not worth transporting it abroad rather than because it is defective.

Stores selling reconditioned furniture are also a good option. The furniture that is sold is cheaper than brand new, and because it has been reconditioned, any scratches and defects have been fixed. Many families buy tables, chairs, and even appliances such as refrigerators from such stores.

Once you have bought your secondhand furniture, you may want to brighten up the look of the room further by treating yourself to some new curtains and rugs. These kinds of furnishings are relatively inexpensive even when purchased first hand. The right kind of area rug can make all the difference to a room. For instance, any one of the [shaped area rugs](#) that you can buy can put the finishing touches on your living room, no matter what the furniture looks like or where it comes from, and [solid area rugs](#) can complement the color scheme in any room.

The secret of buying good secondhand furniture is therefore knowing how to recognize a good purchase and adding tasteful furnishings to it. You might not end up with the designer furniture that you always dreamed of, but if you are smart in your purchases you will still have a beautiful home.