

# FROM SWEET HOMES

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## Furniture terms

When shopping for furniture there are many terms used to describe the various merchandise for sale. A lot of these terms show up in everyday advertisements and promotions. Here is a partial glossary of furniture terms.

**Art Deco.** This represents a style characterized by geometric forms and bright, bold colours from around 1918 to 1940.

**Art-Nouveau.** This is a movement and style of decoration characterized by sinuous and flowing lines, asymmetry, and flower and leaf motifs.

**Baluster.** This is an upright, such as a table leg or tail, which is shaped like a vase or urn.

**Baroque.** An extravagant and heavily ornate style of architecture, furniture and decoration that originated in 17th century Italy.

**Cabriole Leg.** Elongated furniture leg with gently curving S-shape.

**Canapé.** A type of French settee with a padded back and seat, open arms, and a decorated frame.

**Case Furniture.** This is furniture that includes chest, coffer, bureaus and cupboards.

**Davenport.** A British term used to describe a small writing desk.

**Escritoire.** A cabinet with a fall front that lowers to form a writing surface.

**Gainsborough chair.** A deep armchair with an upholstered seat and back, padded open arms and carved decoration.

**Lincoln rocker.** An upholstered rocking chair with an exposed wooden frame, high back and padded armrest.

**Ottoman.** An upholstered footstool.

**Pembroke table.** A small two-flap table that stands on two legs.

**Post Modernism.** A reaction against modernism that began in the 1950s and featured the reintroduction of bright colours and decorative components.

**Rococo.** This decorative style of furniture evolved in the early 18th century, partly as a reaction to the Baroque style. It features asymmetrical ornaments and flamboyant scrollwork.

**Trestle table.** A long narrow table with two uprights joined by a single stretcher.

**Wellington chest.** A tall, narrow, relatively plain type of chest named after the Duke of Wellington.

**Windsor chair.** A type of country chair with spindle back and legs.

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