

FURNISHING

Furniture: What's best for each room

BY HARRIET BIRUNGI

Without furniture, enjoying our homes would be almost impossible. Dining and bonding with family at meal time would not be heard of as almost everyone will seek for a place they feel comfortable to sit and eat.

Items would be heaped in any corner and finding them would be a nightmare. But, the availability of furniture makes everything simple.

Living room

Resty Namuddu, Foot Steps Furniture manager says there is a variety of furniture to choose from, depending on what one wants and how much space they have to accommodate it.

If it were not an issue of space, Namuddu says, one would buy just about anything and cramp it in their homes. But the space you have usually guides you on what to acquire so that you can enjoy your home.

"For instance, the living room is that area of convergence in the home that calls for comfortable sitting," she says. To ensure that occupants enjoy sitting, furniture ranging from love nest couch to sectional sofas, single sitters and rocking chairs for parents with babies are important.

Other furniture include ottoman stools for extra sitting or resting feet and coffee table for resting hot or cold beverages. However, not every one of these should appear in the living room. A sofa set in plain colour, velvet material can provide good nesting area and if there is extra space to fill, then consider a cosy recliner and end tables for serving so that one does not have to get up from their seat.

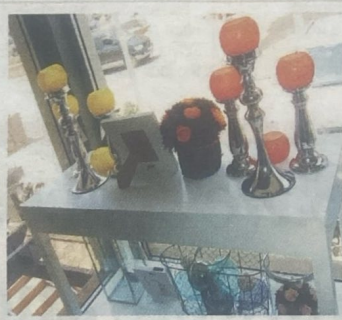
While for easy viewing, place your TV stand against the wall. A proper display unit for



The focal point in a dining room is the table. Get a table with matching chairs

Setting

● A proper display unit provides additional furnishing as well as a media console that neatly stores everything, just like this console table with coloured candles



placing other entertainment equipment you may have in the living room is good additional furnishing as well as a media console that neatly stores everything out of eyeshot, advises Namuddu.

For easy accessibility of the living room, direct the flow of traffic in and out of the living room with space breakers like pedestal tables for resting a pot plant or any other ornaments that need to be displayed says Charles Muliika of Adam and Eve interiors décor. Think of a beautiful glass pot or a plant with beautiful leaves.

Home office

When it comes to home office furniture, how you store everything is of utmost importance, says Namuddu.

Showcase your library on bookshelves which can be wooden or wrought iron, and organise papers in file cabinets.

While stocking those bookcases, leave out your favourite volumes. The ones you use all the time deserve a spot on your computer desk. To complete your study, add a stately office chair to match. The chair should support your back and recline if you need to

take a few minutes to reflect.

Dining hall

In the dining room, Muliika says, the furniture focal point is the dining table.

From round to rectangular, get dining tables of any size. You can get a table with matching chairs.

"Whereas, glass top tables are an in-thing, one ought to be careful, especially if they have children. Wooden topped tables are a better option," Muliika says.

To display dinnerware, choose complimentary China cabinets so that when dinner is served, you can reach for any piece of cutlery when needed.

Bedroom

This is a room in the house that one goes to rejuvenate oneself and so it should be furnished for great comfort.

Ensure you have that bed that will invite you to rest; the beauty can be in the make of bedheads; choose from wooden and upholstered headboards or metal bed frames.

Remember to get a well-



A two-seater nestling. Photos by Harriet Birungi



Comfortable chairs for a living room

fitting mattress that should be turned every time you change bed linen to ensure even wear.

Benches and trunks are convenient at the end of your bed, so you can sit and easily change into night or day wear. But, night stands are perfect on the sides. For a neat finish, add more drawer space with wardrobes or dressers. And when you are done with the design, to gauge if you have done a good job, check out the finished room reflected in a must-have mirror.

Outdoors/porch

With outdoor patio furniture, much-loved indoor comforts move outside. Whether dining, entertaining or just seeking shade, furnish your yard with the essentials, advises Namuddu.

Rattan furniture is an option to consider if you want to go away from the ordinary garden benches. It is an all-weather proof type of furniture. It is not affected by heat or water. It is perfect for the outdoor sitting. For easy care, it can be dusted often,

but would be much enjoyed if placed under canopies (outdoor tents). The canopies can be washed depending on the weather.

The cost of rattan furniture depends on the size or number of seats. You may also have the same kind of furniture in the house, acting as mini dining area especially when you do not have a lot of room.

Plastic set is also among those outdoor furniture; it is strong and adjustable — can be moved anywhere you may feel like sitting. And for maintenance purposes, plastic can be washed or for a quick clean, dusted.

Also, lighting and lamps are a must. Brighten up inside spaces with table lamps, floor lamps and ceiling lighting like chandeliers. Illuminate outdoor nights with wall lighting like lanterns.

So, when in search of any piece of furniture, the many furniture showrooms in and outside Kampala have something for every taste to make a home truly one's own.