



THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO furniture stores

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WITH GAS TOPPING \$4 A GALLON, WHO CAN AFFORD TO CRUISE THE CITY IN SEARCH OF GREAT FURNITURE? SO HERE YOU HAVE LISTINGS WITH COMMENTS ON STORES SELLING BRAND-NEW, NEVER-BEEN-USED FURNITURE ALL OVER THE ST. LOUIS AREA—FROM ILLINOIS TO ST. CHARLES



furniture guide

DOWNTOWN
 SOUTH ST. LOUIS
 CENTRAL WEST END
 UNIVERSITY CITY
 CLAYTON
 BRENTWOOD
 RICHMOND HEIGHTS
 MAPLEWOOD
 WEBSTER GROVES
 ROCK HILL
 KIRKWOOD
 LADUE
 FRONTENAC
 DES PERES
 TOWN & COUNTRY
 CREVE COEUR
 OLIVETTE
 MARYLAND HEIGHTS
 O'FALLON
 CHESTERFIELD
 ST. CHARLES
 ILLINOIS

downtown

BLEND

Something old, something new—it sounds like a bride's to-do list. But it's the concept behind Blend, a store that takes the antique furniture collected by Marlene Wilson and meshes it with the modern pieces created out of steel and concrete by John Beck. Sometimes the old actually is built into the new—like a coffee table composed of an antique wooden drawer with steel and glass added. Custom work is available. 1113 Locust, 314-436-9228, blend-home.com

BLUE BOAT DESIGNS

Blue Boat Designs is the place to go if you need a vanity, a vessel sink, tiles, a set of custom-designed cabinets or economical lighting with space-age flair. The showroom sports a selection of prefab sinks and vanities—but the real draw here is the design service, which will help you envision your own acquisition in glass, aluminum, steel or acrylic. 1607 Washington, 314-241-8998, blueboatdesigns.com



ENGLISH LIVING

If you're looking for hand-hewn, one-of-a-kind pieces with old-world polish—the kind of furniture you can pass along to your heirs—you should be looking here. For more than a decade, they've brought us stylish pieces from family-owned suppliers throughout Europe, making their showroom a necessary stop. 1520 Washington, 314-241-6226, englishliving.com

MACY'S

Just opened this summer, Macy's Furniture Gallery is a marvel of modern ingenuity. With tens of thousands of square feet, featuring a variety of styles, there's tons to take in—clear some time for this one. The draw here is the sheer depth of options, the kinds of choices that haven't been available locally since the dinosaur days of downtown department stores. 601 Olive, 314-444-3111, macys.com

MOSSA CENTER

Got a new loft or apartment? You need furnishings, fast—and preferably in a modern, minimalist French or Italian mode. You need Mossa. The store's collection of chic living and dining room furnishings, plus original artwork, is a beacon unto the feet of downtown's newest residents and should beckon unto yours as well, regardless of where you live. 1214 Washington, 314-241-5199

NICHE

Once you set foot inside Niche's cool interior, you'll forget all about the harried bustle outside. The subtle music, unobtrusive lighting and artfully arranged abundance of furnishings—not to mention the genuinely friendly, professional staff—make this one of the most enjoyable shopping experiences in town. Their design service is equally copacetic—they'll help you create a space that's as comforting and cutting-edge as theirs. 300 N. Broadway, 314-621-8131, nichestl.com

SALT OF THE EARTH

Salt of the Earth is perhaps better known for its knickknacks, jewelry and dishes—but it, too, carries furniture and artwork, original pieces that can be found nowhere else in the world. The hand-painted chairs and artisanal tables displaying the store's wealth of goods aren't just there for decoration—they're priced to sell and ready to jazz up a sunroom or kitchen. 1123 Locust, 314-241-8008, salt-earth.com

URBAN MATERIALS + ACCESSORIES (UMA)

UMA carries a wonderful selection of contemporary furniture, including lamps (of the hanging variety as well as the upright kind), chairs, screens, a freestanding bar, wall and tabletop fireplaces and—our fave, natch—the Magtable coffee table, which has slots for more than a dozen magazines to hang. 313 N. 11th, 314-241-9990, iloveuma.com

COOL COLORS

Purple (shown with gray) ...
 Pale porcelain ...
 Yellow ... Lilac ... Mauve ...
 Deep reds ... Pink (with black) ... Green-olive ... Lime ...
 Blue ... Spice orange ...
 Metallics (gold, platinum, dark silver)

south st. louis

BEST HOME FURNISHINGS

Originally an Indiana-based wholesale chair manufacturer, Best Home Furnishings opened its first (and still only) public showroom in St. Louis a little over a year ago, offering sofas, ottomans, chaise lounges, gliders, accent tables, leather office chairs and even decorative reproductions of dressmaker's dummies. Chances are you may find something to delight you on their huge sales floor, but you can also have a pair of wingback chairs made to order, with a choice of 700 upholstery coverings, including various leathers (turnaround time is a mere three weeks). 129 Concord Plaza, 314-842-9922, besthomefurnishings.com

GROVE FURNISHINGS

Even if particleboard trees existed, Grove owners Ana Casey and Bill Waggoner would take a pass. Their raison d'être is offering objects of high quality, including handmade furniture—from chimney cupboards to simple, graceful headboards—constructed from real wood. The pair try to source as much as possible from local artists, including Missouri craftsman Jim Stubblefield, Williams Colonial and Carpenter's Shop. They also carry an ever-revolving stock of clever, hand-picked home accessories. 3169 Morgan Ford, 314-776-7898, grovefurnishings.com



atom

Of downtown's assortment of locally owned furniture stores, Atom may well be the "hostess with the mostest." Its wide-ranging collection includes multiples of almost every kind of piece you can think of, including armoires, beds, tables, chairs, end tables, lamps ... The list goes on. Their colorful, bountiful showroom is a must-see for anyone hoping to find pieces no one else will have. 513 Olive, 314-621-4141, atom-designs.com

