



THE REAL DEAL GUIDE TO BUYING FURNITURE

Energy Center
Manhattan Pool



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We're Always Happy
to Help



INTRODUCTION

If you're thinking about adding some new outdoor furniture to your backyard, you may be overwhelmed by the wide array of options available. There are countless styles, designs, and different types of pieces to choose from. While the urge to pick out one of everything can be strong, you may not have the yard space for all of that.

So, how will you ever narrow it down to the ideal pieces for you and your space? Not to worry! We've put together this handy guide to walk you through a few key considerations in the outdoor furniture selection process. So sit back and try to get comfortable in that old, broken down patio furniture. You won't have to tolerate it much longer!



**HERE ARE THE MAIN
DETAILS TO CONSIDER
IN SELECTING OUTDOOR
FURNITURE FOR YOUR SPACE:**

CHAPTER 1

YOUR OUTDOOR SPACE

One of the most important factors to take into consideration before you buy any outdoor furniture is the space you are trying to fill. In fact, you'll want to decide if filling the space up is even your goal at all or if it's just to add some key accents to it.

Be sure to consider the proportions. It can be tough to fall in love with some sizable furniture pieces if you don't actually have a large area to place them in. You don't want the space to look cluttered or for the flow to be awkward. On the other hand, if you have a large space to fill, you probably don't want to choose just a couple of petite pieces.

CONSIDER THE LAYOUT

Before you head out to browse options, take a good look at the area(s) you want to add outdoor furniture to. Take measurements if you feel that the space is going to be tricky to work with. You may not need them, but it's better to be armed with too much information than none at all.

Be sure to think about the size and shape of the area you're trying to fill with patio furniture. While you may have a large yard overall, if you're only trying to create a gathering spot in one area, you need to be mindful of how the pieces will work in the spot you have in mind. Are there landscape elements you need to work around, such as trees or uneven ground? Is your space an unusual shape?

Take the time to fully consider what type of outdoor furniture your yard space can accommodate.

THINK ABOUT YARD SPECIFICS

While you may have a certain part of the yard in mind for your new outdoor furniture, one consideration that some homeowners overlook is the unique quirks of the space. Maybe you have a large open area where you were thinking about putting a fire table and cozy sofas for get-togethers with friends, but have you considered how much privacy that area has? If the neighbors have a clear view from their living room window, that may not be the spot you were planning for.

When you're planning your ideal patio furniture configuration, keep in mind the view, sunlight and shade, and privacy. You don't want to plan for the perfect set up in one area, only to have to relocate and find out that your new pieces don't work in the alternate location.



CHAPTER 2

YOUR INTENDED USE

Another significant factor in selecting new outdoor furniture should be function. How do you envision yourself using the space? While you may have had a certain furniture configuration for years, your needs may have shifted over time.

Maybe you used to have young children at home and now you're empty nesters. Perhaps you used to be the ultimate host and now you prefer quiet evenings relaxing in the yard. No matter the situation, it's vital that, before you go out shopping for outdoor furniture, you think about how you intend to use it.

THINK ABOUT FUNCTION

What are you trying to accomplish when you set out your new outdoor furniture?

What problem are you trying to solve?

- If the goal is to get outside for some outdoor dining, then a patio table and chairs are probably in order. In that case, you may want to include an umbrella for some shade, while you're at it.
- If you have a pool with a surrounding deck, you likely need some lounging pieces for drying off in the warm sun or for keeping an eye on the kids while they're in the pool.
- If you're looking to create a cozy retreat for you and your significant other to cuddle up and enjoy the stars at night, then some comfortable lounging pieces will likely fit the bill. Add in a cozy fire table and you have the ultimate nighttime escape.
- Speaking of a fire table, if you love to entertain throughout the day and into the evening, you will probably fall in love with the idea of having a brilliant fire pit or fire table surrounded by some relaxing seating for a crowd.
- Of course, if you feel like you need several configurations, you can do that too by creating different groupings of outdoor furniture. This creates zones for different activities. You can have an area for sunbathing, one for outdoor dining, and another for group gatherings by the fire.



CHAPTER 3

YOUR PERSONAL STYLE

Personal style should play a big role in the type of outdoor furniture you choose. You may wish to carry over the colors and certain design elements that you love in your indoor space. Alternatively, you might choose to go with something completely different that you've always wanted to try out. The choices are endless.

From breezy tropical resort-style pieces, to sleek, modern style, to elegant and traditional, and everything in between — there are outdoor furniture pieces to suit every taste. Be sure to give some serious thought to the aesthetic you want to target in your outdoor setting.

Patio furniture can be found in practically any color and style you can think of. Pieces are also constructed from a wide array of materials. Well made pieces are created to hold up to a certain amount of sun, heat, and water exposure, so you don't have to compromise style to get the right outdoor furniture pieces for your lifestyle.

That said, think about the area of your yard that the furniture will be placed in. If it's going to be in full sun for a large amount of time or if it's likely to get wet because it's going to be nestled poolside, you'll want to be sure that the pieces you select are made to hold up to those situations.

If the outdoor furniture pieces you select have cushions, be sure that you are clear on how to properly clean them. Some cushions have removable covers that can be taken off and washed, while others need to be wiped with a soft cloth and an appropriate solution. You will also want to have a designated area to store the cushions during storms and over the winter.

And, If you're not quite ready for new furniture pieces, remember that you can often breathe new life into existing furniture by swapping in new accent pillows. This allows you to change up the look to suit the season or add a festive decor element to a backyard party. Also, try adding an outdoor area rug to your deck for a change of pace and a homey touch.





WE ARE ALWAYS HAPPY TO HELP

Once you've settled on the perfect patio furniture set-up for you, the real fun begins! Stop by and see us. Our friendly and knowledgeable team are always happy to walk you through your options and give you plenty of added information about the

OUTSTANDING LINES WE CARRY

No matter the type of patio furniture you're looking for, you're sure to find everything you need at Energy Center-Manhattan Pool.

COME FIND YOUR GATHERING PLACE