

# FURNITURE BUYING GUIDE



## OVERVIEW

Are you looking to set up or refurbish your dream home? Feeling lost and don't know where to start? Buying furniture doesn't have to be overwhelming. This guide will get you started on the right track and within no time you will be living your dream!



### INTRODUCTION

Buying furniture can often be a frustrating exercise. There are hundreds of vendors and thousands of designs to choose from. On top of that, there is a myriad of material and finish options and product descriptions are often misleading and confusing. It is quite common for even the salesperson not to know proper details of their own products.

No wonder so many customers are dissatisfied.

This step by step buying guide will help you to understand your requirements, shortlist the products suitable for you, understand the various material options available and to avoid the most common pitfalls in purchasing furniture. We hope you will find it useful in your aim to set up your dream home!

### Step 1: Document Your Requirements

#### Usage

Each room in your home has different furniture needs and you should document your specific requirements before you start furnishing your home. In the children's room you would want to go with high quality child-safe furniture but not something in expensive hardwood because the kids are likely to outgrow this furniture. In the dining room on the other hand, you would probably be better off going for durability. In the bedroom, you might want coordinated furniture to create a matching set of bed, side tables, wardrobes and dresser.

You should think through the most common usage of furniture in each room and jot this down. It will help you to narrow down from the wide range of products available in the market today and also aid you in thinking through the budget for each room.

#### Style

In order to gain maximum long term satisfaction from your furniture, it is important to select a style that suits your taste. But a quick internet search on "furniture styles" is liable to leave an average person completely confused. We have found that most of our customers are helped by simply classifying their furniture taste as Traditional or Modern. You can visit Thomasville or Ethan Allen stores online to see some examples of traditional furniture. For modern furniture, you can see the Ikea store.

AT THE ADONA STORE YOU WILL FIND MODERN OR CONTEMPORARY  
STYLE OF FURNITURE.

Once you have decided whether you like traditional or modern furniture, you probably don't need to sub-classify any more.



### Step 2: Take Measurements

#### Room measurements

We know from our own experience that it is very frustrating to spend hours looking for that perfect dining table only to find that it can't fit our dining room! To avoid such an experience, you should start by taking the measurements and sketching a layout of each room. This will help you to get a good idea of the size and depth of each piece of furniture that you need. It will also help to quickly narrow down the workable set of options. For example, the Adona store lists hundreds of wardrobes for the bedroom and it can seem daunting to find the right product for you but having the size specifications handy can help you to quickly narrow down the subset that works for you.

YOU CAN SELECT ONE OF OUR FULL ROOM PACKAGES AND FURNISH  
YOUR ENTIRE ROOM AT ONCE!

Knowing your room dimensions could even help you to quickly select one of our lovely pre-configured sets. If you like the look of one of our room packages and it fits your room dimensions, you can actually get an entire room furnished with one single click!

#### Internal dimensions

This is also a good time to note down any special requirements that you might have for each item of furniture. For example, you might have a set-top box, a blu-ray player, a games console, an amplifier and bookshelf speakers in your entertainment setup. That sounds like a great setup but it also means that you need a TV Unit that can accommodate all these electronics while hiding away the wires. Similarly if your wardrobe contains jackets/suits, you need hanging space inside. Or if you have evening gowns you might need one of our long-hang wardrobes.

Noting down your specific requirements in this way also helps to quickly narrow down the suitable options from our huge range of products.



### Step 3: Know the Material

#### Natural wood

Generally speaking, natural or solid woods are the most durable and the highest quality of furniture is made from solid wood. Well-crafted solid wood furniture can last for hundreds of years!

Solid woods are of two types:

- Hardwood is the wood from an angiosperm (flowering) tree. Examples of hardwood are oak, rubber wood, teak and walnut. Usually this wood is harder and denser than softwood but there are significant exceptions to this rule so it is important for the manufacturer to ensure that the right wood is being used for any particular application.
- Softwood is the wood from a gymnosperm (conifer) tree. Examples of softwood are pine and fir. Usually this wood is softer than hardwood and in India it is not used for applications with high wear and tear such as wardrobes.

#### Engineered wood

Engineered wood (also called composite wood, man-made wood or manufactured board) includes a range of wood products which are manufactured by binding or fixing the strands, particles, fibers or veneers or boards of wood, together with adhesives, or other methods of fixation to form composite materials.

There are significant differences in cost, quality, durability and applications of different types of engineered wood. Beware of manufacturers who use the term “engineered wood” without specifying which one.

AT THE ADONA STORE ALL PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS WILL CLEARLY STATE WHETHER A PRODUCT IS MADE OF NATURAL WOOD, PLYWOOD OR MDF.

The most common types of engineered woods are:

- Plywood is a sheet material manufactured from thin layers or "plies" of wood veneer that are glued together with adjacent layers having their wood grain rotated up to 90 degrees to one another.
- Medium-density fibreboard (MDF) is an engineered wood product made by breaking down hardwood or softwood residuals into wood fibres, combining it with wax and a resin binder, and forming panels by applying high temperature and pressure.
- Particle board is manufactured from wood chips, sawmill shavings or even sawdust, and a synthetic resin or other suitable binder, which is pressed and extruded.

#### Wood Veneer

Veneer refers to a sheet of wood positioned by hand and glued onto an engineered wood (usually plywood). It provides a natural wood finish without incurring the expense of a solid wood product.



### Step 4: Know the Hardware

Hardware and accessories such as hinges, pullouts, baskets, channels, handles, carousels and cutlery trays can make a significant to the cost and quality of certain products like wardrobes and kitchens. You should make sure that high quality components are being used for this. Most reputed manufacturers will specify exactly what brand of components they are using.

WE USE HETTICH HARDWARE FOR MOST OF OUR PRODUCTS. THIS IS ALWAYS SPECIFIED IN THE PRODUCT DESCRIPTIONS.

We have observed significant misrepresentation in the market on this front and you should be careful about it.

### Step 5: Don't Fall For Gimmicks

We live in the age of internet hyper-marketing malpractices and as consumers all of us need to be careful not to fall prey to the hype surrounding us.

A few simple pointers will help you to avoid getting cheated in the marketplace:

- We are businesses, not charities. This means we need to make some profit in order to continue running the business. Nobody can afford to sell their product at a loss. If you see a deal that seems too good to be true, it is. Don't fall for it.
- High quality products cost money to make. If you see that a product description and price are completely mismatched and out of range from the rest of the market, you can safely conclude that the description is false.
- If you see a huge discount on a certain product, you need to ask yourself if the vendor is suddenly your best friend or maybe today is your lucky day. Most likely, it is neither. The product price was probably marked up to an unrealistic level and then a huge discount has brought it back to what seems an attractive price. Don't be fooled.
- If in doubt about a product's quality, ask the manufacturer to provide a certificate specifying the materials used in the product.

ANY TIME YOU REQUEST IT, ADONA WILL PROVIDE YOU A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY FOR ANY PRODUCT YOU HAVE PURCHASED FROM US.

It's your money and you deserve the best value for it. Deal with honest people only and you will invariably get a better deal.

If you need any information or help, please write to us at [support@adona.in](mailto:support@adona.in) and we shall be glad to help.