

What's In?

TEXAS COWBOY COOL

Styles and elements appearing in fine clothing lines have also surfaced in the fine furniture and accessories arena.

Today's Texas Cowboy Cool/Western Lodge brings back to life natural elements used in the old west and updates them with the comforts of today.

Consumers are looking for large, bold furniture and accessories to lend character and drama to the grand scale of today's new home. Relaxed areas for conversation and media viewing are interests of the client who wants their home to also be their retreat. There is a trend toward layering styles, fabrics and textures in unexpected combinations, whose only commonality is its uniqueness.

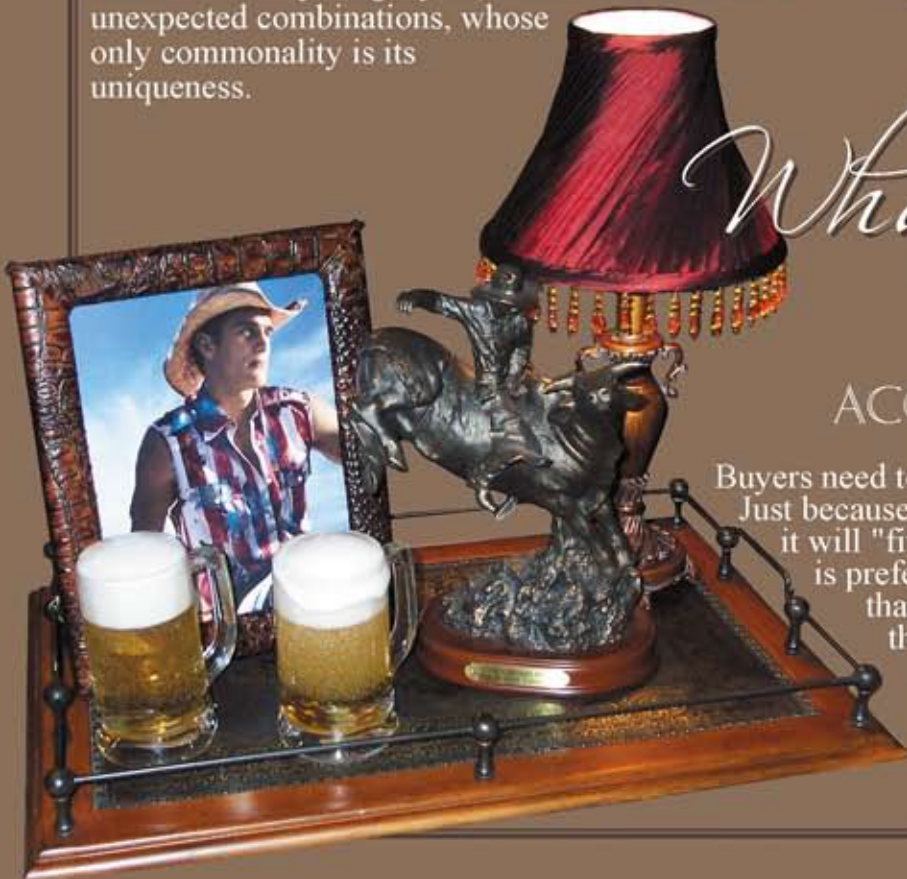


Upholstered furniture that combines multiple leathers, hides, skins, animal prints and suedes, together with natural trim elements, make bold statements for those yearning for something unique. These pieces offer cutting edge looks that are instantly timeless and are destined to become tomorrow's antiques.

What's Out?

SMALL SCALE FURNITURE/ ACCESSORIES AND "CLUTTER"

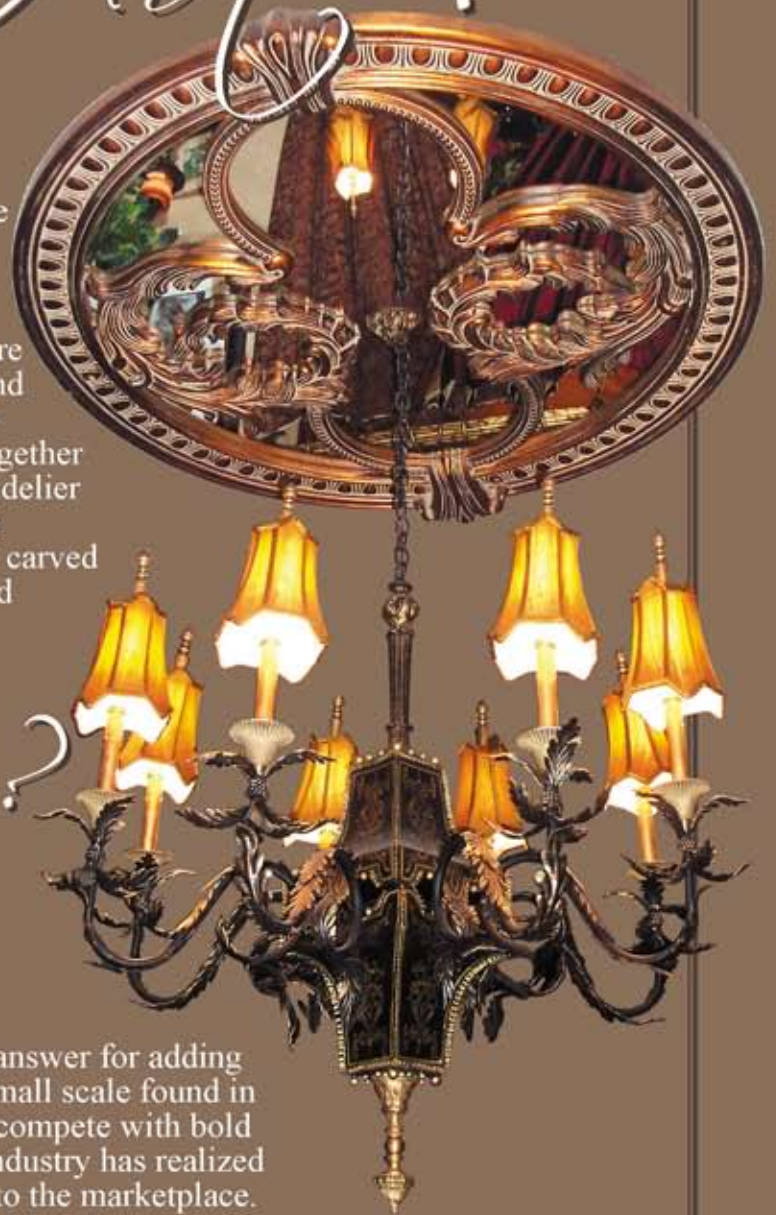
Buyers need to keep scale in mind when making purchases. Just because something is small, doesn't necessarily mean it will "fit" with other items in the room. Sometimes it is preferable to have fewer large scale items present, than a room filled with small scale pieces. Also, these days there are so many creative and good-looking options available to cover and store miscellaneous items throughout the house, thereby eliminating the feeling of "clutter".



What's Hot?

CEILING

Today's sophisticated consumer wants color and texture - everywhere - including their ceiling. Larger homes sometimes lack personality due to the open floor plans being used. As a result, ceilings are a missed opportunity! It's the lost element of the cube. There are many different elements available to designers to expand their creativity and take it to new heights. Virtually all forms of faux painting can be applied to the ceiling together with inset domes, plaster molds and lighting. The chandelier no longer takes center stage, but enhances the elements surrounding it. One idea would be to place an ornately carved mirror on the ceiling above the chandelier, which would enhance reflective quality.



What's Not?

SMALL PRINT BORDERS AND WALLPAPER

Years ago, small print borders and wallpaper were the answer for adding interest to small areas. With today's large rooms, the small scale found in most borders and wallcovering patterns simply cannot compete with bold colors and textured wall applications. The wallpaper industry has realized this, and larger scale patterns are being reintroduced into the marketplace.

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