

— EXPERT TIPS —



Eli's Guide to Buying Outdoor Furniture

*Presented by the Exterior Furnishings Gallery
of Gasper Garden Center*

— GASPER CAN HELP —

OUTDOOR SPACES AND PATIOS BECKON, especially when the weather gets warmer. First of all, they add to your overall available space, and secondly, they hold the promise of relaxation, entertaining, and overall more enjoyment. Purchasing outdoor furniture involves much the same steps as buying indoor furniture, but there are a few additional considerations as well. Check out the following tips for choosing the best patio furniture for your space. Thoughtful planning will ensure that your outdoor living space is inviting for years to come.



Consider Your Weather

Is your weather hot and dry, or do you live near the coast? Does it rain frequently? All these are important questions to answer before selecting your new outdoor furniture.

Here's why: Hot, dry conditions can make some natural wood splinter or crack. Strong winds can send lightweight aluminum furniture flying, and wicker cannot withstand constant exposure to moisture.



Measure Your Space

It's important to consider how much space you have and how it is shaped before making your purchase. Is your balcony long and narrow or do you have a broad and wide deck? Use the shape and size of your balcony, patio or porch to determine the perfect size of outdoor furniture. We recommend leaving enough space around your furniture for you and guests to be able to walk comfortably. For a small space, a bar table set may work better than a regular dining set, because bar tables are narrower, and stools take up less room than chairs. You can also take a look at café or bistro tables and chairs as they have a smaller profile.



Determine the Placement

Is your patio or outdoor space exposed to the elements or do you have an overhead covering? Will your furniture rest on soft ground and grass or on a hard surface such as a wooden deck or a paved patio? This will help you choose the right materials for your environment and surroundings.



Decide on Material

There are a few factors to consider which material is best for you. First, you'll need to consider the weather. Weather plays a big role in determining if a material is a good fit, as you obviously don't want a material that won't stand up to your local weather conditions. The amount of care that a material needs is also something you want to keep in mind. Some outdoor materials such as aluminum, resin or teak do not need too much care. Wrought iron is also a great choice, as it can last for a long time and can take heat and moisture.



Pay Attention to Comfort

You will be using your outdoor furniture to relax, so make it comfortable. Even if your chairs don't come with cushions, you can buy or make your own cushions and pillows.

Just make sure to use good quality outdoor fabric that is fade and mildew resistant. Your pillows will stay looking their best if you store them when you no longer use them outdoors in cooler months. Chaise lounges, rockers, and recliners are also great for relaxing outdoors. Make sure to try out your furniture before you buy it. For stretching out you may also want to look at hammocks and daybeds.



Storage Space

When you begin shopping for furniture, it's key to make sure that you can provide storage for your outdoor furniture for winter. Even having covers may not offer enough protection, especially for certain materials like wicker. Either have a dedicated storage space for your furniture or purchase furniture that you'll be able to use indoors during the colder months. Another option is to buy outdoor furniture that folds flat for storage to cut down on storage space.



Consider Your Budget

At the end of the day, your budget is crucial as it determines what you can buy. We cannot stress enough the importance of finding a professional who will help you purchase the best quality furniture within your budget. If you are economizing, there are some options such as choosing materials that are less expensive such as aluminum or resin, or inexpensive woods that are both stunning and affordable.



Gasper Can Help

When it comes to buying your outdoor furniture, Gasper Home and Garden Showplace wants you to have the good life at a great price.

We proudly offer only the best quality manufacturer lines of outdoor furniture. Our furniture is constructed of cast aluminum, extruded aluminum, synthetic woven wicker, polymer and teak, in every style to suit your needs for your patio, deck or pool area. Our wide selection of outdoor market and cantilever umbrellas are available in several sizes, shapes and sunbrella fabrics, offering the ultimate in sun protection, as well as complimenting you outdoor living area.

Let us have our on-staff professional designer assist you with a complimentary design and layout to remove any of the guesswork. It is our pleasure in helping you choose the perfect selections that best suit your style of living. Our furniture department includes the very best patio furniture from:

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|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|
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| BARLOW TYRIE | EBEL | LLOYD FLANDERS | TREASURE GARDEN |
| BERNHARDT EXTERIORS | ELAINE SMITH | OUTDOOR INTERIORS | TROPITONE |
| BIG GREEN EGG | FRANKFORD UMBRELLAS | PATIO RENAISSANCE | UTTERMOST |
| BREEZESTA | GENSUN CASUAL LIVING | SEASIDE CASUAL | WOODARD |
| CABANA COAST | JENSEN LEISURE | SUMMER CLASSICS | WOODLINE SHADE |
| CASTELLE | KINGSLEY BATE | TELESCOPE CASUAL | |
| CASUAL CUSHION | KNF DESIGNS | THREE BIRDS CASUAL | |

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GASPER

Outdoor Living Perfected

As the area's premier design-build company, our award-winning team of sales designers, landscape designers and architects, seasoned craftsmen, carpenters, masons and horticulturalist have the ability to take on any size landscape, hardscape or carpentry project. We will guide you through the entire design process, from your initial consultation to your project's completion. We hope that you take a minute to look through our website, featured projects, and online project portfolio. We are very proud of our work and what our many satisfied customers have to say about the Gasper experience. Contact us today to discuss how Gasper can help you with your next project.



GASPER HOME & GARDEN SHOWPLACE

Delaware Valley's Finest Garden Center Destination

Gasper's 6-acre nursery and greenhouse offers landscape products, pond supplies, gardening accessories, outdoor furniture, pottery, unique gifts and seasonal home decor that truly define us as a one-stop-garden-shop. Our retail center is open year-round and staffed with gardening, pond care, furniture, and hardscape experts to assist you with all of your landscaping needs. We also offer free informational seminars and Do-It-Yourself workshops throughout the year and celebrate the changing seasons with family-fun, kid friendly events. Come and see why Gasper has been awarded the "Best of Bucks" award consistently over the years.

WORLD-CLASS SERVICE & HIGH-QUALITY PRODUCTS

A Tradition Built By a Family's Love of Landscaping

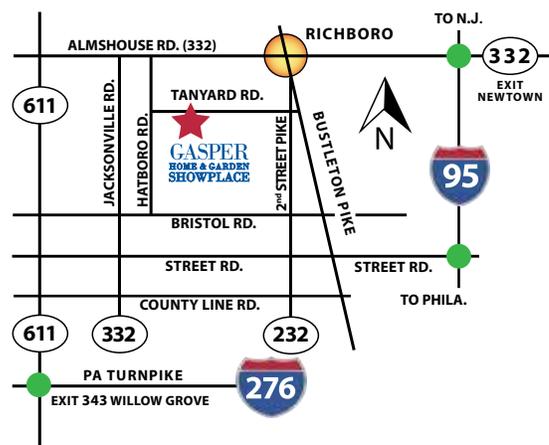
For over 30 years, the Gasper family has been bringing their love of landscaping, gardening and stellar customer service to the Delaware Valley. Bob, Paula, Dana and Bobby pride themselves in not only their love of the business, but their accomplishments in becoming an award-winning and widely praised full-service design and build landscape company and garden center. On behalf of the Gasper family and entire staff, we welcome you to discover the Gasper difference and see for yourself why we have earned the distinction of being Bucks County's finest landscape company and destination garden center.

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