

A photograph of a dining table and chairs. On the table are three white vases of different shapes and sizes, one containing a green plant. A light-colored bag is also on the table. The chairs are wooden with a curved backrest. The background is a light-colored wall with a decorative hanging object in the top left corner.

the new classics

From Egg to Eames, what makes a piece of furniture great? Take a look at these beauties, which are becoming 'the new antiques'

STYLING MIA ASKER WORDS CHRIS PEARSON PHOTOGRAPHY KIRSTEN STRECKER

Fritz Hansen 3320 Swan **chair** by Arne Jacobsen, \$8455, Corporate Culture. Artek **coffee table** 90A, \$1273.80, Anibou. Clovelly **lounge**, \$5335, Norman + Quaine. Kinnasand Cincinatti **fabric** \$170/metre, **glass**, \$75/four including jug, funkis Swedish Forms. Abstract Butterfly Florence Broadhurst **rug**, \$4950, Customweave. Stoney Herb **cushion**, \$120, Lum olive **cushion**, \$95, both Living Edge. Bud **vase** by Andrew Halford, \$220, granite-glaze **vase** by Jane Barrow, \$440, both Spence & Lyda. Seed **vase** by Jonathan Adler, \$130, FY2K. **Bag**, Jigsaw. **Runners**, Country Road. **For stockists see page 200**



from \$55, all Living Edge. AJ **lamp**, \$970, Scandinavium. Iittala Kartio **decanter**, \$58, Iittala Aino Aalto **tumbler**, \$21/two, both Peter's of Kensington. On bench: striped **throw**, \$121, **blanket**, \$363, both Living Edge. Tundra **flooring** in almond, \$42.94/pack, IKEA. **Scarf**, David Lawrence. Pia Wallen **slippers**, \$119/pair, funkis Swedish Forms.

nelson platform bench

Why it's a classic: Because of its versatility...in the words of early ads, you could use it as a cocktail table (the US term for coffee table) or a bench. It looks as modern as tomorrow, yet design guru George Nelson conjured up this piece of magic in 1946.

How to mix it with your furnishings: Sit on it, serve nibbles on it or use it for dumping blankets off the bed. If you want to use it as a coffee table, you might like to combine two benches for a squarer shape. Its simple Zen-inspired design ensures it complements many decors, from minimalist to traditional.

Where you can get it: \$1455 for the real thing, from Spence & Lyda; \$737 for a look-alike from King Furniture.



Sleep chic: Nelson platform bench, \$1455, Newline bed with tables, \$4835, both Spence & Lyda. ACL Abacus quilt cover, queen \$99, pillowcases, \$26.50/pair, cushions, from \$55, all Living Edge. AJ lamp, \$970, Scandinavium. Iittala Kartio decanter, \$58, Iittala Aino Aalto tumbler, \$21/two, both Peter's of Kensington. On bench: striped throw, \$121, blanket, \$363, both Living Edge. Tundra flooring in almond, \$42.94/pack, IKEA. Scarf, David Lawrence. Pia Wallen slippers, \$119/pair, funkis Swedish Forms.



Egg, Arne Jacobsen 1958, \$15,860, Corporate Culture



Eva, Bruno Mathsson 1934, \$2100, Scandinavium



PK22, Poul Kjaerholm 1955, \$4350, Corporate Culture



Grasshopper, Eero Saarinen 1948, \$2640, Spence & Lyda

chairs in the groove
 Why these are classics: We love their sensuous lines – and comfort. Most of these sculptural chairs consist of a one-piece seat on a moulded timber or fibreglass frame. They knocked the stuffing out of puffed-up chairs of earlier eras.
 How to mix them with your furnishings: It depends if your taste veers towards neutrals or colour. Cover an Egg or Rondo in red fabric and it'll definitely be a talking point. Many of these are solo acts – but Eva, Grasshopper and PK22 look great in pairs each side of a coffee table. Then there's grand-daddy of the chair world – the 1860s Thonet. Place it beside a window and rock!



Jetson, Bruno Mathsson 1966, \$4950, Scandinavium



Rondo, Gordon Andrews 1956, from \$3175, FY2K



Bentwood rocker, Michael Thonet c1860, \$595, Thonet



Paimio, Alvar Aalto 1931, \$3492.50, Anibou