

WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN BUYING QUALITY BEDROOM CABINETS FOR YOUR HOME

*Do You appreciate beautiful hardwood furniture built by craftsmen to last for generations?
Are You seeking just the right bedroom chests to grace Your sleeping chamber?
If so, read this Furniture Buyers Guide To Heirloom Quality Bedroom Cabinets*



Custom Mission Bedroom Suite by American Heirloom Furniture

The Discriminating Furniture Buyers Guide To Heirloom Quality Bedroom Cabinets

Understand which features You should demand and which ones You should avoid in order to get the best value from Your next quality bedroom cabinet purchase.

- **What To Insist On:**
Find out exactly what to look for in a true “Heirloom Quality Cabinet” that will beautifully accommodate Your needs, and be easily maintained to last for generations.
- **What To Avoid:**
Find out how to look for, identify, and avoid common cabinet manufacturers cost-cutting steps that will simply not bear the burden of normal use in Your home.

Our Bedroom Cabinet Heritage

Furnishing styles and tastes continuously evolve, but throughout the decades no bedroom could ever be considered complete without some form of cabinetry. Colonial, Shaker, Mission... there are many different styles of bedroom furniture available to us from our rich heritage of North American furniture craftsmen.



Heritage Shaker Triple Dresser (Maple) by American Heirloom Furniture

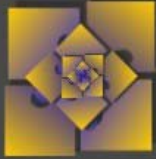
Every sleeping chamber needs a dresser or a chest of drawers. Not only do these furniture pieces provide necessary storage space, but they also complete and add a decorative touch to any bedroom. Take a moment with us to notice the marks of an Heirloom Quality bedroom cabinet, and why it provides such supreme and lasting value.

Dressers (Dressing Tables) - feature lots of drawers in a relatively low case. The top should be a convenient height for you to place your toiletry items upon. Larger (double and triple) dressers usually provide drawers in graduated sizes, to help organize your belongings.



Chests of Drawers - are tall chests which usually have numerous drawers, often graduated in size to accommodate your different clothing types.

Night Stands (Bedside Tables, Bedside Chests) - are relatively small chests with one or more drawers for your overnight necessities. The top should be at a height convenient to your mattress height. If you read in bed, choose a night stand with lower shelves to hold your books.



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CRAFTSMEN

ONLY THE BEST ENDURES

SOLID HARDWOOD
FURNITURE



*Heritage Colonial
Armoire (Cherrywood)*

Armoires - are tall storage cases consisting of drawers below, with either shelf storage above (termed armoires) or rod hanging space above (wardrobes). A shaker wardrobe cabinet is termed a "Clothes Press".



Mule Chests - Are real workhorses (pardon the pun). Consisting of a very large dresser with a triple door armoire top. These bedroom cases can also be provided with both a hanging rod and shelves in their upper cabinet.

Mule chests provide ample storage capacity and may easily pass for a built in cabinet.

Heritage Mission Mule Chest (Oak)

Highboys - The Highboy has occupied a place of distinction in the bed chambers of our most prestigious families for many generations. With multiple drawers of various sizes, it will provide considerable and elegant storage capacity wherever it is placed.

In fact, many Colonial homes featured a highboy in the parlor, nor should you limit this beautiful and flexible furniture piece to sole use in the bedroom.

Originally developed from the Lowboy ("chest-on-a stand") with a second chest added above, the Highboy has become one of our most popular furniture pieces, known in England by the wordy term, "tall chest-of-drawers on a stand". The design originally developed to allow

one to open the lower drawers without having to bend over. It was also popular with one's staff, as it allowed them to clean under it with ease.



*Heritage Queen Anne
Highboy (Cherrywood)*

American Heirloom Furniture – ‘Classic’ & ‘Heritage’ Furniture Classifications



Shaker Bedroom Suite by American Heirloom Furniture

■ ‘Classic’ Furniture Piece

A ‘Reproduction Antique’ faithfully following a distinct and premier antique furniture piece. *Classic furniture remains exactly true to the original furniture form and style, using the original joinery techniques.*

Compared to the master piece, use of modern glues and finishes enhances quality, and selected components may deploy a minor increase in wood thickness in order to address a known weak point in the original design.

Classic furniture pieces from American Heirloom Furniture are actually of higher quality and more durable, requiring less maintenance, than the original antique masterpieces that they are modeled upon.

■ Heritage’ Furniture Piece

A Masterful Adaptation of a distinct and premier antique furniture piece, with some alteration to increase both functionality and durability.

Compared to the original piece, use of modern glues and finishes enhances quality. Variations in both joinery techniques and wood thickness enhance strength and durability. Adjustment of the original form and style improve functionality.

Heritage furniture pieces from American Heirloom Furniture are actually of higher quality and more durable, requiring less maintenance and offering enhanced functionality compared to the original piece.

American Heirloom Furniture - Only The Best Endures!



Insist On This - What To Look For When Choosing Quality Bedroom Cabinets For Your Home

Bedroom Chest Quality And Value: A true “Heirloom Quality” bedroom chest is always a piece of furniture that is both beautiful and functional. Caringly crafted from selected solid hardwood, it will provide far superior value to any of the mass-produced cabinets that You’ll find in most furniture stores - and the majority of people are pleasantly surprised at just how affordable an Heirloom Quality cabinet can be.

Functionality: Heirloom Quality bedroom chests must be designed to be functional in their application. As furniture manufacturers, we purposefully provide a broad range of cabinet styles, finishes, and layouts - so that you can choose the optimum combination to suit Your particular requirements! Make sure that Your new cabinets will fit into your bedroom with plenty of space to open drawers and doors. Choose Your drawer and cupboard combination to make the best use of the available space, so that the of hanging space, drawer space and shelf space will fit Your needs.

Beauty: Heirloom Quality cabinets are beautiful pieces of furniture, displaying a balanced sense of proportion. The fine cabinetry design details and the accompanying hardware should intimately compliment each other. Joints should always be clean and uniform, and the finish should be even and smooth - amplifying the natural beauty of the underlying hardwood grain.

Quality Bedroom Chest Construction: A true Heirloom Quality bedroom chest is designed and constructed, using time-tested engineering principles, carefully selected hardwoods, and quality materials, to be both strong and durable. Inspect the top of any cabinet that You are considering - the use of veneers is simply not acceptable for any piece that You mean to use regularly and expect to last as legacy furniture. Insist on a **Solid Hardwood Case** that will never wear through, and may be sanded down, repaired and refinished - even when subjected to extreme ‘wear and tear’.



Look For Legacy Carpentry Techniques: Solid hardwoods, edge-jointed with care, form a long lasting, smooth top, which with moderate care will never warp or split. Since drawers receive the brunt of wear and tear, drawer boxes should always be constructed with dovetail joints - both front and back!. In particular, make sure that the drawer sides are dovetailed into the drawer front (rather than the front being attached to the drawer box with screws). Dovetail joints are nearly impossible to pull apart.

Also look for closely fitting mortise-and-tenon joinery in the doors, and ship-lap joints in solid-wood backs. These superior joinery techniques have been used by craftsmen for generations to produce beautiful yet strong cabinets that retain their beauty and their functionality through time. Carefully check the fit of the drawers and doors. Doors should fit snugly, but not so tightly as to put undo stress on hinges or knobs.

Ask About The Glues Used: Modern technology has allowed the development of tenacious adhesives that allow the wood to move naturally with the seasons while providing joints that are now



stronger than the structure of the wood itself.



Look For A Tough Hardened Varnish: Ask about modern catalyzed finishes and clean-room coating techniques. These allow full development of color and luster that emphasize the natural beauty of the wood grain, yet allow full protection against water and spillage of common household chemicals. Today's Heirloom Quality cabinets are far more durable than the antiques they are modeled on - so they require far less care and maintenance.

Avoid This - Things To Reject When Choosing Quality Bedroom Cabinets For Your Home

Avoid "Beautiful" only on the outer face. When only the top and front are pretty and the back and bottom of the cabinet are ugly, you know that shortcuts have been taken. On the other hand, quality furniture pieces will look great from the front, back, underneath, and inside the case. This test will show you whether the person that made the piece was in it for his love of fine craftsmanship or if the person was building for a fast buck - at Your expense!

Look Behind The Cabinet: shallow beauty is a sure sign that other cabinet components and / or the finish are also likely to be sub-standard, and will degrade and become problematic in use.

Avoid Finishes That Are Not Guaranteed To Be Water Resistant: Lacquers are not water resistant and are not as hard as modern conversion varnishes. A water resistant finish means that sweating glasses will not leave rings on your cabinet top.

Insist On Solid Hardwood Throughout: Avoid any cases constructed with particle board, and beware of the terms "all wood", "solid all wood", and "veneers". Avoid soft tropical woods and particleboard components that will split or crack when subjected to weight or swell and chip when subjected to moisture.

Avoid Sloppy Joinery & Poor Craftsmanship: The structural members of the furniture case must meet in a tight joint. Predominantly caused by poor craftsmanship, poorly fitted joinery will result in early failure and a short service life in your home. Drawers that do not use dovetail joints or doors that do not use mortise-and-tenon joints are another sure sign of inappropriate cost-cutting.

The Quality Cabinets of yesteryear were built to last by caring men who thoroughly understood their tools, materials and craft. Today our furniture makers undergo an apprenticeship to develop keen eyes and skilled hands, and these expert craftsmen build Your furniture with the same unhurried care.

Heirloom Quality Bedroom Cabinets by American Heirloom Furniture
Online at www.MennoniteFurnitureStudios.com
Only The Best Endures!