

HOME STYLE

with Shane Inman, The Inman Company

If your plans include a trip back to your place, add some instant style for a good impression

You've seen them in magazines. The metro-chic interiors of influential bachelors... The spaces that look as if they were designed by professionals, with their sleek furniture, plush rugs, expansive flat-screen televisions with surround sound, and all of those sparkling accessories that epitomize success. Do you want the look but don't know where to get it?

Sure, you could pull together a home full of amazing furnishings and fixtures fairly easily if you lived in a large city, such as New York, Los Angeles or our neighboring Chicago. All you would have to do is head down to the local design district, where you would be surrounded by the latest interior fashions from big names like Crate & Barrel, Pottery Barn, and Restoration Hardware. Not to mention the plethora of stylized independent boutiques and European design houses whose stunning window displays are so appealing.

But you live in Traverse City! Do you know where to go in town to find those elusive elements that could catapult you closer to that designer look? We've done the scouting so you don't have to. Here are some of the greatest designer finds in Traverse City from six local businesses that offer the whole package: quality merchandise, expert advice, and excellent customer service. ■

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Ask the designers: "What are some easy things I can do to make the bedroom more, say we say, inviting?"

There are a few quick fixes that will make your room a lot more conducive to lingering: 1) silk pillowcases, think soft, NOT shiny (you should expect to spend at least \$50 for a pair); 2) the highest thread count sheets you can afford, the higher the thread count the softer they will be; and 3) pink lightbulbs—yes, pink. They don't look pink when they're on but they do show everyone and everything around them in a much more flattering light. And when women feel attractive they feel sexy, which is kind of the point isn't it?



Home Style Sources List

- 1 Bassett Triple Chaise Lounge, available as shown and by special order from Golden-Fowler Home Furnishings, TC \$2700
- 2 La Cafetiere's Wave french press, shown with two mugs, available at Peppercorn, TC, \$29.99 for the french press, mugs \$14.99
- 3 Verdana headboard, footboard, and coordinating nightstand, shown in solid cherry, from Cherry Pond Designs of New Hampshire, available at Sheffield's, TC, headboard and footboard \$2240, nightstands \$960 each
- 4 Minka Aire Ceiling Fan, available by special order from the Lighting Center, TC, \$600
- 5 Natural Light Company's bamboo table lamp, available from the Lighting Center, TC, \$335
- 6 Weber Genesis E-310 Gas Grill, available from Max's Service, \$699
- 7 Dutilier Media Glider with Footstool, available from Golden-Fowler Home Furnishings, TC \$1599
- 8 Pioneer 60" Plasma TV, available from A Better Sound, TC \$6500

Local Finds Under \$100



Vintage barware is a great way to add some quick style, and you can often do it inexpensively. We spied this vintage chrome set at MEND, in Old Town Traverse City. Bar set, \$57, graphic print throw pillow, \$22.