

PRESS RELEASE

On trend dining rooms

17 December 2015, Johannesburg: As the festive season approaches, it's worth assessing your dining room to see if it's versatile enough to accommodate your loved ones for everyday meals *and* for special occasions. Thiant Nortje, from leading furniture retailer Rochester, shares four dining room trends that will help you up the ante in your dining room – turning it into a sumptuous gathering place where friends and family can make memories by sharing food, stories and laughter.

1. Heart of the home

The dining room is one of the most significant rooms in the home, playing an important role in family life. In today's digital age, where more and more people are spending time behind computers and phones, it's even more important to engage with our loved ones face-to-face. This is what sitting around a dining table, sharing a meal, and catching up with family and friends is all about.

“We are seeing increasingly more people wanting to revive the tradition of taking the time to share a meal around the dining table in order to reconnect with the things and people that really matter,” nods Thiant. Rochester understands that eating meals together is an integral part of South African culture and offers specially designed furniture that is both versatile and robust enough to accommodate a growing family.

The Caserta dining table for example can seat up to eight people at a time, whilst the Augusta Gathering table extends to accommodate more people as and when required. “There is a growing emphasis on the importance of transforming ones home to suit a family's evolving needs, and to make space to reconnect with each other,” notes Thiant.



CAPTION: The Caserta dining table with 8 Stacey chairs that retails for R13995 from Rochester stores (www.rochester.co.za).



CAPTION: The Augusta Gathering table retails for R9 995, with 8 Augusta stools that retail for R2 495 each from Rochester stores (www.rochester.co.za).



CAPTION: The Augusta Gathering table is ideal for young families who love to entertain as it can be expanded when guests come around or reduced in size for everyday meals. It retails for R9995 from Rochester stores (www.rochester.co.za).

2. Timeless silhouettes

“There is a growing trend towards dining room furniture that has classical lines, high-end finishes and durable materials for superior long-lasting elegance. This can be put down to the fact that consumers are becoming more conscious of purchasing quality investment furniture pieces that will last them for years to come,” points out Thiar.

Purchasing a dining suite can be a sizeable investment, and so it is important to choose pieces with longevity. “Curved silhouettes, elaborate detailing, and intricately patterned upholstery are timeless features that never go out of style, infusing the dining room with the opulence and grandeur of the past that will make you and your holiday guests feel extra special,” nods Thiar, pointing out Rochester’s timelessly elegant Windsor dining suite boasts top-end quality at an affordable price.



CAPTION: The Windsor sideboard retails from R13 995 from Rochester stores (www.rochester.co.za).



CAPTION: From left to right: The Windsor dining chair retails for R2 495 each, the Apollo dining chair retails for R2 495 each, and the Sheraton dining chair retails for R1 995 each – all from Rochester (www.rochester.co.za).

3. Tres chic

“French country-style kitchens and dining room furniture is making a comeback in a big way,” notes Thiant, who believes people are drawn to this interesting fusion of rustic and classical styles because the end result is chic and in keeping with our warm relaxed South African climate. Rochester’s Provence range for example, offers the ideal means of achieving the French rustic Provencal look in your dining room. “The beauty of this range is the chalk paint aesthetic that’s taking the world by storm, complete with chalky tones and distressed finishes,” points out Thiant.

The range comes with a variety of mix-and-match seating, including benches for more informal seating, allowing you to buy individual pieces to suit your taste.



CAPTION: The individual items that make up the Provence dining set can be bought separately to create a setting that suits your particular needs.

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Released on behalf of Rochester (www.rochester.co.za) by The Line Communications (www.theline.co.za, ant@theline.co.za)