ONLY $1 A WEEK FOR 12 WEEKS
SUBSCRIBE NOW >>
For a limited time.

TOP STORIES IN REAL ESTATE

1 of 12

Dubai's Rising House Prices are World's...

2 of 12

Homes Under the Hammer

3 of 12

The Coming Wave of Honest Real-Estate A...

Hong Kong's Pc 'Peak' Gets Ste

ELEMENTS

Banquettes: The Posh Corner Table

New designs are allowing the built-in dining areas to complement interiors in high-end homes.

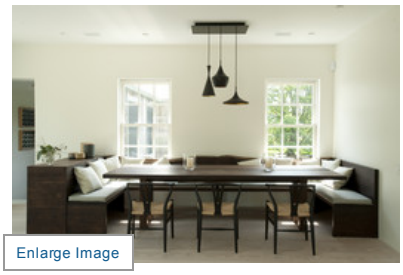
Email Print Save Comments

ARTICLE FREE PASS
Enjoy your free sample of exclusive subscriber content.

ONLY $1 A WEEK FOR 12 WEEKS
SUBSCRIBE NOW »

By LAILA KEARNEY
Nov. 7, 2013 6:39 p.m. ET

Banquettes are no longer hiding in the corner. New designs are allowing the built-in dining areas to complement interiors in high-end homes while creating their own distinctive spaces in the kitchen, dining room or patio. Here is a look at some of the updated eating spaces.


Enlarge Image

The piece is made of American w alnut slightly stained and oiled. *Gregory Holm*

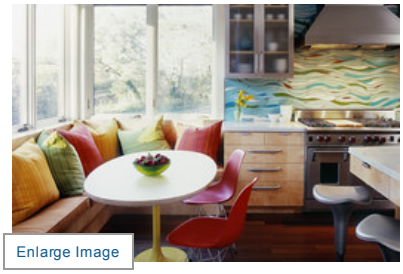
Old Meets New

A solid wood bench-style banquette by New York millworker, furniture and fixture company Townsend Design was made to match its minimalist surroundings. The piece, a central part of the dining area of a renovated barn house in Southampton, N.Y., is made of American walnut slightly stained and oiled. "It's a very simple design, but because of the warmth of the wood it makes it a cozy corner," said Francis D'Haene, whose Manhattan firm D'Apostrophe designed the home for a family of five. Mr. D'Haene didn't know the age of the residence but said materials used on its rustic exterior dated back 300 years.

Cost: $22,000

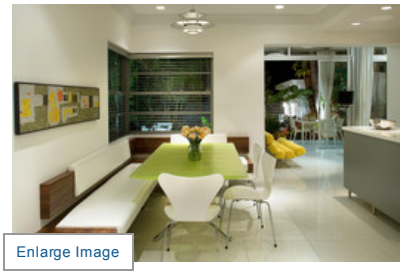
People Friendly

People and pillows were meant to pile onto this L-shaped banquette in the kitchen corner of a 4,000-square-foot, modern home in Austin, Texas, by McKinney York Architects in Austin. McKinney York designed the piece using maple-veneer plywood topped with custom-made, terry-cloth cushions. A classic tulip table that once belonged to the



Enlarge Image

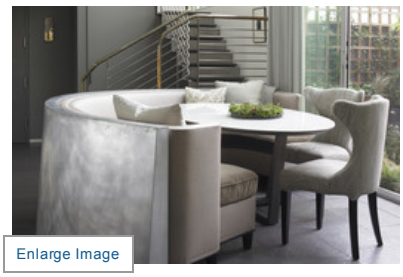
McKinney York designed this piece using maple-veneer plywood topped with custom-made, terry-cloth cushions. *Casey Dunn*



Enlarge Image

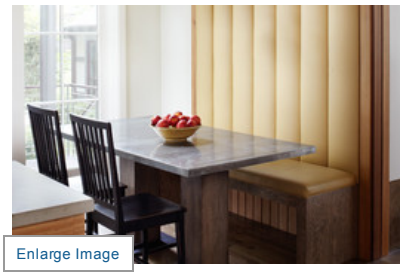
This piece incorporates pitched-back padding and thick seat cushions on a wooden base. *Michael Stavaridis*

Cost: About $20,000



Enlarge Image

The banquette is elevated by a limestone tile platform in the middle of the apartment. *Ellen McDermott*



Enlarge Image

A cedar canopy and soft upholstered backing is used to set this dining space apart. *Werner Straube*

homeowner's mother was partially reconstructed to match. Its metal base was repainted at an auto-body shop using the owner's favorite "Mini Cooper yellow," McKinney York architect Brian Carlson said.

Cost: $2,500

Bright and Miami Beachy

Robert Kaner Interior Design in Manhattan created a long and lean banquette for a modernist home in Florida's San Marino Island. "We needed the space-saving advantages of a banquette, but wanted to create one with a light, floating feeling to inject a sense of spaciousness in the relatively small dining area," Robert Kaner said. The piece incorporates pitched-back padding and thick seat cushions on a wooden base. Polished nickel-plated legs give the bench a hovering look, Mr. Kaner said. The piece is finished in East Indian laurel wood and white leather-upholstered seat cushions.

Simple Lines

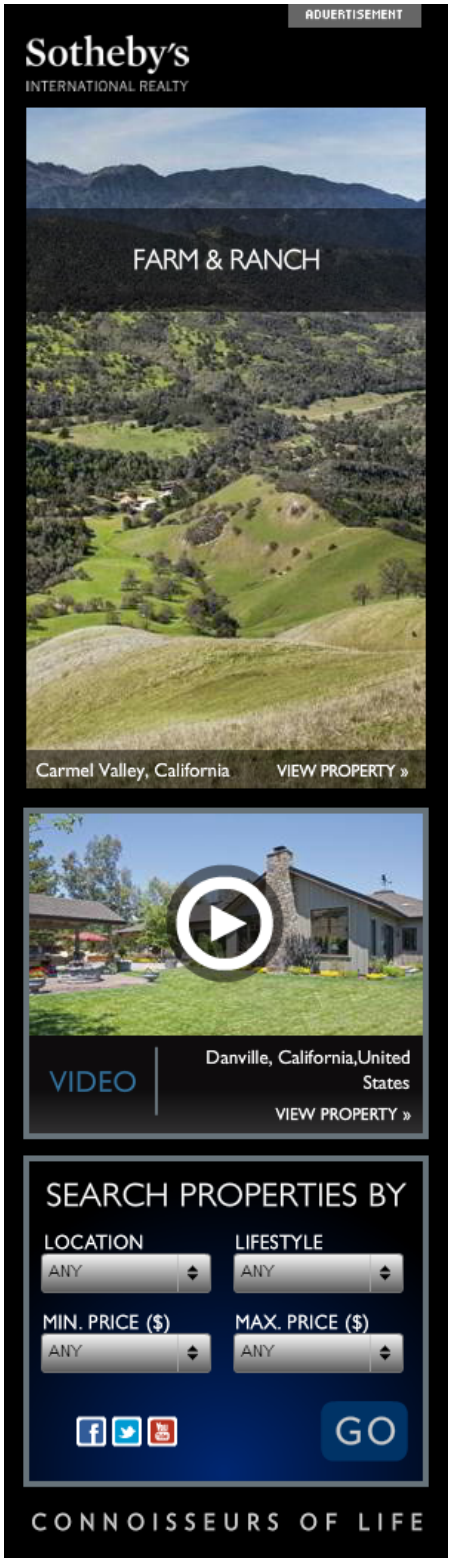
Foley Fiore Architecture firm, of Cambridge, Mass., put a modern twist on this banquette in a penthouse suite in a late 19th-century building in Manhattan's Central Park West. "We were trying to merge the elegance of the original 1800s building with the industrial feeling of the apartment," said principal architect David Foley. The banquette is elevated by a limestone tile platform in the middle of the apartment. A curved, 3½-foot-tall zinc wall runs along the back of the wood dining table, with a sofa in beige linen and velvet. The chairs, custom designed by Kathryn Scott Design Studio in Brooklyn, have a wood-patterned fabric.

Cost: $28,000, including zinc wall

A Space Apart

Morgante Wilson Architects, in Evanston, Ill., used a cedar canopy and soft upholstered backing to set this dining space apart from the rest of the Winnetka home's interior redesign. "This banquette piece kind of makes a little room within a room," said principal architect Elissa Morgante. The piece uses an oak bench and table base with a zinc top in addition to the camel-colored leatherette and a smooth cedar mini-ceiling supported with steel rods. The area overlooks the backyard of the six-bedroom, 4½-bathroom Tudor-style house.

Cost: $4,000



Email Print Save Comments Order Reprints

WSJ In-Depth

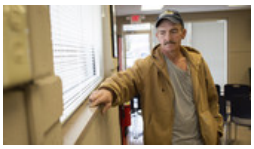
Popular Now What's This?

ARTICLES

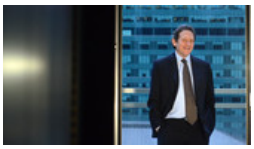
1 **Millennial Craft-Makers Embrace Arm Knitting**

2 **Opinion: ObamaCare in Translation**

Greece Struggles to Outlaw Fascists



Fall of King Coal Hits Hard in Kentucky



Inside the Breakup of the Pritzker Empire

At Old Sites, Radioactive Questions Linger

Afghans Flee Homes as U.S. Pulls Back

Cities Use Sticks, Carrots to Rein In Gangs

ASCC Hot Stock Pick
Dynamic Company, Growing Market - Huge Opportunity, Invest Now!
www.LuxuriaBrands.com

#1 Gold IRA Rollover?
8+ Companies Researched - See Which Company Came Out #1.
GoldIRARollovers.com/Top-Gold-IRA

Mortgage Rates Hit 2.75%
White House Program Cuts Up to $1k off Monthly Payments! (3.05% APR)
www.SeeRefinanceRates.com

Big changes are coming to WSJ.com. They will affect commenting, profiles, connections and email notifications. Learn more.

Add a Comment

JOURNAL COMMUNITY

Community rules

To add a comment please

Log in

Create an Account

Your real name is required for commenting.

Track replies to my comment

CLEAR POST

3 **Diet-Soda Sales Losing Fizz**

4 **Yo, Adrian! Runners Re-Create Rocky's 50K Route**

5 **America the Vulgar**

VIDEO

1 **Why Kim Jong Un Purged His Uncle**

2 **AT&T Slashes Smartphone Plan Costs**

3 **Arm Knitting: A Scarf in 30 Minutes?**

4 **Singapore Promises Response to Riots**

5 **Hedging Australia's China Bets**

Content From Sponsors

What's This?

Why RMB will be a global currency by 2015
RBS

Homeowners Are In For A Big Surprise...
Lifestyle Journal

4 Stupid Investment Mistakes Nearly Everyone Makes
etrade.com

7 Steps to Ethical Leadership
Fox Business

Subscribe / Login

Back to Top

Copyright ©2013 Dow Jones & Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.