



## Personalizing your dining space

Giving your rooms your own personal flare

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One of the best ways to personalize your dining room space is to fill it with pieces that reflect your personality. One new approach to selecting dining furniture is to buy pieces that coordinate but do not necessarily match. There's nothing more original than having a dining area look like it's evolved over time, giving it a much more personalized feeling.

Pay close attention to the design details on a piece of furniture when trying to coordinate it with other different pieces. For example, the leg detail on a table or chair will determine whether or not it will complement another piece of furniture. Shapely wrought iron curves, carved pedestals and straight legs will give furniture a collective look without being exactly the same. Scale also plays an important role in creating a balanced look. For instance, larger chairs should be used with a larger table.

Another way of merging different pieces together is to mix finishes and colors. Light and dark finishes can be used to create some great contrasting finishes when using similar tones and unique textures. A metal-top (such as copper) sideboard works well to complement the warm tones of a distressed pine table, giving the piece incredible character. Distressed finishes are also a really great way to bring out the depth and personality of natural materials.

Leather dining room chairs are a sleek choice in dining furniture right now. They're extremely durable and require very low maintenance (especially if you have younger children). They also look wonderful with a wide range of table styles, making them a popular choice among homeowners.

For an even more interesting look, a dining table influenced by antiques may be combined with a contemporary leather side chair. Or, a handcrafted, antique-styled sideboard may be paired up with a sleeker, modern table and a



couple of brighter, colorful upholstered chairs.

No matter how many decorating styles you love, (or have a spouse with very opposite taste) there's always ways to incorporate certain pieces into your home in a wonderful, but eclectic fashion

that makes your home stylish yet comfortable for everyone.

*E-mail your decorating questions and photos to [designers@kohon.ca](mailto:designers@kohon.ca) or visit website [www.kohon.ca](http://www.kohon.ca).*