

PAINE'S PATIO

# The latest trends in outdoor furniture

By Doug Shearer

Cape Codders are integrating outdoor living into their lives more than ever. The most recent articles identifying outdoor living trends in 2010 highlight: continued interest in seating/dining areas; weatherized outdoor furniture; fire pits and fireplaces.

Wicker, aluminum and wood have been used for quite some time now, but there are new materials and ideas coming along. These ideas will include different types of fabrics for outdoor use, wrought iron, plastics and more.

At the forefront of the design trends are colors that are either simple or vibrant as well as weather resistant. These include fabrics and materials. A deckchair or any seating furniture will have cushioned seats and pillows, and these must be able to withstand demands made by rain, wind and sun.

Here are some other popular trends to consider:

- Tempered glass tops and aluminum frames
- A combination of real wicker and resin materials
- Acrylic fabrics, which are easy to maintain outdoors, do not rot or fade and they dry quickly
- Cast and casual aluminum; the casual aluminum is more hollow than cast aluminum, but both are lightweight and rust-proof
- Lamps are coming outdoors. Lamp shades come in waterproof and washable materials that make them hassle-free to exposure from sunlight and rain
- Deep-seating furniture and coffee tables
- Outdoor rugs designed to look like natural fibers, but are manufactured entirely from enhanced polypropylene for UV protection and mildew- and mold-resistance
- Umbrellas and curtains that utilize vibrant colors such as yellows and reds; although still popular are the safer browns and greys
- Teak, which is a natural fiber; if it is good enough for building ships, it's good enough for outdoor living

We at Paine's Patio not only pride ourselves in selling the finest outdoor furniture, but we also help our customers make the right design choices and then maintain their furniture and accessories for years to come.

*Doug Shearer is owner of Paine's Patio. Paine's Patio is located at 674 MacArthur Blvd. (Rte.28) in Pocasset, MA (3 miles south of the Bourne Bridge). You can reach Paine's Patio at 508.563.7557 or visit [www.painespatio.com](http://www.painespatio.com).*