

Fabulous FURNITURE 2001

Style, function help select veneer or solid wood

BY JENNIFER PLACINTO
STAFF WRITER

It's a grainy business, but the difference between solid wood and veneer tables really isn't all that fuzzy.

Depending on the style, it can be very difficult to tell the difference between modern veneers and solid wood, said Nori Rubin, interior designer at In Style, a furniture store in West Bloom-

field.

And quality veneers can be just as durable. But you have to consider the function and style of the piece before choosing between solid wood and veneer.

Veneer tables are made by placing a thin layer of the type of wood you desire — oak, maple, cherry, etc. — over less expensive wood and laminating it to the surface.

"The actual veneer is wood," Rubin said. "The table is still constructed very well, but the cost is cheaper."

On average, with similar dining room tables at In Style, that cost difference is around \$200.

"It's not a huge difference when you're spending over \$1,000," Rubin said.

Eric Buzenberg of Walker/Buzenberg Furniture in

Solid selection: It can be very hard to tell the difference between solid wood tables and veneer tables.

Plymouth said the costs of veneers and solid wood tables at his store are very similar.

"There really isn't that much of a difference," he said. "Veneer can be an expensive process sometimes."

Choosing the right table, Buzenberg said, depends on the style you're looking for.

"We can show them what veneer can do for them."

Whether looking for something a little more formal or trying to find that perfect piece to fit the room, veneer can offer table tops that are unique and quite formal, he said.

"When you have a veneer, the grains can be placed in different directions, the way you want it to be," Rubin said.

"If they're looking more for a certain look," Buzenberg said, "that would be somebody who wants a veneer top."

Please see VENEER, J12



Veneer variety: Table grain patterns in veneer can be selected for a certain effect.



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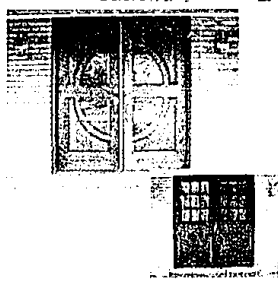
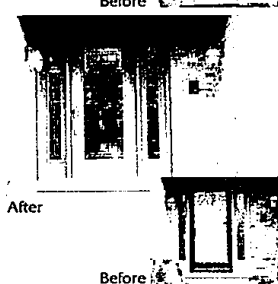
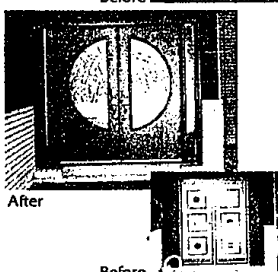
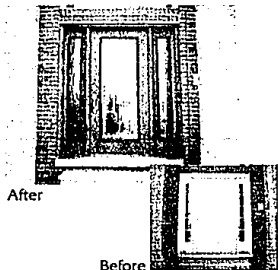
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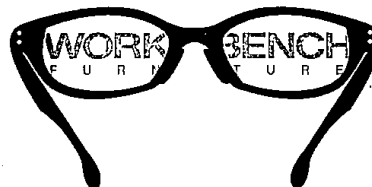
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