

FOR A YOUNG "turned-on" eclectic look, here's a beautiful blending of the old and the new in home decor. The setting is American Traditional. The look is unmistakably "now"! Even in a country room with whitewashed random plank walls and beams, Boston rocker, and antiqued pine deacon's bench, the style comes through as crisp, bold, and frankly current. What makes the difference here is a dashing red, white and blue color scheme, an abstract area rug and a collection of modern paintings and prints. And to substantiate the mood--a straight-lined loose pillow back sofa.

(Furniture by Ethan Allen, flooring by Robbins, rug by Schumacher)

Enter 'Individualism'...

Don't be too concerned with the period of furniture, concentrate on compatibility.

That was the word from Observerland interior decorators (they prefer to be called designers) after returning from the recent home furnishings mart in Chicago.

The rigid dos and don'ts have disappeared and a new freedom is born.

AREA DESIGNERS label it "the age of individualism."

Perhaps, they point out, this is the reason for the strong Oriental influence so very popular this season. Oriental touches are found everywhere...even in the most traditional settings.

A ginger jar looks just as much at home alongside a pair of pewter candlesticks as anything else you could use, commented one decorator.

MANY NEW furniture groups are arriving with bamboo legs and small lacquered chests are doubling as end tables. More than ever, the focal point of any living room could very well be a Queen Anne bonneted highboy artistically done in an oriental motif or, perhaps, the ancient art of chinoiserie.

Not since the '20s has the Oriental influence enjoyed such popularity, recalls one designer.

Would you believe that mahogany is making a comeback?

IT IS, BUT not in the reddish tones you remember--and perhaps disliked. The new groups are warm brown tones that complement the earth-brown putty tones of carpeting that are definitely "in," say decorators.

Contemporary is making a bold



CONVERSATION PIECE in your living room or family room can be this "chopping block" end table--so fashionable regardless of your decor. Also available are butcher block serving carts with two drop leaves. The table tops are 1 1/2 in. maple on wrought iron bases.

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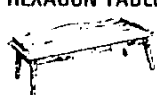
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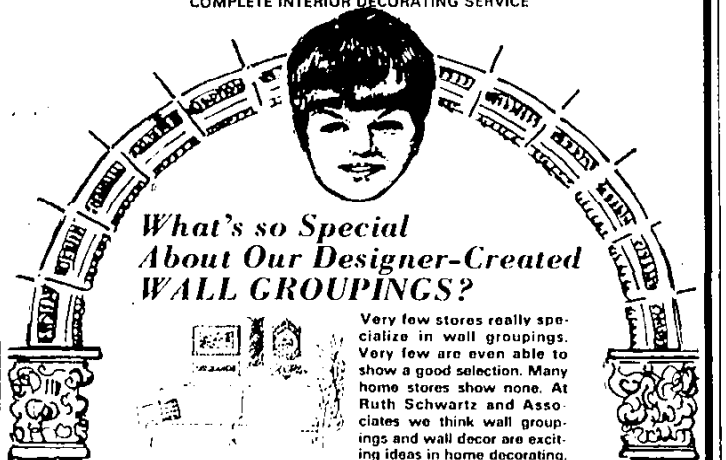
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