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DESIGN SENSE

Furniture designed with comfort in mind

The Downey Chair's wide back, comfortable seat and high arms makes it easy to curl up with a good book and relax in.

the Donna Chair is made for those who love to socialize. With its arm-free design, it allows for free, easy movement.

The Stanwyck has an elegant feel to it and this current shade of chocolate brown is a stylish, alternative to a more-neutral beige.

Featured here in a sleek chocolate brown leather, the oversized Chaplin Ottoman can double as a seat for when guests visit.

Plus, buying Canadian won't cost you an arm and a leg

There is a very practical side to Jane Lockhart.

After all she does have years of experience to build on,

The Toronto-based designer is probably best known for hosting TV show Colour Confidential. But she has 20 years of experience working with interior designer clients to know what people really want.

"Great furniture is

Designed for real life, Jane Lockhart's collection of eight sofas and eight chairs is styled for transitional looks, including a nod to retro and a reinterpretation of traditional.

about function first, then style," is her mantra.

Rule number one: All fabrics are durable and must withstand daily use, using materials that combine natural and synthetic fibres, cotton is a no-no, it does not wear well nor stand that test of time.

Recently, Lockhart debuted her own line of furniture.

Jane by Jane Lockhart is a new line of chairs, sofas, sectionals and ottomans that takes the guesswork out of furniture selection.

And it's all about matching. There are 240 specially selected fabrics for the collection, sorted into 42 co-ordinated colour palettes to make choosing fabrics easier.

Not that she would eschewing popular trends like bright and bold colours, but Canadians are conservative, and more often than not, opt for more long-lasting, classic style in beige, grey and neutral colours.

That conservatism is also serving her well in selecting a source who can deliver on time and the right price. Last year, she entered into an agreement with Canadian furniture supplier Statum Designs Inc.

Furniture is designed and manufactured at Statum's location in the west end of Toronto.

The line-up is medium-priced, and really for only a few bucks more, Canadian-made quality is guaranteed.

For more information, check her web site www.janelockhart.com.

The Granger in this warm, bright yellow tone makes a statement in any space.