

Decorator's Notebook



Finding Furniture That's Designed To Fit Your Family

(NAPSA)—When furnishing a room, selecting “one size fits all” furniture can be a difficult task. It is important to consider personal preferences and personal comfort, including heights and sizes of family members.

According to Penny Eudy, director of upholstery merchandising at La-Z-Boy, there are several factors that consumers should keep in mind when making a furniture-purchasing decision, and one of them is body size.

She believes that with the furniture options available today, there is no need for a situation where shorter people's legs are struggling to reach the ground or where tall people feel stuffed into a short seat.

Consumers, says Eudy, should consider three things when choosing the best furniture for their individual comfort: seat depth, height and sofa length.

- **Seat Depth**—Depth of the chair is an overlooked factor and is often the key to comfort for people of different heights. The depth of the chair affects the overall sit and has a big impact on comfort. The knees of the person sitting should fit comfortably over the edge of the chair. A tall person with long legs will need extra depth to avoid cramped knees doubling as a chin support.

- **Height**—Another important step is to search for a chair with a back that will fit each person accordingly. It is important that the space from the lower back all the way to the neck is fully supported for ultimate comfort.

To accomplish this support for



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taller people, look into chairs with a longer-length back. For example, “Atlas” and “Gavin” are two La-Z-Boy chairs that look similar yet cater to size differences. That means families can showcase the same style recliner in different scales.

For kids and those with a shorter stature, it is important to consider ease of climbing in and out of the chair. Look at chairs with smaller heights from the ground to the seat.

- **Sofa Length**—In addition to the depth and height of furniture, it is also convenient to have options in length for cuddling up or stretching out. Some are more comfortable with their legs closer to their body and do not need extra space to feel at ease, while other families with tall individuals may need to opt for an extra-long sofa.

Or, perhaps some family members like to stretch and spread

out. For this scenario, look into a modular sofa with ottomans or a chaise. This way, you can create varied lengths at different parts, all in the same space.

Eudy suggests that consumers measure their current furniture and then go shopping armed with a measuring tape, ready to test several types of chairs. “Many times, consumers think of size in terms of how the furniture will fit into a room, but do not consider how they will fit into the furniture,” says Eudy.

By investing in sofas with low arm height that also recline, families can accommodate feet that want to comfortably extend over the side if lying sideways, or out front when reclined. No matter what size, make sure to give sofas the “lie down” test so you fit comfortably in a catnap.

For more information about La-Z-Boy, consumers can visit www.lazboy.com.