

Al Fresco Luxury

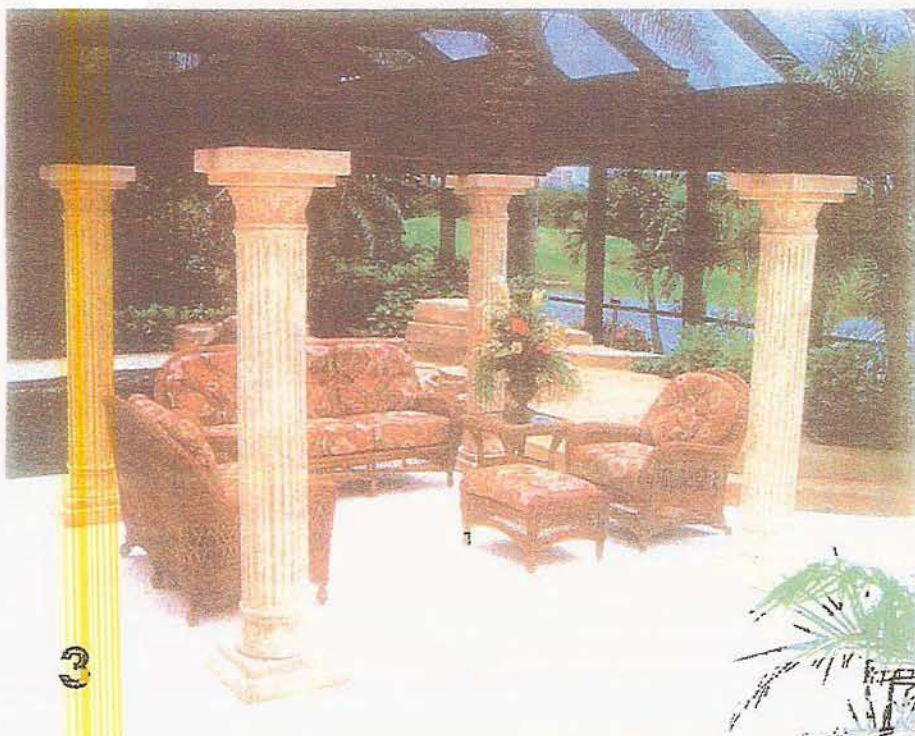
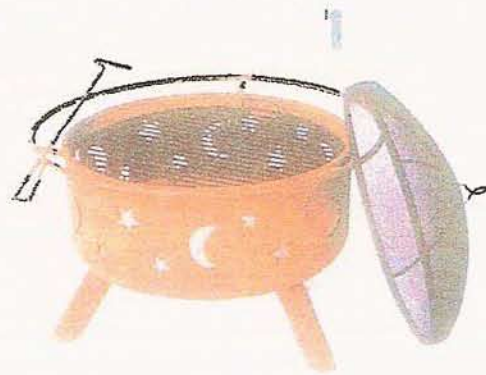
New products elevate the outdoor lifestyle

By Sharon Jaffe Dan

Spending time outdoors can be much more extravagant than throwing a steak on the grill and gathering around the picnic table. Today, designers create "outdoor rooms," set off by greenery or hardscape, where homeowners can relax and entertain in style. Falls Church, Virginia-based Federal Stone and Brick recently created an "outdoor great room" anchored by a custom-built fireplace for one of its clients. Says company founder Doug DeLuca, "Nothing gives the feeling of permanence like an outdoor fireplace." In addition, DeLuca reports that outdoor showers sheathed in stone and freestanding potting sheds straight out of Nantucket are coming into vogue.

The marketplace has stayed on top of this trend, unveiling new furnishings, fabrics and accessories that ensconce homeowners in the lap of outdoor luxury. For example, there are faux silks that can withstand the elements. Rainbow-hued tassels and trim to give outdoor sofas and lounge chairs that extra swish. And outdoor lamps fit for a proper living room.

The following pages offer a glimpse at some of the hot new furnishings breezing into town this spring and summer.



GET COZY UNDER THE STARS

1. The **SOJOE FIREPIT** helps create a warm and inviting outdoor space. Constructed of cold-rolled steel, the product is sold with a stainless-steel spark screen, a cooking grill and a fire poker. It's available in four cut-out designs, including Star and Moon (above). For more information, visit www.sojoe.com.

2. **FEDERAL STONE AND BRICK** integrated this stone fireplace into a seating wall. It is accented with a recycled antique barn-beam mantel. "It's a great example of carving an outdoor living space out of a hill," says president Doug DeLuca. Visit www.federalcompany.com.

3. A rustic-looking pergola anchors an outdoor seating arrangement. The columns and beams of this weather-resistant structure are reinforced with steel for extra support. Pergola and furnishings are available at all seven **OFFENBACHER'S** locations. Visit www.offenbachers.com.

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