

DECOR

Table for two (or more)! A guide to arranging your first dining space

When setting up your first home together, one of the most cherished spaces you will design is the dining room. It's where meals are shared, laughter echoes, and memories are created — making it a cornerstone of your new life. Whether you are envisioning intimate dinners for two or lively gatherings with friends and family, your dining space should reflect your lifestyle, taste, and the beautiful partnership you are building.

Minimalism wins with slim and sleek

For those starting fresh in apartments or compact homes, slim and streamlined designs are a far better choice than traditional bulky furniture. Choose dining tables with clean lines and slender profiles and pair them with lightweight, ergonomic chairs that are easy to move around, allowing for flexibility when entertaining guests or reorganising the space.

If you lean towards a minimalist aesthetic, choose materials like light wood and/or glass. A table with tapered legs can give the illusion of a larger room while adding an airy vibe.

Dining chairs with colourful cushioning are an excellent way to add personality and vibrancy to your dining space. Whether you prefer bold hues like mustard yellow, teal, deep red, or softer tones like pastel blue, the right splash of colour can instantly elevate the overall look of the room.

Cushioned seats, just like sofas, often



serve as a statement allowing you to experiment with textures and patterns that complement the theme of your home. For newlyweds aiming to create a welcoming and cheerful dining area, this is a playful yet practical choice. Pair colourful cushions with neutral dining tables for a striking contrast or match them with accents from other areas of your house. This will tie the space together!

Consider mixing contemporary and traditional elements to strike a balance that represents both your tastes. A sleek table can be paired with antique-inspired chairs or modern lighting can offset rustic wooden flooring. This blend of styles creates a space that feels fresh yet familiar—a perfect metaphor for your new life together.

How many seats?

The seating arrangement depends largely on how you plan to use the dining room.

If it's primarily for the two of you, a smaller table with four seats will suffice while leaving room for occasional guests. A round table works well here, creating an intimate setting that feels cosy yet versatile.

However, if you foresee hosting dinner parties or family get-togethers regularly, it would be wise to invest in a rectangular or extendable table that can accommodate six to eight chairs. You might not use all the seats every day, but having the option to expand keeps you ready to welcome loved ones without feeling cramped.

Set the mood with the right lighting

Lighting is key to creating the perfect ambience in your dining room. A statement pendant or thin chandelier above the table adds a focal point to the room while defining the space.

Look for fixtures with dimmable options, allowing you to adjust the brightness depending on the occasion; a soft glow for romantic dinners and brighter settings for lively gatherings.

Ditch boring white lights. Complement overhead lighting with warm, indirect lighting such as wall sconces or floor lamps in the corners. For a touch of drama, you may also consider using warm fairy lights.

While light arrangement is necessary, nothing beats the charm of natural light filtering into your dining room. Position

your table near a window, or diagonal to it, to make the most of daylight. It will not only brighten the space but also uplift the mood during meals. Sheer curtains add dreaminess to it while blinds allow light to flow in and maintain a sense of seclusion at the same time.

For newlyweds setting up their first home together, the excitement of furnishing their dining room can sometimes be tempered by the challenge of budgeting for quality pieces. This is where EMI (Equated Monthly Installment) payment plans come in.

Instead of making a big one-time payment, EMI options allow you to spread the cost over manageable monthly payments. Many furniture stores and online retailers now offer EMI plans with low or even zero interest rates, making it easier to invest in high-quality, durable dining sets without straining your finances.

This approach not only allows you to prioritise the design and functionality of your dining room but also gives you the flexibility to choose pieces that truly suit your taste and needs.

For couples starting their journey together, it's a smart, stress-free way to create a home where you love every corner of it.

By Nusrath Jahan
Photo: Hatil



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