

Quality Furniture for Less



Moving into a new apartment or home today is a difficult and expensive process. After the stress of a housing search, cleaning a new space, and unpacking boxes, it's difficult to find the time and resources to furnish a new home. Worse yet, many affordable furniture options from big retailers are constructed of increasingly flimsy, low-quality materials and often require replacement within the first few years. Your grandparents turned out to be

right when they said, “Things just aren’t built like they used to be.”

Luckily quality options from years past are still available at Michaan's Annex Auctions. Every month, we sell hundreds of gently used furniture pieces, each featuring a unique and beautifully crafted design that will last decades longer than the modern alternative. Better yet, gently used furniture from Michaan's Auctions regularly sells at prices more attractive than in-store options.

In this series, we will highlight a few examples of furniture and other home goods recently sold at Michaan's Annex Auction and compare them with their supposed equivalent from a retailer such as IKEA, Wayfair, and Target.

Michaan's Auctions

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Chairs

Let's start with a few of IKEA's affordably priced options in their catalog of armchairs and accent chairs. First up is the STRANDBON, Armchair, and Ottoman, selling for \$579. The chair features a classic if simple, winged design with plywood construction. It's certainly a workable option, but at that price, the consumer could hope for a few fine details, such as accent piping, upgraded cover options, or fine upholstery. Second is the MORABO, Armchair retailing at \$799. This chair features a modern design with a leather cover. However, IKEA has cut corners to save on price by only including genuine leather on contact surfaces, rather than the whole cover.

In comparison, the selection of chairs available at Michaan's Auctions Annex Sales regularly surpasses the quality of big retailers, while beating

them on price. One example is a **Pair of Red Upholstered Chairs**, which recently sold in our November sale for \$65. These chairs also feature a sleek modern design, with contrast piping and a quality wood frame. The upholstery is an upgraded choice that feels smooth to the hand and is in excellent condition. Also featured were **Two Leather Armchairs and Ottoman**, selling for \$260. Each features a timeless design, with beautiful metal rivets and a flawless full leather cover. It is worth noting that each of these lots included two chairs, and still sold for a lower price than a single item from IKEA!



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Side Tables

Continuing with a comparison of side tables, let's examine the options available in IKEA's End & Side Table collection. First is the LUNNARP, side table which sells for the price of \$69. While it is sold at a reasonable price and contains two levels to expand storage, it is made of weak materials, and by IKEA's admission, can only hold 25 lbs. Also available is the LISTERBY, side table, which while advertised as being made of "durable oak," only uses this wood in the legs, while using particle

board with a thin wood veneer in the tabletop surfaces.

In comparison, Michaan's Auctions can offer a beautifully designed piece of furniture for a lower price. For example, the **Two-Tier Side Table** offered in the November Annex Sale is constructed from solid wood and sold for \$26. The table also features a drawer and lower shelf for additional storage space and is a beautifully finished piece with a timeless design that fits wonderfully into most living spaces. Also available was a **Queen Anne Style Side Table with Glass Top**, which could have sold for only \$3.



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Constructed from solid wood, its elegantly designed legs are sculpted to add visual height to the piece. The table also includes a drawer, with an intricately designed wooden handle, and a glass top included to help protect from surface damage.

Next Sale

As you can see, Michaan's Auctions Annex Sales can offer a higher quality item for a lower price than major retailers. Registration and bidding are intuitive processes and can be done 100% online! You don't even need to watch the auction, simply submit an absentee or online bid and check back at

the end of the sale to see if you've won the item.

The December Annex Auction is being held Monday, December 11th; Tuesday, December 12th; and Wednesday, December 13th. This venue gives collectors a wide variety of jewelry, fine art, decorative arts, furniture, Asian art, stamps, and coins to choose from. The auction includes over 2,500 lots, most estimated under \$300.

Michaan's Auctions catalogs can be viewed on our website (www.michaans.com), LiveAuctioneers, and on our Michaan's Live site. Bid live in our gallery or remotely via absentee, phone, or online.

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