

ELLEDECOR®

rooms
that
sparkle!

The New Glamour

Fashion Insiders at Home

Target Goes High Style

Candace Bushnell Moves In
Romantic Venice

Cocktail Tables You'll Love

easy chic

Designers Joe Nahem and Tori Golub with wing chairs by Suzanne Allen and Ralph Lauren Home. See Resource



The 10 Most Winning Wing Chairs

Interior designers Tori Golub and Joe Nahem cozy up to chairs that hug right back

Text by Mitchell Owens · Photography by Pierre Chanteau · Produced by Tori Mike

When the weather outside got frightful, early Americans cast off their shivers in the warm embrace of a wing chair. Though still equipped with details that recall its 18th-century past—the blinders were an ingenious way to deflect drafts and capture a fireplace's radiant heat—today's wing chair has morphed into a modern decorating option. With its distinctive shape and generous scale, it can easily become the focal point of a room.

“It has a bigger presence than most other chairs, so it can either anchor a room or hog all the attention,” says interior designer Joe Nahem. “The chair’s construction makes it a highly private place to sit,” adds fellow designer Tori Golub, “but its body-hugging style makes it difficult to find one that’s comfortable for everyone.” So look for a chair that fits your specifications, then kick back and let the cold winds blow. ▶



1 WAINSCOTT CHAIR BY VICTORIA HAGAN
 "This chair creates its own environment," Golub says, nestling into the generously rounded back. "And the linen upholstery is a chic alternative to leather." Adds Nahem, "I like a wing chair that curves around you and provides privacy, so this one's perfect."
 Height: 47.5"; width: 33.5"; depth: 34"; seat height: 20"; materials: maple frame with maple finish, feather-and-down fill, and bronze nailhead detail (other finishes and pewter nailheads available); delivery: 3-6 weeks; price: \$4,875 c.o.m.



6 NORMANDY WING CHAIR BY SUZANNE B. ALLEN FROM CHRISTOPHER NORMAN
 "It's clean-cut and charming," says Golub, who also loves the chair's strong silhouette and petite size. Nahem was taken by its boxy shape and the woven trimming that's "more sophisticated than piping."
 Height: 37.5"; width: 29"; depth: 33"; seat height: 18.5"; materials: white-maple frame with black/brown finish and goose-down-and-feather fill (other finishes available); delivery: 8 weeks; price: \$4,473 c.o.m.



2 JOSH WING CHAIR BY MITCHELL GOLD
 Nahem praises the chair's firm upholstery and stylish crisscross stretcher, while Golub, who likes the wide, flat padded arms, calls it "a manly chair, like something out of Hemingway's writing room."
 Height: 44"; width: 32"; depth: 37"; seat height: 21"; materials: hardwood frame with coffee-bean finish, down-wrapped foam-core fill, and cotton-polyester upholstery (other finishes, fills, and fabrics available); delivery: 6-8 weeks; price: \$1,475



7 WING CHAIR BY HARDEN
 "A good traditional wing chair," says Nahem. "The slender, flat-edge wings are a nice touch, and the back legs are just as carved as the front ones." For Golub, the chair is "formal but not forbidding," and the splayed arms "invite you to sit down and stay awhile."
 Height: 43.5"; width: 37"; depth: 31"; seat height: 20"; materials: cherry frame with Charleston finish and down-wrapped foam fill (other finishes available); delivery: 8-10 weeks; price: \$2,093 c.o.m.



3 CURVED WING ARMCHAIR BY J.F. CHEN ANTIQUES FROM WATKINS & FONTHILL
 Golub admires the chair's versatility. "It's both traditional and modern," she says, "and it works anywhere." Nahem recommends grouping two chairs together, or by itself "just floating in the middle of a room."
 Height: 42"; width: 32"; depth: 31"; seat height: 21.5"; materials: walnut frame with brown finish and feather-and-down fill (other finishes available); delivery: 6-8 weeks; price: \$4,800 c.o.m.



8 NELSON WINGBACK CHAIR BY RESTORATION HARDWARE
 "This one's got surprising quality for the money," says Nahem. "The leather is nicely distressed, and the seams are well finished." Golub sees the high, deep seat as great for a tall person, but "for someone smaller it's still very comfortable to curl up in."
 Height: 46"; width: 32"; depth: 36"; seat height: 22"; materials: maple frame with burnt-caramel finish, foam-wrapped down fill, and leather upholstery; delivery: 1-4 weeks; price: \$1,700



4 KELLY CHAIR BY MICHAEL S. SMITH
 Nahem likes the kicky lift that the conical front legs give the traditional shape. "It's a nice detail that catches your eye" but doesn't dominate. "It's very, very comfortable, and the gently curved silhouette is lovely, especially when the chair is viewed from the side," says Golub.
 Height: 46"; width: 28"; depth: 30"; seat height: 20"; materials: alder frame with walnut finish, down-wrapped foam fill, and nailhead detail (other finishes available); delivery: 8-10 weeks; price: \$4,050 c.o.m.



9 REVERE OCCASIONAL CHAIR BY LA-Z-BOY
 Nahem found the chair's classic styling and strong silhouette appealing. As for Golub, the designer thought the stuffing was a bit firm but couldn't resist the chair's reasonable price. "This is your iconic wing chair," she laughs. "Archie Bunker would love it!"
 Height: 44"; width: 31"; depth: 31"; seat height: 19"; materials: oak frame with cherry finish, cotton fill, and cotton upholstery; delivery: 4-6 weeks; price: \$499



5 GRANSEN WING CHAIR BY RALPH LAUREN HOME
 "It's beautifully made and looks great from any angle," says Nahem, pointing to the "impeccable" quality of the distressed, button-tufted leather and the "ornamental" good looks. The chair's versatility is further enhanced, says Golub, by brass casters that "make it easy to move."
 Height: 45.5"; width: 31"; depth: 30.5"; seat height: 19"; materials: hardwood frame with antiqued-mahogany finish, down-and-feather fill, and leather upholstery (other fills and fabrics available); delivery: 4-8 weeks; price: \$6,258



10 GREG CHAIR BY O. HENRY HOUSE
 "The slipper chair-size looks small, but it's really comfortable, and the tufting makes it even more special," Golub says. Nahem notes that the diminutive scale means it's "perfect for houses or apartments that don't have 11-foot ceilings," and the sculptural form "would look great in a lot of settings."
 Height: 38.5"; width: 32"; depth: 30"; seat height: 17.5"; materials: maple frame with dark-walnut finish, and washed-velvet upholstery (other finishes available); delivery: 6-8 weeks; price: \$2,084