



MENNONITE FURNITURE STUDIOS
AMERICAN HEIRLOOM FURNITURE



MENNONITE & AMISH
CRAFTSMEN

ONLY THE BEST ENDURES

SOLID HARDWOOD
FURNITURE

MENNONITE FURNITURE STUDIOS HARDWOOD CHAIR GUIDE



ROCKING CHAIRS

YOUR GUIDE TO BUYING QUALITY ROCKERS & GLIDERS:

- **What To Insist On**
- **What To Avoid**
- **[Heirloom Quality Rocking Chair Catalog Online](#)**

WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN BUYING A QUALITY ROCKING CHAIR OR GLIDER-ROCKER

*Do You appreciate beautiful hardwood furniture built by craftsmen to last for generations?
Are You seeking just the right rocking chair or glider-rocker to delight Your family?
If so, read this Furniture Buyers Guide To Heirloom Quality Rocking Chairs & Glider-Rockers*



Heritage Colonial New England Windsor Rocking Chair by American Heirloom Furniture

The Discriminating Furniture Buyers Guide To Heirloom Quality Rocking Chairs & Gliders

Understand which features You should demand and which ones You should avoid in order to get the best value from Your next quality furniture purchase.

- **What To Insist On:**
Find out exactly what to look for in a true “Heirloom Quality Chair” that will beautifully accommodate Your needs, and be easily maintained to last for generations.
- **What To Avoid:**
Find out how to look for, identify, and avoid common chair manufacturers cost-cutting steps that will simply not bear the burden of normal use in Your home.

Our Rocking Chair Heritage

Furnishing styles and tastes continuously evolve, but the simple traditional rocking chair continues to bring joy to all generations. Particularly popular as a cherished gift from expectant grandparents, a well-built rocking chair can last to comfort your grandchildren throughout their lives, from nursing in their mothers arms through to distant old age. Find out more about the many different styles of rocking chair and glider available to us from our rich heritage of North American furniture craftsmen.



Heritage Children's Rocking Chairs by American Heirloom Furniture

Young or old, everyone loves a hardwood Rocking Chair. We continuously marvel as otherwise busy visitors to our furniture showrooms are attracted to sit and rock, temporarily escaping the normal hustle and bustle, until an accompanying spouse or child demands their attention back to the real world. Unaccompanied 'rockers' are eventually jostled back to reality by other visitors who want to take their turn in our Heirloom Quality rocking chairs!

Rocking Chairs & Glider-Rockers

Perhaps the trusty rocking chair triggers secure memories of our early childhood, whatever the cause, a quality hardwood rocking chair is undoubtedly one of the most satisfying and eternally useful pieces of furniture that you could ever own or bequeath to a close friend or family member.

While many opt for the appealing charm and simple elegance of a traditional rocking chair, its close relative the glider-rocker actually raises rocking comfort to an even higher level. Share some time to note with us some features of a superior rocking chair or glider-rocker:



Heritage Colonial Daisy Country Lane Glider & Rocking Chair by American Heirloom Furniture

Insist On This - What To Look For When Choosing A Quality Rocking Chair Or Glider-Rocker

Furniture Quality And Value: A true “Heirloom Quality” rocking chair is always a piece of furniture that is both beautiful and functional. Caringly crafted from selected solid hardwood, it will provide far superior value to any of the mass-produced chairs that You’ll find in most furniture stores, and the majority of people are pleasantly surprised at just how affordable an Heirloom Quality chair can be.

Quality Chair Construction: A true Heirloom Quality rocking chair is judiciously designed and constructed, using time-tested engineering principles, carefully selected hardwoods, and quality materials, to be both strong and durable. The metal underframe of a rocker-glider should be fastened to the seat with bolts and woodscrews. High tolerance sealed unit ball bearings and races assure smooth and effortless movement and a minimum of maintenance.

Look For Legacy Carpentry Techniques: Look underneath the seat, solid oak or cherry posts and spindles should pass entirely through the wooden seat frame and be secured in place with hickory wedges and quality adhesive, before being sanded flat and finished.

Ask About The Glues Used: Modern technology has allowed the development of tenacious



adhesives that allow the wood to move naturally with the seasons while providing joints that are now stronger than the structure of the wood itself.

Look For A Tough Hardened Varnish: Ask about modern *catalyzed finishes* and clean-room coating techniques. These allow full development of color and luster that emphasize the natural beauty of the wood grain, yet allow full protection against water and spillage of common household chemicals. Today's heirloom quality chairs are far more durable than the antiques they are modeled on – contributing lasting beauty for future generations to enjoy with the minimum possible upkeep.

Ask About Other Comfort Options

Depending upon your personal preference, rocking chairs and glider-rockers may come with or without upholstery. Any cushions should be removable (and replaceable) for ease of cleaning or redecorating. As furniture manufacturers we provide a wide range of fabric colors and textures to assure availability of upholstery to suit almost any taste. Alternatively, You may provide Your own fabric to ensure a perfect match in Your home.



Upholstered Heritage 4 Post Glider-Rocker With Gliding Ottoman by American Heirloom Furniture

With or without upholstery a properly designed glider-rocker should be supremely relaxing to sit in, and quiet with smoothness of motion when rocked. It should be able to comfortably support Your body for hours at a time, with sufficient “give” to not feel too hard. Look for **broad webbing** under the seat cushion. Depending upon your habits, a retractable footrest or swivel may also be part of your comfort requirements, or you may prefer a matching gliding ottoman.

Mennonite Furniture Studios American Heirloom Furniture - Only The Best Endures!
Quality Rocking Chair Catalog Online at www.Mennonite-Furniture-Studios.com

Mennonite Furniture Studios – Amish ‘Classic’ & Amish ‘Heritage’ Furniture Classifications



Heritage Glider-Rocker with Gliding Ottoman or Retractable Footrest by American Heirloom Furniture

Amish ‘Classic’ Furniture Piece

A 'Reproduction Antique', faithfully following a distinct and premier antique furniture masterpiece. **Mennonite Furniture Studios Amish ‘Classic’ Furniture** remains exactly true to the original furniture form and style, using the original joinery techniques.

Compared to the masterpiece, use of modern glues and finishes enhances quality, and selected components may deploy a minor increase in wood thickness in order to address a known weak point in the original design.

Mennonite Furniture Studios Amish ‘Classic’ furniture pieces are actually of higher quality, and are more durable and easily maintained, than the original antique masterpieces that they are modeled upon.

Amish Heritage’ Furniture Piece

A Masterful Adaptation of a distinct and premier antique furniture masterpiece, with some alteration to increase both functionality and durability.

Compared to the original masterpiece, use of modern glues and finishes enhances quality. Variations in both joinery techniques and wood thickness enhance strength and durability. Adjustment of the original form and style improve functionality.

Mennonite Furniture Studios Amish ‘Heritage’ furniture pieces are actually of higher quality and more durable, requiring less maintenance and offering enhanced functionality compared to the original furniture masterpieces that they are modeled upon.

Mennonite Furniture Studios American Heirloom Furniture - Only The Best Endures!



Avoid This - Things To Reject When Choosing Your Rocking Chair

A rocking chair should be built for hours of comfortable relaxation. Look for a comfortably contoured hardwood seat and reject any chair that looks pretty but will not be comfortable. Avoid any rocking chair or glider-rocker that tends to dump you out of it on the forward movement.

Look Underneath The Seat: Is this furniture piece nicely finished underneath? If the bottom side is poorly finished, or otherwise ugly, this means that the manufacturer has “cut corners” to save money wherever possible. This is a sure sign that other chair components and / or the finish are also likely to be sub-standard, and this particular piece represents a poor “investment” that will degrade and become problematic in use.

Avoid Weak Arms: Rocking Chair or Glider-Rocker Arms must be strongly supported. Look for 3 arm support posts on each side (rather 2). As with back posts & spindles, side arm posts should penetrate right through the seat for maximum strength. Avoid any chair which does not comply with these guidelines because you can be sure that costs will also have been cut in other places too.

Try Our Motion Test For Symmetry: Properly selected hardwoods will not twist or deform Your rocking chair after manufacture. The rocker runners should be sufficiently even that the rocker does not “walk” across the floor when in motion. Additionally, rocking chairs should never feel unstable in use – like they “want to” tip over. Avoid any chair that feels unstable. *Our craftsmen particularly enjoy quality testing every chair by actually rocking in it before it can be accepted for delivery to You!*

Avoid Finishes That Are Not Guaranteed To Be Water Resistant: A quality finish will protect the natural beauty of Your chair for future generations to enjoy. A finish that cannot withstand water and common household chemicals is also likely to wear off easily with use.

Insist On Solid Hardwood Throughout: Beware of the terms “all wood”, “solid all wood”, and “veneers”. Avoid soft tropical woods and particleboard components that will split or crack when subjected to weight.

Avoid Poor Gliding Mechanisms: Beware of short gliding arms and inferior bearings on Glider-Rockers. If the glider exhibits sideways play in the mechanism, You will need several replacements before Your baby is grown! Gliders should rock on the gliding mechanism, not in their “solid” joints.

The Quality Rockers of yesteryear were built to last by caring men who thoroughly understood their tools, materials and craft. Today our Mennonite & Amish furniture makers undergo a long apprenticeship to develop keen eyes and skilled hands, and these expert craftsmen are dedicated to unhurriedly building Your furniture the right way – offering exceptional value without compromise!

Mennonite Furniture Studios American Heirloom Furniture - Only The Best Endures!
Heirloom Quality Rocking Chairs & Gliders Online at www.Mennonite-Furniture-Studios.com