

History Of Furniture



1643 – 1806

Classification of Period Furniture



- There are many ways to classify Furniture
- Chronologically (By dates)
- By Timbers used
- By Monarchs
- By Designers

Chronologically



- The age of the carpenter 1500 – 1600
- During the Gothic Period, pre 1500 the church was responsible for most teaching of craftsmanship hence the gothic style of furniture was heavily influenced by church buildings.
- Furniture was made by the carpenter, blacksmith and the turner.
- Main piece was a chest that was used for storage and also doubled as a seat or table. Trestle type tables & stools.

Chronologically



- The age of the Cabinetmaker 1660 – 1750
- As Oak was replaced by woods such as Walnut and Mahogany more detailed and finer joint-work was produced and new pieces of furniture evolved.
- Sideboards, fold top games tables, taller chests, with doors became cupboards and the draw leaf table which is still common today.
- The age of the Designer 1750 – 1806
- Furniture became known by the designers that designed them.

By Type Of Wood



- Oak 1500-1600
 - Walnut 1660-1723
 - Mahogany 1715
 - Satinwood 1765
-
- Oak 1500-1600
 - Britain used it's native trees such as oak and beech for furniture production
 - With the establishment of overseas trade, and the discovery of new land other timber species became available:

By Type Of Wood



- Walnut 1660-1723
- Walnut veneers replaced oak & walnut timber was used for furniture.
- Oriental lacquer finishes over cheaper timbers became more common.
- Elaborate veneering and marquetry replaced carving – using holly, ebony, satinwood and ivory.

By Type Of Wood



- Mahogany 1715
- Mahogany was first imported in the 1720's firstly from Cuba, and later from Honduras .
- Mahogany replaced walnut as the main timber for furniture making.
- Mahogany had much better characteristics, better for joint-work carved really well which lead to a revival in carving
- It was also less likely to shrink and twist.

By Type Of Wood



- Satinwood 1765
- Hepplewhite used a lot of Mahogany and Satinwood
- Sheraton also used both but preferred to use mainly Satinwood for a lighter finish.

Monarchs



- Tudor Gothic
- Henry VII was the first Tudor monarch 1485
- Henry VIII succeeded his father in 1509
- Elizabethan
- Queen Elizabeth
- Jacobean
- James I and Charles I.
- Commonwealth
- Puritan Cromwells overthrew the monarchy
- Restoration
- Charles II returned from exile.

Monarchs



- William & Mary
- This period was named after the marriage of the English Mary Stuart, the daughter of James II to the Dutch William of Orange.
- Queen Anne
- Georgian
- The Georgian Period is divided into three: three king Georges
- George I Early Georgian 1714-1727
- George II Mid Georgian 1727-1760's
- George III Late Georgian 1760-1830

By Designers



- The age of the Designer 1750 – 1806
- Furniture became known by the designers that designed them.
- A group of designers became known during the late Georgian Period as the “The Golden Age of Furniture”.
- The designers were:
- Chippendale 1745 - 1780
- Adams 1760 - 1792
- Hepplewhite 1760 - 1790
- Sheraton 1790 -1806