Why Jewelry Armoires are Still Relevant Today by Edan Alvo

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Many people associate jewelry armoires with the excesses of the past; decadent European royalty; an age where the well-to-do exploited common people. Jewelry armoires were usually handcrafted by master carpenters, were costly because they were actual furniture, and were designedto hold and protect jewelry collections that only royalty could afford. Often every member of an affluent family had a jewelry armoire, since even the men attending royal courts wore as much jewelry as their rank and wealth (and the sovereign) would let them.

However, their long, often royal, history aside, jewelry armoires are coming into vogue again. Their renewed relevance is based on several factors.

First, they speak to the past â€“ to a time when things were made by hand, with quality and opulence being the primary concerns. Jewelry armoires elevate the atmosphere of any room they are in with their Old World elegance and charm. They create what interior designers refer to as a â€œwow factor,â€• just by their very presence in a room.

Second, they are still useful. Jewelry armoires are designed for a purpose â€“ keeping large amounts of precious jewelry organized and undamaged in a minimum of space. Lined and partitioned in such a manner as to safely house your jewelry so that it remains in the best possible condition, they can hold either whole collections or oneâ€™s most valuable pieces near at hand but away from prying eyes. Their elongated sections have hooks to keep chains and necklaces from getting tangled up with themselves or others; compartments for keeping stud earrings from getting lost or scratched because they are inserted into holes in the walls of the compartment; compartments for holding watches on either pillows or pillow rolls so that their crystals remain unscratched, their straps remain untwisted, and their mechanisms remain dust-free; and sections with indentations or slits for holding rings so their stones remain undamaged and their settings do not become damaged or loosened by reason of catching on each other. Some jewelry armoires even have mirrored inside lids, so that one can easily gauge the effect of a piece of jewelry one desires to wear on a given occasion.

Third, our industrialized society has madeit possible for even artisan-made jewelry armoires to be well within reach of the average personâ€™s budget. No longer as, or more, expensive as the jewelry they were meant to protect, there are jewelry armoires available at many price points, without sacrificing quality and design. Admittedly, there are still some jewelry armoires that cost as much (or more) than the jewelry they are meant to store, but those are more objets dâ€™art than items created for daily use. Thanks to industrialization and manufacturing improvements, however, there are plenty of middle- to high-end pieces available, and even some lower-end pieces that are equal in quality to anything turned out in during earlier times.

Given todayâ€™s need for space conservation and organized storage, jewelry armoires are again relevant as they fulfill those needs, and do so elegantly, even as they give a nod to an earlier age of opulence rather than utility.

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Edan Alvo - About Author:
Edan k Alvo is an author for a variety of lifestyle issues and topics. For more information on a jewelry armoires , visit the website www.jewelryboxavenue.com. You can also get unique a jewelry boxes from their extensive collection.

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