

Press release

Sectional sofas

05 December 2014, Johannesburg: Modular sectional sofas are clever, multi-tasking pieces of furniture that can be customised to suit your seating needs and your space constraints, so it's no wonder they're such a popular option for small and larger open-plan spaces alike. "Sectional seating is incredibly versatile and can be made up to fit any space, big or small," says Ryan Beattie from leading sofa manufacturer, Alpine Lounge. A sectional sofa is a large investment, but Ryan's tips below will help set you on the right path to choosing your ideal configuration.

Sectional sections

A sectional sofa is made up of the following building blocks that work together to create the perfect seating option for your home:

- The couch is the core of any sectional sofa – this can be anything from a two-seater, to a four-seater, and even larger. Generally, any couch that forms part of a sectional unit will have a single armrest on one side, and no armrest on the opposite side.
- The chaise fits on the end of the sofa and creating the perfect place to put your feet up and lounge on.
- The corner wedge is an armless piece of the puzzle that fits between two individual sofas and joins them, forming a corner unit.
- The ottoman is a very versatile piece of furniture – it can be pushed up against the sofa to provide a place to put your feet up on, pushed away to form a makeshift coffee table, or placed next to the sectional for some extra seating. Some ottomans even come with hidden storage inside.

Oh so versatile

The modular aspect of a sectional sofa allows you to create different configurations to suit your needs. "An arrangement that works today may not suit your needs tomorrow," nods Ryan, adding that the ability to position your sectional as you see fit is what makes this piece of furniture so indispensable in modern homes. Its form can also be adapted to different shaped and sized rooms, so you won't be stuck with a suite that doesn't work when you move house. You can simply remove or add a few pieces, or change its configuration. Says Ryan: "Sectionals are great to sit on, nap on, work on and chat on. You simply can't go wrong by including this type of seating in your living space!"

Space savvy

Furnishing a small space can be challenging, but as homes are getting more compact, it's a reality we all have to face. As a result furniture manufacturers are creating more space-efficient pieces of furniture that serve many functions. "If your home is tight on space then a sectional sofa is the answer for you. With its myriad pieces, sectional sofas allow you to build your own sofa to suit your particular space," nods Ryan. He believes that people generally think that smaller pieces work better in a room with limited square meterage, but in fact the opposite is true: "A collection of pint-sized furniture tends to make a room feel cluttered and disrupts the flow. Rather opt for one large sectional that owns the space and creates a focal point." He adds: "One substantial sectional sofa will provide you with ample seating for all your guests, giving you a real bang for your buck. But if you are seriously tight on

space, where every centimeter counts, then look for an armless sectional – not only is it more compact without the addition of armrests, but it creates a seamless visual aesthetic.”

Open-plan space

Whilst a sectional sofa is great for small spaces, this practical piece of furniture also works brilliantly in larger open-plan spaces, notes Ryan: “Placed in the middle of an open-plan room, a sectional sofa can multitask as a natural room divider that defines separate spaces where there are no walls to do the trick.” And whilst your sofa will probably meet most of your living room’s seating needs, there’s no reason why you can’t include some armchairs opposite to finish the picture. “Adding complimentary armchairs or occasional chairs doesn’t only create additional seating, it also creates a more conversational space where people can face one another when talking,” notes Ryan.

Top tips for the inclusion of sectional seating:

- Be sure to measure out your room and take the dimensions with you when choosing a sectional sofa.
- Determine whether a left- or right-facing chaise will work best in your space.
- Consider fewer pieces or an armless sectional if you’re really tight on space.
- Once you’ve determined the size, think about the kind of style you find appealing and whether it will work with the rest of your décor.
- If you’re moving into a new house or apartment, live in it for a while first before you purchase a sectional sofa, or any other large pieces of furniture for that matter.
- Try it out – sit and lie down in it before you buy it.
- Don’t forget to take into consideration your doorways, passages or lifts. While your chosen sectional may be able to fit into your lounge it may not be able to even get through the front door.
- Rather choose a neutral-coloured upholstery for your sectional sofa, and add colour, texture or pattern in the form of scatter cushions and throws to add a pop to your space and make it your own.

Visit www.alpinelounge.co.za or phone 021 951 7150 (ask for sales) to find a retailer closest to you.

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Released on behalf of alpine lounge (www.alpinelounge.co.za) by the line communications (www.theline.co.za, ant@theline.co.za).