

Home Base

Style Notes

Text by Travis Neighbor Ward

Very Cushy

Revamping old outdoor benches and chaises with new cushions is a fantastic way to freshen up your patio. The challenge is finding pre-fab ones that will fit your furniture. But, before you spend hours searching all over town, you may want to get an estimate on custom upholstery from Kolo Collection.



The store outsources the work—such as the lively green and white upholstery above—to a Florida tailor specialized in making outdoor cushions, throw pillows and canopies for sun umbrellas. At Kolo Collection's Westside shop you can choose from hundreds of fabrics by Sunbrella and brands normally available only through a designer, such as Perennials, Brunschwig & Fils, Scalamandré and Brown Jordan. Prices vary from \$18 per yard to more than \$100 per yard; inserts are made of weather-resistant foam.

"Everything is solution-dyed acrylic, which means the color is dyed all the way through," says co-owner Greg Martin. For an average-sized chaise cushion you'll pay about \$200; 18-inch-square pillows will cost about \$60 to \$80 each. Kolo Collection, 1189 Howell Mill Road, 404-355-1717, kolocollection.com.



PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVIES AND LAWREY
STYLING BY LEE TACKETT/CREWS AGENCY

Touch of Color

If you're looking to add a small burst of color outdoors, try adding one of these fairy-like Witchety Woodland Tinkling Toadstools from Gardening at Hill Street. Based on English designs, the caps are made of glazed ceramic and are separate from the unglazed stems, so they chime when the wind blows. The three sizes range from 15 to 27 inches tall; prices run from from \$6.99 to \$21 each. *Gardening at Hill Street*, 1345 Collier Road, 404-352-5001.



GROWING TREND

Rather than construct a traditional-style garden shed that could cost thousands, a few savvy Atlantans are ordering Lilliput Play Homes they plan to convert. Based in Pennsylvania, the company began selling the custom houses in the Southeast last fall through Franissa's Dream Spaces, a Roswell firm. There are 11 pre-fab models in a variety of architectural styles, from

the classic Victorian Mansion to the Storybook Bungalow, and the company can make replicas of existing houses. We especially like the Georgian-style Cotton Candy Manor (shown above), with brassplated doorbell and knocker, skylight and loft leading to the balcony.

"They're great for outdoor sheds because they're so pretty," says Gillian Marto, owner of Franissa's Dream Spaces. "They're a great spot for tea parties and clubhouses, too. Grandparents are always very interested." Because standard ceiling height is 9-feet-8-inches and the door (along with any details) can be customized, standing room isn't a problem for adults. The standard floor plan is 6-by-8 feet, but additional rooms can be added. Each one comes with a package of amenities (fireplace, sponge painted and stenciled walls, hardwood floors), and prices range from \$3,000 to \$18,000. For kids, the basic furniture package, which costs an additional \$1,099, includes a baby grand piano, table and chairs, play phone, antique-style stove, wall clock, Oriental rug, drapery and clothes tree. Franissa's Dream Spaces, 770-595-9115, lilliputplayhomes.com.