

Scene to be believed

Mhairi McShane finds an Aladdin's cave of furniture previously only seen on TV or in show homes



Personal service by Loraine Chassells

With the boom in the buy-to-let market, more and more landlords are conscious that, in a competitive market, they have to pay as much attention to the interior presentation of their property as they do to its maintenance and condition. Given the choice, tenants will invariably opt for the 'well dressed' property in favour of a dowdier alternative.

Not all of us, however, are interior designers and it's easy to invest a substantial amount of time, energy and money into decoration and furniture, only to find that the overall impression is less than ideal. How useful would it be to have everything in one place at the right price with all the 'design and aesthetics' help you need on tap?

Ex Showhouse Furniture, based in Beardsden, provide exactly this service. The owners, Carlo and Lorraine Sambucci originally specialised in supplying furniture for show homes and props to the BBC and other television production companies. Over the years, the couple have collected an Aladdin's Cave of materials and furniture and eventually decided that the general public as a whole and landlords in particular should have access to the huge range of items previously only available to the media and professional developers.

The couple provide free expert advice on furniture planning and styling so that, instead of trying to 'piece together' a look, landlords can assemble a furniture package from a single source. A huge range of new and pre-rented



quality furniture is available: everything from lamps and photo frames to tables and sofas, so that landlords can accessorize their whole house right down to the last candleholder.

Ex Showhouse Furniture also provide a professional delivery, installation and assembly service if needed. The couple believe that fast delivery saves valuable time and money and can even deliver the next day in urgent cases.

What is most appealing about this cornucopia of furniture and fittings is that as well as having great furniture immediately available at a fraction of the retail price, there is also sound advice on hand to make it all work. Special furniture packages are available to landlords, but the show house is also available to the public. Viewing is strictly by appointment on 0141 942 0519