

Ask a Pro

How to Get An Organic Look

- Look for abaca, the newest material in stylish organic furnishings. The thickly braided fiber comes from a species of banana tree grown in the Philippines, Borneo and Sumatra. Abaca brings a more formal look to a room, while rattan is more casual.
- The simple lines of both abaca and rattan update can update the look of a room. Go plush with furniture designed with deep seats and comfortable cushions. Spindly rattan chairs that fall over in the slightest breeze are passé. Substantial rattan with solid stems in dark colors is the wave of the future.
- Match pillows and curtains to help your organic furniture blend with other elements in the room. In keeping with the natural theme for furniture, stick with organic materials like cotton, linen or silk for curtains and pillows.
- Choose one or two striking colors for your cushions, pillows and curtains so you don't compete with the texture of the abaca or rattan.
- Instead of lots of knickknacks, opt for one striking piece such as a colorful vase.
- Outdoors, teak furniture is hard to beat—literally. Not only is teak a beautiful wood, it's one of the best woods for outdoors as it resists moisture and insects. Treat it with teak oil every six months, and it will last for generations.



Abaca Indoor-Outdoor Furniture, a new store in Sugar Land, offers a unique selection of upscale yet affordable handmade, organic furniture. Indoor bedroom, living and dining room furnishings are made from abaca tree fiber and palm tree rattan. Outdoor sets are made from teak wood, prized for centuries as one of the most durable woods on earth.

Online
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GO NATURAL



Ingela Mohlin Barton, showroom designer for Abaca Indoor-Outdoor Furniture

“At Abaca Indoor-Outdoor Furniture, the handmade organic furniture is designed to blend well with any style. Clean lines add a modern touch that will enhance every room in the house and back yard.

“Using organic products from around the world, the indoor bedroom, living room and dining room sets are woven from abaca tree fiber and palm tree rattan. Abaca, a species of banana tree grown in the Philippines, Borneo and Sumatra, gives the store its name. The abaca fibers are braided before they are woven into shape for a more elegant look. The rattan comes from Africa, Asia and Australia and has a similar look to bamboo, although the stems are solid instead of hollow.

“The outdoor sets are made from durable teak wood, which is not only beautiful, but will stand up to Houston’s hot and rainy summers.

“It’s not just comfortable — this furniture could be the centerpiece or talk of the house.”