Living Upscale on a Low-Scale Budget

Condo and loft dwellers are known for their smart shopping choices. Without a lot of room to play with, well placed, high-quality furniture is essential. So where do the fashionistas of the home décor world find deals that leave enough money left over to keep you in Starbucks? Take a tour of the city and the surrounding area to scout out the best finds for your new pad.

DeBoer's Showroom and Outlet 1755 Pickering Pkwy., Pickering, 905-683-9660 This is where some of the city's most classic and stylish furniture go to die – or be discounted by at least 20 per cent. You'll find a varied selection of discontinued or slightly damaged sofas, rugs, mattresses and accessories. Bring it home and own it like you bought it on Bloor St.

Dinetz 231 King St. E., 416-368-8657

No condo kitchen is complete without some smart dinnerware. This restaurant supply store offers a huge assortment of stylish flatware, barware, appliances and bakeware. Showcase your best bottle of vino with just the right goblets and make your take out Thai feel like fine dining with some classic pieces that fit your budget.

XS Cargo 2341 Keele St., 416-242-8622

Factory overruns, bankruptcy stock, canceled orders and manufacturer's close outs are what fill this bargain store of some of the best brand names for 10 to 90 per cent off. From appliances to home office equipment to electronics to surprisingly stylish décor items, this place is a one-stop shop for all your essentials – and even a few things you didn't know you needed but simply must have.

Urban Barn 610 Queen St. W., 416-364-6664 (plus other locations in the GTA) Here's where you'll find a high-end look at Ikea-like prices. Boasting creative pieces of high quality and value, you'll find a selection of furnishings that encompass the newest trends to the tried and true classics. Personalize your condo with unique room accents that won't break the bank or outfit your place with fresh furniture that fits with your urban dwelling.

Modern Living 5511 Yonge St., 416-225-9588

Contemporary and compact pieces perfect for condo dwellers – need we say more? How about designs by Charles Eames, Eileen Grey and Le Corbusier (to name just a few) at reasonable prices? Before you head for the elevator, take some measurements to make sure you don't overfill your space.