

Arts & Life

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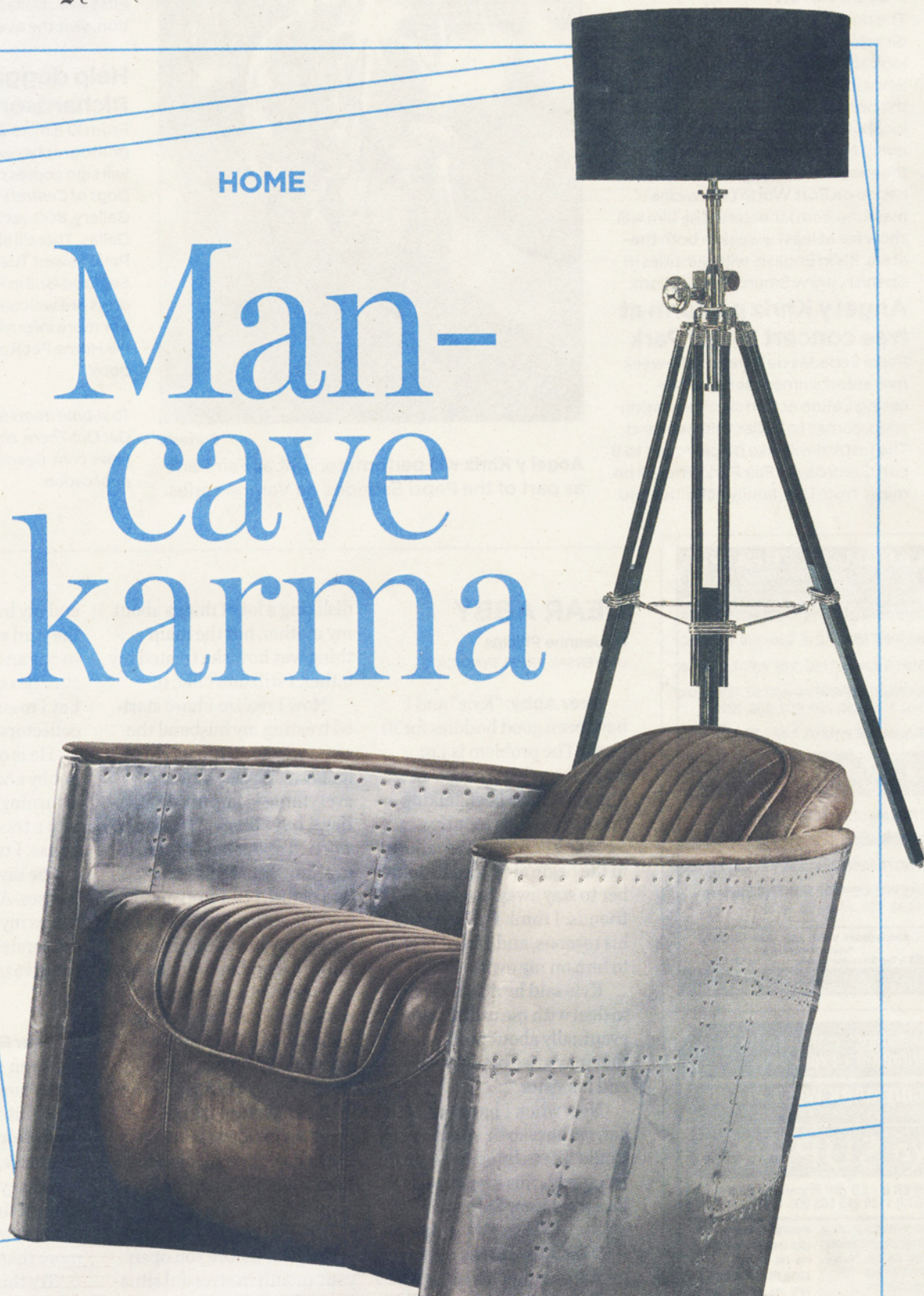
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Section E

Saturday,

HOME

Man- cave karma



Give the ultimate Father's Day gift — a stylish guy getaway

By CARLA JORDAN
Special Contributor

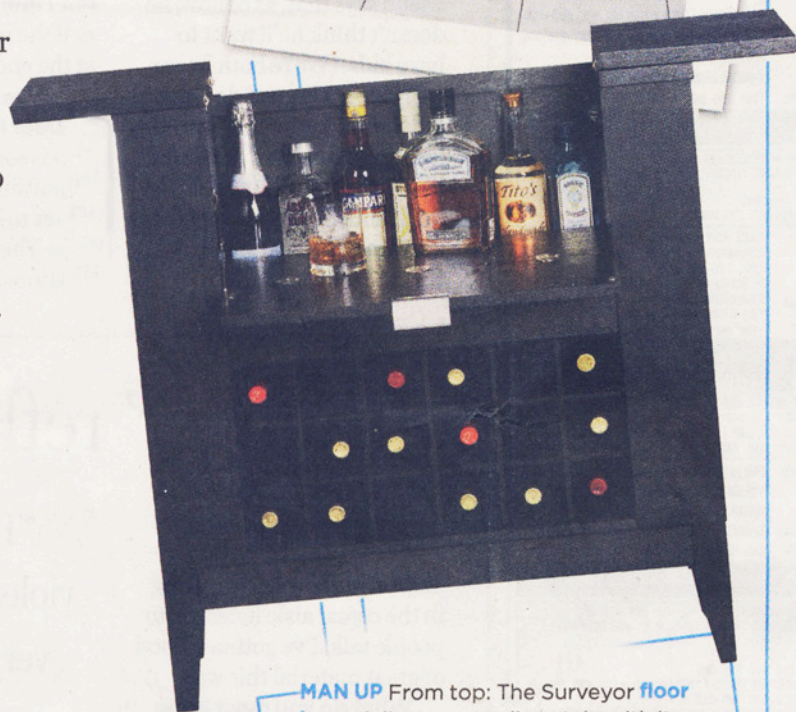
Father's Day is looming, bringing with it the annual angst of what to give Dad to show how much you care. Face it, the last thing he probably needs is another necktie or bag of golf balls. Turn your focus instead to giving Dad something he'll use year-round and for years to come: a space to call his very own. We're talking about the man cave.

This hunky hangout, traditionally distinguished by roughed-up, cast-off furniture, clusters of empty beverage cans and a honkin' huge TV, is undergoing a transformation like never before.

Perhaps adhering to the old adage "if you can't beat 'em, join 'em," designers are embracing guy getaways with relish, transforming them into rooms that bridge style and privacy.

"The man cave is the one place Dad can call his own, whether glued to the flat-screen TV or reading a book," says Chandos Dodson of Dallas and Houston-based Chandos Dodson Interiors.

Read on for Dodson's tips for the modern man cave.



MAN UP From top: The Surveyor **floor lamp** delivers masculine style with its sleek black shade and wood tripod base that adjusts to different heights. \$399. Z Gallerie, www.zgallerie.com. Inspired by World War II fighter planes, the **Aviator chair** is wrapped in aluminum accented with exposed steel screws. Its low seat and raked back are swathed in soft leather. \$1,895. Restoration Hardware, www.restorationhardware.com. This modern take on the traditional milking **stool** has an easy-clean aluminum top. \$179. West Elm, www.westelm.com. The **Parker Spirits cabinet** has two bar top leaves that flip open to hold drinks and snacks; when its front door drops down, it becomes an open serving area. Inside, there's plenty more storage. \$379. Crate and Barrel, www.crateandbarrel.com.

Gear for Dad's getaway

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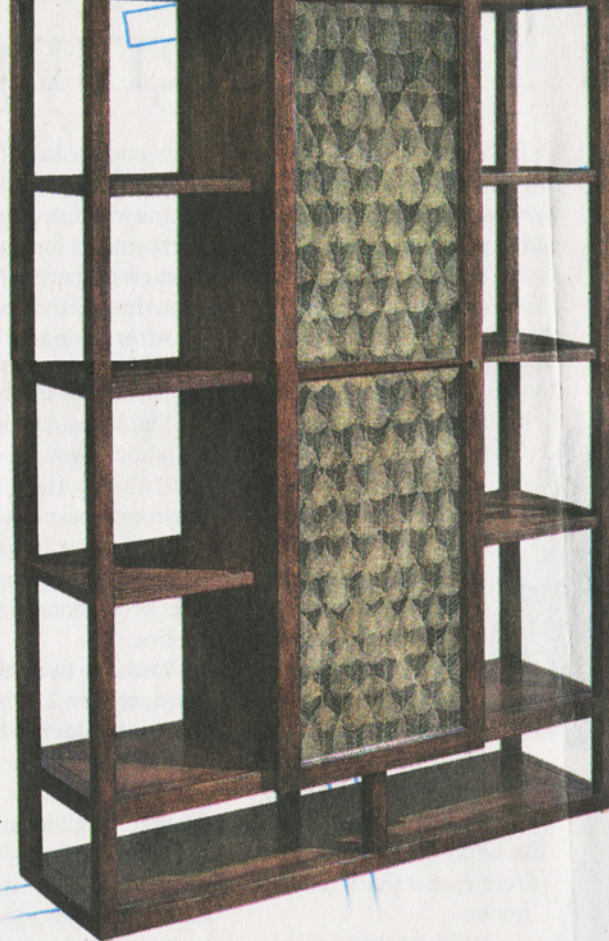
■ Men are drawn to leather, beautifully grained wood and natural stone, so try to incorporate these materials, whether the room is traditional or modern.

■ Accessorize with electronics, sports memorabilia, model boats, planes and the like.

■ Focus on furnishings that integrate a strong sense of style. "For example, I recently designed around a faux suede wallpaper with nailheads and art deco smoker chairs, which gave the room a fabulous clubby feel while still looking chic," Dodson said.

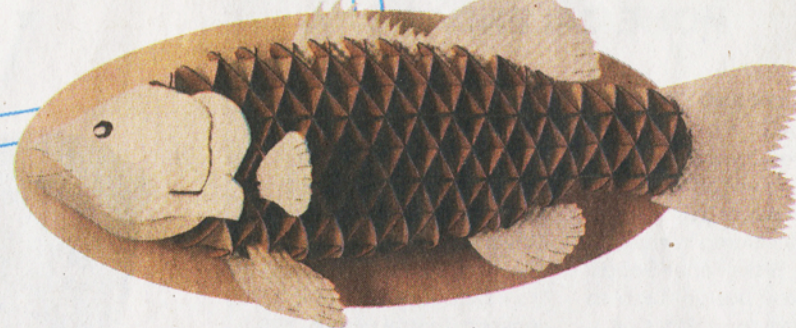
Whether your goal (and budget) allows for a grand gesture or a more modest approach, it's easier than ever to create a good-looking man cave. True, some of the furnishings, especially those that anchor the room's overall design, are investment purchases but, hey, he's Dad, and we think he's worth it.

Carla Jordan is an Irving freelance writer.



CLUTTER CORRAL To transform autographed balls, trophies and more into a custom collection, group them in Bernhardt's Cascade cabinet. The roomy walnut-veneer cabinet has fixed and adjustable open shelves flanking a decorative glass door that hides three storage shelves. \$1,825. Weir's Furniture Village, Dallas, www.bernhardt.com

BOTTOMS UP Class up the cave with the Rock Cut crystal beer mug that'll make chugging from a tacky tin can a thing of the past. \$40, Tiffany and Co., Dallas, www.tiffany.com



FISHING FOR FASHION Reel him in with a he-man DIY gift. Wayne, the cardboard bass, is made of recycled cardboard, laser-cut for precision fit and easy construction. \$44. www.uncommongoods.com



ODE TO BEER Dan Becker's *Beer — A Genuine Collection of Cans* supplies a compelling reason to crack open a book. Enjoy 480 colorful cans that date to earliest brands. \$19.95. The Gypsy Wagon, Dallas, www.chroniclebooks.com



GUY MAGNET Two sections of the Functional Coffee Table's table top can be elevated to function as eating or beverage stations. Stow magazines and the remote in the hidden storage areas. \$985. Bo Concept, www.boconcept.com



PERFECT PERCH The affordable Karlstad sofa scores a touchdown for form and function. Its clean-lined, modern frame is large enough to seat a crowd to watch the game. \$519. Ikea, Frisco, www.ikea.com

SAFARI STYLE Channel his wild side for the greater design good with the Zebra cowhide rug by Edelman Leather. It adds graphic pop, pattern, texture and a sense of ruggedness. \$2,250. Design Within Reach, www.designwithinreach.com