



© Setting: Enayoch

>> where to buy

Here are some ideas to get your gentleman's den started.

Supplied by Capocchi
Phone 9822 3700

- > Pair of 1940s French leather club chairs, \$6500 (above)
- > 1940s English leather sofa, \$15,000 (above)
- > 1960s English leather desk chair, \$3500 (above)

Supplied by Jim Thompson
Accent, phone 9510 5210

- > Silk-covered document boxes, \$59-\$102 (above right)
- > Silk-covered notebooks, \$40 each (above)
- > Silk-covered photo frames, \$34-\$49 (below right)
- > Cushion with Swarovski crystal button, \$76 (above)
- > Silk-covered footstool (made to order with choice of fabric), \$200 (above)
- > 100 per cent silk chenille blanket, \$683 (above)

Supplied by Moss
Phone 1300 734 514

- > Black glass goblet/candle, \$14.95 (right)
- > Glass dish/votive, \$30 (right)
- > Cushion, in Kingsley, \$55 (above)
- > Leather-bound photo album in zebra print, \$150 (above)

Men at work
A refined setting, inspired by an English gentlemen's club (above)

Male bonding

Gentlemen are preferred in this masculine setting, which is full of old-style sophistication



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>> Photography Chris Groenhout

If men are from Mars and women are from Venus it makes sense that the two species will want to enjoy some time out in their own carefully crafted spaces.

But with winter coming, it may be a little chilly to pack him off to the more traditional venues: the garage, the shed, or hovering over a barbecue.

So an old-fashioned gentleman's den, which is very reminiscent of English gentlemen's clubs, is just the ticket.

And if the girls in the family are fans of *Pride and Prejudice* (romantic English grandeur), they'll want a piece of the action, too.

The study is the perfect place to recreate our gentleman's room for a one-off effect. But the look of plush leather armchairs and antique fittings can be translated to any room in the home.

We've used the real thing in our setting, but good quality reproduction antiques will give you a similar look, and you can let your imagination go wild with this theme.

We have based the room on leather upholstery, but classic fabric upholstery in velvet, pinstripes or tweed works just as well.

Steer clear of obvious florals and pastels to retain the masculine feel, and stay away from bright contemporary patterns, to keep the look of a bygone era, when men would retire after dinner to read the paper or indulge in a good book: think English manor house.

This masculine look is ideal for a period home: Victorian, Edwardian, Federation or Art Deco. And a room with an existing open fireplace would certainly help set the scene.

The large furniture will take up most of the budget for the room. Major pieces could include a desk, comfortable armchairs or sofa and a classic bookcase to provide the backbone.

Then add the finer details, with photo frames, ornaments, an Art Deco side table, footstool, classy document boxes and a cosy throw rug to help complete the picture.

To add character and create a bit of a talking point, pick up old books from second-hand or antiquarian bookshops.

To retain authenticity, keep your colour scheme rich and earthy, in tones traditionally thought to appeal to the masculine decorator. Chocolate brown, deep red, yellow-gold, ochre, olive and black all fit the bill.

