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THE TOP 10 NESTING TABLES

These versatile multiples are appropriate for virtually any room. Designers Elaine Griffin and Scott Sanders set to work to see how they stack up

Hardworking, practical, and—in the hands of the right designer—playful and chic, nesting tables not only add a layer of style to a room, but they also transform it into a highly versatile space. “Nesting tables work just about anywhere,” says designer Scott Sanders. “They’re fantastic for tight spaces, of course, and for entertaining, but you can also use them in foyers, bedrooms, you name it.”

The concept of graduated tables was introduced by 18th-century furniture maker Thomas Sheraton,

whose *quartetto* sets could be easily moved around a room for activities such as sewing or playing checkers, then stashed away when not in use. The design proved wildly popular. Even Marcel Breuer, as a Bauhaus wunderkind in the 1920s, produced his own striking tubular-steel versions, recognizing their perfect marriage of function and form.

“You can use nesting tables together, alone, as side tables, or grouped into a cocktail table,” says designer Elaine Griffin. “The options are limitless.” ▷

THE EXPERTS

ELAINE GRIFFIN

The New York City designer started her career working for architect Peter Marino. She is known for her polished yet relaxed interiors and was a contestant on NBC’s *American Dream Builders*. elainegriffin.com

SCOTT SANDERS

Based in Manhattan and the Hamptons, Sanders founded his firm in 2000 after a turn as lead designer at Ralph Lauren Home. His projects range from private homes to grand hotels. scottsandersllc.com

TEXT BY MEEGHAN TRUELOVE / PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER CHURCHILL / PRODUCED BY ORLI BEN-DOR



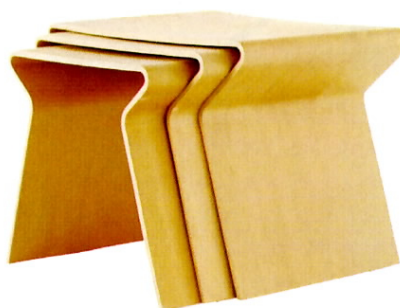
1 / MOON NESTING TABLES BY OCHRE

EG: These remind me of Eileen Gray's iconic side table from the 1920s.
SS: The glass and steel is beautiful. I see them un-nested and clustered as a cocktail table. I think that's how I'd use them.
EG: Like lily pads—that's genius! You could put two sets together for a longer table.
 17.75" dia. x 15.75" h.; \$3,565; ochre.net



4 / MID 113 NESTING TABLES BY CHELSEA TEXTILES

SS: Adorable. They're contemporary and retro at the same time. The tiny one is just big enough for a drink—at a party it would be an instant conversation starter.
EG: They're very Judy Jetson, and Palm Springs on the lanai.
SS: The perforated-metal tops give them a vintage look, like they've been salvaged.
EG: That's their beauty.
 9.5" w. x 11" d. x 18" h.; \$586; chelseatextiles.com



2 / GJ NESTING TABLES BY GRETE JALK FOR LANGE PRODUCTION

SS: I love the warm honey color of the pine veneer. These would work in a TV room or a kid's room, or on a covered porch with rattan furniture.
EG: These were designed in Denmark in 1963, so they've got an organic, midcentury vibe, which I find charming. They'd look great in a bathroom—you could stack towels or toiletries on top.
 21.25" w. x 14.5" d. x 16" h.; \$1,250; karkula.com



3 / HARLOW SHAGREEN NESTING TABLES BY PALECEK

SS: These are a superchic update of the classic Parsons table. They're a good, solid weight, and the combination of colors and materials is stunning and sophisticated.
EG: Right—the faux shagreen, and those silver fillet edges are luxe. These would be fabulous in a foyer. But don't cover them up too much—that gorgeous finish is what you're paying for!
 23.75" w. x 15.75" d. x 20.25" h.; \$2,338; palecek.com



5 / RED LACQUER WATERFALL NESTING TABLES BY ROBERT KUO

EG: Robert Kuo is one of the last great lacquer masters. You can see the work of his hand here, coat after coat. These have a delicate finish, so you have to take care of them.
SS: The detail, the richness, the depth—it's incredible. And the tables are heavy, so they'd be best in situations where they remain stationary. They'd make exquisite side tables.
 30.5" w. x 16" d. x 24" h.; \$7,500; robertkuo.com

The opinions featured are those of ELLE DECOR's guest experts and do not necessarily represent those of the editors. All measurements and prices are approximate.