

LIVING
SPACE

+

SHOP

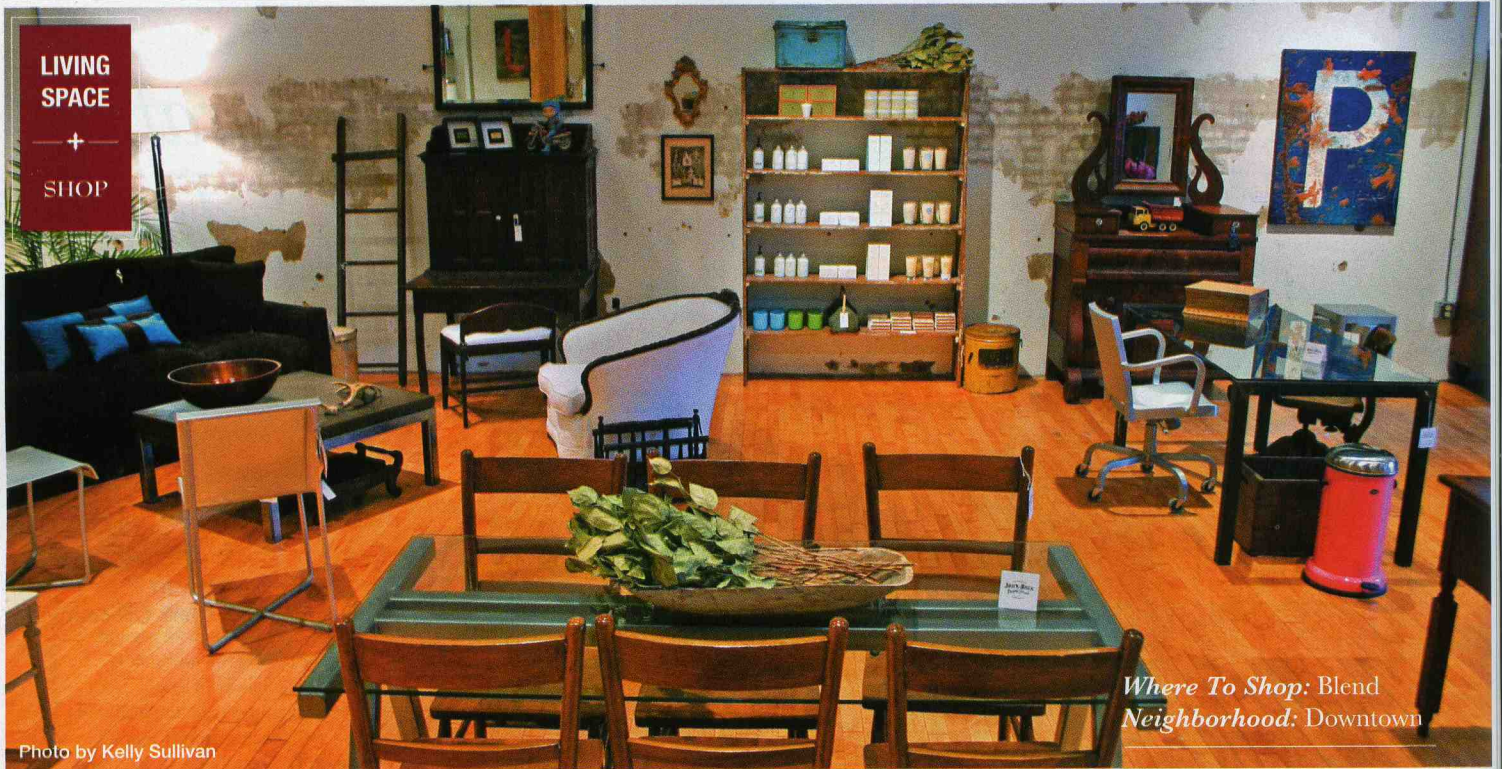


Photo by Kelly Sullivan

Where To Shop: Blend
Neighborhood: Downtown

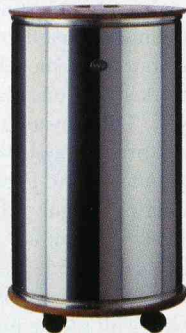
HOME STORE

+

Pick up a sleek accessory or
home accent at Blend.



Bodum coffee press



Vipp metal waste bin

Emeco "Superlight" chair



{ Blend }

+

Modern meets antique in this distinctive downtown shop.

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By Lisa Marino

home to a slew of historic buildings with trendy interiors, the Washington Avenue district recently made room for Blend, a home décor store that takes this urban mix of old and new just one step further by 'blending' modern and antique inside the shop itself. Within Blend's open showroom you can find a fusion of found and face-lifted items as well as custom-designed furniture and merchandise from top designers—vintage metal apothecary signs hang above sleek, contemporary brushed aluminum chairs by Emeco, which sit next to an antique mahogany dresser complete with an ornate mirror and crystal-inspired knobs.

Co-owner Marlene Wilson scours auctions and flea markets to find pieces that, perhaps with some creative improvements by co-owner John Beck, add to Blend's inventory of old and new merchandise. In addition to refurbishing antique items, John also creates custom furniture,

often fashioned from a combination of steel, concrete and glass. One such item is a trendy table that can double as a desk—a long glass sheet sits on top of smooth steel beams that run parallel across the table, rendering it sturdy yet delicate in design.

But don't miss the colorful array of home accents and accessories, from sleek kitchen-

ware to antique-inspired wall art. One fast favorite is the line of letter art paintings from Art Classics Ltd.—beautifully bold yet surprisingly simple oversized paintings that feature enormous monochromatic letters set against contrasting colored backgrounds. Or spruce up your sofa with an elegant throw pillow

made by Marlene—each one has a subdued color (like chocolate brown) paired with a bright one (like turquoise). These contemporary color combinations are mixed with antique styles and patterns, giving each pillow unrivaled panache.

Where To Shop

BLEND

+

1113 Locust St.
Downtown
314.436.9228
blend-home.com

Mon.-Thurs., 11am-6pm
Fri.-Sat., 11am-5pm