

Home is Where the Party is



Studies show that people are staying and planning to stay home more. Are You cashing in?

By Carrie Burns

After the tragedy of September 11, the talk was that people were going to start staying home more, spending more money on things related to the home, and research shows that they did. Now, almost two years later, this trend isn't ending anytime soon. If anything, it's expanding, as people begin to see their home as the center of their entertainment world.

Hosting and entertaining has long been popular, and now, even more. A 2002 survey by RoperASW found that nearly one in four people intend to spend more money on entertainment for the home than they did in the past. What sort of entertainment? Think back to the last party you attended — it's likely the group was split between the kitchen and the patio, deck or backyard, right?

If the above statistic doesn't convince you that people take pride in their homes and especially their yards, maybe the International Furnishings and Design Association's study will. The report, drawn from a survey conducted in 2000 among furnishings industry experts, showed that 69 percent of the

survey participants believe it is likely that homes in 2020 will have expanded outdoor living space. Additionally, 75 percent of the participants think it is likely that people will do more outdoor entertaining in the future. So, here are a few products to prepare you for the outdoor entertaining phenomenon.

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Above: **Adirondack chair.** This classically designed GardenWood Fan Back Adirondack chair, featuring a stylish splayed back and comfortably sloped seat, brings casual living to any yard, patio or deck. It measures 29½ x 34½ x 35½ inches. Crafted from eucalyptus, a proven hardwood for outdoor use. All hardware is made of anodized steel. A matching ottoman and fan back connector (to link two chairs together) are also available. Whittier Wood Products. (541) 687-0213. **Write in 1428.**