

# homework

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## Hey-Wake Loves Mirro (and Vice Versa)



**My family thinks I'm a little weird and my friends roll their eyes and quietly snicker when I talk about my latest find.**

I never really thought I'd become a collector, but somewhere along the line I got infected. I don't collect a lot of different stuff, just Heywood-Wakefield furniture and Mirro Medallionware.

Hey-Wake may be the real reason I was attracted to midcentury modern in the first place. The initial piece that I bought was a poof ottoman listed on eBay for less than \$50. It had been painted and poorly reupholstered, and was very sad looking. But I could afford it and thought I could make it look good again.

It took me a few weeks to strip off the paint, uncovering the beauty of the original birch, and to make a new cover. Not knowing much about the finish when I started, I simply sealed it with tung oil. I was a bit disappointed when I was finished, because it didn't have that fabulous finish I was used to seeing on other Hey-Wake furniture, and I wasn't entirely sure why. Overall, though, it looked good enough for me to pursue other pieces.

I have done my best to re-create the midcentury look on the inside of my white '80s condo box. The couch was bought at Scandinavian Designs five years ago and the discontinued Trans-Ocean rugs were from Craigslist. Heywood-Wakefield pieces include a pair of Aristocraft corner tables flanking the couch (it took two summers to bleach out the dark walnut stain) and a Round Cocktail table refinished in 'Wheat.'

I have been unable to find out much about my Eastham cabinet, but I think it comes from the UK, as virtually every one I've seen for sale has been located there. On top I display Medallion waiter and serving trays, a martini mixer and a beverage server, along with Mirro barbecue utensils on the wall.