



take  
your  
seat



*Pictured left to right from above: Chameleon Chair's "Buttercup Suede Clothback," Chameleon Chair's "Gold Chloe" and The Chair Factory's "Capitale."*

### we show you the latest in industry tables and chairs

Planning a catered event requires a keen eye for understanding of space, as caterers need to be able to fit the invited guests into a prescribed space comfortably and still have plenty of room for their servers to move around freely. Everyone has probably attended a catered event in which they rubbed elbows, literally, as 10 chairs were squeezed around a table meant to seat eight people comfortably.

Chameleon Chair Collection Vice President Barbara Starler says that before caterers make their table and chair selection an event, they need to know:

- How many chairs fit comfortably around each table
- How easily it will be for servers to move around the room
- What furniture fits appropriately with the theme's design and or the environment
- The surface of flooring where the tables and chairs will be set
- How long the set up will take
- The comfort of the chair

Something else that should be considered is how long the pieces will last, says Diego Discacciati, vice president for Drake Corp.

"Caterers are in the moving business," he explains. "Having products that are reliable but extra light is a must. The longevity of the product is a big issue, because



caterers are making an investment. The longer the product lasts, the more profitable the caterer will be."

Discacciati advises "always choose wisely."

"Many products look similar, but they are not," he says. "Our chairs last virtually forever! We have chairs that are still used after more than 10 years. I cannot say more than that because we started to make this model in 1998. The only part that needs to be replaced is the vinyl padded seat."

Starler points out that because Chameleon chairs and bar stools are made of high-quality steel, they have an "extensive" life span.

"The original Chameleons are still in excellent shape, with periodic cosmetic touch-up, after almost 10 years," she says. "Their silhouette is chic, their size ideal for the event and hospitality industries."

#### Function over form

Starler says that while tables and chairs are functional items — often completely covered with linens — needed for the success of any wedding or other catered event, she adds that caterers should not forgo beauty, comfort and design versatility when looking for them.

Caterers also should consider the ease of delivery, set up and breaking down at the event, Starler says.

At Chameleon, embossed faux leathers have been added to its inventory, along with rich tapestries, peek-a-boo lace and luxurious velvets.

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