

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Signature Settings For Your Table

(NAPSA)—Setting the table for successful entertaining starts with selecting table linens that reflect the menu and the occasion.

With a wardrobe of well-chosen linen tablecloths and napkins, it's easy to add excitement or elegance, whatever the occasion.

Start your collection with an elegant linen damask tablecloth and matching napkins to serve as a stately background for the fine china and silverware used for holidays and other special occasions.

On less formal occasions, such as Sunday brunch or ladies' luncheon, consider brightly colored tablecloths with coordinating patterned napkins.

Be sure the table linens for any occasion carry the Masters of Linen hangtag signifying they're woven from 100 percent Western European linen or linen blends and have passed rigid controls set forth by the Confederation Europeene Du Lin Et Du Chambre (CELC). That way you'll know that you're setting your table with linens that meet quality standards set for construction, color fastness, dimensional stability and strength.

To create a stylish table with sensuous linen:

- Mix and match to create different looks. Linen or linen-blend tablecloths and sets of matching napkins in solid-colors, deep glowing brights and lustrous pastels are the basis for mixing and matching.

Add color-coordinated patterned napkins and ones with special seasonal themes. Because of linen's ability to absorb color and reflect light, it can add a unique luminous glow.

- Napkin Folds. Unusual napkin rings or charming napkin folds can give your table setting a custom look for little effort and no added cost. One easy-to-fashion napkin fold that works equally well for sit-down meals or for buffet entertaining is the "Buffet



With the right care, table linens can be an investment to pass on to future generations.

Server," which allows silverware to be inserted in the napkin pocket.

Table linens respond well to laundering, taking on a lustrous patina that makes them more beautiful with age. If laundering is suggested, choose a pure soap or mild detergent, avoiding those products containing chlorine bleach.

Remember to iron linen while it's still damp, taking tablecloths and napkins out of the dryer or off of the line while they're still moist. Iron light-colored table linens, especially damasks, on the wrong side first, then on the right to bring out the fabric's sheen. For dark colored tablecloths, iron only on the wrong side.

Always launder table linens before storing them away. Many stains, simple to remove while still fresh, become impossible to remove once they've set. Wrap linens in acid-free tissue paper or old sheets. Store them in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area.

For a free *Reinventing Linen* brochure, financed by the European Community, write to Masters of Linen, European Linen of Quality 234 West 39th Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10018.