

Something Vintage

by Gillian - Friday, April 17, 2015

<http://3storymagazine.com/vintage-trays/>

They don't just carry things, they highlight, contain and elevate items. Francine Smith of [Hot Cool Vintage](#) on the versatility of trays. *Photos courtesy of Francine Smith.*

Let's talk about trays. Me? I love them. Big or little, metal or plastic. I can always find a spot that instantly looks better once I find the right tray. Trays highlight, contain and, most importantly, elevate your items. Have a collection? Need to organize? Want to make something look just a little bit better? Grab a tray.

Sushi or not

These vintage [sushi trays](#) are just so incredibly versatile. They can be used in any room... office, bedroom, bathroom, or a kid's room. They can be grouped together or used individually. Use a couple and keep the rest on reserve. These are in a bright lemon which adds a nice pop of color. I have a set of these in my bathroom and seriously considered hoarding this set too. They can be used as snack trays (perfect for kids) but also look great on a nightstand, a desk or on a counter.

Classic

This is a classic mid century Danish modern [teak tray](#) by Dansk. I have used this tray on my dining room table, on my coffee table and even in my bedroom to hold jewelry. Very handy. I grouped my teak pepper mill collection but I've also used it to serve hors d'oeuvres and as a table centerpiece with some flowers. I've had as many as three of these in use at the same time.

Recycle

In a previous life this was an [ashtray](#). Technically it still is but it hasn't seen a cigarette in years. Accented with 22 carat gold, this tray is just too pretty and cool to sit idly by. Air plants are a great way of turning this overlooked and seldom used ashtray into something that's functional and a distinctive piece of vintage home decor.

Keep in mind...

- Large serving trays are great for liquor bottles, making a coffee station, TV remotes, or to hold a personal collection.

- Smaller trays can be useful next to a bed, in the bathroom, in the office or on a counter.
- Keep some extra trays on hand. Great for serving or if a guest stays the night. Also, they're fun to have on hand if you like to change up your decor often.

* You can see more vintage trays in Francine's [Etsy shop](#).

* [Click here for more vintage stories and to sign up to our Vintage Friday newsletter.](#)

PDF generated by Kalin's PDF Creation Station