



CLASSIC FINDS + DESIGN

By John Stevens



Très Magnifique!

HOW TO ADD FRENCH-BISTRO FLAVOR TO YOUR INTERIORS

When I was a college exchange student in Paris, my social life revolved around the city's glorious cafés and brasseries. I'd regularly meet up with friends at a favorite neighborhood haunt to mingle, study and dine amidst the refined, Old-World surroundings. ✱ When I first stepped into Ballard's new **Bastille Café & Bar** (5307 Ballard Ave. NW, Seattle; 206.453.5014; bastilleseattle.com), I felt as if I'd been transported back to my Parisian schooldays. Owners James Weimann and Deming Maclise have transformed an historic 1922 building into an elegantly eclectic French bistro. Their fondness for turn-of-the-century railroad station architecture, à la the Musée d'Orsay, is reflected in the authentic design elements, from subway tiles and fabulous faux-steel arches to vintage light fixtures. The *pièce de résistance* is a magnificent 45 foot bar boasting a custom zinc top and antique wood paneling. ✱ To add a little bistro flavor to your dwelling, think comfortable and chic. For fine, handmade French furnishings, check out the **Grange collections** and the French-inspired pieces by Parisian designer Jacques Garcia for Baker (available at [Masins](http://Masins.com), Seattle and Bellevue; masins.com). Don't miss the authentic French housewares at **Maison de France** (1950 130th Ave. NE, Suite 2, Bellevue; 425.688.1078; maisondefrance.com), the impressive French cookware and tableware at **Sur La Table** (Seattle and Kirkland; surlatable.com) and the French-Country and bistro-style accessories at **Three French Hens** (23330 Maple Valley Hwy., Maple Valley; threefrenchhens1@msn.com; threefrenchhensinteriors.com). To complete the look, seek out some antiques, such as painted *tôle* trays, and pieces in old copper, silverware and weathered cast iron. *Voilà!* Old-World style that's bistro-beautiful. ✱



John Stevens (johns@masins.com) specializes in antiques and classic interior design.

John Stevens soaking up the Old-World style at Ballard's new Bastille Café & Bar. Baker's graceful "Lyre" lantern by Jacques Garcia. Sur La Table's casually elegant "Bistro de Paris" tableware.



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