



Technology Advice



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“Staycations” Net Best Return on Enjoyment

No doubt about it – everyone is looking for ways to cut back on costs. But let’s get one thing straight: being frugal with your hard-earned dollars doesn’t mean skimping on your fun. You want to be sure to that the money you spend on entertainment gives you the best of what I call “Return on Enjoyment” or ROE. Many Austinites have discovered that having a “staycation” instead of a vacation this year gives them the most ROE, making their holiday cash stretch further.

So, rather than taking the family on a 10-day cruises or making another cross-country trek to a theme park, consider turning that unused guest bedroom or formal dining area into your own home theater. Investing in a home cinema, also called a media room, is a proven perfect solution for those who want to enjoy the full benefits of a staycation, and ultimately is a vacation you can enjoy all year.

Home cinema rooms are enjoying an increase in popularity. There’s something special about having friends and family over to watch favorite movies or having a friendly competition playing video games – or even an intimate evening spent in. Media rooms are the ultimate getaway space, and a consultation with a video and audio specialist can develop a plan to fit any room and stay within budget.

Start with a large screen, high definition projector and a 7.1 sound system, and then think of adding DVD, cable, satellite, Internet, video game systems, and even share vacation photos on the large HD screen. Think about your lifestyle – do you work from home? Consider a docking station for your laptop and working on a large, easy-to-read screen from the comfort of your favorite recliner.

Remember that your multimedia room is meant to adapt over time to fit your needs – as technology changes, your room will change with the times, making it your favorite staycation ever – and the one destination that you will return to again and again to enjoy without ever having to hear that familiar chorus of “Are we there yet?”