

Always in Season

Fruit & Vegetable Collectibles

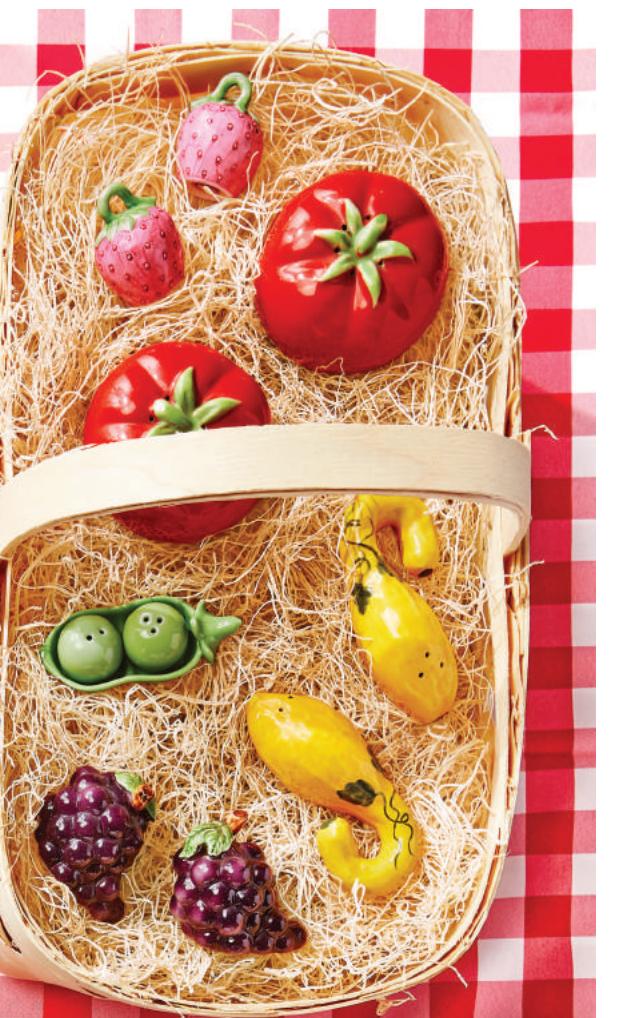
From seedy ceramics to won't-spoil wovens, these freshly picked finds make for one fruitful trip to the flea market.



Salt and Pepper Shaker Sets

Available in a farm-fresh assortment of shapes and sizes, these (mostly ceramic) flea-market finds boast one-of-a-kind quirk as well as serious produce provenance. For the latter, seek noted makers like Ohio-based Shawnee Pottery (its famed "Corn King" set is shown here; for more, see page 21) or pairs marked with their country of origin (think "USA" engraved on the bottom). These, along with hand-painted designs (squash and asparagus) tend to yield more cash—about \$25 to \$35 per set, compared to the average \$15. Secret source: Head to loredaslegacy.etsy.com to start your collection!

STYLING BY CARMEN COLLINS



Spoon Rests

To accumulate these counter-toppers, search for makers like Avon (squash, right), Fitz and Floyd (pear, below), as well as Majolica-style versions (celery, far right), all typically found at flea markets for \$2 to \$15. Smaller ones, like the eggplant, were part of a late-20th-century surge in Japanese-made varieties and can be found for \$5.



Alabaster Fruit

While alabaster fruit traces to the early 1900s in Mexico and Italy, assorted sets gained popularity in American households in the '70s. Servings typically include pineapples, peaches, bananas, watermelons, and pears, often adorned with a metal or wooden stem and leaf accessory. Alabaster grapes, arguably deserving of their own category, vary from sophisticated neutrals to bright, happy reds and oranges and are valued at about \$75 per bunch.

HEIRLOOM VARIETIES

Pay homage to the classics with this crop of china cabinet staples.



CORN KING

This kerneled collection launched in 1937, and has become Shawnee Pottery's most-lauded line. Statement pieces (like this teapot above) go for around \$150.



LETTUCE WARE

Made famous by Palm Beach native Dodie Thayer, the leafy motif reached peak popularity in socialite circles in the 1960s and '70s, although a recent collaboration with designer Tory Burch has renewed interest.



MAJOLICA

The glazed earthenware, popularized by makers like Portugal's Bordallo Pinheiro, exists in many forms, but asparagus versions are especially stalked. This 1800s pitcher is valued at \$585.

Glassware

The perky patterns of these sweet sippers—some printed, some painted—graced mid-century breakfast tables. Today's prime picks are from makers like Federal Glass, Anchor Hocking, and Teleflora; most are sold in sets for less than \$10 per glass.

**Baskets**

These woven fruit-and-veggie-shaped creations were especially abundant in the late 20th century. While wicker is your best-bet search term, it's also helpful to hunt for "split ash" (strawberry, bottom right) and "picnic" baskets (watermelon, bottom left). Most can be found for \$15 to \$50 depending on size, although prices may inch higher thanks to a renewed interest in all things wicker and woven. Nested shapes (pears, bottom right) are also popular.