



AUTHENTIC Coastal

From Adirondack chairs to shutters, Seaport Shutter's handcrafted products capture a seaside ambiance.

Seaport Shutter Company is tucked alongside pastoral Route 6A in Brewster, in a historic building that used to house one of the first gas stations on Cape Cod. It's perfectly fitting that the Cape business would find a home on our most beautiful highway: the company's shutters, doors, and other wooden home products sing of Cape Cod's maritime spirit.

A pair of shutters the color of a bluebird, sporting a small cutout whale, hang on a seaside cottage. Elegant black shutters draw the eye with gold inset oyster designs. A beautifully simple wood-framed screen door, centered with a cutout starfish design, has the aura of simple oceanside living.

The products, thoroughly imbued with seaside ambience, are milled and hand-painted in the Malones' Chatham work space. "They have a yesteryear feel to them," says owner Peter Malone. He is assisted by his daughter Lauren Huard, who worked in public relations in Boston until she joined the family business. (Peter's wife, Marsha, is an interior designer and the owner of Nautique, a home furnishings shop in Brewster.) For anyone who loves Cape Cod history and culture, the shutters are reflective of the region's famous seaside charm. "It's a nostalgic thing," Malone says.

It is also, of course, a matter of high-quality home products made to the Malones' high standards. With a team of skilled carpenters at the helm, the products are constructed of wood materials and painted and customized by hand. They are shipped far and wide; two particularly popular destinations are the Great Lakes region and Canada.

Peter Malone was working in the high-tech field when the economic downtown hit in the late 1980s. Hard times followed. "High-tech life was so miserable," he recalls. "They were discouraging times for everybody." In 1991, he and Marsha bought a sea captain's house in Harwichport and started renovating it on weekends. They couldn't find the shutters they wanted for their historic renovation, so Malone made them in the barn behind his house in Boston and brought them to the Cape to hang on the Harwichport home. Malone discovered he really liked the work, and soon people were asking the Malones where they got their shutters.

It didn't take long for Malone to come to a big life decision. "I thought, 'I'm gonna drop out and start this shutter company and move to the Cape,'" he recalls. "We started from scratch."



He and his family couldn't be happier about the turn their lives took. As Malone says, "We've had some good successes. We're very busy."

Just as success has a way of expanding dreams, the Malones' original vision, to construct and sell shutters, morphed into a bigger venture than they expected. Today, Seaport Shutter Company is much more than the

namesake product, with screen doors, Adirondack chairs, and other products among their offerings. The common feature among them is their authenticity. As Malone says succinctly, "We plan it, make it, paint it, and install it."

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