

good life

★ SPLURGE



Forty (thousand) winks

Hypnos Eminence mattress Available at Sleep Country Canada (www.sleepcountry.ca)

Claiming to make the most comfortable bed in the world is a fairly big throw-down these days, considering all that technology has wrought. Companies aren't in the business of mattresses any more; they're in the business of "sleeping systems." They've hired teams of rocket scientists—or, at the very least, marketing gurus—to invent terms like "isotonic" and "electropedic" to describe the qualities of a simple mattress and box spring.

Don't be fooled by the pseudo-scientific babble. When you're ready for the best shut-eye you've ever had, look no further than a four-generations-old, family-run British company—Hypnos, named after the Greek god of sleep. On the outside, a naked Hypnos mattress looks like something Liberace might have worn—the glittery lining comes in gold or silver Belgian damask. On the inside, though, everything purrs like a Rolls-Royce: Each handcrafted bed is built using allergy-sensitive natural fibres and a frame of solid, kiln-dried hardwood. At the highest end, the king-sized Eminence mattress offers more than 2,000 coils individually wrapped in high-density cotton and laid out in a double layer of springs to match the contours of even the fussiest princess. Its ultraplush filling comprises silk, cashmere and lambswool, as well as pure hand-tufted cotton, which helps to regulate the sleeper's temperature.

At the Sleep Country megastore in Aurora, Ont., an Eminence mattress lies resplendent under a tinkling crystal chandelier. A little queenly? Perhaps. But the Hypnos bed is actually made for a queen—Elizabeth II refuses to sleep on any other. —Maryam Sanati