

You are only as good as the chair you sit on.

Over the ages, chairs have evolved beyond just providing seating comfort. Designers have gone to great lengths - first, to understand human anatomy, then experimenting with different materials to create better, individualistic chairs.

A different viewpoint comes from some sociologists who say that chairs go beyond just providing comfort; they reinforce and perpetuate hierarchies and class differences. King versus commoner, boss versus employee, rich versus poor, connoisseur versus philistine, traditionalist versus avant-garde and so on.

In this calendar - the third in our series of annual themed desk calendars - Sharon presents an unusual and at times, whimsical collection of FAMOUS PLYWOOD CHAIRS from history. We hope to make you pause for a moment in the midst of your busy day; to think about the role the ubiquitous chair plays in our lives and perhaps turn around to acknowledge the presence of this silent, ever-dependable friend.

We thank you for the enthusiastic response to our earlier calendars and as always, are keen to have your specific comments and suggestions. If you have enjoyed this calendar and would like us to send it to one or more of your friends or colleagues, please send their names, contact addresses and phone numbers to vk@sharonply.com before Jan 31, 2006.

2006



Special Thanks to Mr. Christopher K Thadani & Mr. G. I. Prasad. Created by www.takewing.com

JANUARY 2006

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**THE THREE LEGGED CHAIR**

Hans J. Wegner of Denmark (1914 - 1978), stands tall as a master of 20th Century Danish Modernism. He was instrumental in developing a body of work known as organic functionalism. Wegner had explored the use of plywood in chair design on only a few occasions, most notably with this design.

FEBRUARY 2006

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THE NANA CHAIR

Tapiovaara, Yrjö Ilmari of Finland (1914 - 1999) an interior architect who worked for a short while with Le Corbusier created this space-saving plywood chair in 1956. Intended to be used in auditoria and other public venues with large seating requirements, these chairs were stored in tight rows rather than in stacks.



MARCH 2006

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THE ANT CHAIR

Arne Jacobsen of Denmark (1902-1971), the famous architect designed this chair in 1952 for a canteen. Since then over 5 million of them have been produced. This stackable, light and inexpensive plywood chair introduced a touch of modernity into the period's otherwise clean, yet severe architectural spaces.



APRIL 2006

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THE O STAK CHAIR

Robin Day of Great Britain was a pioneer of ergonomics long before the term was invented. This plywood chair was designed during the post-war period. The enforced austerity of that period can be seen in the sparing use of material in the construction of this chair.

MAY 2006

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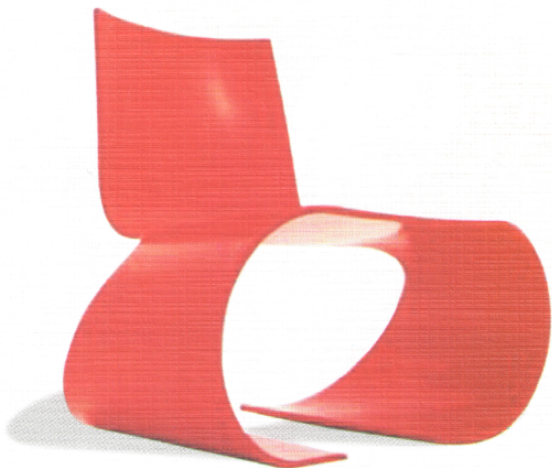
THE CANTILEVERED ARMCHAIR

Alvar Aalto of Finland (1898-1976), one of the foremost architects of the 20th century designed this plywood chair for the Paimio Sanitarium. The frame was revolutionary in that it marked the first use of laminated wood in a cantilevered structure; not surprisingly it triggered off a new trend.



JUNE 2006

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THE VOXIA OTO CHAIR

Designed by Peter Karpf of Denmark, this plywood lounge chair is at once a sculpture and a comfortable, resilient seat. Karpf's plywood chair designs are the result of more than 30 years of exploration of how to achieve optimum simplicity while designing a chair.

JULY 2006

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THE STANDARD SIDE CHAIR

Jean Prouvé of France (1901-1984) said "Never design anything that cannot be made" betraying his love of being more of an engineer than a designer who collaborated with the likes of Le Corbusier and Pierre Jeanneret. This plywood chair made in 1934 is one of the classics of design history. Its innovativeness is revealed in its logical structure and simple, straightforward aesthetics.

AUGUST 2006

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THE LCW CHAIR

Charles Eames, an American (1907-1978) designed this distinctive chair which is a fine example of the wonders of moulded plywood. The contours of its low and casual form cradle the human body more comfortably than a wooden chair.

SEPTEMBER 2006

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THE ARM CHAIR

Norman Cherner, an American (1920 -1987) created this classic chair which is still regarded as one of the most dramatic designs in plywood. The seat and back are a single shell connected by a slim and sturdy throat. Slender laminated legs and a graceful curving bent arm complete the design.

OCTOBER 2006

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THE TWO SEAT SOFA

Nanna Ditzel of Denmark (1923-2005) dubbed the 'First Lady of Danish Furniture Design' created this unusual curved sofa. Made of maple and plywood, it was silkscreen printed to make it seem a work of art.

NOVEMBER 2006

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THE GRASSHOPPER ARMCHAIR

Eero Saarinen of Finland (1910-1961) was one of the most successful and creative architects of his time and influential in shaping the American post-war design movement. His famous Grasshopper chair created in 1946 was made of bent plywood and had an upholstered seat.

DECEMBER 2006

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THE ROVER CHAIR

Ron Arad of Israel (1951), a professor of furniture and product design at the Royal College of Art in London designed this plywood chair in 1981. He combined materials associated with the 'high-tech style' to produce the so-called poetic post-industrialist 'ready-made'.