Products. Ideas. Opinions.



INTRODUCING SKETCH

Welcome to the second issue of Sketch, a publication from Senator and Allermuir.

Sketch is a forum to showcase new ideas, trends, opinions, and products from Senator and Allermuir. Two completely different brands but with one vision to create innovative products for the workplace.

In each edition we'll take a creative look at all the different ways we work, and suggest ideas, improvements, small hacks, big changes, all to help inspire you.

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04 Opinion Piece

TIME TO REFLECT

What has homeworking taught us?

Our fundamental human ability to adapt has allowed us to make working from home, work.

Most office workers are working from their homes, and for many people, they like the experience.

People like the idea of working from home, it allows them the ability to focus, the ability to concentrate, it gives them control over their daily routine, the choice to work on the sofa, the kitchen island, dress casually, or simply put on their music.

There is also the lack of a commute, this means there's more time to spend outside, with family, or more time to focus.

Because of this, for some people working from home has brought some key positive benefits because individual work still makes an incredibly large amount of our day — we all still have individual reports, or documents to produce — but now we choose our daily routine.

But working from home does lack some elements, there's no boundary between working life and home life. We used to talk about the work-life balance, now we start to think about the home-life balance as we move from an eight-hour attendance to a fourteen-hour work window.

Boundaries are hard to break down. Where's the humour? Where's the fun? Where's the variety? Sparking of innovation, the face-to-face communication, or simply the ability to switch off by distinguishing between home and work.

By very easily looking at the things that we have gained by working from home, we can also see the things we have missed. These will need to be identified and designed into our workplaces.

The best part the workplace has to offer is learning, collaborating first-hand with each other, and in today's environment learning and collaboration are now blended into having a digital and physical presence.

Having collaboration promotes innovation and organisations need to foster innovation, they also need to champion the social workplace. As individuals, it is the social interaction that workplaces offer that feeds collaboration.

Opinion Piece 05

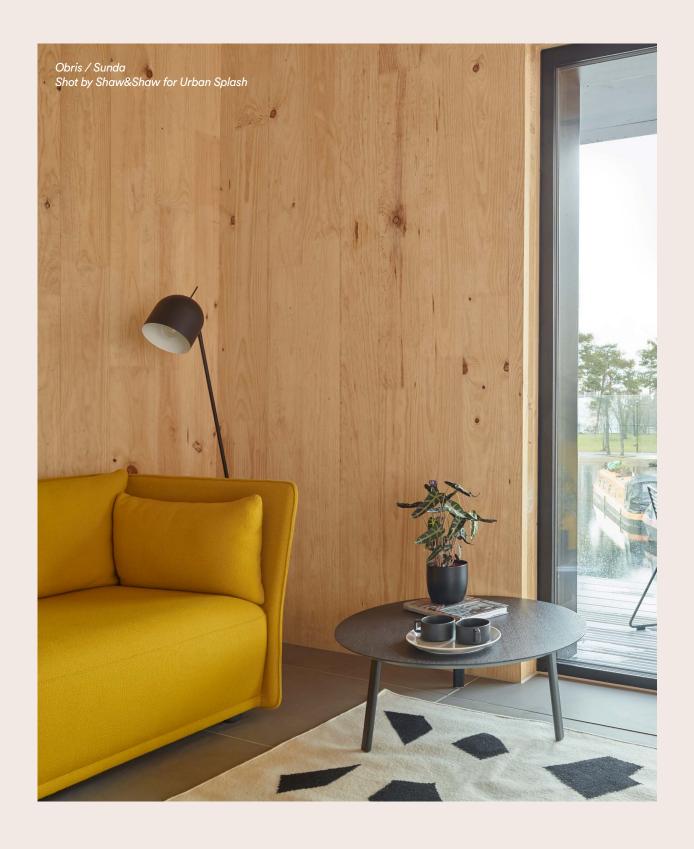
If we want to furnish our homes for work, we need to take inspiration from some of the other furniture elements in our home. Desks need to be designed to be suited to our homes; that means reduced size, softer settings, not imposing, more contemporary finishes, styles and materials that suit in with our styles rather than imposing in our homes.

These traits then need to be transferred to our workplaces, so that we work in spaces that are designed, rather than engineered.

And as homeworking continues to rise in prominence, even with all the benefits it brings, there's still a need for organisations to repurpose and tailor their workspaces for idea generation and collaboration, to ensure that these spaces reflect each organisations unique brand and culture.



Home by Allermuir



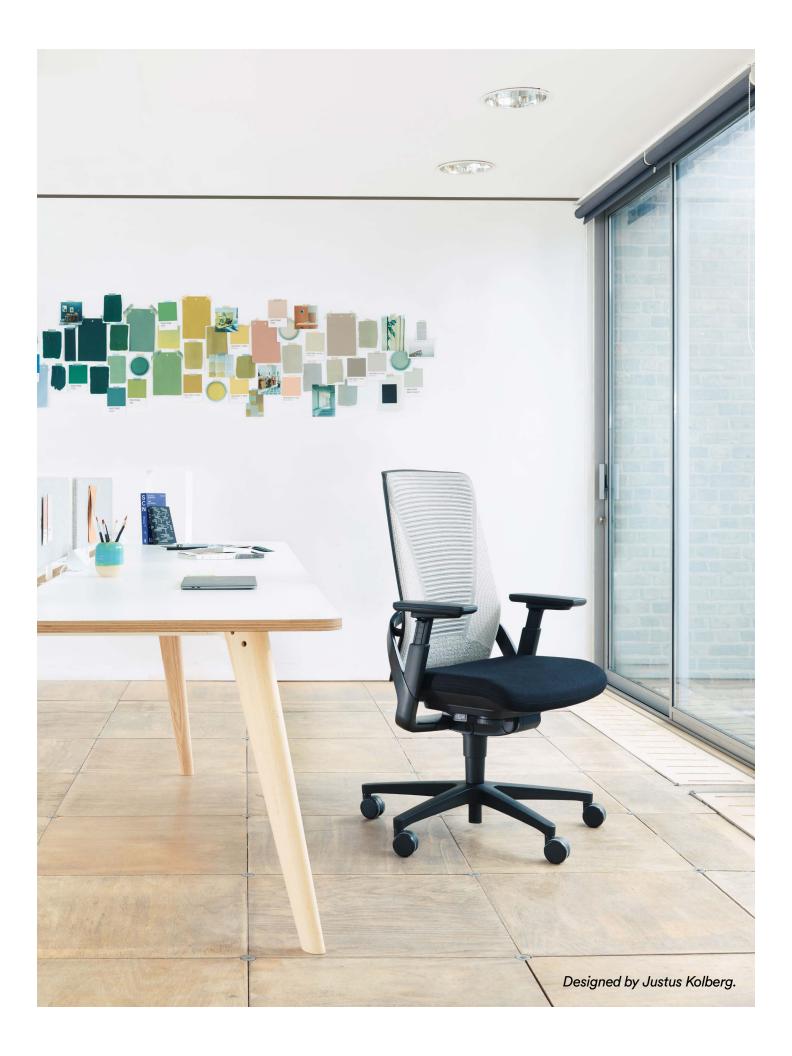


Arc Desk / Circo Chair

When creating a home office, consider the comfort of your chair, the height of your desk, and the setting of your space. Perhaps think about adding pictures, plants, and projects boards. It shouldn't just be a workspace; it should be a sanctuary. We present a new concept of living, throwing the doors to great design wide open. One which value both creativity and comfort as equal, no compromises, just considered.



Slide Desk / Co-Sideboard / Ousby Chair



INTRODUCING I-WORKCHAIR 2.0

i-Workchair 2.0 is here and it is more innovative than ever.

Thanks to a new range of 3D technically knitted fabrics, i-Workchair 2.0 is now better than ever before.

i-Workchair 2.0 still offers the same freedom of movement, personalised comfort and total support, but now with one of the most cutting-edge fabrics to elevate this contemporary design.

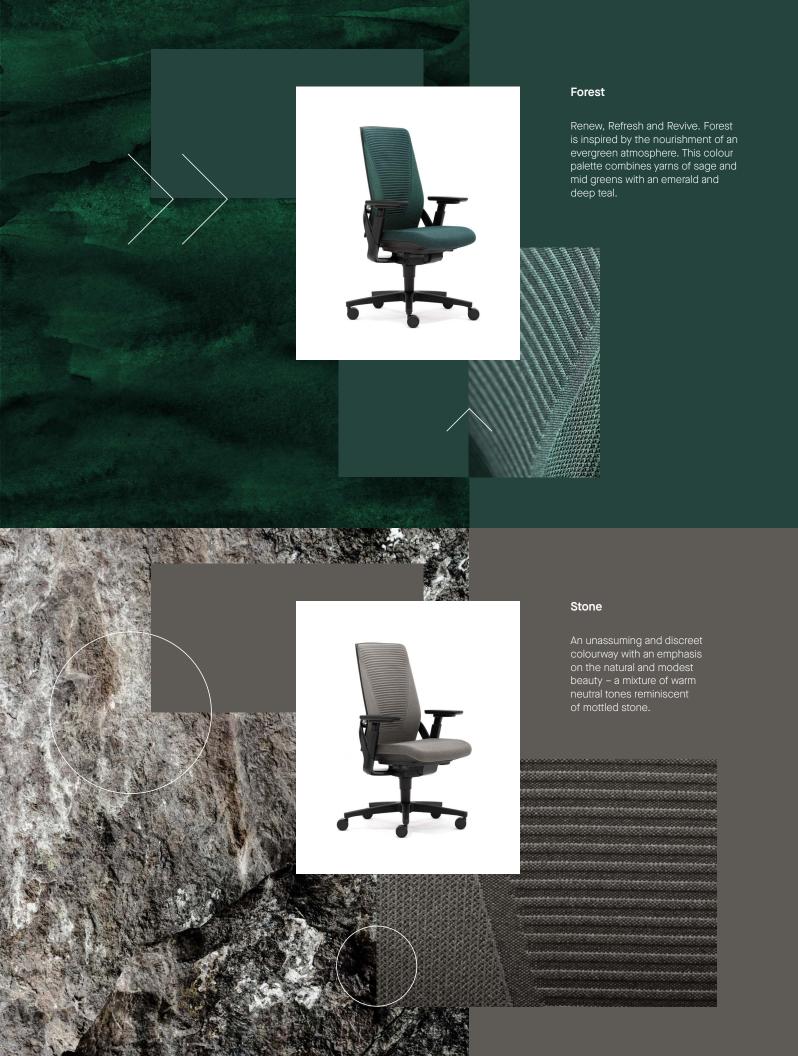
by **SENATOR**

This signature design is available in seven carefully curated colourways. Developed specially to offer comfort, support, and choice to your workplace.



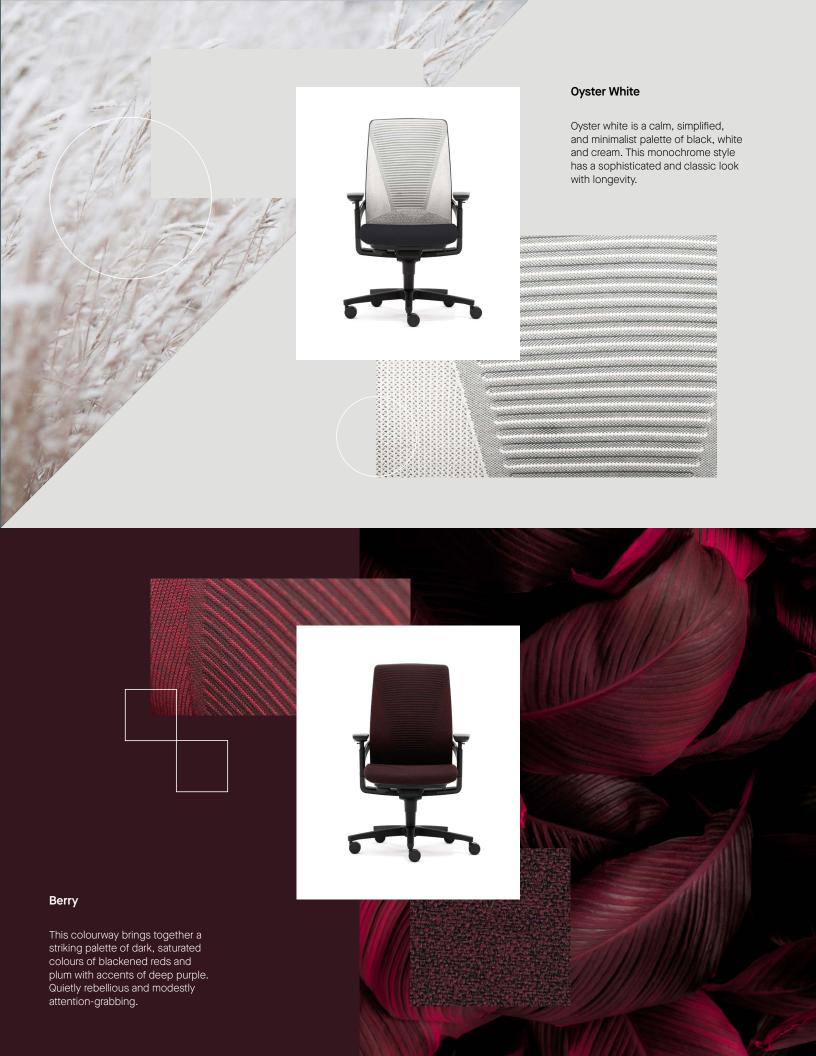
Onyx

No darkness is ever the same, so the yarns in a black colourway shouldn't be either. This seemingly non-colour palette is a combination of deepest black and steel grey with a fleck of pewter.





Combined tones of grey and beige. In calming warm tones but when deconstructed this colourway is so much more. A soft zinc twisted yarn is added to give depth and interest to the palette.



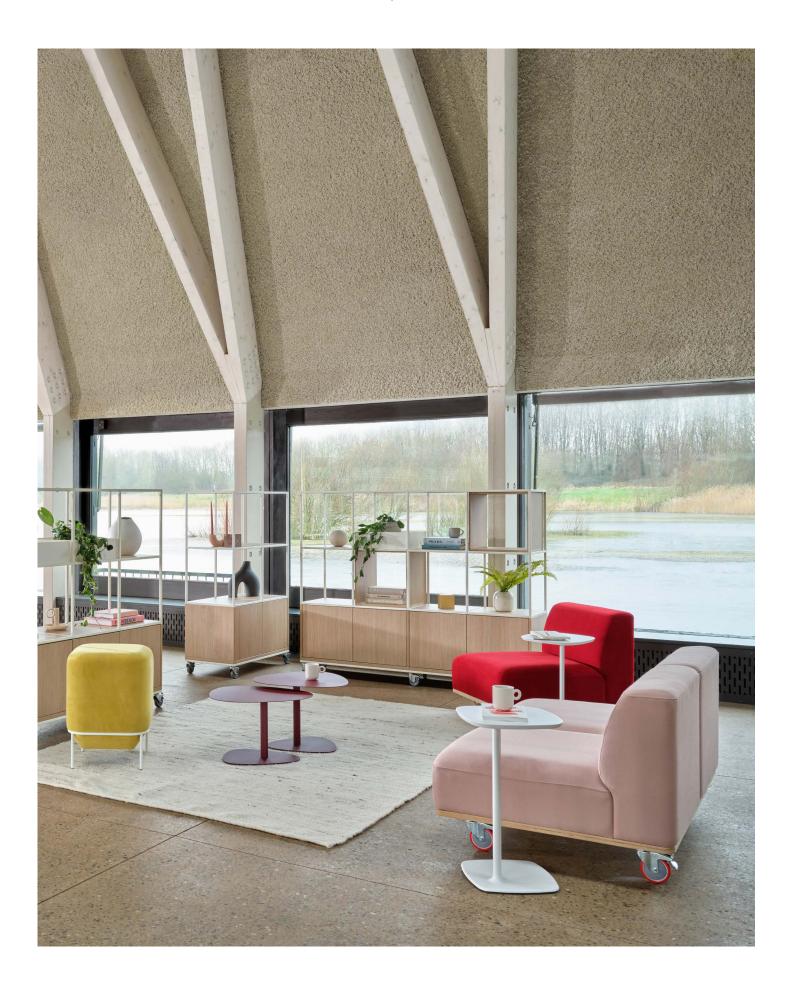
Mobile

Mayze

by Allermuir Designed by Allermuir Design.

Introducing Mayze Mobile, a design that doesn't dictate your creative direction. The Mayze seating collection has gone mobile, available as single, two and three seats on castors giving more freedom than ever before to quite literally push the boundaries.

Engineered for commercial and public spaces that require flexibility, Mayze Mobile boasts contemporary design, quality, and a formal sit.



mobile

flexible



agile



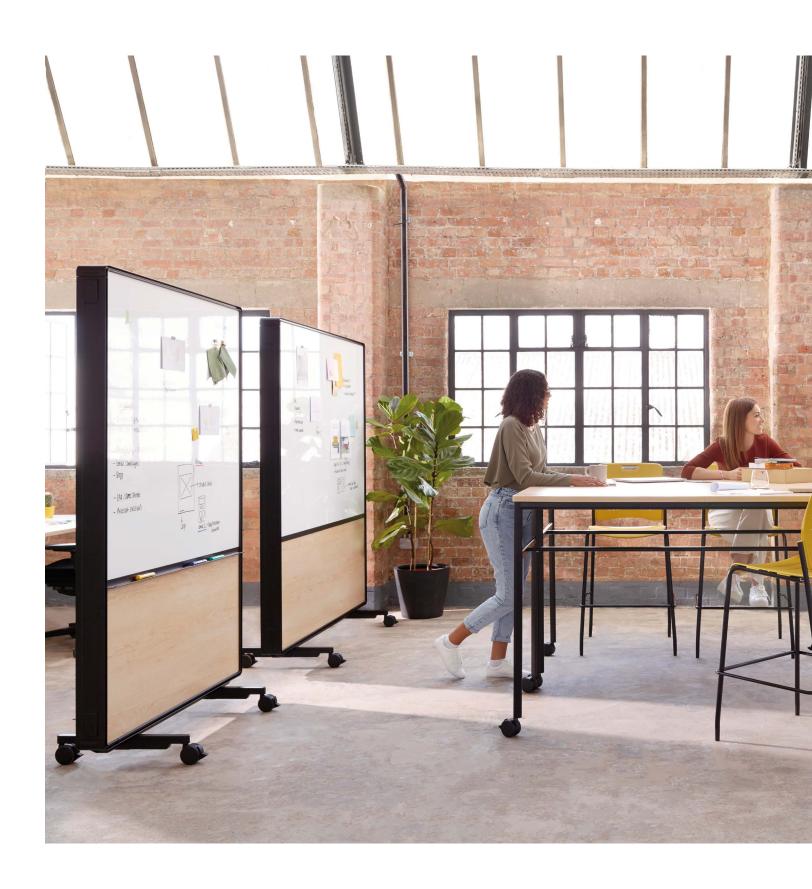
INTRODUCING ADAPT WALL

Agile. Flexible. Fluid. Dynamic.

by **SENATOR**

This constant reaction to the change of an individual's daily working routine was the catalyst for Adapt. Born out of the idea to create a mobile partition that enables more agile, fluid, and flexible spaces empowering every user to create dynamic spaces that work for them in that moment.



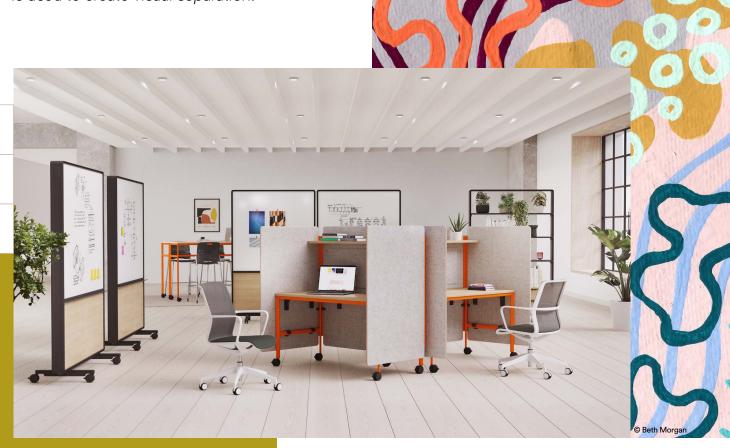




We've put together four settings that allow you to create your own collaborative nooks, inspirational hotspots, or creative brainstorming settings. Each setting utilises Adapt Wall in its own way.

Focusing

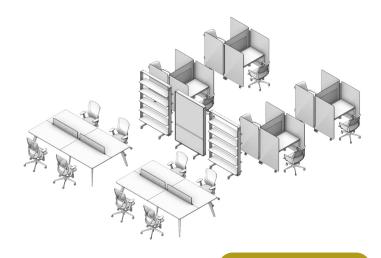
Dedicated and ad-hoc workspaces can live within the same proximity when Adapt Wall is used to create visual separation.



Configuration One

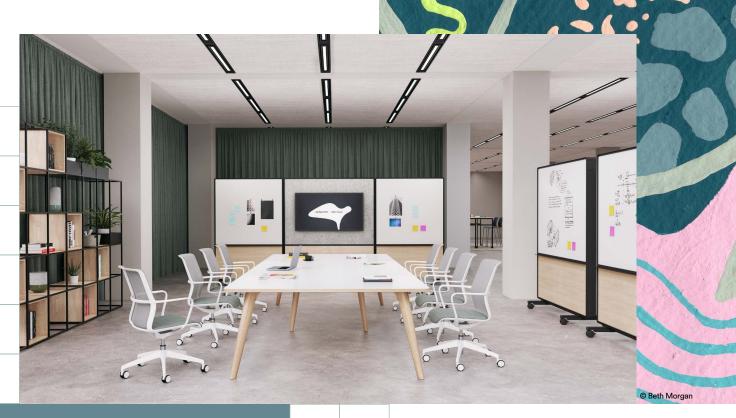
Products shown (right):

- 2 × Adapt Wall 5 Shelf
- 1 × Adapt Wall Whiteboard
- 8 × Play Pods
- 8 × Circo
- 2 x Pailo Rench
- 8 × Ousby



Meeting

No need for permanent walls that limit or restrict growth, now you can flex and move like any dynamic organisation does every day.



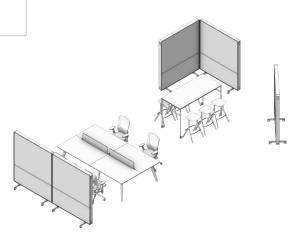
Configuration Two

Products shown (right):

5 × Adapt Wall Whiteboard

- 1 × Play Table
- 1 × Pailo Bench
- 4 × Ousby

Allermuir product used: Axyl Stool



Agile

Elevate the smallest of settings by empowering users with the ability to reconfigure on demand.

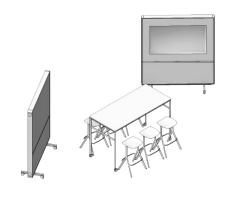


Configuration Three

Products shown (right):

- 1 × Adapt Wall AV
- 1 × Adapt Wall Whiteboard
- 1 × Play Table

Allermuir product used: Axyl Stool



Relaxing

Create flexible divisions between task focused areas and ad-hoc, light work meeting spaces.

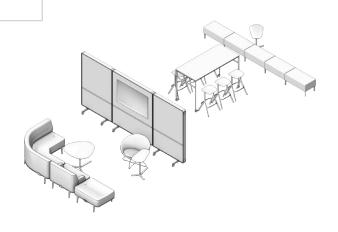


Configuration Four

Products shown (right):

- 1 × Adapt Wall AV
- 2 × Adapt Wall Whiteboard
- 1 × Play Table
- 5 × Play Seating
- 3 × Talon
- 3 × Mote

Allermuir product used: Conic / Axyl Stool



28 Product Focus

INTRODUCING QDOS

An instinctive balance of form and function, resilience, hard work and collaboration.

by **SENATOR**

Qdos has taken years to make. We've stopped and started. Ripped up the rule book and re-written it again.

It's taken an instinctive balance of form and function, resilience, hard work and collaboration but we're proud of what we've accomplished.

We've pushed further than ever before creating a product from scratch that will make life better and make you better for sitting on it.

Qdos is a new breed of chair born out of the desire to create perfection.

It demands attention. Its striking form, dynamic detailing and simplistic clean lines are nothing but deceiving.

Underneath the finest leather and a crisp aluminium frame is pure engineering innovation; its exoskeleton moulds and contours to your body meaning you get the utmost support whilst sat in a chair that demands prestige.







SHOWCASE

Hello Haus teach us how to get the most out of our home workspace.

by Allermuir

As many of us are returning to the workplace, we caught up with Katie of interior design practice Hello Haus to talk about how we can soften our spaces whether at home or at work.

Hello Haus 33

Tip 1: Your Chair

You may have opted for a temporary dining chair at home in the short term but having a cosy chair with good support is key to a calm workspace.

There are so many brilliant options now that you don't have to choose between style and comfort, you can have both. Having a chair you can feel relaxed sitting in, will really help with concentration too.

I chose an upholstered tub chair from the KIN family.





Tip 2: Touches of Nature

As humans, we need to feel connected to the outside world, whether at home or in the office. Therefore, introducing natural elements like wooden furniture and plants into the workspace is a great way to add calm and reduce stress.

Washington State University quotes that people working indoors with plants in their view complete tasks 12% faster, improved memory retention by up to 20% and are more able to concentrate than those without. I love having these on my desk to give my eyes a little break from the computer screen. I choose plants that are easy to look after, like Mother in Laws Tongue or Money Plants. Perfect calm!

Tip 3: Feel Good Accessories

Surrounding yourself with pictures, smells, inspirational images or objects that make you feel good is a really good way to add comfort and energy to a workspace.

I always choose a candle or diffuser that relaxes me, pin up some of my favourite pictures that bring back happy memories and artwork or prints that I can get a little lost in when I take a break from work.



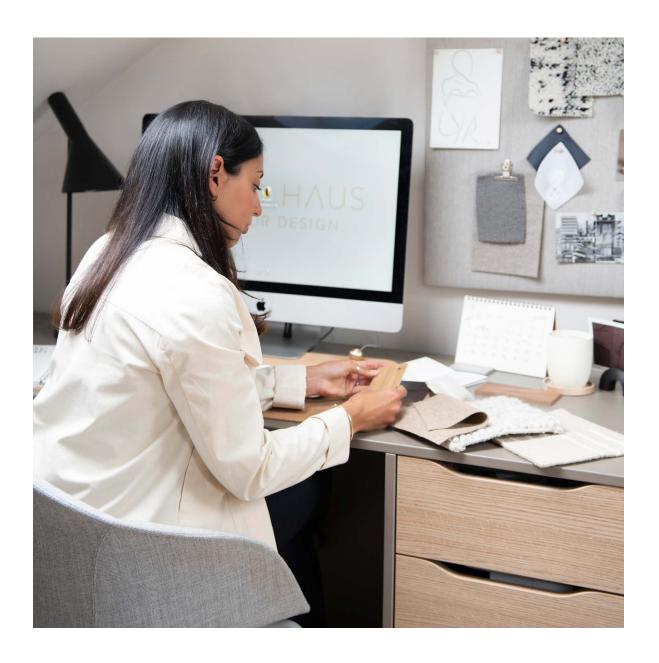


Tip 4: Keep it Clear

Try to keep your workspace as uncluttered as you can. Having visible desk space and a tidy working environment will really aid concentration.

I know the more clear and organised my desk is, the better I am at focusing and feeling overwhelmed with what I have to do.

Hello Haus 35



Whether you are staying at home or beginning to work back in an office, I hope these tips will help you feel calmer and more comfortable day to day. After all, we spend such a large percentage of our day working, so it really does need to feel like an enjoyable space to be in! 36 Sustain

IT'S OUR WORLD

We don't just recycle. We think long term. Putting sustainable strategies in place for everything we make.

by Sustain

Sustain is our dedicated recycling division. Taking care of all our old and unused products and packaging and making sure they're turned into something useful such as heating.

The world is very precious, and we take our position in it very seriously.

Sustainability is truly part of who we are, it is at the absolute core of our brand, or at least Sustain is.

Here's how we avoid landfill and recycle around 60,000 to 70,000 items of furniture a year. Set up in 2009, Sustain is our recycling centre, a business in its own right that services the whole of the furniture industry and beyond – something we're super proud of. Sustain recycles our waste and waste from the wider furniture

industry, including packaging and hard plastics.

As well as looking at ways to reduce our impact through renewable energy, alternative fuel, and energy efficiency, we do everything we can to recycle and reduce waste (over the last decade we have re-used more than 1.8million pieces of packaging).

We recycle all the predominant materials used in modern furniture and we remanufacture where possible, often gifting to charity and local communities and believe that good design is always the starting point for sustainable products.



38 Sustain

Packaging Recycling

Our returning delivery vehicles bring back packaging waste from our customers to be re-used or recycled.

In 2020 we recycled 150 tonnes of shrink wrap (LDPE), that's about 450 bales and is equivalent to about 1.1million chair bags. On average we recycle 600 tonnes of cardboard per year, which is the equivalent of saving over 10,000 trees!

On average we recycle around 20 tonnes of polystyrene per year, which is the equivalent of filling 82 of our 18 tonne wagons.

Furniture Recycling

We recycle any furniture that has been classed as redundant by our customers irrespective of who originally manufactured the item or where it has come from.

On average we recycle 4,500 tonnes of material a year, about half of that is wood. Our wood hoggers feed our biomass burners which provide all the heat and hot water for our factory sites.

We have two biomass burners: the one at our largest site supplies all the heating and hot water for the entire site using only off cuts from production; the other provides all the heating and hot water for our second site using only recycled product. Some of our recycled wood even makes its way back into our supplier's chipboard which we then use to make new furniture.

We recycled 149 tonnes of hard plastics from furniture in 2020 and we recycled around 28 tonnes of fabric and foam in 2020.





ON AVERAGE WE RECYCLE
4500 TONNES
OF MATERIAL EVERY YEAR

WE'VE RE-USED OVER

1.8M PIECES
OF PACKAGING
IN THE LAST DECADE

150 TONNES
OF SHRINKWRAP

600 TONNES
OF CARDBOARD

40 Product Focus

by Allermuir

Folk Upholstered.

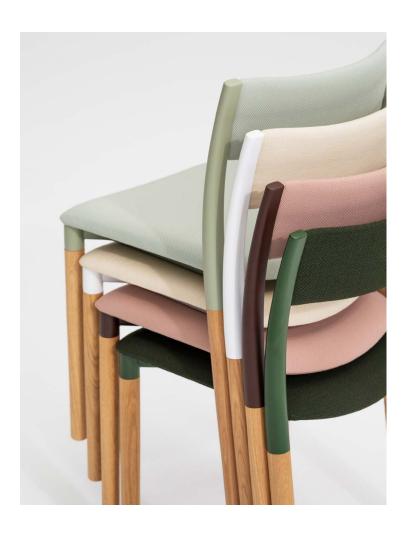




42 Product Focus

We've revisited one of our most elegant and iconic pieces of furniture and made it even more comfortable, colourful, and adaptable.

Folk, designed by PearsonLloyd in 2019, has quickly become an Allermuir icon that's perfect for dining. We always want to push our products further, so we've now given you the option of an upholstered seat and back that are available in a wide range of colours.



Folk Upholstered 43



Folk Upholstered is available as both a chair and a stool with the option to upholster both the seat and back, just the seat, or just the back. Giving you more flexibility when choosing the perfect chair for your space.

Twin this calm sense of design with softer and more colourful upholstered finishes, and you have a dining chair that doesn't just help to improve the wellbeing of your team, but a chair that can reflect your culture more efficiently and elegantly than ever before.



Download Setting Here

- 1. Conic Chair
- 2. Haven Sofa
- 5. Pailo Desk 6. Ousby
- 3. Famiglia Stool



Nest

This setting utilises the Haven headrest to create a more secluded lounge area that gives you a place to retreat from your traditional working space. The addition of a Conic lounge chair and Famiglia stool helps to give the space more informality.



Jonny Stool



Download Setting Here



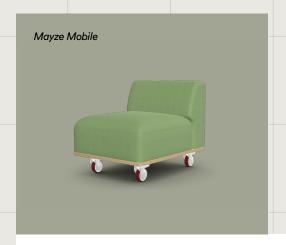
- 2. Jonny Stool
- 3. Adapt Wall



Divide

Adapt Wall is used effectively to help divide relaxation and working spaces as well as providing an elegant storage solution. The different height levels between the Play Table and Mayze Sofa help to further contrast each space and its function.





Download Setting Here

- 1. Mayze Mobile
- 2. Host Table
- 3. Crate Divide Mobile



Move

This setting is a more adaptable space that utilises Crate Divide Mobile and Mayze Mobile to create a portable space that can be reconfigured the way you need it to, when you want it to.



Haven Sofa



Download Setting Here

1. Haven Sofa
2. Talon Table
3. Famiglia Stool
4. Adapt Wall
5. Play Table
6. Circo Motion

Present

The Adapt Wall Media Unit efficiently divides an educational setting and a lounge space. Meaning you have an effective space to learn and present, as well as a cosy and comfortable space to relax and unwind.





Crate Divide

Download Setting Here



Relax

Paver is a modular sofa system which allows you to create a unique lounge area which fits your space. Combined with the informal division of Crate Divide, this space allows for more organic work and rest.



Paver Sofa

50 Opinion Piece

THE GREAT COMEBACK

Why return to the office?

Everyone is talking about the "return to the office" (RTO) and how office space should be utilised going forward. From the C-suite to the CBS Morning show to the halls of the US Congress, the pandemic has initiated a far-ranging discussion about the future of workspace. Leaders in our industry see opportunities now to change the role of the office as important as those made by many organisations made following the terrorist attacks on 9/11.

While "remote" has been better than most expected, many companies are now looking for ways to get their workers to come back to the office. As we are two years into this unexpected experiment forced on us by Covid 19, some issues have become apparent.

- Isolation has been an issue for many since the start of the pandemic but is now affecting more workers as they miss the ease of team collaboration and those impromptu meetings with colleagues from other functions that often spur new ideas.
- Productivity was initially up, The Economic Times reported that individuals were working 48 minutes more each day equating to about 2 additional workdays per month. But whilst many companies initially saw an increase in productivity, others are starting to see that increase wane over time.

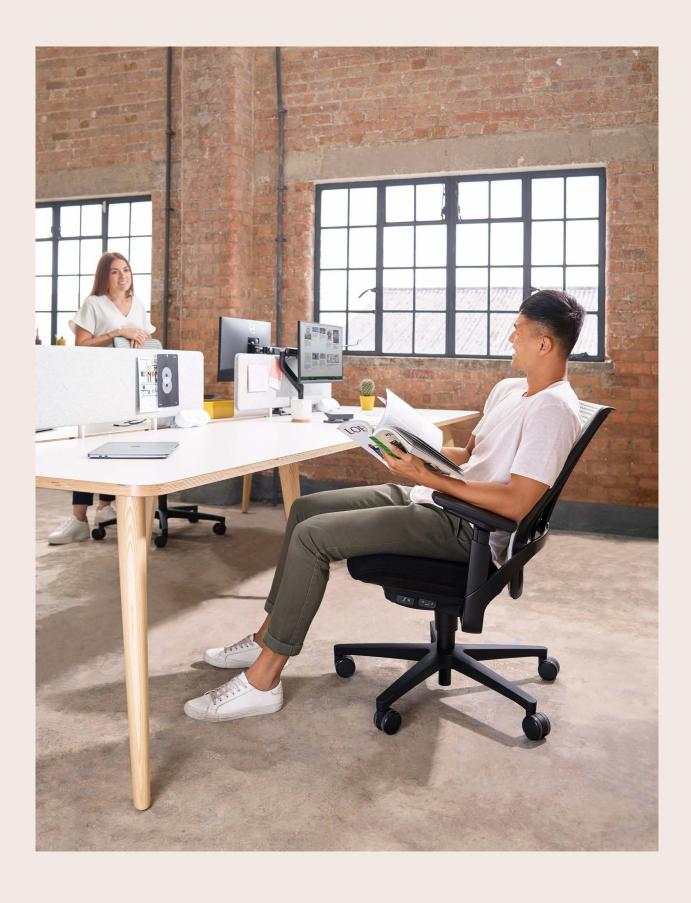
• Corporate culture is also suffering; many new employees are missing in person on boarding and a real connection to the values of their new employer. As the pandemic starts to wane and more individuals are considering changing jobs the need for direct and casual connections will be increasing.

So how can companies successfully get their employees to return to the office? It should start with communicating with the employees about why it is important to return as well as asking for their thoughts and concerns. Kay Sargent from HOK suggest not asking "do you want to come back to the office?", because the simple answer might be "no". Start by asking "what do you miss when working from home?" and then be prepared to listen and respond. Many may miss face to face interaction with their colleagues and a workspace that is not shared with the kid's homework. Others may be missing access to technology and ergonomic options that the office provided.

Hybrid work may be the answer for many companies bridging the gap between working from home or in the office full time. Developing a hybrid work program must consider both individuals' preferences as well as corporate goals. It should not be "one size fits all". Decisions about who works remotely need to be



52 Opinion Piece



Opinion Piece 53

made based upon job function, personality, and ability to support the business' needs effectively.

Technology will need to support a hybrid work model with simple ways to connect those in the office with those working remotely so that everyone is included equitably. Similarly meeting protocols should be established to support both types of workers including finalising discussions and summarising actions prior to leaving the meeting and disconnecting with remote workers.

Management will need to tailor their processes and develop tools to support remote workers equally to those in the office. "Proximity bias", the idea that employees with close physical proximity to their leaders will be perceived as better workers, needs to be recognised and managers will need training so that it is not a concern for staff or team leaders working remotely.

In a hybrid model there will be those who will be in the office full time, those splitting their time between home and the office and those who will predominately work remotely. A variety of space types will be needed to support the different needs of those working in the office. Meeting areas for collaboration and teamwork will be essential but workspace for those who need quiet space is also essential. Organising the office layout by providing locations for focus work away from the "buzzy" social spaces is critical. Spaces that encourage interactions or "collisions" will enhance collaboration and workspace that embodies the organisation's culture will enhance new employee engagement and help teams feel more connected.

The Commercial Observer is tracking the plans of many large corporations and providing a running tally of who plans to return to the office and who is not, including vaccine mandates if available. Many RTO plans put in place in mid 2021 have been updated with many companies holding on announcement of a final return date due to the Omicron variant. They also reported that while some are allowing their staff to work remotely permanently, those that choose to work in a lower cost market may see their pay decrease.

Lastly, just as we have seen many changes in the workplace over two years, we should be prepared for more change and not expect to get this "comeback" right immediately. Workspace and policies that are flexible and can be adjusted will allow companies to re-evaluate and adjust programs to support their employees and corporate missions. Listen + Test + Evaluate = Listen to your employees, test new layouts and protocols and track utilization to understand what work settings are successful and what needs further revision.



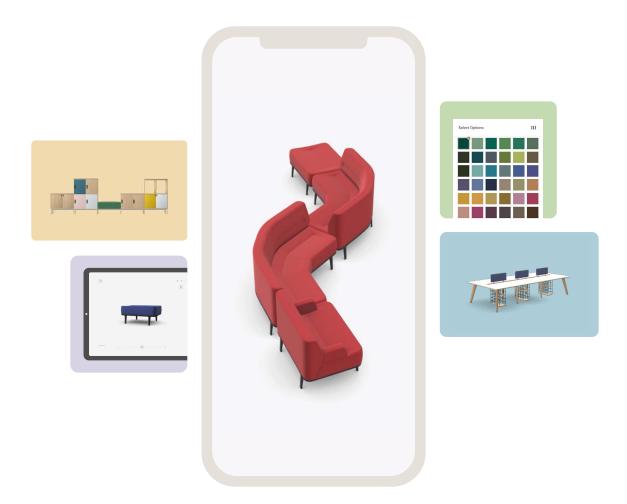
Opinion Piece written by Lisa Killaby.

As a critical thinker on strategy and planning issues, Lisa has led strategy teams at Perkins&Will and Stantec/ADD Inc. These teams provided consultative services to advance organizational and institutional goals for science and technology companies and clients in the financial service and academic sectors. She now works as an independent consultant developing employee engagement programs, researching and assisting her clients to optimize real estate and plan for the future. Lisa sat on the Board of Directors for CoreNet New England for 6 years and currently serves on the Workplace Innovation Think Tank at the Design Museum. She has presented locally and nationally at CoreNet, IFMA, NeoCon and the Harvard GSD.





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Issue Downloads

You can view and download all of the settings in this issue of Sketch here.

SKETCH

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What is Sketch?

Sketch is a forum to showcase new ideas, trends, opinions, and products from both the Senator and Allermuir brands. Two completely different brands but with one same vision to create innovative products for the workplace.

The Senator Group

Senator and Allermuir brands are part of the The Senator Group.

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