Eames Fiberglass Chairs

Charles & Ray Eames, 1950

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Vitra manufactures the Fiberglass Side Chairs and Armchairs by Charles and Ray Eames in several of the early original colours. The fibreglass shells are characterised by their lively visual appeal, which is much-prized today.
Fibreglass owes its charm to an irregular surface, appearing almost like a natural material thanks to its clearly visible fibres. For enhanced comfort, Eames Fiberglass Chairs are also available with an optional seat cushion.

Eames Fiberglass Chairs

Charles & Ray Eames, 1950

In 1948, Charles and Ray Eames participated in the ‚International Competition for Low-Cost Furniture Design' organised by the New York Museum of Modern Art, entering a chair with a seat shell moulded to fit the contours of the human body along with a concept for a variety of bases. Their design won second prize. However, the metal shell proved too complex and expensive to achieve successful mass production.

The couple's search for alternative materials eventually led them to glass-fibre reinforced polyester resin, which until then had been primarily restricted to military applications such as aircraft radomes and cockpit covers. The Eameses recognised and fully exploited the advantages of fibreglass: mouldability, rigidity and suitability for industrial manufacturing methods. With this material, which was previously unknown in the furniture industry, they successfully developed the moulded seat shells for mass production: the Fiberglass Chair was born. Its organically shaped, one-piece shell proved to be a much-admired innovation at a time when chairs typically consisted of a seat and backrest. Fibreglass offered the added advantage of pleasant tactile qualities and a perfectly moulded form for optimal comfort.

Charles and Ray developed a striking series of individual bases that could be freely combined with these shells – such as the Eiffel Tower version made of welded steel wire or the wooden base reinforced with metal struts. This combination of revolutionary seat shells and innovative bases gave the chair family the iconic traits that are still instantly recognisable today.

Charles and Ray attached great importance to the use of colours – as fibreglass had previously only existed in a colourless version. They consequently spent many days in the factory, mixing hues for countless prototypes in their efforts to create colours that best accentuated the organic shape of both shell forms – with and without armrests – in a range of coordinated shades. The first colours developed by the Eameses were greige (a mix of grey and beige), elephant hide grey (to which Charles was referring when he said ‚What I really want is a black with feeling') and the slightly transparent tone parchment. Colours such as sea foam green, yellow, ochre and red followed shortly after in the very early days of production.

The Fiberglass Chairs were launched on the market in 1950, introducing a new furniture typology that has since become widespread: the multifunctional chair whose shell can be combined with a variety of bases to serve different purposes. In response to the enormous popularity of the chair, the choice of bases and colours was subsequently expanded. Over the course of the following decades, the Fiberglass Chairs became one of the best known furniture designs of the twentieth century.

The Eames Fiberglass Chairs are available alongside the Eames Plastic Chairs with polypropylene shells. Together the two chair groups form an extensive family, enabling countless variations of the classic Eames design, with a suitable version for almost every taste and purpose.

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Eames Fiberglass Chair

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Eames Fiberglass Armchair
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Rod Base

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Eames Fiberglass Armchair
DAR

Eames Fiberglass Side Chair
LSR

Eames Fiberglass Armchair
LAR

Eames Fiberglass Armchair
RAR

X-Tube Base

Eames Fiberglass Side Chair
DSX

Eames Fiberglass Armchair
DAX

Eames Fiberglass Chair
Stool Medium

Eames Fiberglass Chair
Stool High

La Fonda Base

Eames Fiberglass Side Chair
DSL

Eames Fiberglass Armchair
DAL

EAMES FIBERGLASS CHAIR

vitra.

Dining at home – or eating out
The Fiberglass Chairs are exceptionally robust and durable. This classic design is not only ideally suited for home dining rooms, but can also be used in upscale restaurants, canteens and cafeterias.

- **Seat shell:** dyed-through, glass-fibre reinforced polyester (fibreglass). Just like the earliest models, today's fibreglass shells are also slightly transparent in some colours.
  Fiberglass Chairs available with seat cushion (screwed to the shell).

Materials DAW
- **Base:** non-stackable wooden base in various shades of maple or honey-toned ash, stained and lacquered finish. Steel rod cross struts in basic dark. (DAW = Dining Height Armchair Wood Base)

Materials DSW
- **Base:** non-stackable wooden base in various shades of maple or honey-toned ash, stained and lacquered finish. Steel rod cross struts in basic dark. (DSW = Dining Height Side Chair Wood Base)

Materials DAR
- **Base:** non-stacking four-legged wire base with cross struts. (DAR = Dining Height Armchair Rod Base)

Materials DSL
- **Base:** La Fonda base in polished die-cast aluminium. (DSL = Dining Height Side Chair La Fonda Base)

Materials DSR
- **Base:** non-stacking four-legged wire base with cross struts. (DSR = Dining Height Side Chair Rod Base)

Materials DAX
- **Base:** non-stacking four-legged tubular steel base. (DAX = Dining Height Armchair X-Base)

Materials DSX
- **Base:** non-stacking four-legged tubular steel base. (DSX = Dining Height Side Chair X-Base)

Materials DAL
- **Base:** La Fonda base in die-cast aluminium, polished or powder-coated finish. (DAL = Dining Height Armchair La Fonda Base)

DAW

DSW

DAR

DSL

DSX

DAL

Living
The iconic RAR (Rocking Armchair Rod Base) and LAR (Lounge Height Armchair Rod Base) in fibreglass are compact but expressive lounge chairs.

- **Seat shell:** dyed-through, glass-fibre reinforced polyester (fibreglass). Just like the earliest models, today's fibreglass shells are also slightly transparent in some colours. Fiberglass Chairs available with seat cushion (screwed to the shell).

Materials RAR
- **RAR base:** wire base with cross struts, solid maple runners. (RAR = Rocking Armchair Rod Base)
- **Origin of wood:** maple (Acer platanoides) from Western Europe and/or Poland.

Materials LAR
- **LAR base:** wire base with cross struts, chrome-plated or powder-coated finish. Seat height 256 mm. (LAR = Lounge Height Armchair, Rod Base)

Materials LSR
- **LSR Base:** wire base with cross struts, chrome-plated or powder-coated finish. Seat height 260 mm. (LSR = Lounge Height Side Chair, Rod Base)

LSR LAR RAR

The Fiberglass Chairs by Charles and Ray Eames were the very first industrially made plastic chairs. Their organically shaped seat shells are available with a variety of different bases. The four-legged base of the Eames Fiberglass Stool comes in a choice of two heights: medium for standard kitchen counters and high for standing-height tables. The base is equipped with a footrest and has a black powder-coated or chrome-plated finish.

Materials Fiberglass Stool High
- **Base:** tubular steel, chrome-plated or powder-coated, non-stackable. Height of seat front edge: 820 mm; ideal for use at counters and tables 110 to 115 cm in height (without seat cushion). The powder-coated version may show signs of abrasion on the footrest due to the anti-slip coating.

Materials Fiberglass Stool Medium
- **Base:** tubular steel, chrome-plated or powder-coated, non-stackable. Height of seat front edge: 700 mm; ideal for use at counters and tables 95 to 100 cm in height (without seat cushion). The powder-coated version may show signs of abrasion on the footrest due to the anti-slip coating.

Stool High Stool Medium

EAMES FIBERGLASS CHAIR

Eames Fiberglass Chair with seat cushion

vitra.

Seat cushions

The Eames Fiberglass Chairs are offered with an optional seat cushion, which is securely attached to the shell with screws. Upholstery of recyclable polyurethane foam ‚V-Foam'. The cushions can be covered in Checker fabric or in the many different colours of Hopsak.

Suggested colour combinations

Countless colour combinations are available for the Eames Fiberglass Chair, with shells and seat cushions offered in a wide array of hues. Below are some suggestions for colours that harmonise particularly well with one other.

Seat cushions

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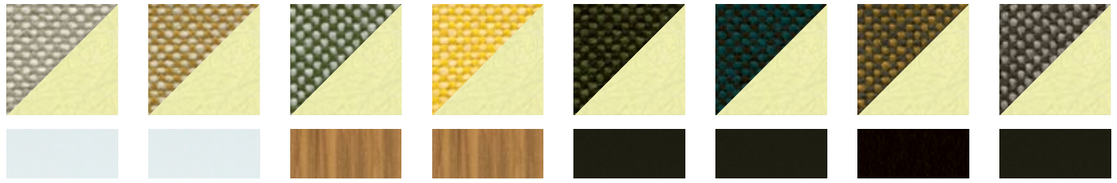
Combinations with
Eames Parchment

For seat shells: Side Chair und Armchair.

79 warm grey/ivory
18 mustard/ivory
87 ivory/forest
16 yellow/ivory
77 nero/forest
73 petrol/moor brown
19 mustard/dark grey
80 warm grey/moor brown

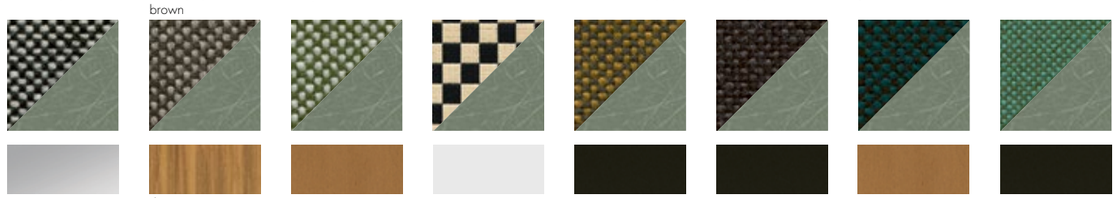


04 white powder-coated (smooth)
04 white powder-coated (smooth)
65 ash, honey tone, lacquer finish
65 ash, honey tone, lacquer finish
30 basic dark powder-coated (smooth)
30 basic dark powder-coated (smooth)
30 maple, black, lacquer finish
30 basic dark powder-coated (smooth)

Combinations with
Eames Sea Foam Green

For seat shel: Side Chair and Armchair.

23 nero/ivory
80 warm grey/moor brown
87 ivory/forest
Checker black/white
19 mustard/dark grey
24 dark grey/nero
73 petrol/moor brown
86 mint/forest



01 chrome
65 ash, honey tone, lacquer finish
02 maple, golden, lacquer finish
04 white powder-coated (smooth)
30 basic dark powder-coated (smooth)
30 basic dark powder-coated (smooth)
02 maple, golden, lacquer finish
30 basic dark powder-coated (smooth)

Seat cushions

Combinations with
Eames Raw Umber
For seat shells: Side Chair und Armchair.

23	Checker	79	69	19	77	24	80
nero/ivory	black/white	warm grey/ivory	grass green/ivory	mustard/dark grey	nero/forest	dark grey/nero	warm grey/moor brown
01	04	95	65	95	30	30	95
chrome	white powder-coated (smooth)	maple, dark, lacquer finish	ash, honey tone, lacquer finish	maple, dark, lacquer finish	maple, black, lacquer finish	basic dark powder-coated (smooth)	maple, dark, lacquer finish

Combinations with
Eames Navy Blue
For seat shell: Side Chair

74	83	85	Checker	05	82	84	73
dark blue/ivory	blue/ivory	mint/ivory	black/white	dark grey	ice blue/moor brown	blue/moor brown	petrol/moor brown
01	65	01	04	30	30	30	30
chrome	ash, honey tone, lacquer finish	chrome	white powder-coated (smooth)	basic dark powder-coated (smooth)	basic dark powder-coated (smooth)	maple, black, lacquer finish	basic dark powder-coated (smooth)

Combinations with
Eames Elephant Hide Grey
For seat shells: Side Chair und Armchair.

25	18	88	23	82	24	80	19
sea blue/ivory	mustard/ivory	cognac/ivory	nero/ivory	ice blue/moor brown	dark grey/nero	warm grey/moor brown	mustard/dark grey
04	04	65	01	30	30	30	95
white powder-coated (smooth)	white powder-coated (smooth)	ash, honey tone, lacquer finish	chrome	basic dark powder-coated (smooth)	basic dark powder-coated (smooth)	maple, black, lacquer finish	maple, dark, lacquer finish

Combinations with
Eames Classic Red
For seat shell: Side Chair

23	67	17	Checker	76	62	63	65
nero/ivory	poppy red/ivory	nude/ivory	black/white	marron/moor brown	red/moor brown	red/poppy red	coral/poppy red
01	04	65	01	95	30	30	30
chrome	white powder-coated (smooth)	ash, honey tone, lacquer finish	chrome	maple, dark, lacquer finish	basic dark powder-coated (smooth)	basic dark powder-coated (smooth)	maple, black, lacquer finish

Seat cushions

vitra.

Combinations with
Eames Red Orange
For seat shell: Side Chair

23
nero/ivory

88
cognac/ivory

79
warm grey/ivory

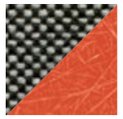
65
coral/poppy red

Checker
black/white

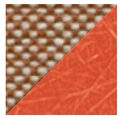
62
red/moor brown

24
dark grey/nero

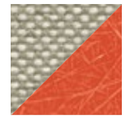
76
marron/moor brown



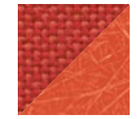
01
chrome



65
ash, honey tone, lacquer finish

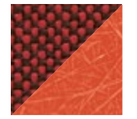


04
white powder-coated (smooth)



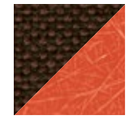
65
ash, honey tone, lacquer finish

30
maple, black, lacquer finish



30
basic dark powder-coated (smooth)

30
basic dark powder-coated (smooth)



95
maple, dark, lacquer finish

Loose seat cushions: Soft Seats

vitra.

type A

type B

type C

Soft Seats

Available in three shapes, the Soft Seats by Vitra are made of a recyclable thermopressed fleece and provide soft comfort on unupholstered chairs - including outdoors with the Soft Seats Outdoor version.

Indoor:
2 mm thick recyclable polyurethane foam ‚V-Foam'. Available in 11 cover fabrics, 2 leather options and numerous colours.

Outdoor:
Available in Simmons cover fabric with a choice of 3 colours.

Please use Soft Seat type A for the armchair model and type B for the side chair.

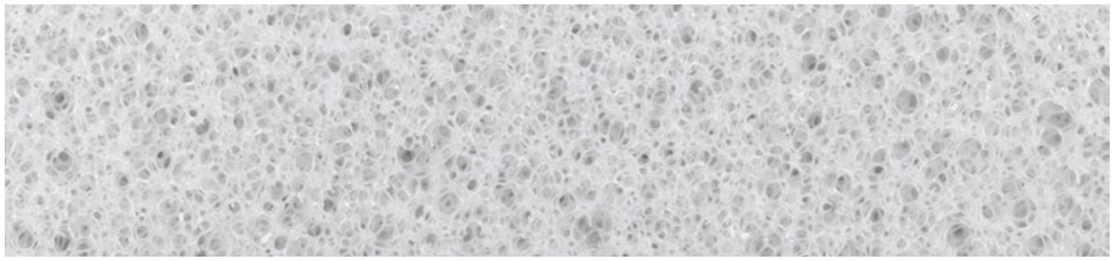
Soft Seat Outdoor

- **Upholstery:** padding made of water-permeable polyurethane foam for outdoor use, 2-cm thick.
- **Cover:** quick-drying, antibacterial outdoor fabric, resistant to light, water and mould, with zip fastener (always in black), removable. Cover can be washed at 30 degrees.

- **Outdoor use:** suitable for utilisation outdoors on a temporary or seasonal basis, following care instructions. After prolonged exposure to the elements, clean and store away in a cool, dry place to ensure lasting use and avoid any deterioration in appearance.
- **Note:** always with non-slip fabric on reverse side.

Sustainable materials

V-Foam - meltable PU foam



Developed jointly by Vitra and BASF, V-Foam is the world's first economically recyclable polyurethane foam.

Standard polyurethane foam (PU foam) is derived from fossil fuels and utilised extensively worldwide. Its recycling process is very energy-intensive and uneconomical.

V-Foam, on the other hand, can be melted, reprocessed and returned to the material cycle in its entirety for use in new products. Vitra will gradually incorporate V-Foam for all its upholstered furniture containing moulded foam from 2025.

Due to British fire safety regulations, V-Foam is not used in the UK. Fire retardants would have to be added to the formula, which would make it impossible to recycle V-Foam separately.

Recycled aluminium

Alongside steel, aluminium is the metal most frequently used in Vitra's product portfolio. The production of recycled aluminium consumes only around 5% of the energy required for the extraction and processing of primary aluminium. All Vitra products that contain aluminium therefore include a substantial proportion of recycled material, which is being continually increased wherever technically feasible. The La Fonda base, for instance, contains 95% recycled aluminium. More than 90% of Vitra's aluminium components are sourced from suppliers in Europe.

Vitra´s commitment

‘Vitra’s greatest contribution to sustainability is its products with an above-average service life, which omit everything superfluous. Our roots in modern design would allow nothing else.’

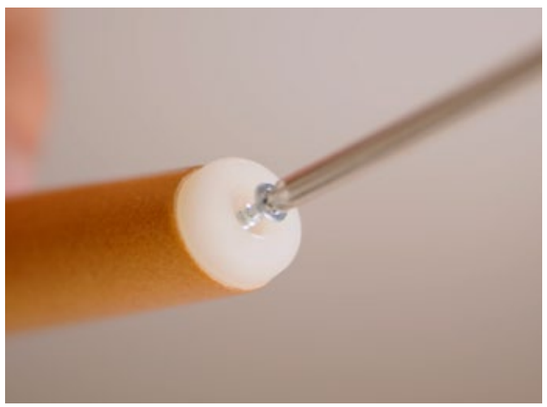
Nora Fehlbaum, CEO of Vitra

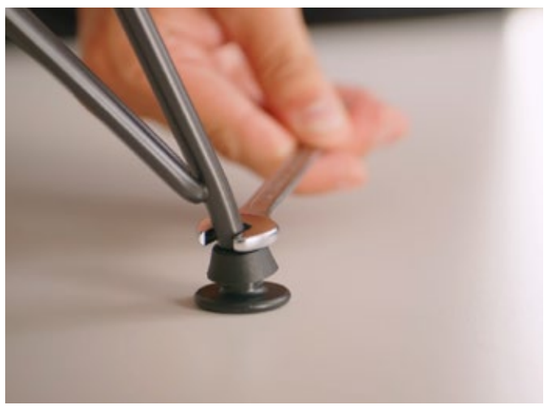
The close and long-standing collaboration with Charles and Ray Eames has shaped Vitra in significant ways. Carrying on the tradition of thinking espoused by the designer couple, the company places emphasis on the durability and longevity of products as part of its contribution to sustainable development, and avoids stylistic trends. This is most clearly exemplified by the classic designs in Vitra’s portfolio, whose lasting functionality and timeless aesthetic keep them up to date and in active use for decades. They retain their value on the secondary market, changing owners and perhaps even ending up in a collection.

To ensure that Vitra products remain in circulation for as long as possible, they are designed in a manner that facilitates their reuse and recycling. Repairs, returns and extended guarantees support their longevity. And used Vitra products are refurbished and put back into circulation in Vitra Circle Stores.

Repair

Selected spare parts that can be easily replaced are available in our online shop. These include castors and glides for a broad number of our task chairs and chairs, and suited to different floor types. The spare parts finder at vitra.com/spareparts allows effortless identification of the correct parts for your product.
The replacement process is explained step by step in a short video.





For all other replacement parts, please use Find Vitra to locate an authorized dealer near you or contact us directly using the contact form. Please be aware that for safety reasons we cannot offer all available spare parts for direct purchase and delivery to end customers, as some require replacement by trained professionals.

Take-Back-Programme

Vitra launched a Take-Back-Programme in 2019 for its family of Eames Shell Chairs: Eames Fiberglass Chairs, Eames Plastic Chairs and Eames Wire Chairs that are no longer in use can be returned to Vitra – worldwide, regardless of when they were produced. The service is intended for customers who cannot or do not wish to resell or dispose of their product themselves. The returned chairs may consist of still usable or reparable products that can be resold, or heavily damaged products that require correct recycling. If you have any products you wish to return via the Vitra Take-Back-Programme, please write to: circular@vitra.com

Vitra Product Warranty

Vitra products are designed and constructed to last as long as possible and this quality promise guides every decision in Vitra's product development and manufacturing processes.

Vitra guarantees the longevity of selected products with a limited manufacturer warranty of ten- to thirty-years as per warranty terms listed below. The Vitra Product Warranty is part of the company's commitment to sustainability.

The date of purchase may not be earlier than 1 January 2024
Product was purchased from Vitra or its authorised dealers/retailers by a private customer*
Product is listed in section 1.b of the full warranty terms and conditions
Registration within six months of purchase at my.vitra.com

*With the exception of Eames Aluminium Group & Soft Pad Group products, which can be registered by private and business end-customers.

Vitra Circle Stores

With the Circle Stores, Vitra puts sustainable management principles into practice by giving its products a second life. Since mid-October 2023, a new Circle Store has been located on the Vitra Campus in Weil am Rhein, joining existing sites in Brussels and Amsterdam. Find all Vitra Circle Stores: www.vitracircle.com.

Authenticity and Vitra's Eames Collection

When the pertinent legal and conceptual conditions are met, one can speak of a design original.

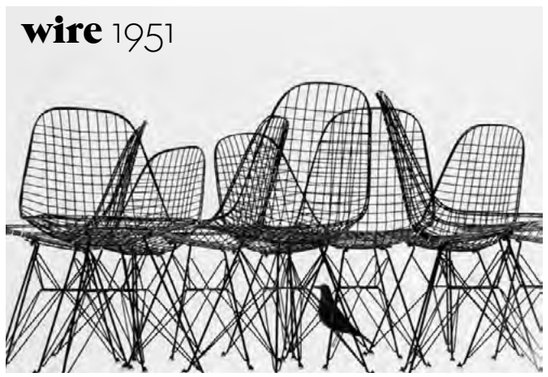
This term means that a design – independent of its production date – was fabricated by the authorised manufacturer in the true spirit of the designer. These factors guarantee its authenticity.

The status of an original is determined by the relationship between the designer (or rightful heirs) and the manufacturer of the designer's products. There is not only a legal component to this relationship, but also an immaterial one based on shared ideals and collaboration.
For any product to be designated as an 'original', the designer must have given the manufacturer the authorisation to produce it. Anyone who produces a design without legal permission is appropriating property that belongs to someone else. This applies not only to the manufacturer, but also to the consumer who buys an unlicensed product.

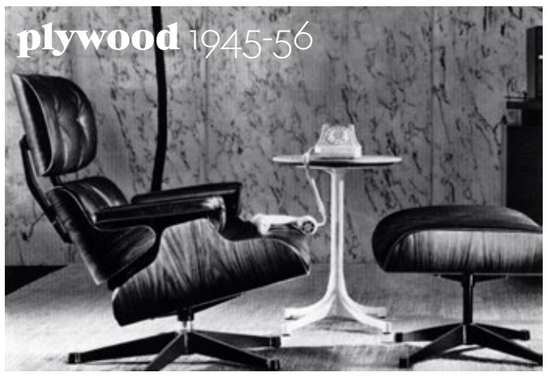
Equally important is the creative connection between the designer and manufacturer. It is evident in their close cooperation at every step of the production process. Because the plagiarist does not have this relationship, there is always uncertainty about the degree to which the copy deviates from the original idea, whether for reasons of ignorance, carelessness or cost reduction.

Rolf Fehlbaum,
Chairman Emeritus, Vitra

plastic 1948-61



wire 1951



plywood 1945-56

Authenticity

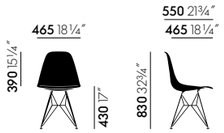
In close cooperation with the Eames Office, which represents Charles & Ray Eames' family, Vitra guarantees that each Eames Fiberglass Chair gives the exact design experience of comfort, aesthetics and quality that Charles & Ray Eames intended for the user – a feeling that only the original can offer.

Eames Demetrios

fiberglass 1948-61

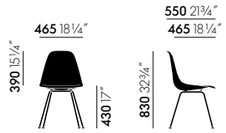
Dimensions

(in accordance with EN 1335-1:2000)

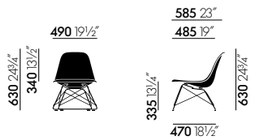


Eames Fiberglass Side Chair DSR

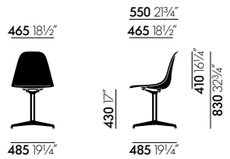
Eames Fiberglass Side Chair DSW



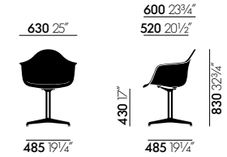
Eames Fiberglass Side Chair DSX



Eames Fiberglass Side Chair LSR



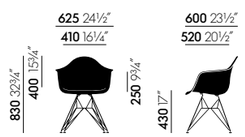
Eames Fiberglass Side Chair DSL



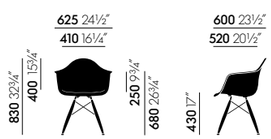
Eames Fiberglass Side Chair DAL

Eames Fiberglass Stool High

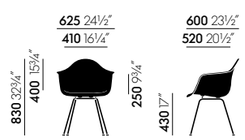
Eames Fiberglass Stool Medium



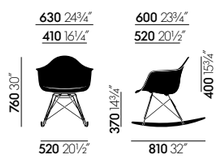
Eames Fiberglass Armchair DAR



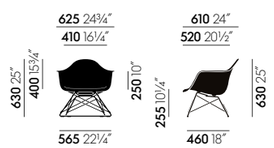
Eames Fiberglass Armchair DAW



Eames Fiberglass Armchair DAX



Eames Fiberglass Armchair RAR



Eames Fiberglass Armchair LAR

Colours and materials

05
Eames Sea Foam Green

Fibreglass

Fibreglass is a very robust and durable fibre composite made of polyester resin and glass fibres. The glass fibres visible in the plastic lend it a lively surface texture with a lustrous reflection and pleasant tactile qualities. This so-called 'fibreprint' may not only vary between different products but can also be a distinguishing characteristic of individual models of the same product. These tiny irregularities and distinctive features are what make each object a unique piece.

When manufacturing fibreglass, Vitra uses materials from Central Europe to avoid long transport distances.

06
Eames Raw Umber

05
Eames Sea Foam Green

03
Eames Red Orange

04
Eames Elephant Hide Grey

02
Eames Navy Blue

09
Eames Classic Red

01
Eames Parch-ment

Seat shell (Eames Fiberglass Side Chair)

06
Eames Raw Umber

04
Eames Elephant Hide Grey

05
Eames Sea Foam Green

01
Eames Parch-ment

Seat shell (Eames Fiberglass Armchair)

01
chrome

Metal

Vitra most frequently uses aluminium and steel for metal components. Since 94% less energy is required to produce recycled aluminium in comparison to primary aluminium, Vitra utilises aluminium consisting of 95% recycled material whenever possible.
Depending on the product, metal surfaces are either powder-coated, chrome-plated, polished, galvanised, lacquered or blasted. A smooth or textured powder-coated finish provides colour and surface protection.

01
chrome

04
white powder-coated (smooth)

30
basic dark powder-coated (smooth)

Base DSR, DSX, LSR
Base DAR, DAX, LAR
Base DAL, DSL
Wire base RAR

65
ash, honey tone, lacquer finish

Solid Wood

Wood is characterised by variations in grain, texture and colour, making each wooden furnishing a unique object. Vitra has strict quality standards for the woods selected for its products and uses wood from several trees for the manufacture of a single furniture object made of solid wood. As a result, every piece has a lively and distinctive appearance.
The solid woods used by Vitra are mainly sourced in Europe and have an oiled or lacquered finish, depending on their application. Exposure to light will alter the colour of wood over time.

65
ash, honey tone, lacquer finish

02
maple, golden, lacquer finish

95
maple, dark, lacquer finish

30
maple, black, lacquer finish

Base DAW

Cover materials
Hopsak Medium use, F60

Hopsak is an expressive, flat plain-weave fabric made of polyamide. The duotone colours offer a multitude of design possibilities in high-contrast, brightly hued or subtle combinations of warp and weft threads. Highly durable and robust, Hopsak can be used in private interiors as well as public areas.

Hopsak is available in 35 colours.

Material	100% polyamide
Weight	550 g/m² (16.2 oz/y²)
Width	127 cm +/- 2 cm (50")
Abrasion resistance	200,000 Martindale
Fastness to light	Type 6
Pilling	Grade 4–5
Fastness to rubbing	Grade 4–5 dry and wet

16 yellow/ivory
71 yellow/pastel green
69 grass green/ivory
70 grass green/forest
86 mint/forest
20 green/ivory
87 ivory/forest
80 warm grey/moor brown
23 nero/ivory

85 mint/ivory
81 ice blue/ivory
83 blue/ivory
84 blue/moor brown
22 sea blue/dark grey
73 petrol/moor brown
75 dark blue/moor brown
77 nero/forest
82 ice blue/moor brown
25 sea blue/ivory
74 dark blue/ivory

79 warm grey/ivory
17 nude/ivory
88 cognac/ivory
18 mustard/ivory
19 mustard/dark grey
05 dark grey
24 dark grey/nero
66 nero

67 poppy red/ivory
68 pink/poppy red
65 coral/poppy red
63 red/poppy red
96 red/cognac
62 red/moor brown
76 marron/moor brown

Checker Residential use, F200

The soft double weave fabric, with a high percentage of cotton, demonstrates exceptional purity of colour and its geometric pattern lends a striking note to any environment.

Material	23% polyester, 77% cotton
Weight	467 g/m² (13.8 oz/y²)
Width	140 cm (55″)
Abrasion resistance	20,000 Martindale
Fastness to light	Type 6
Pilling	Grade 4–5
Fastness to rubbing	Grade 4–5 dry and wet

01
black/white