

Design Within Reach presents the third year of Furnishing Utopia as the collective opens up a new dialogue intended to transcend Shaker aesthetics. 26 international design studios were asked to explore the virtues of focused work and cleanliness that the Shakers deeply regarded as a path to enlightenment. This new installment features a curation of 50+ objects that explore a more virtuous way of living through ritualizing the everyday mundane, while engaging designers and viewers in a dialogue to reexamine our concepts of chores and the tools related to them. More broadly, Hands to Work proposes a renewed sense of engagement between humans, objects and their environment by activating viewers' senses and contemporary attitudes toward everyday chores.

Furnishing Utopia is a design collective led by Studio Gorm, Ladies & Gentlemen Studio and Christopher Specce, as well as an ongoing investigation into how designed objects can engage with the pursuit of a more perfect way of life, in ways big and small.

EXHIBITION DATES:
May 19–22

EXHIBITION LOCATION:
158 Mercer St.
New York, NY 10012

EXHIBITION HOURS:
Saturday–Sunday
10am–6pm
Monday–Tuesday
9am–5pm

DESIGN WITHIN REACH PRESENTS

Hands to Work

FURNISHING UTOPIA 3.0

Introduction

Words by Christopher Specce

THE UTOPIAN IDEAL

Utopian experiments speculate a holistic integration of society to create a perfect world. Many attempts have been made to realize this dream within distinct communities, gathering under a banner of government, religion, economics and many other organizing belief structures. One of the most successful attempts to realize a utopian ideal was the Shakers. It could be argued that the sect's success was in part related to their pursuit of perfection connecting the spiritual with the practical. Their aspiration to create heaven on earth rested on a foundation of clean floors, well-tended gardens and devotional work – each chore putting them closer to their God.

CHORES

It takes persistent, diligent effort to maintain the intended condition of the

constructed world. Throughout human history, countless solutions have been proposed to relieve the pains associated with these tasks. Just as the earliest forms of brushes and brooms are the predecessors of the elaborate vacuum cleaners of today, humanity has created and reimagined these types of utilitarian objects in order to provoke or adapt to changes in how we live, technological advances and broader cultural shifts.

Chores are conventionally understood as tedious, burdensome work to be avoided, but these activities can also have an association with mindful rituals that have a zen-like potential for clearing one's mind, connecting with one's body and confronting the indifference of the natural world. Sweeping a floor clean or chopping and stacking firewood can represent both compulsory, onerous drudgery and an authentic, meditative experience. For designers, the objects that enable effective performance of chores can be an opportunity to engage with either the easing of burdens or the potential of a ritualistic practice, or both, while celebrating beauty through utilitarian objects.

**“Clean your room well,
for good spirits will not
live where there is dirt.”**

— Ann Lee

02	Introduction
04	Christopher Specce
06	Daniel Castillo
08	Earnest Studio
10	Fin
12	Gabriel Tan
14	Hallgeir Homstvedt
16	Henry Julier
18	Jamie Wolfond
20	Jonah Takagi
22	Ladies & Gentlemen Studio
24	MSDS Studio
26	Norm Architects
28	Observatory
30	Photos
36	Office for Design
38	Pat Kim
40	Pete Oyler
42	Shigeki Fujishiro
44	Sophie Lou Jacobsen
46	Stine Aas
48	Studio Gorm
50	Studio Greiling
52	Studio Tolvanen
54	Tom Bonamici
56	Uhnger
58	Vera & Kyte
60	Zoë Mowat
62	Colophon

Christopher Specce

Christopher Specce is a designer and teacher working in Providence, Rhode Island. His practice spans from commercially oriented product design to creating experimental, one-of-a-kind objects. In addition to serving as associate professor in the Department of Furniture Design at Rhode Island School of Design, his professional experiences include projects across the furniture and consumer product industries. With a belief that designed objects make an important contribution to culture, Specce explores the various ways designers can imbue objects with meaning.



Providence, RI
christopherspecce.com

- 1 **ULTRA SERIES: BROOM, MOP, DUSTER**
Broom: Carbon fiber, broom corn, twine.
54" x 3" x 10"
Mop: Carbon fiber, cotton yarn, twine.
65" x 4"
Duster: Carbon fiber, ostrich feathers.
14" x 10"

Traditional household cleaning tools – a corn broom, a cotton mop and a feather duster – are upgraded with extraordinarily lightweight and durable carbon fiber handles. Contrasting with the typical, natural materials associated with these tools, the highly engineered synthetic carbon fiber hints at the potential

for enhanced performance. However, users might be disappointed (or perhaps relieved) to find these tools to be quite ordinary to use.

- 2 **HANDY SHOVEL**
Oak, polyethylene.
18" x 3" x 45"

The Handy Shovel offers familiar utility in a familiar package. Following in the reliable pattern of common mass-produced models, the iconic qualities of a snow shovel are preserved while the details and form are refined, encouraging pride in one's work, appreciation for the tool and the potential to experience beauty while shoveling snow.



Daniel Castillo

Daniel Castillo is a New York-based industrial designer and a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design. Castillo's projects often start as a reaction to observing an object's peculiar use or construction. These observations are documented through forthright photographs. He develops his designs through comprehensive drawings and full-scale prototypes, each one yielding a logic to the design. Castillo works with industry to refine and question ubiquitous objects.



New York, NY
daniel-castillo.com

1 VARIOUS HANDLES

Brass.
Various dimensions

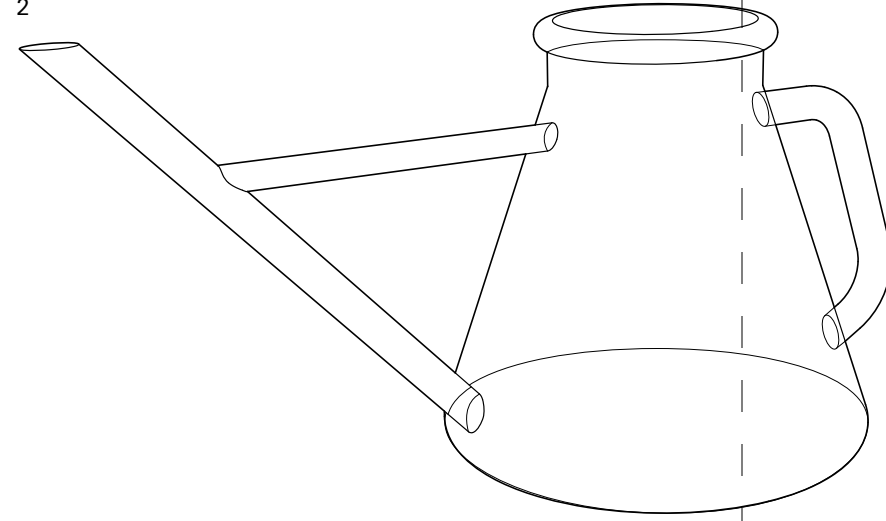
Handles enrich our environment and increase accessibility. The Shakers went to great lengths to alter and improve their landscape, in part by grading land and paving side-walks. This series of handles follows this spirit of refinement and attentiveness.

2 GLASS WATERING CAN

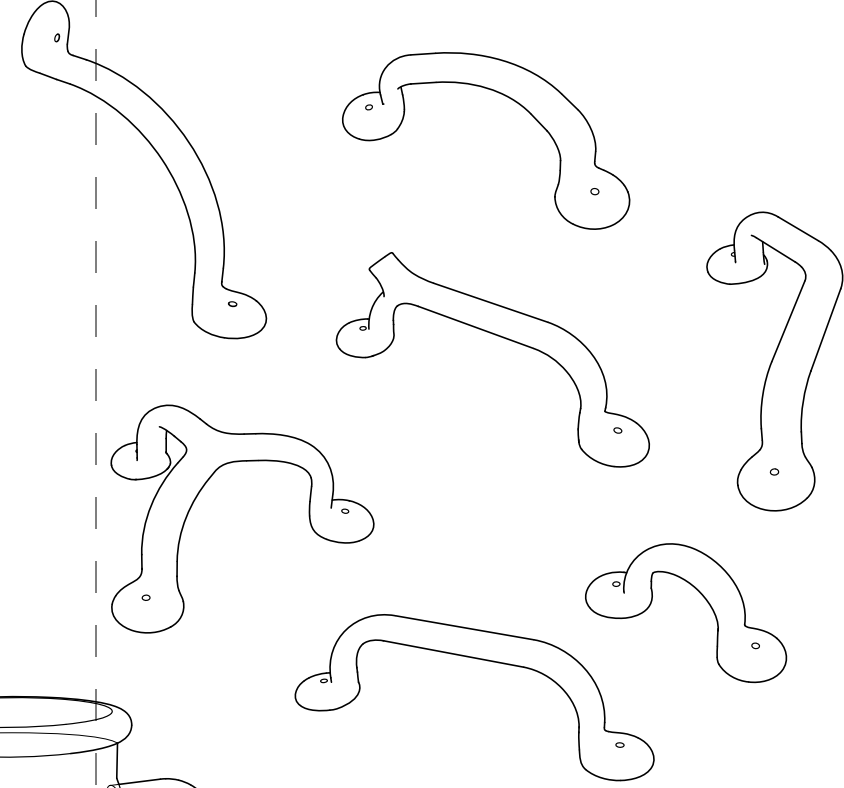
Glass.
13" x 6.25" x 6.5"

It is not uncommon for other vessels to be used to water plants, yet the precise spout of a watering can makes it superior. The transparency of the Glass Watering Can allows the user to see the waterline, allowing plants to be watered in a focused and precise manner.

2



1



Earnest Studio

Earnest Studio was founded by American-born, Netherlands-based designer Rachel Griffin. Its work applies themes of modularity and multiplicity to a spectrum of projects—ranging from theory to serial productions—following a fascination for simple, flexible structures with a forthright attitude toward material.

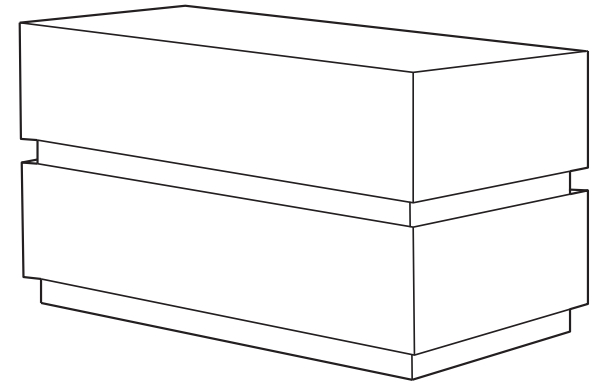
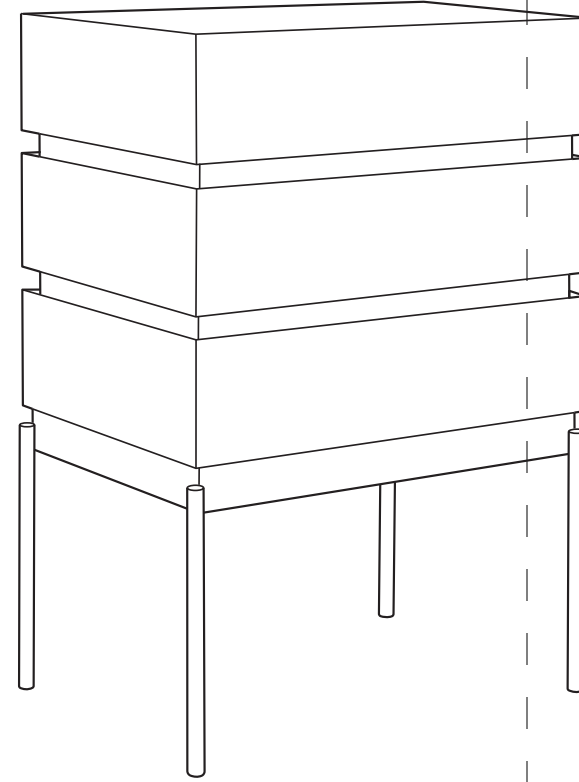


Rachel Griffin
Rotterdam, Netherlands
earnestly.org

RECESS MODULAR DRAWERS

Stained ash, powder-coated steel.
21" x 14" x 42"

A system of modular drawers that takes inspiration from Shaker chests and built-ins. Each drawer is a separate unit that can be used individually, in stacks, side-by-side and/or on legs, with nesting forms holding the various elements in position. The repetition of a single base component allows for economy both in production and in use, while the shallow proportion is ideal for tidying and building out a wide variety of compositions.



Fin

Darin Montgomery is a furniture and product designer living in Seattle, Washington. He founded urbancase in 2008, centered on the philosophy that objects and spaces should contribute to a simpler, pared-back lifestyle. Projects range from residential and commercial furniture to product design. Clients include Nike, Starbucks and Teavana. In 2016, urbancase partnered with Seattle-based Graypants to develop a contract and hospitality furniture line. Montgomery introduced Fin, a residential furniture and home product design firm, in 2017.



Darin Montgomery
Seattle, WA
findesignshop.com

1
HERB CHOPPER AND CUTTING BOARD
Blade:
Stainless steel.
4.5" x 4.25" x .5"
Chopping Block:
Solid ash.
8.75" x 8" x 1.25"

The process of collecting, chopping and grinding herbs not only contributes to physical health but enhances the experience of cooking and eating. The herb chopper and cutting board are simple studies of everyday objects. The chopper is made from stainless steel and the grip is integrated into the shape of the blade, while the board, a basic chopping block, has a slot for the blade to nest in.

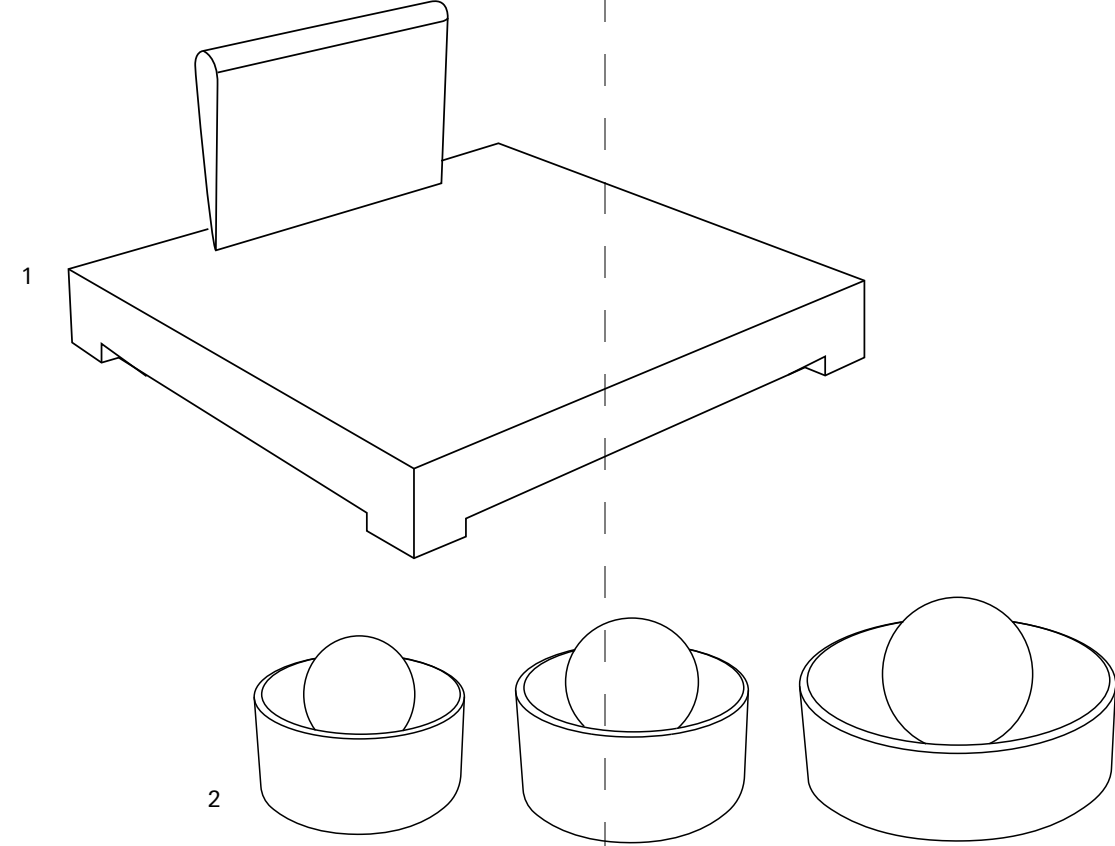
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MORTAR AND PESTLE: WALNUT, CONCRETE, CORIAN

WALNUT
Mortar: Solid walnut.
6.25" x 2"
Pestle: Obsidian.
2"

CONCRETE
Mortar: Food-safe concrete.
4.5" x 2"
Pestle: Obsidian.
2.5"

CORIAN
Mortar: Corian.
3.75" x 1.75"
Pestle: Obsidian.
2"

The Mortar and Pestle collection consists of three designs. The wood mortar was designed for use with fresh herbs. Rather than crushing leaves, rolling the sphere against the smooth wood surface presses oils from the plant and releases more of their natural fragrance. The concrete and Corian mortars are to be used with dried herbs and spices. The abrasive properties of the concrete as well as the spiral grooves in the Corian help break down herbs as the pestle is rolled back and forth. Obsidian was chosen for the pestle because it's a dissimilar material from all three mortars and will reduce wear.



Gabriel Tan

Gabriel Tan is a designer who enjoys working across the boundaries of craft, culture and technology. Often exploring new ways to interpret luxury and the breaking of archetypes, Gabriel Tan Studio works on product design and creative direction for international clients including The Warehouse Hotel, Design Within Reach, Conran, Ishinomaki Lab and Ariake. As a co-founder of the design collective Outofstock, he has designed furniture and products for Ligne Roset, Ekobo, Industry Plus and Bla Station.



Singapore
gabriel-tan.com

1 CLOTHES PEG

Ash, steel.
1.5" x 3.0" x 0.6"

Invented by the Shaker community in the 1700s, clothes pegs acted as an essential tool to keep one's laundry firmly attached to the drying line. The more commonly known clothes peg design, two interlocking prongs wedged between a small spring, was not developed until more than a century later. To this day the clothes peg design has not been iterated on except to include plastic in its materials list. This clothes peg's modified form enhances its original singular purpose by adding an additional function in that it can be used to display pictures, acting as an informal frame.

2 COMPASS FOLDING CHAIR

Ash.
17" x 19" x 31"

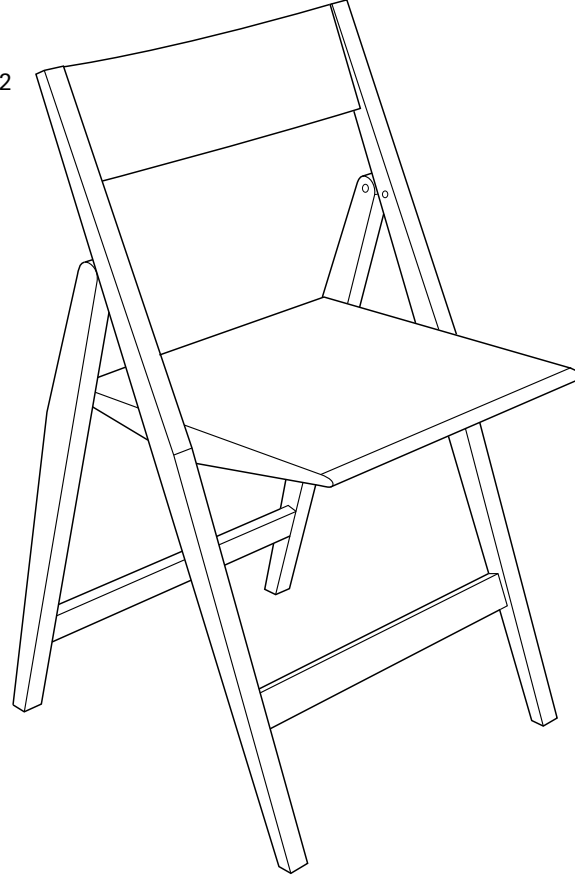
A folding chair originates from the necessity for impermanent seating for special occasions. While impermanence often gets a bad name in design, when related to experiences it takes on a more nuanced meaning. Folding chairs are often used for some of the most significant moments in life, whether that be a graduation or wedding, where everyone can come together to help pack up the space and savor a few more moments together. The concept was to design a neat, comfortable folding chair that is easy to deploy and beautiful in its folded state so that it can be hung or displayed.

3 TOAST TONG

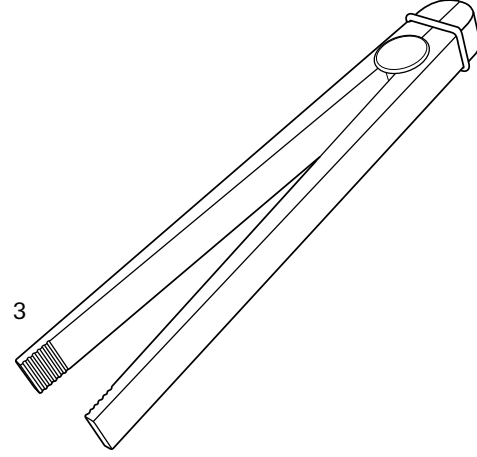
Ash, steel.
1.4" x 6.8" x 0.5"

The act of sharing a meal is well known to every culture, often equated with fond memories that rekindle the senses and encourage reminiscing of special moments with loved ones. Among the acts often unnoticed in a successful meal are the uncomplicated gesture of serving food, and tongs represent the hand when you help to serve one another. Connecting the form of a compass and the ingenuity of a simple lever, this tong is deceptively inconspicuous on any dinner table.

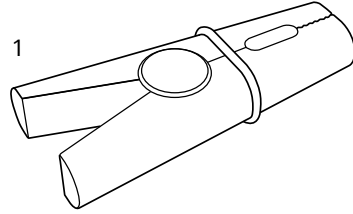
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3



1



Hallgeir Homstvedt

Hallgeir Homstvedt holds a BA in Industrial Design and honors from Newcastle University in Australia. After completing his degree in 2006, Homstvedt went on to work for the pioneering design studio Norway Says before opening his own studio in 2009. Homstvedt has exhibited his work in London, Tokyo, Oslo, New York and Milan and has since received a number of design awards. Working in fields of furniture, interior and product design, Homstvedt makes products that are tactile, interactive and that engage the observer's curiosity. Among his clients are renowned Norwegian and international furniture manufacturers including Hem, Muuto, L.K. Hjelle and Established & Sons.

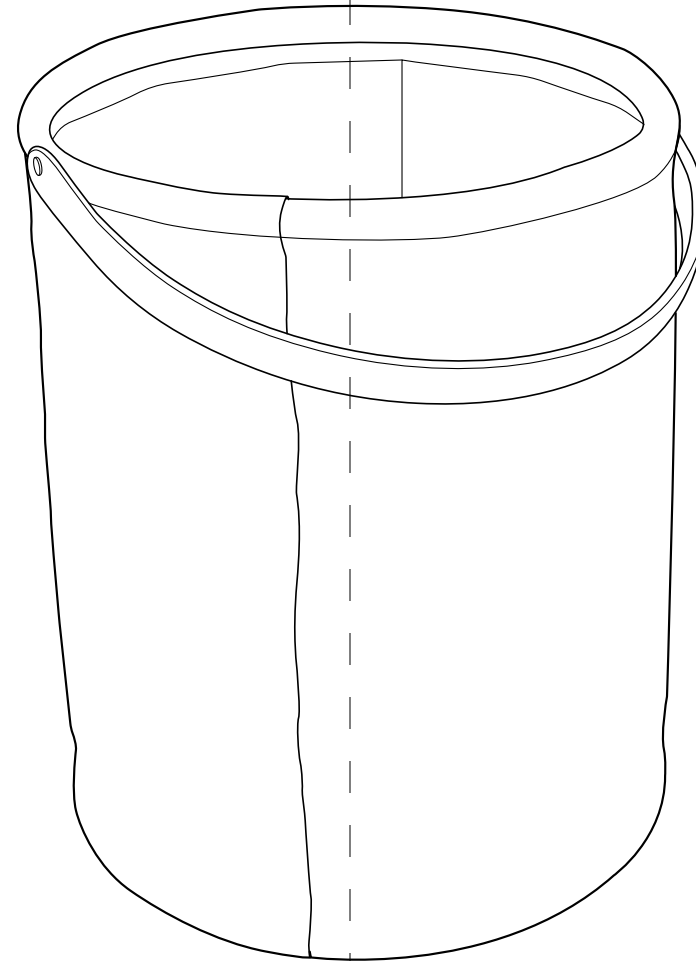


Oslo, Norway
hallgeirhomstvedt.com

CORK BUCKET

Cork, walnut or oak.
10.5" x 10.5" x 13"

The one chore I do most frequently is tidying the apartment in the form of putting things back where they belong – laundry, dishes, sorting recycling into different bins, etc. Having the proper tools, like a dedicated paper bin in the office, makes these chores that much more enjoyable. I was drawn to the cork fabric material because of its natural look and its properties. To better control the shape of the paper bin, wooden splines were inserted in the top and bottom, giving it a perfectly round footprint, and while seen from the side it has a softer and more textile character. The handle is a reference to Shaker buckets and baskets.



Henry Julier

Henry Julier is an industrial designer based in New York City. His work is guided by a strong belief in design as a problem-solving tool, as a way of recognizing and forming relationships between ideas and reality, and as a method for improving the connections between people and the products they use.



Brooklyn, NY
henryjulier.com

1 HANG UP

Aluminum and wood.
31.75" x 1.875" x 35.25"

A collaboration between Henry Julier and Pete Oylar. Their collaborative work is based in their shared appreciation for high-quality industrial design. Their work is forthright and pays particular attention to economy of material, efficient production and enduring function.

Hang Up, a wall-mounted system designed for people of all heights – from 48-inch 4-year-olds to 78-inch 40-year-olds – is a contemporary evolution of the ubiquitous Shaker peg rail. Comprised of wood elements and metal hardware, Hang Up brings things within reach via

three lengths of vertical rails, providing an array of flexible hanging options.

2

T-SHIRT FOLDER

Aluminum, felt.

Unfolded:

28.5" x 23.5" x 0.5"

Folded:

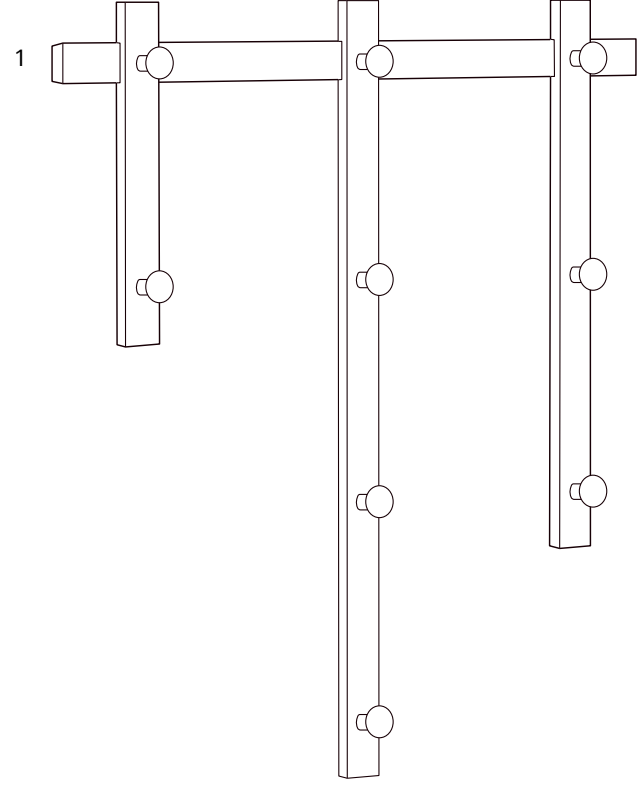
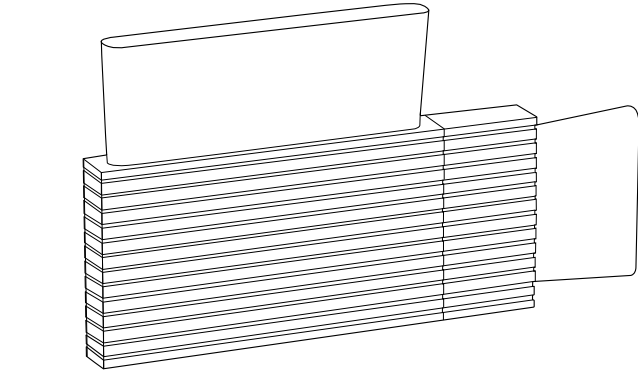
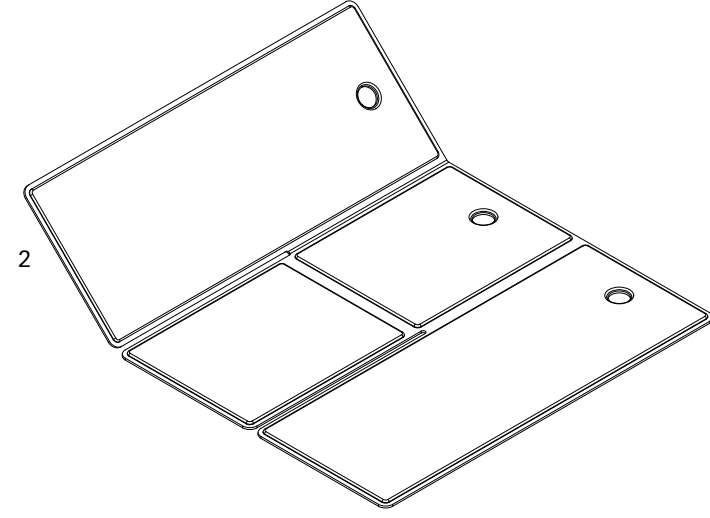
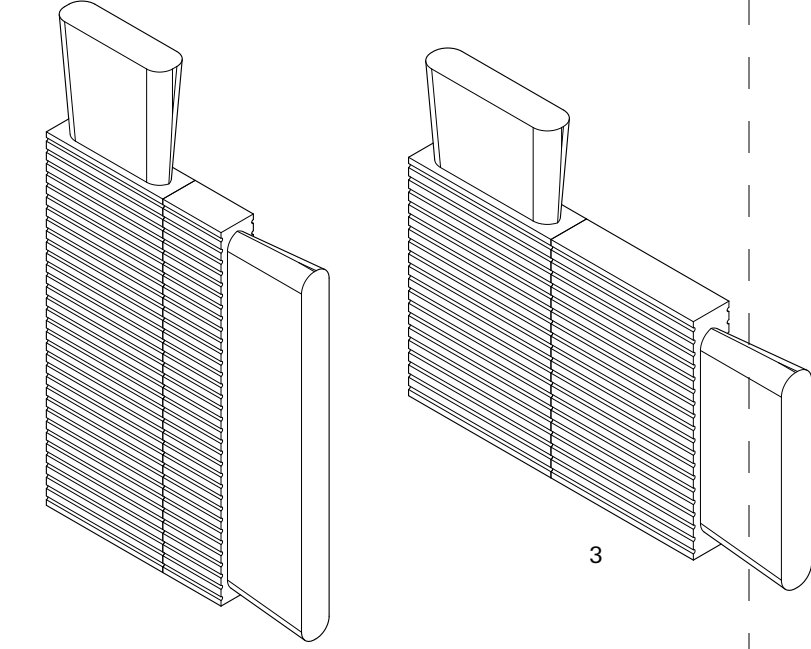
10" x 23.5" x 0.5"

An elevated version of the generic T-shirt folder. Typically made in plastic and available through commercial, T-shirt folders allow for the precise folding of garments every time. This version aims to elevate the experience through the use of felt as a backer and hinge mechanism. A hole allows the object to be hung out in the open, instead of stored away in the closet.

3 FAMILY BRUSHES

Oak, horsehair, magnets.
Various dimensions

Family Brushes allow two people to clean up together. Inspired by experiences at home with my 2-year-old daughter, each brush breaks apart into two pieces, turning a normal chore into a shared task and learning experience between users.



Jamie Wolfond

Jamie Wolfond is a Canadian designer based in Toronto and New York. Wolfond's work explores the ways in which manufacturing can influence the design process. Often centered around one material or production method, the objects Wolfond designs expose new applications for pre-existing manufacturing techniques. Wolfond founded Good Thing in 2014.

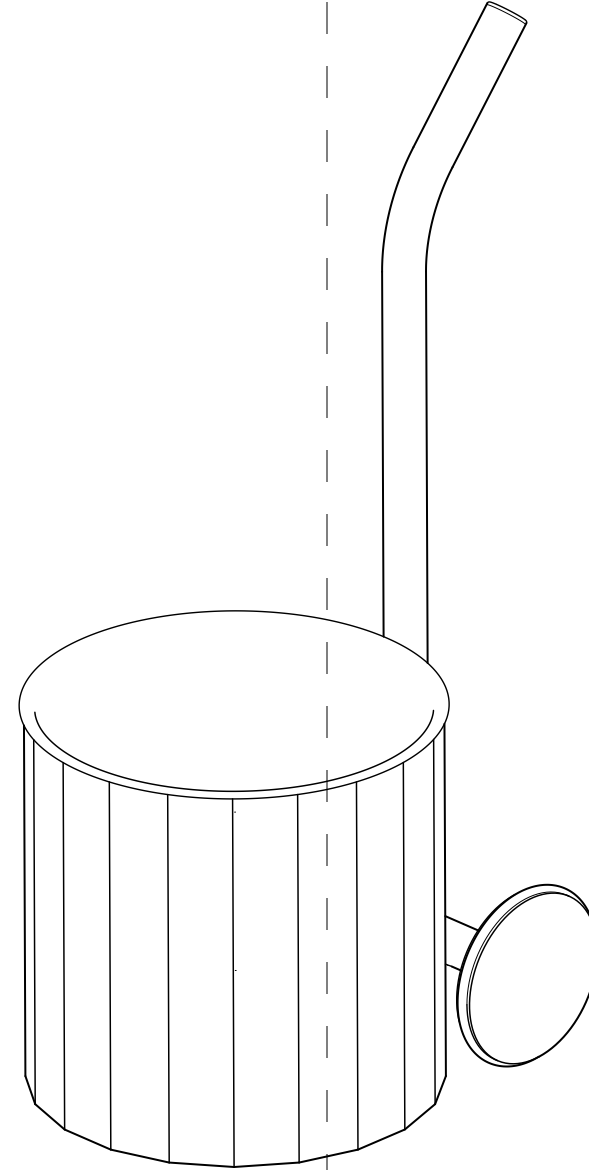


Toronto, Canada
jamiewolfond.com

WANDERING PLANTER

Aluminum, polypropylene, rubber.
14.5" x 21" x 36.5"

The design of the Wandering Planter started with a hand truck. A hand truck is a funny object because in spite of its completely utilitarian intention, its design language is more related to furniture than a hardware store tool. The object is almost always reduced to a Bauhaus-like tubular form and designed to perform a single specific function. It seemed natural to translate this already very handsome archetype for use in the domestic space. Of course, there are really only a small number of domestic chores that require the mechanical advantage that a hand truck offers, the most backbreaking of all being the moving of plants.



Jonah Takagi

Born in Tokyo and raised in New England, Jonah Takagi received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Rhode Island School of Design in 2002. For several years he designed furniture that he built in a friend's studio while also playing bass guitar, touring and recording with several indie rock bands. Takagi is the principle of Atelier Takagi, founded in 2009, and counts Hem, Roll and Hill, Kvadrat and La Chance among his clients.



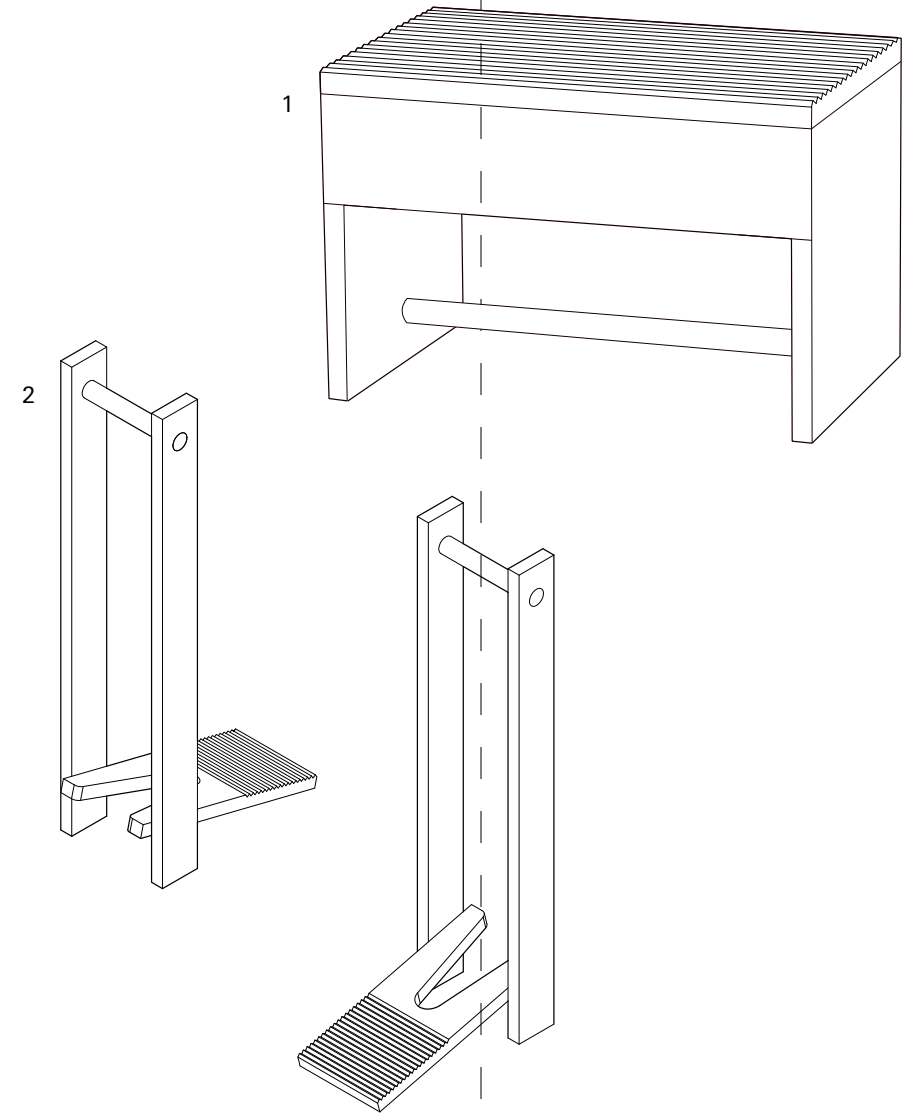
Washington, DC
ateliertakagi.com

1
STOOLBOX
Oak.
16" x 11" x 11"

Inspired by the more primitive objects scattered throughout Shaker dwellings and work-shops, the Stoolbox is a utilitarian hybrid of a step stool and a tool caddy.

2
BOOTJACK
Oak.
16" x 7" x 34"

Inspired by the more primitive objects scattered throughout Shaker dwellings and work-shops, the Bootjack is a simple tool to remove one's boots.



Ladies & Gentlemen Studio

Ladies & Gentlemen Studio is a multi-faceted design studio based in Brooklyn, NY. The studio's explorative spirit centers on the belief that thoughtfulness is driven by curiosity and wonderment. Their broad, iterative body of work ranges from designed objects to spatial experiences, each focused on the intersection of material, function and emotion. Their studio practice strives to embody a global design consciousness focused on the interconnectedness of objects, experiences and culture.



Jean Lee and Dylan Davis
Brooklyn, NY
ladiesandgentlemenstudio.com

WASTENOT SERIES

Frugality is often overlooked in consumer products, leaving the prudent to devise clever "life-hack solutions" to get the most out of what they use. Fidelity to these solutions often perpetuates negative perceptions of frugality. The Wastenot series aims to elevate the practice of getting the most out of common products.

1 WASTENOT BOTTLE HOLDER
Acrylic.
2.5" x 2.5" x 2.5"

The Wastenot Bottle Holder houses a variety of bottle sizes securely upside down, allowing every last drop to be used.

2 WASTENOT SOAP AND TRAY

Non-scented soap.
2.75" x 4" x 1.5"
Tray.
6" x 10" x 0.75"

Wastenot Soap addresses the awkward moment when a bar of soap gets too small to use by providing a surface to combine an old soap jewel with a new bar.

3 WASTENOT TUBE ROLLER
Acrylic.
0.5" x 0.5" x 3.5"

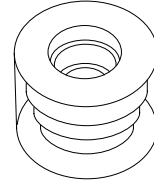
The Wastenot Tube Roller is a simple, minimal acrylic rod that helps roll out every last dollop of toothpaste.

4 SOUND BRUSHES

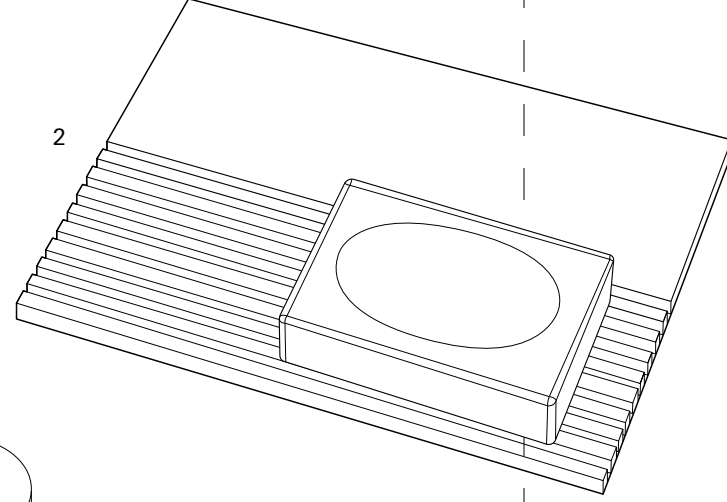
Metal, horsehair, maple wood.
Long Brush
18" x 0.5" x 2.5"
Round Brush
3" x 3" x 3"

Every tool provides sensory feedback, which we associate with the task at hand. Sound Brushes aim to heighten awareness of such cues in order to become more engaged in everyday chores. Tiny bearings embedded inside the handle of each brush embellish the action of brushing through direct auditory and haptic feedback – connecting the user to the rhythm of his actions as well as increasing the perceived effectiveness of the tool.

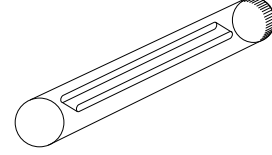
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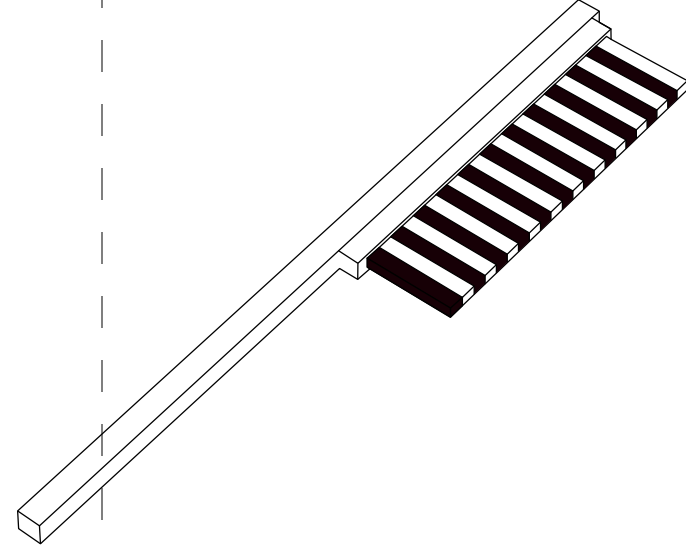
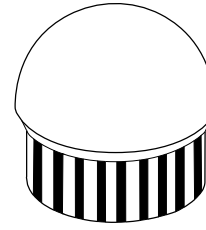
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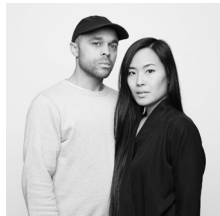


4



MSDS Studio

MSDS Studio produces design that engages contemporary culture while adhering to the abiding principles of good design and the inheritance of craftsmanship. Their work synthesizes considerations of material, form, space and brief into resolved works of interior, furniture and lighting design. This multidisciplinary informs the resourcefulness that is the hallmark of their practice.



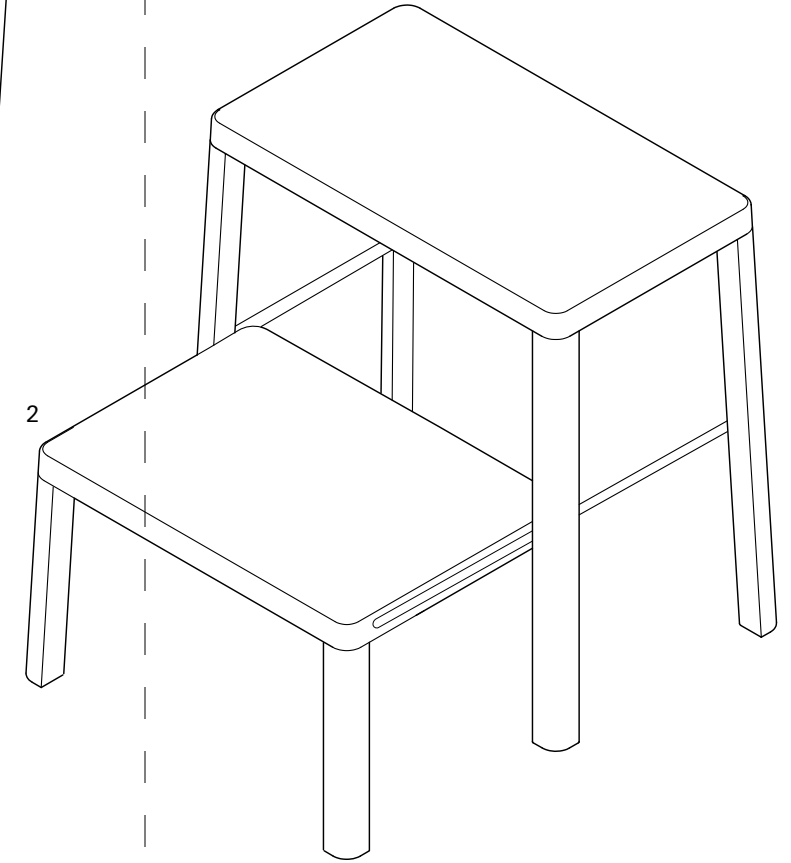
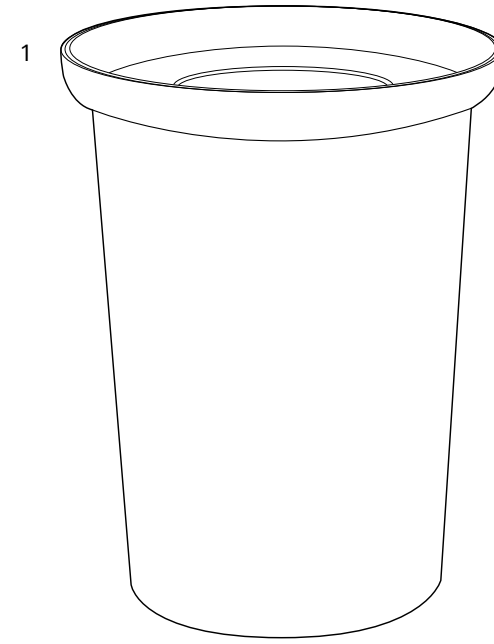
Jessica Nakanishi
and Jonathan Sabine
Toronto, Canada
msds-studio.ca

- 1
GROMMET BIN
3D SLS nylon,
aluminum, lacquer.
10.125" x 13.5"

Grommet's ring-shaped lid holds a plastic liner in place by pinching it to the body of the bin. It entirely hides the plastic bag, keeping the exterior of the piece tidy. The key to this design's functionality is that the bin liner only needs to be pinched in a few places, making relining the bin a simple and quick task.

- 2
DECENT STEP STOOL
Oak, aluminum.
2.375" x 13.5" x 19.625"

Household chores often require getting to out-of-reach places for cleaning, changing a light-bulb or accessing storage. The Decent stool serves this purpose and when not in use nests to become a two-tiered side table. It's a piece that is constantly useful and, in its ability to replace two objects, genuinely minimalist.



Norm Architects

Norm Architects was founded in 2008. Situated in the heart of Copenhagen, Norm works with residential architecture, commercial interiors, industrial design, photography, graphics and art direction. Norm makes it a virtue to focus on quality, durability and timelessness. Norm strives to cut to the bone in their designs. To find the simplest shape for a given task without forgetting the beauty of the shape and the details, in order to reach a point where there is nothing to add and nothing to take away that can make the product better



Jonas Bjerre-Poulsen, Kasper Rønn, Frederik Alexander Werner
Copenhagen, Denmark
normcph.com

UTILITY STOOLS

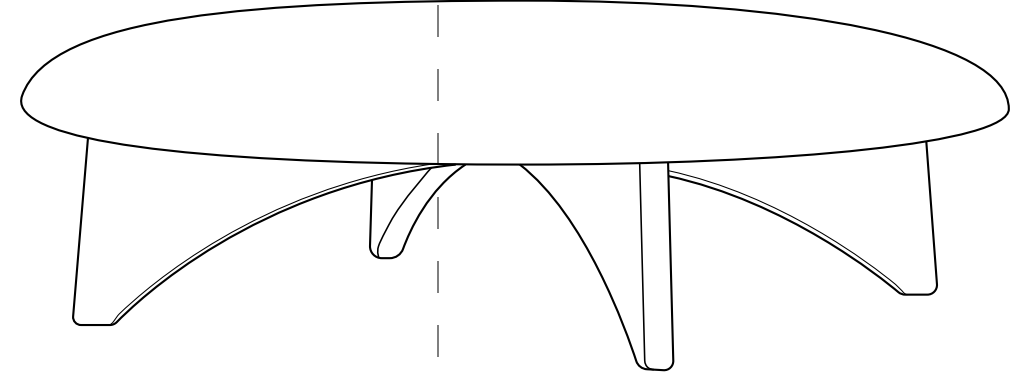
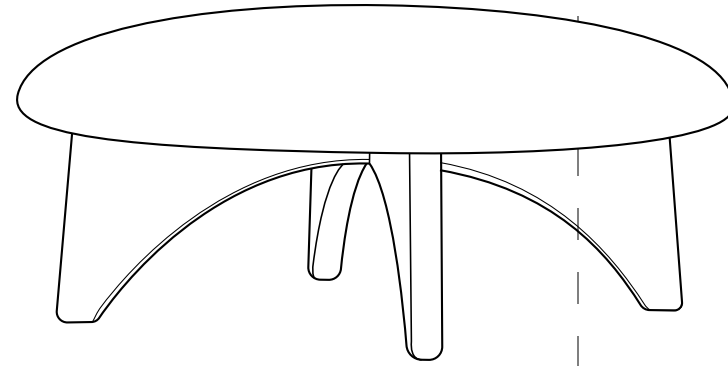
Leather, solid oak.

Small: 27.5" x 27.5" x 12"

Large: 39.5" x 39.5" x 12"

Whether cleaning, milking, spinning, knitting or repairing, a simple stool seems to have been an all-around tool for everyday chores in the lives of the Shakers. Both round and square Shaker stools have become icons of design and have been interpreted endlessly as simple contemporary design pieces all over the world. Chores can be painful and tedious, but we have tried to think of small adjustments to the Shaker stools that could make daily chores more pleasant. A simple adjustment was upholstering the seat of the stool to increase comfort. Second, we

looked into dimensions to create more space for sitting or even the possibility of two people sitting together to share chores, making knitting, spinning or any chore a more social event. We have made a hybrid of two known stool types from the Shakers, opting for a new and more contemporary look, but still balancing the design so the known typologies are recognized.



Observatory

Ayako Takase and Cutter Hutton are the creative partners behind Observatory, a product and furniture design studio. Synthesizing their individual cultural influences and design sensibilities, their work balances innovation and poetic simplicity. Since founding their studio in 2001, they've worked with such clients as Herman Miller, Keilhauer, Skyline Design and Proctor and Gamble to design thoughtful products that connect with their users. The two met as students at the Rhode Island School of Design, where both now teach in the Industrial Design and Furniture Design departments.



Ayako Takase and Cutter Hutton
Providence, RI
observatorydesign.com

1

ZOKIN RAGS

Linen, wool felt, microfiber, yarn, mop thread.
7.5" x 14"

Zokin are a type of floor-cleaning cloth typically crafted with recycled towels and fabrics that are hand-stitched with often elaborate patterns for both durability and unique identity. Zokin embody frugality and a respect for material and objects as well as the serious commitment to upkeep and chores in Japanese culture. Our Zokin Rags emphasize the elaborate craft, attention and materials applied to what ultimately is a rag used to mop floors.

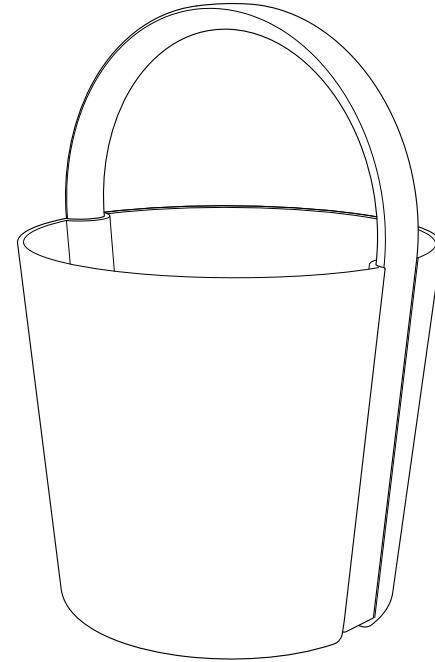
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O.K. BUCKET

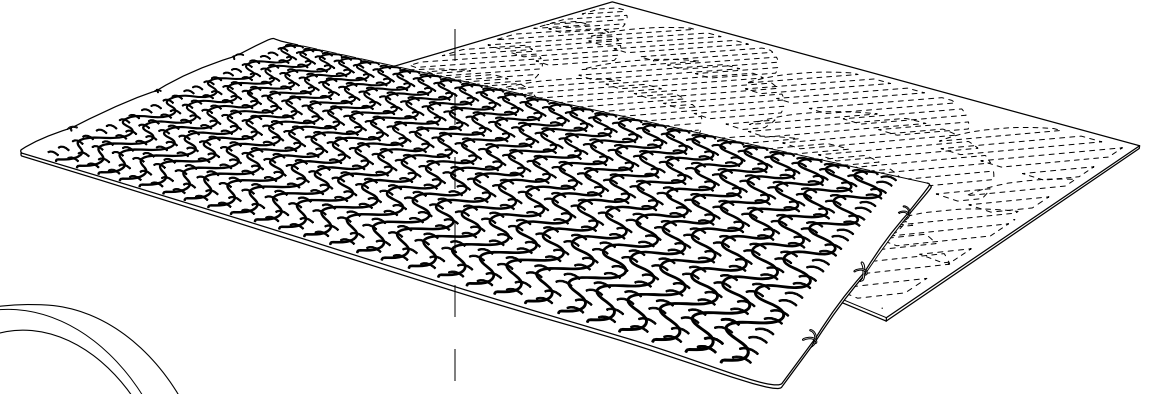
ABS plastic, ash.
10" x 10" x 16"

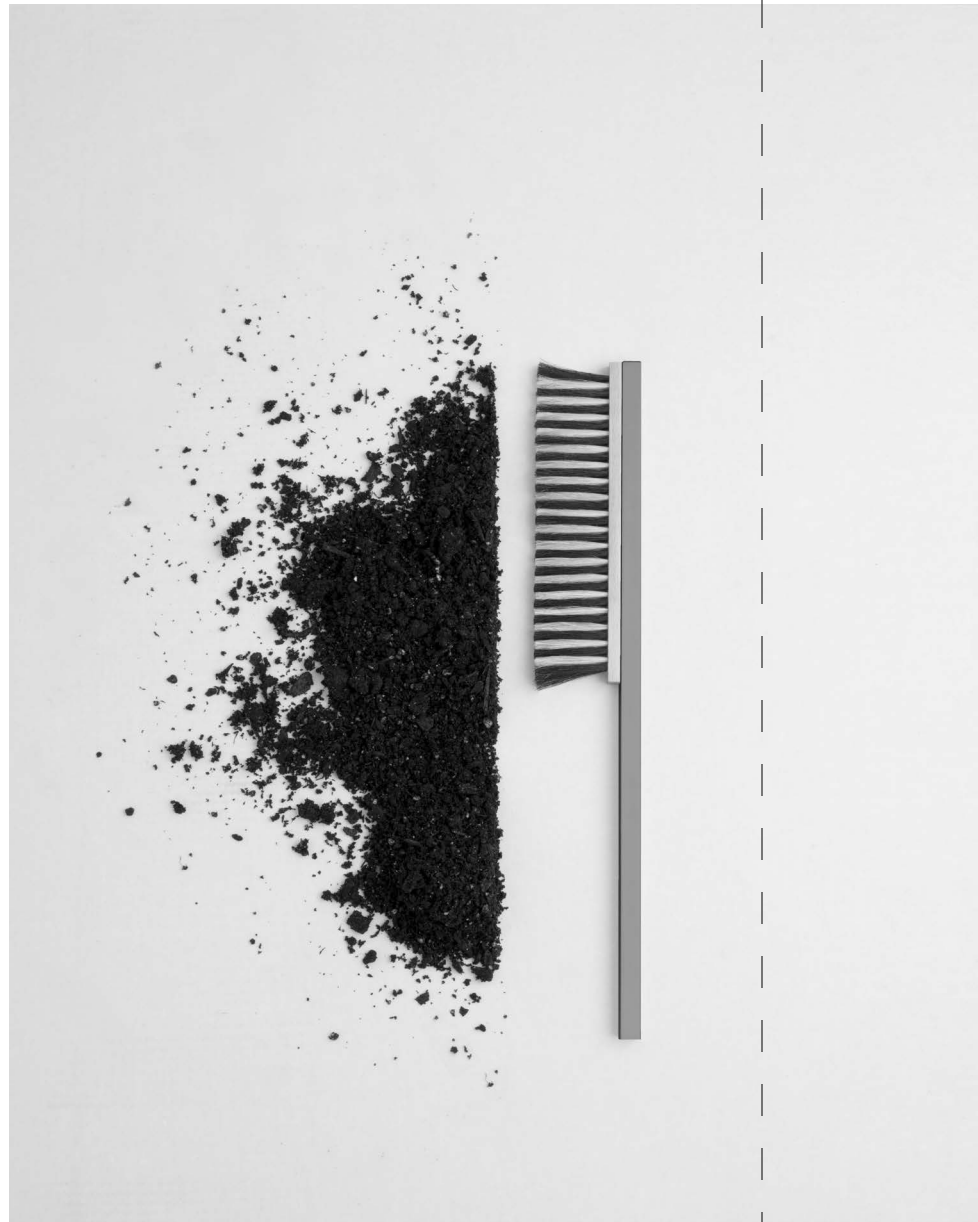
O.K. Bucket is a handy carryall for domestic chores and organization.

2

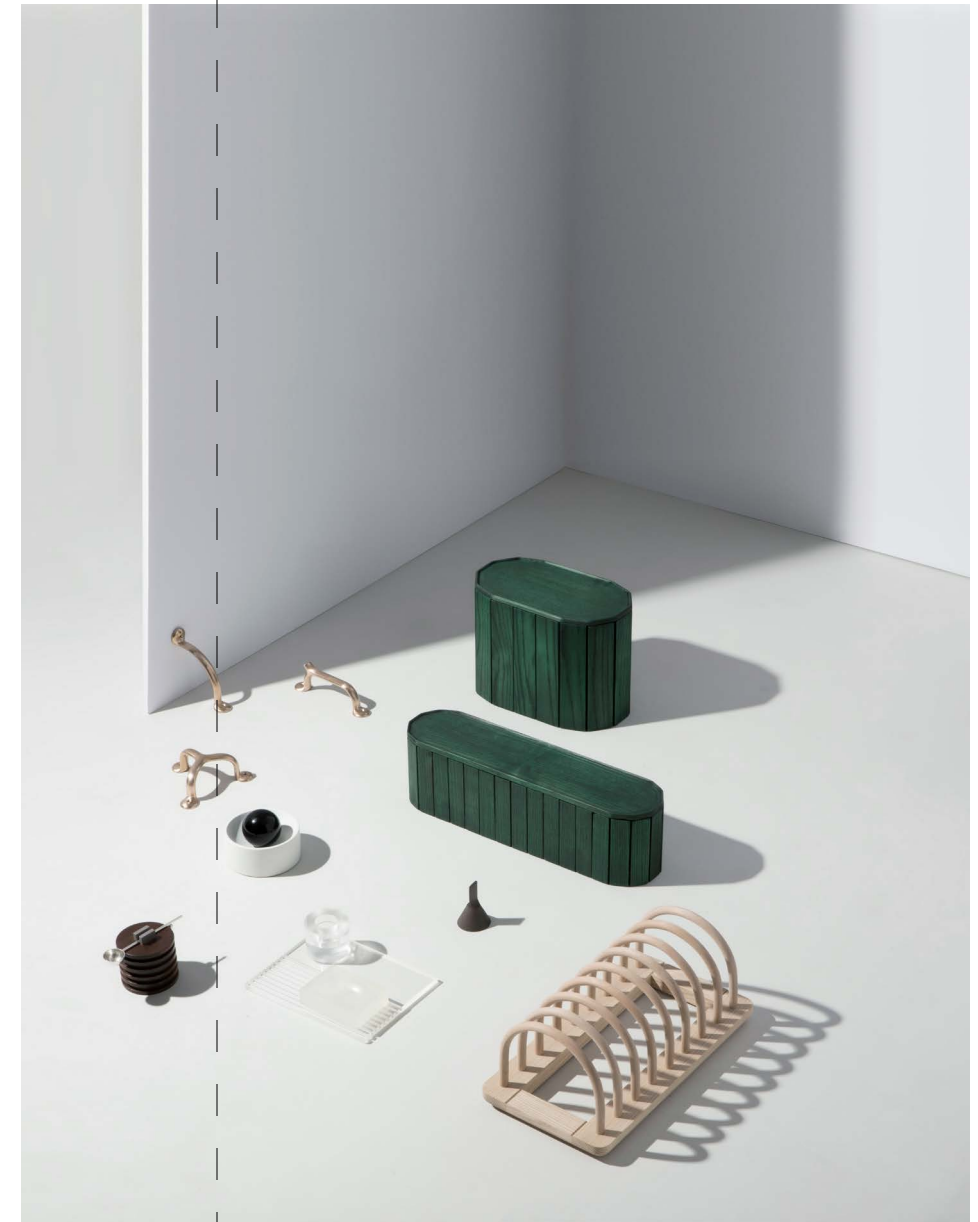


1





Sound Brush Long by
Ladies & Gentlemen Studio



Clockwise from top left:
Various Handles by Daniel Castillo, Cooper
Boxes by Vera & Kyte, Dish Rack by Studio
Tolvanen, Candle Snuffer, Short by Pete Oyler,
Wastenot Soap Tray and Bottle Holder by
Ladies & Gentlemen Studio, All-Purpose Set
by Sophie Lou Jacobsen, Mortar and Pestle
Corian by Fin

Left to right:
All-Purpose Set by Sophie Lou Jacobsen,
Grommet Bin by MSDS Studio, Recess
Modular Drawers by Earnest Studio, Glass
Watering Can by Daniel Castillo, Sound
Brushes by Ladies & Gentlemen Studio,
Various Handles by Daniel Castillo, Family
Brush by Henry Julier





Vinyl and Paper Band
Basket by Shigeki Fujishiro

Clockwise from top right:
Hang Up by Henry Julier & Pete Oyler,
Ultra Broom by Christopher Specce,
Cork Basket by Hallgeir Homstvedt,
Utility Stool by Norm Architects, Zokin
Rag by Observatory, Round and Square
Caddy by Studio Gorm, O.K. Bucket
by Observatory, Decent Step Stool
by MSDS Studio, Turned Kitchen Roll
Holder by Stine Aas, Extra Hand by
Studio Greiling



Office for Design

Office for Design was founded in 2010 by American industrial designer Shane Schneck in Stockholm. The studio bridges the world of design and technology in a desire to challenge industry standards and discover new solutions to contemporary living, be it a plywood chair or next-generation mobile device. The studio has been honored by Wallpaper magazine, International Forum Hannover and Guldstolen, as well as being collected by companies such as Google and Skype.

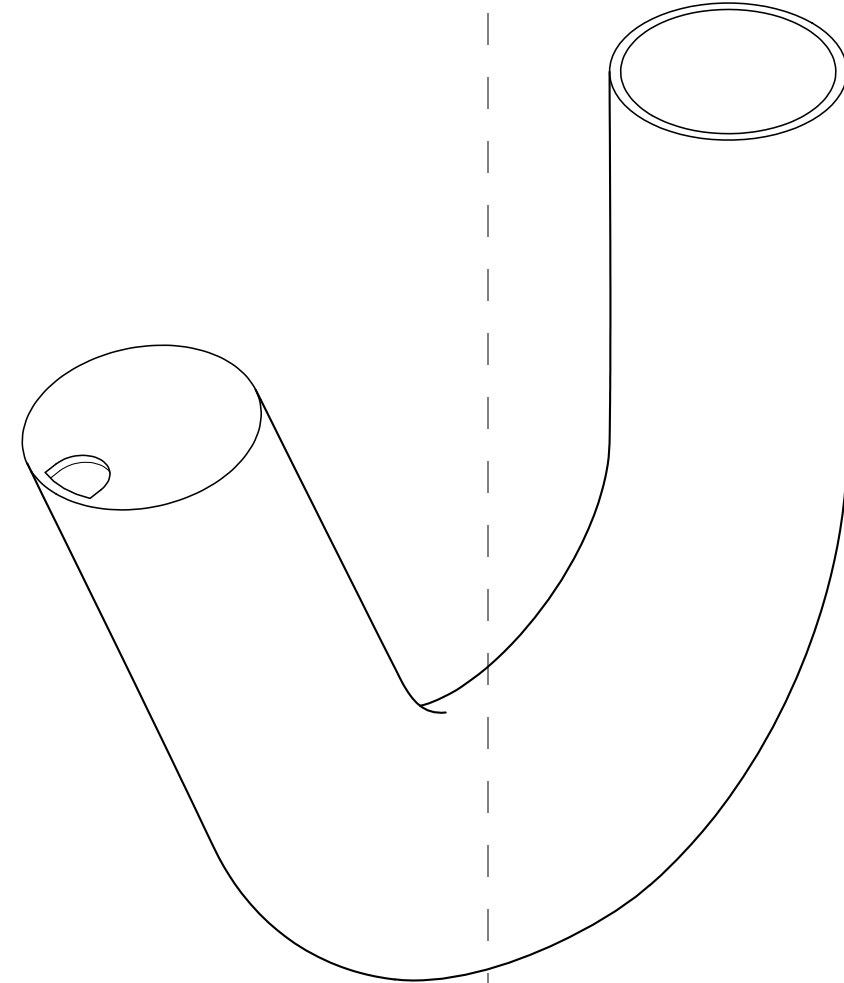


Shane Schneck
Stockholm, Sweden
officefordesign.se

JUG

Unglazed earthenware, cork.
12" x 10.5" x 31.5"

Fresh, drinkable water is still considered a luxury in most parts of the world, as well as a chore to retrieve and filter. Major corporations have made the situation worse, instilling a distrust of water safety and creating a plastic atrocity. Drinking safe water should not be considered a luxury, much less create an environmental disaster in the process. Our typography evaluates the daily routine by using a centuries-old process to keep water cool and clean. We propose a portable 2-liter earthenware jug that will lower the water temperature 13°C in one hour, keeping it fresh throughout the day, and an activated charcoal to remove toxins.



Pat Kim

Pat Kim is a New York-based designer/artist working primarily in objects, furniture and sculpture. His approach is defined by constant experimentation in materials and methods gleaned from traditional craft. His work is rooted in the philosophy of sculptural simplicity and enduring quality.

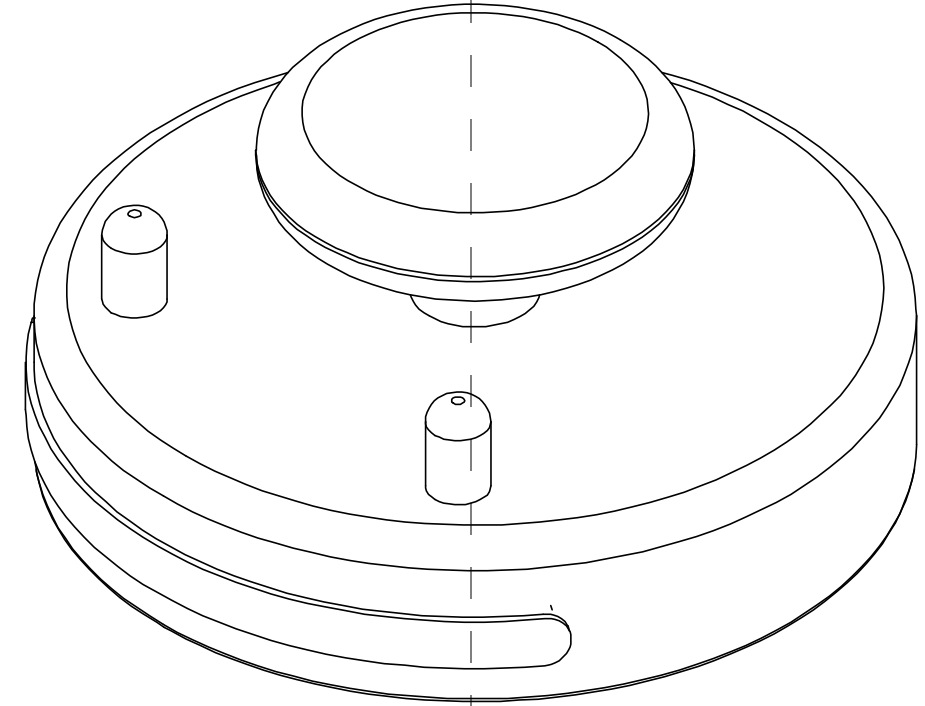


Brooklyn, NY
patkimdesign.com

ROOMBA COVER

Cherry, leather.
14" x 14" x 3"

A solid cherry cover for robotic vacuums that transforms it into an object of warmth and tranquility. Roombas are so fun to watch, their movements precocious and whimsical. I wanted to make a cover that endows the robot with life and character.



Pete Oyler

Pete Oyler is a product and furniture designer whose work explores the intersections of design, craft, contemporary culture and history. His studio practice emphasizes both traditional and experimental approaches to a wide range of materials and methods of production. Based in Chicago, Oyler is an Assistant Professor in Designed Objects at the Art Institute of Chicago.



Chicago, IL
peteoyler.com

1 CANDLE SNUFFER, LONG REACH
Steel and wood.
30" x 2" x 2.25"

2 CANDLE SNUFFER, SHORT REACH
Steel.
2" x 2" x 2.75"

Growing up, special occasions and holidays were marked by candlelit dinners. As a child, snuffing the candles at the end of the evening – after dessert but before clearing the table – was so gratifying. The task required some dexterity (especially for young hands), and I loved the challenge. I still love candlelit dinners with friends

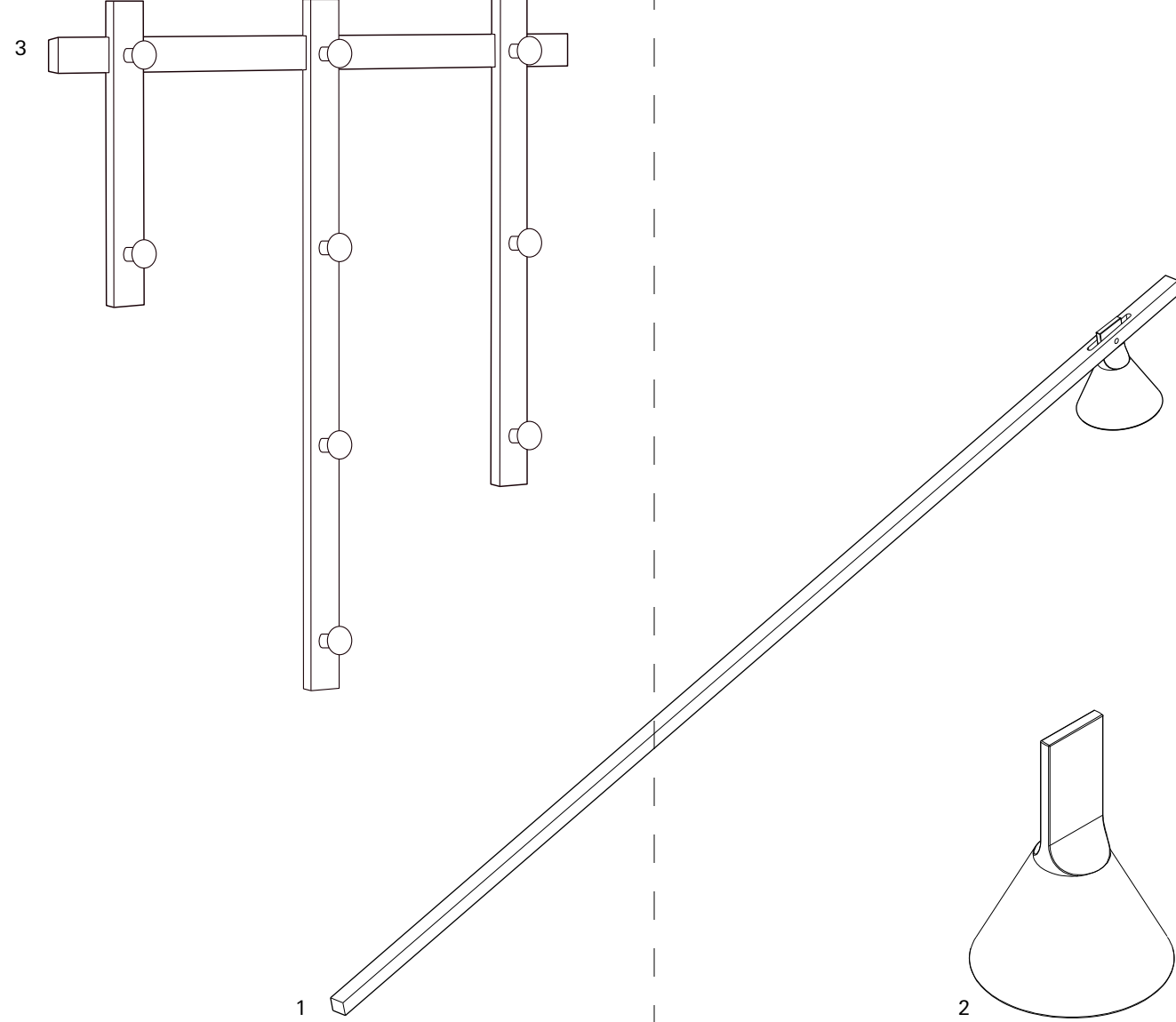
and family and appreciate the candle snuffer for its elegance and efficiency – singular in its function, it safely and cleanly extinguishes a candle's flame.

3 HANG UP
Aluminum, wood.
31.75" x 1.875" x 35.25"

A collaboration between Henry Julier and Pete Oyler. Their collaborative work is based in their shared appreciation for high-quality industrial design. Their work is forthright and pays particular attention to economy of material, efficient production and enduring function.

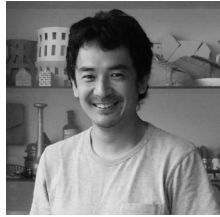
Hang Up, a wall-mounted system designed for people of all heights – from 48-inch

4-year-olds to 78-inch 40-year-olds – is a contemporary evolution of the ubiquitous Shaker peg rail. Comprised of wood elements and metal hardware, Hang Up brings things within reach via three lengths of vertical rails, providing an array of flexible hanging options.



Shigeki Fujishiro

Shigeki Fujishiro left the acclaimed IDÉE Co Ltd in 2005 to found his own studio, Shigeki Fujishiro Design. He has been active in a broad range of areas, including interior products and exhibit installations. Fujishiro typically focuses on interior products and furniture, working hard to achieve designs that are extremely elementary and have universal appeal. Fujishiro has recently collaborated with such well-known brands as Hermès, Adidas and CAMPER, as well as producing his own self-initiated projects. Fujishiro was one of 16 designers who participated in 2016 in an international project commemorating the 400th anniversary of Arita ware.



Tokyo, Japan
shigekifujishiro.com

1 CARPET TILE AND ZIP TIES BASKET

Carpet tile, zip ties.
20" x 23.5"
17.75" x 10"

In Shaker teachings, self-sufficiency in manufacturing is important, and I felt the modern version is making things with familiar materials that are easy to obtain. I wanted to suggest something new with a combination of existing materials rather than focusing on new materials. To make a basket, I cut a pattern from carpet tile, which is mainly used in offices, drilled holes and sewed the pieces together with zip ties. The outside appearance has a heavy-duty feeling,

but the inside is a soft carpet material, so it can be used for holding laundry or other items.

2 VINYL AND PAPER BAND BASKET

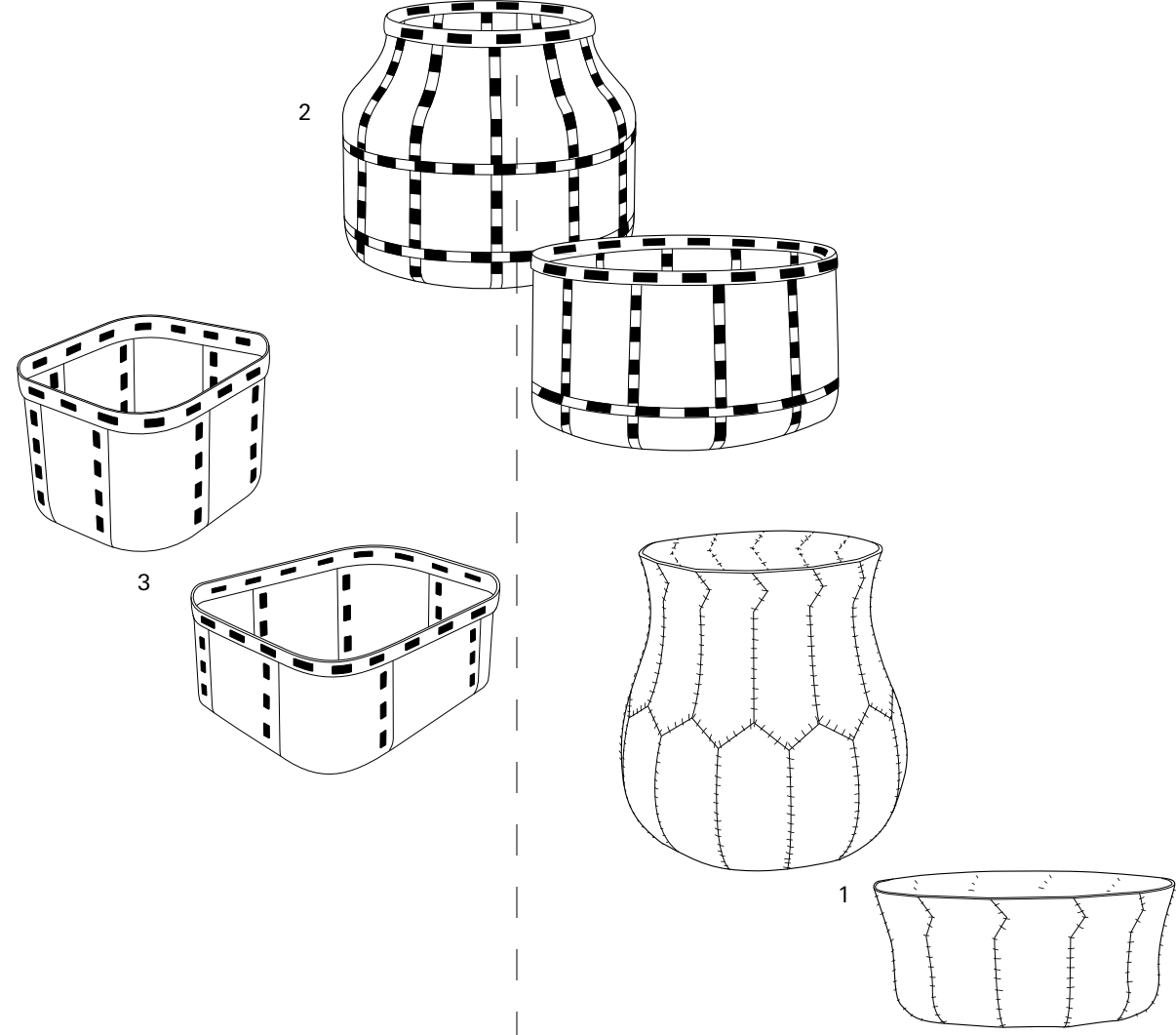
Vinyl sheet, paper band.
17.75" x 10"
17.75" x 10"

The pattern was cut out from a threaded vinyl sheet, typically used as a rain cover. We then made slits with a cutter, inserted packaging paper bands into the slits and knit a basket. This basket is transparent, which adds visual interest by displaying the contrast between the color of the paper band and the color of the contents inside.

3 PUNCH CARPET AND PAPER BAND BASKETS

Needle punch carpet, paper band.
13.75" x 13.75" x 13.75"
13.75" x 19.75" x 13.75"

The pattern of this basket is cut out from needle punch carpet. It is assembled together with paper bands. The shape of the bottom is square, and the shape of the opening is oval. This basket is conscious of the shape of a Shaker basket.



Sophie Lou Jacobsen

Sophie Lou Jacobsen is a product designer whose work focuses on enhancing the enjoyment of everyday objects. Using design as a tool for analyzing modern rituals, she aims to alter perspectives, and ultimately mood, through her work. Having spent over a decade studying and working in both London and Paris, Jacobsen is now based in New York City, where she designs objects, graphics and spaces.



Brooklyn, NY
sophieloujacobsen.com

ALL-PURPOSE SET

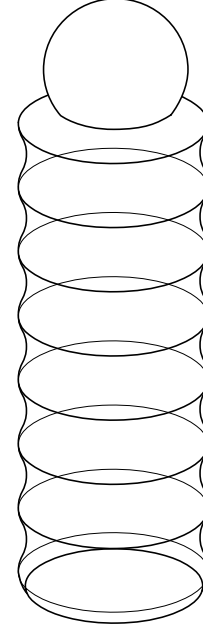
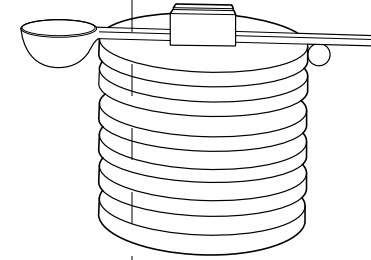
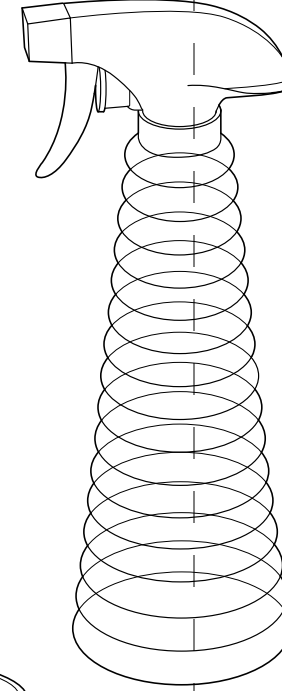
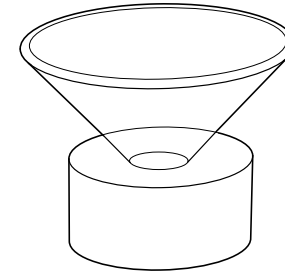
Glass, walnut, silver.

Various dimensions

Most household cleaning products can be easily made at home with three ingredients: baking soda, vinegar and water. These three staples, paired with other simple household ingredients, can eliminate almost all industrial cleaning products we buy at the store, creating a more simple, environmentally friendly and pleasant cleaning experience.

The All-Purpose Set – a refillable spray bottle and funnel for storing and using the cleaning mixtures, a pot and teaspoon for scooping baking soda onto sponges or into boiling water, a decorative bottle for storing vinegar – elevates these ingredients,

encouraging people to make and use their own cleaning products. By turning these utilitarian objects into functional display pieces one will keep them in view and thus at arm's reach, reducing the amount of waste, clutter and hazardous chemicals that accumulate under the sink.



Stine Aas

Stine Aas is a furniture and spatial designer based in Bergen, Norway. Her work is inspired by everyday interactions between people and the objects around them, and she typically combines the visual, the tactile and the functional in her designs.



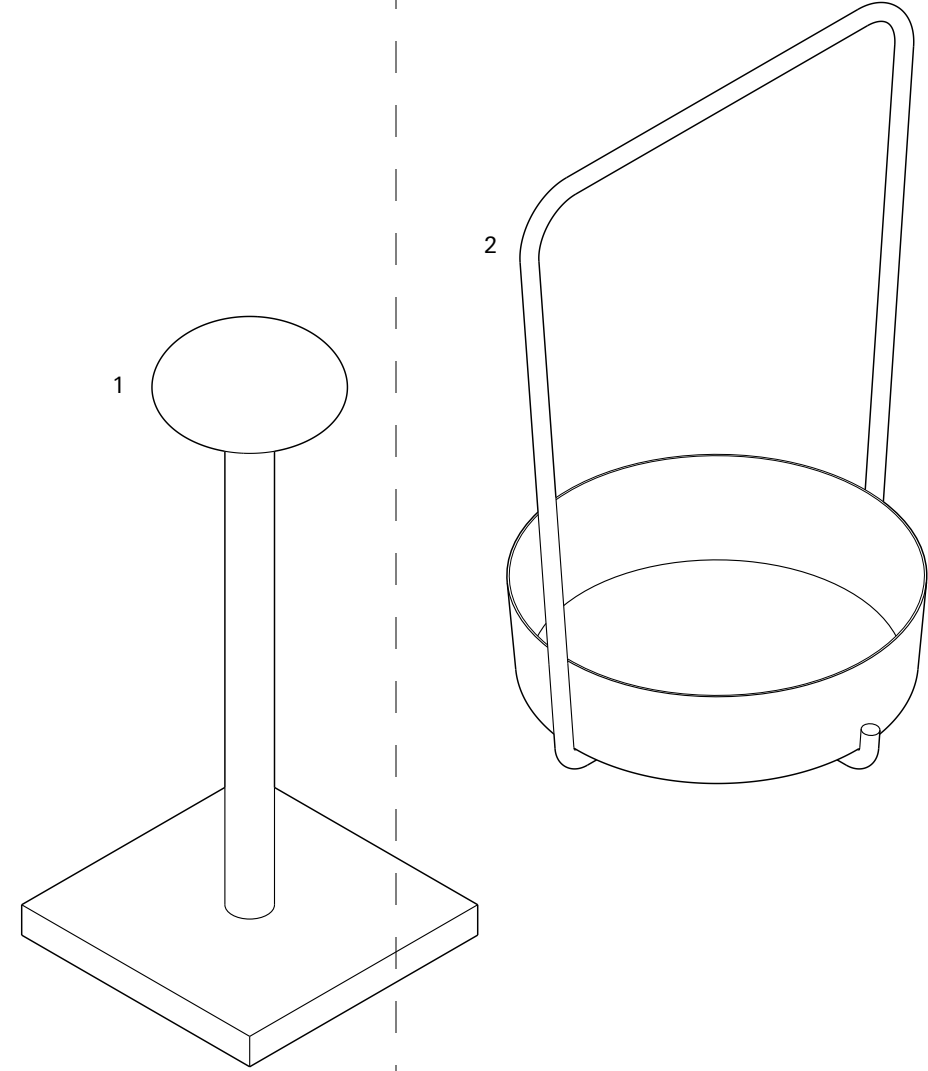
Bergen, Norway
stineaas.com

1
TURNED KITCHEN ROLL
HOLDER
Beech wood.
4.75" x 4.75" x 12.5"

Turned out of beech wood and presented in both a natural and lacquered version, this product was initially inspired by some beautifully shaped Shaker spoons. The crafted attachable top stands in contrast to the simpler base and serves as a soft handle for moving the holder around.

2
DISH CADDIE
Steel.
7.5" x 9" x 12.25"

A stand with a removable tray to solve two problems by the sink. First, the stand provides a place to hang your kitchen cloth, as opposed to on the tap or between two sinks. Second, the tray serves as a place to put washing-up utensils like soap, a sponge, etc.



Studio Gorm

Studio Gorm was founded in 2007 by John Arndt and Wonhee Arndt. They design products, furniture, lighting, interiors and exhibitions for a variety of international clients. Their designs are informed by their speculative academic research, which explores culture, history and technology and how objects and ideas evolve to fit the needs of modern life. While they work as designers of functional objects, Wonhee and John have backgrounds in sculpture and craft that strongly inform their work. Their methods are rooted in physical making, where objects evolve out of an experimental constructive approach to design. Their products are simple, practical, thoughtful and approachable forms designed for everyday life. Studio Gorm is based in Eugene, Oregon, where Wonhee and John are both professors in the Product Design Department at the University of Oregon.



Wonhee Arndt and John Arndt
Eugene, OR
studiogorm.com

1
PICNIC BASKET
Bamboo, plywood, webbing, paint.
15" x 12.25" x 8"

Nothing tastes better than a well-prepared meal after working outdoors. This light and durable basket is based on traditional Shaker baskets and the Korean Kwang Juli basket for the Secham meal, where a home-cooked meal is brought to field workers, with fresh greens harvested onsite to complete the meal.

2
ROUND AND SQUARE CADDY
Plastic, Corian.
Square: 13" x 11" x 6"
Round: 13" x 13" x 6"

A useful container for storing and transporting things, the Caddy works as a toolbox or storage for kitchen or desktop tools. The large central handle keeps the lid securely in place and invites you to pick it up. The lid also functions as a tray for holding smaller items or thoughtfully displaying individual contents.

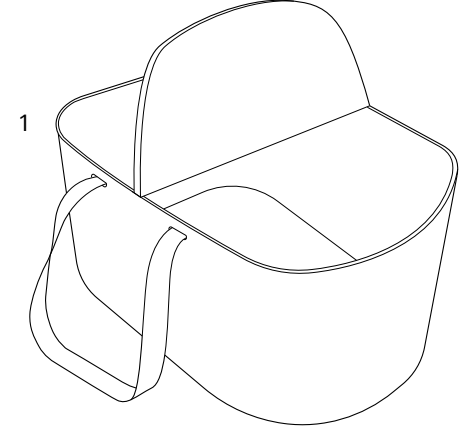
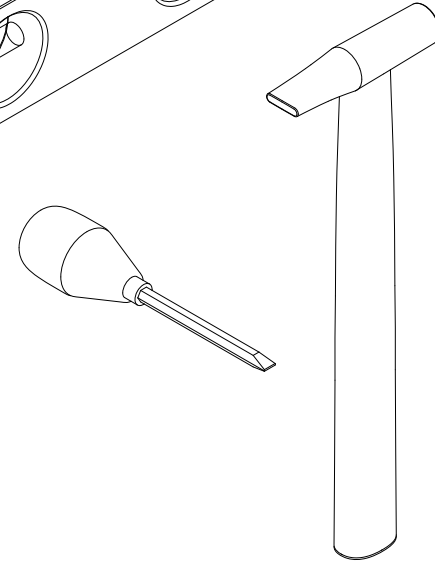
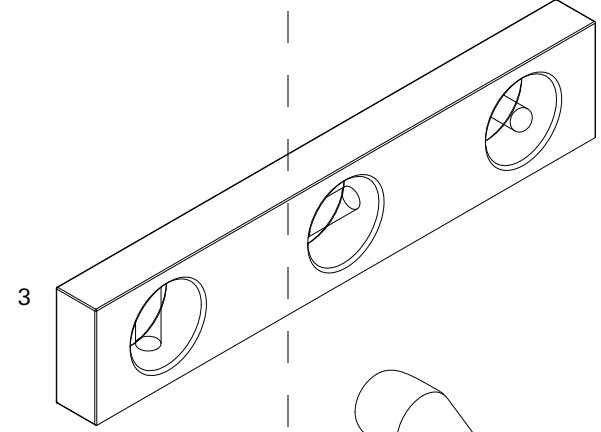
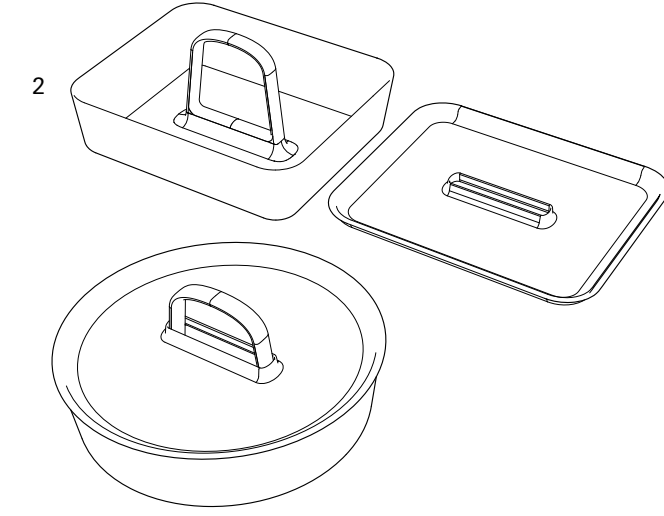
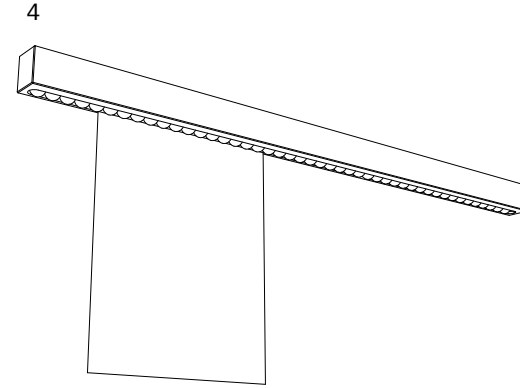
3
HOME TOOLS
Wood, steel mechanism.
Screwdriver: 3.25" x 1.625"
Hammer: 12" x 4" x .75"
Level: 12" x 2" x .75"

A series of domestic tools each subtly integrates an elevated technical feature – a ratcheting screwdriver with replaceable bits, a hammer with a magnetic

tip to hold nails and tacks to keep from hitting thumbs, a simple wooden level. These tools are for serious work but don't look out of place when left out on the table.

4
PICTURE RAIL
Wood, glass marbles.
30" x 1.25" x 1.5"
24" x 1.25" x 1.5"
16" x 1.25" x 1.5"

A combination of an old picture rail used for discreetly hanging artwork without putting a nail in the wall, and a restaurant ticket holder. A row of glass marbles in a wooden block securely holds a range of items including grocery lists, postcards and posters, or sits by the door to hold letters to post.



Studio Greiling

Katrin Greiling is a furniture designer, interior architect and photographer based in Berlin. Since 2005 she's developed products, furniture and interiors for a vast number of clients. Studio Greiling initially started in Stockholm and settled in Berlin in 2013 after years of exploring the world, including three years spent in the UAE. Greiling's trained eyes are observing and translating common proximities into functional objects and imagery, always including a playful and provoking dialogue with the user.

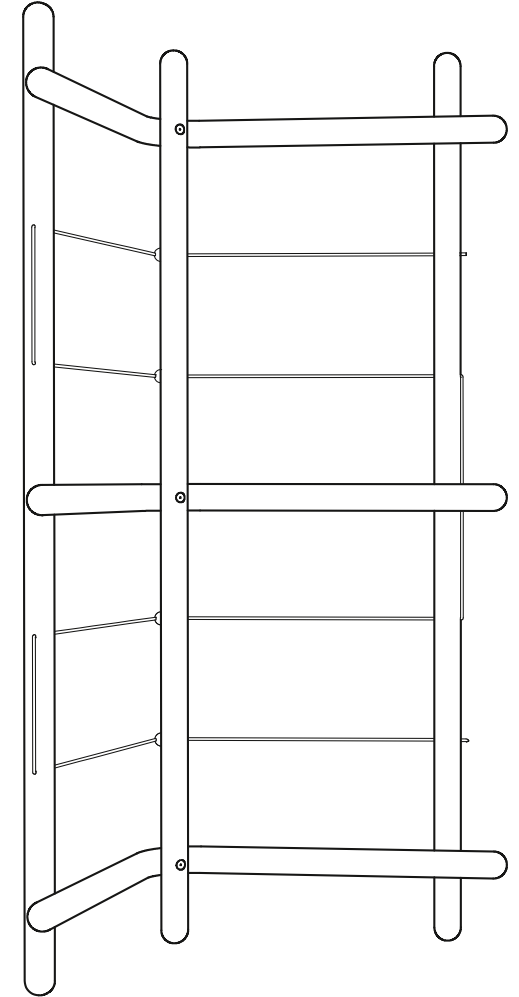
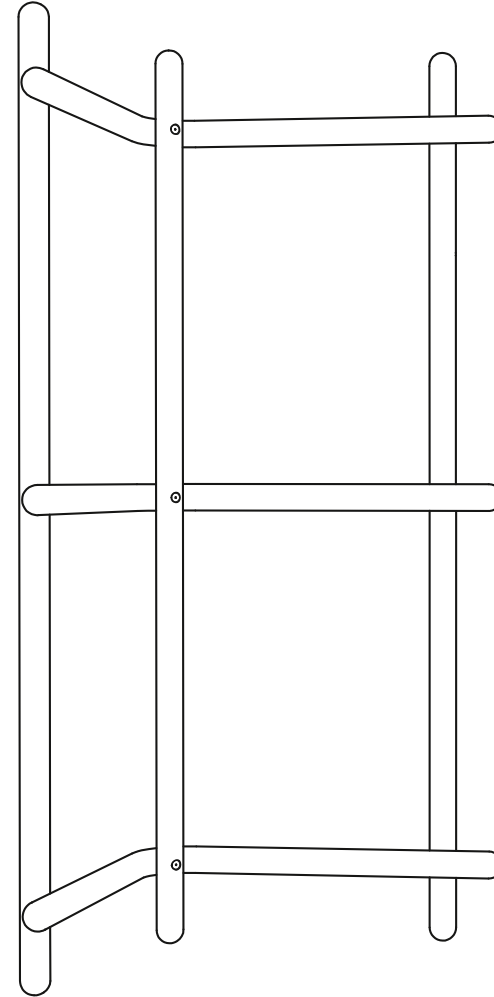


Berlin, Germany
studiogreiling.com

EXTRA HAND

Stained beech, PVC, coated line.
23.25" x 23.25" x 52.75"

Extra Hand is both a room divider and additional wall space. The three-legged wooden construction is a pragmatic assembly of straight and bent dowels, creating a stable extra armature to hang and expose essential kitchen tools. Instead of hiding things in a drawer, Extra Hand celebrates the beauty of the everyday object by displaying it and making it easily available. Hooks and the ends of the dowels, sticking out from the sides of the structure, are a handy place for all tools to be within reach. Extra Hand Laundry is a further version of the original, with an added PVC clothesline to dry laundry.



Studio Tolvanen

Studio Tolvanen is the design office of Mika and Julie Tolvanen. They design home products and contract furniture from their studio workshop on the island of Lauttasaari in Helsinki, Finland. Mika is a Finnish designer who started his own practice after graduating from Royal College of Art in 2001. Julie is an American designer who started with a degree in architecture and worked 10 years as a custom woodworker before moving to Finland in 2009 to get a Master's in Furniture Design from Aalto University. Mika and Julie founded Studio Tolvanen in 2015.



Mika Tolvanen and Julie Tolvanen
Helsinki, Finland
studiotolvanen.com

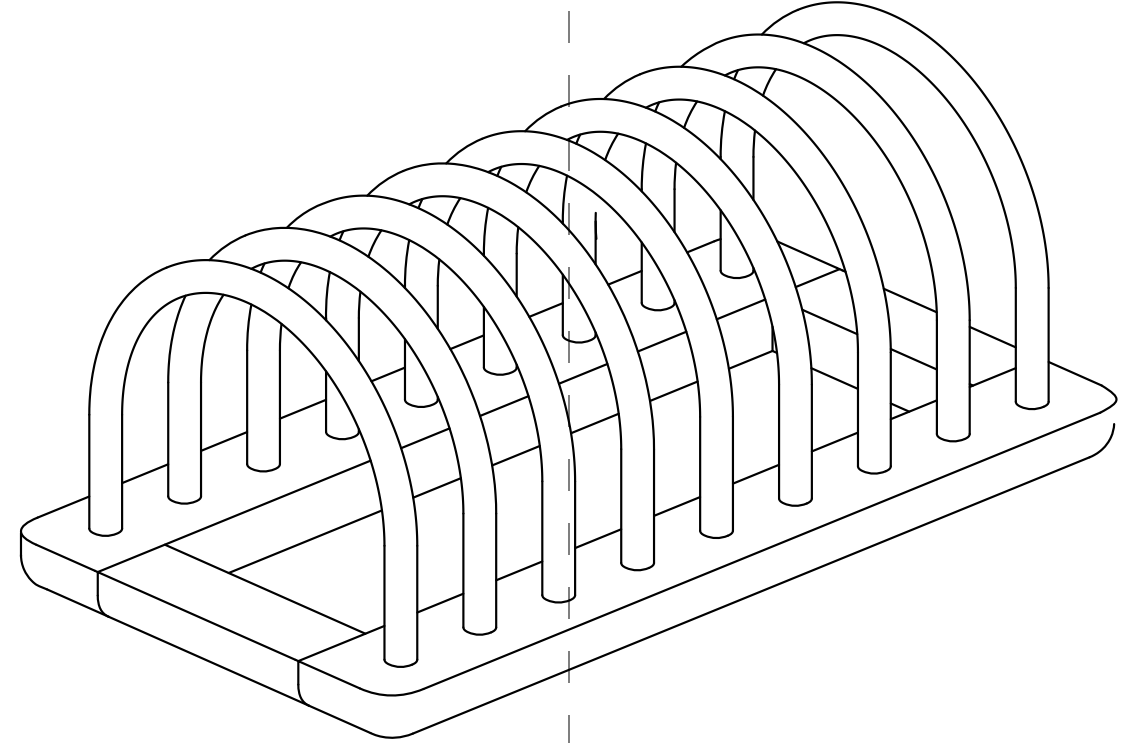
DISH RACK

Oak.

13" x 8" x 6"

Finnish innovation of the dish rack has a proud history, so it felt only natural to design such an object. It was a visit to a museum in Mika's hometown that first got us thinking about this dish rack. We noticed an early Finnish dish drying rack bent from green spruce branches. Opposite from what you would think, early Finnish wood objects were often made from organic curves rather than straight boards. Whenever possible the maker took advantage of the natural joints in the tree – crooked branches became ergonomic handles, a naturally curved trunk became

a comfortable seat. Over time, familiarity with the properties of trees allowed them to manipulate wood, shaping it into "jointless" curved components that were stronger than straight pieces. We joke that there must have been some Finnish Shakers because the objects we enjoyed most at Hancock Shaker Village felt so utterly familiar in construction and spirit. In both cultures, the wood used for tools and other household objects was often bent to the desired shape. In both cultures, details come from an object's utility rather than being just ornament for ornament's sake. An homage to both, our dish rack makes use of bentwood dividers because they are strong, functional and decidedly un-straight.



Tom Bonamici

Tom Bonamici is a designer and educator based in Eugene, Oregon. He's currently teaching product design at the University of Oregon and was most recently design director for Best Made Company. Bonamici's background includes Japanese-method timber frame building, soft goods design and a formal analysis of home-cooking practices.



Eugene, OR
tombonamici.com

1 LAUNDRY TOTE
Canvas, wood, webbing.
16" x 16" x 22"

A heavyweight cotton canvas tote for transporting and storing laundry. A wooden base provides a stable platform for the load, while a side pocket holds your laundromat quarters.

3 GROCERY TOTE
Canvas, wood, webbing.
14" x 14" x 6"

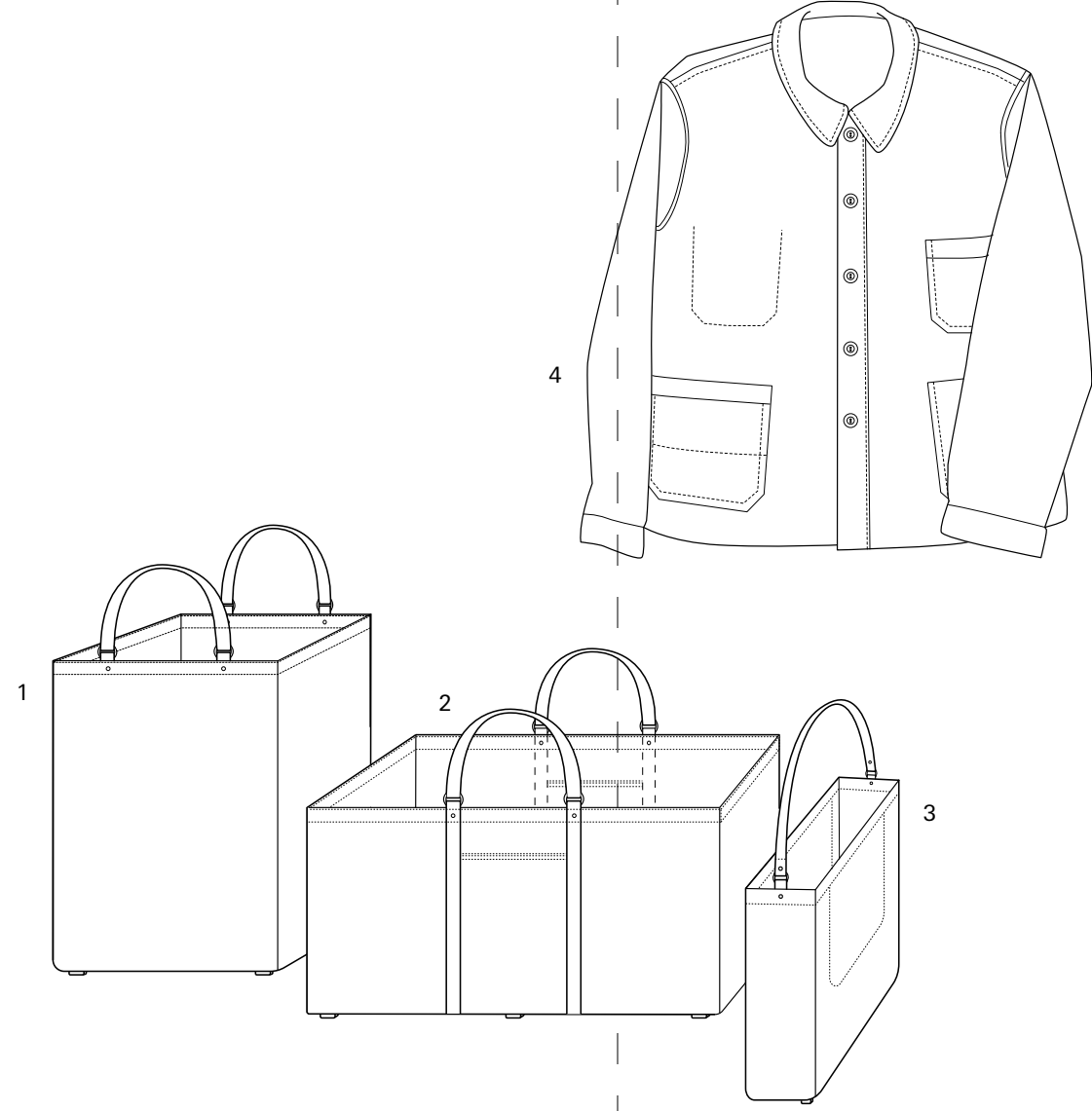
A heavyweight cotton canvas tote for grocery shopping. A single strap makes for a comfortable shoulder sling, and a wooden base provides a stable platform for the load.

2 FIREWOOD TOTE
Canvas, wood, webbing.
28" x 14" x 14"

A heavyweight cotton canvas tote for transporting and storing firewood, avoiding the need for separate boxes and bags. A wooden base provides a stable platform for the load.

4 CHORE COAT & HANGER
Cotton sateen.
30" x 20"

A simple and sturdy chore coat designed to be a useful coverall while working. Sewn in a stout Japanese-woven sateen.



Uhnger

Sverre Uhnger is a trained craftsman and educated designer from Bergen National Academy of Art and Design and Aalto University. Uhnger focuses on creating products that feel natural to the user and where the inherent qualities of the materials and the production techniques are emphasized. He is one of the three founding members of Klubben and works actively with exhibitions, curating and consulting. Located in Oslo, Norway since 2011, Uhnger specializes in furniture and product design and has designed objects for Mitab (SE), Brdr. Krüger (DK) and Magnor (NO), among others.



Sverre Uhnger
Oslo, Norway
uhnger.no

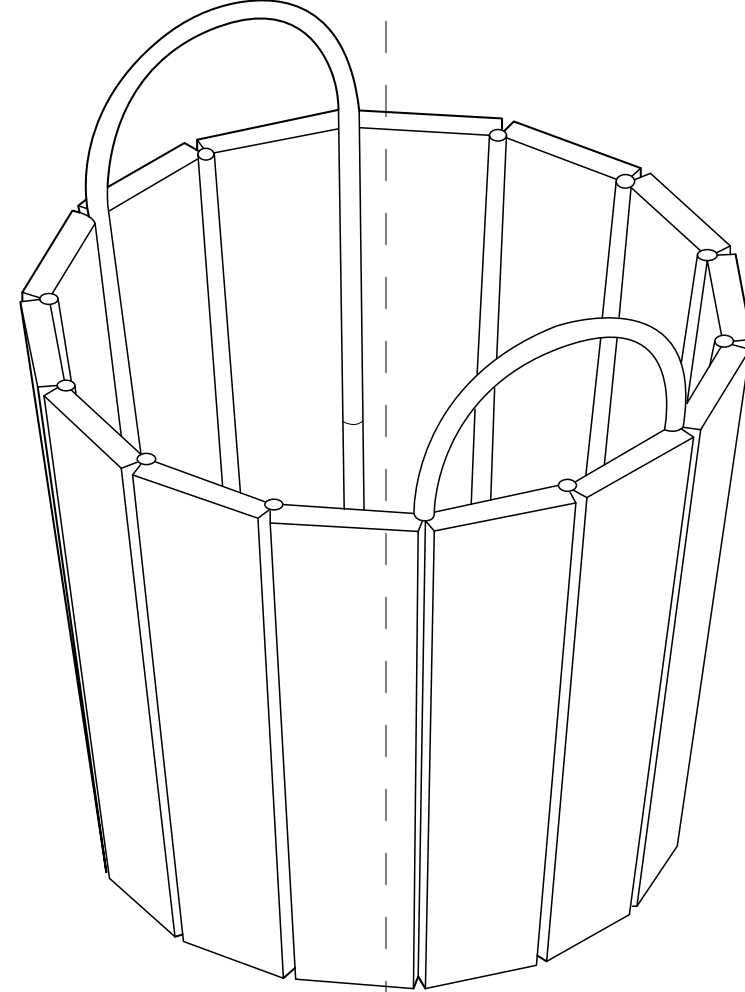
STAVER

Solid beech wood, aluminum handles.

12.25" x 12.25" x 12.25"

Taking inspiration from traditional wooden buckets, this project has aimed to investigate different techniques and create my own iteration. Not necessarily trying to make the bucket more rational or easier to manufacture, but rather exploring the aesthetics of the joinery and the materials in an object that has been used for centuries. Chores are a necessity, and when we have to execute them with cheap, impersonal utilities the task is avoided. Staver is a three-dimensional sketch that is trying to make the chores associated with it more inspiring.

The slats that wooden buckets traditionally consist of are simplified and the attention is paid to the joining of these. Like a wooden hinge or rotation axis, the round profiles act like a keystone in an arch, functioning as the connector, handle and decoration of the piece.



Vera & Kyte

Vera & Kyte is a Scandinavian design studio based on Norway's west coast, comprising Vera Kleppe and Åshild Kyte. The studio was established in 2013, shortly after the two graduated from the Department of Design at the University of Bergen. Since then their work has been exhibited, and acclaimed, internationally. Their work is characterized by an analytical approach and a shared enthusiasm for exploring new materials, methods and aesthetics. Driven by curiosity and passion, Vera & Kyte work within the fields of furniture, product and graphic design to create pieces that engage and excite. To them it is important to continue to develop, expand and push the boundaries of the Nordic design aesthetic. Through their work they have the luxury of building their own contemporary universe on top of this base.



Vera Kleppe and Åshild Kyte
Bergen, Norway
vera-kyte.com

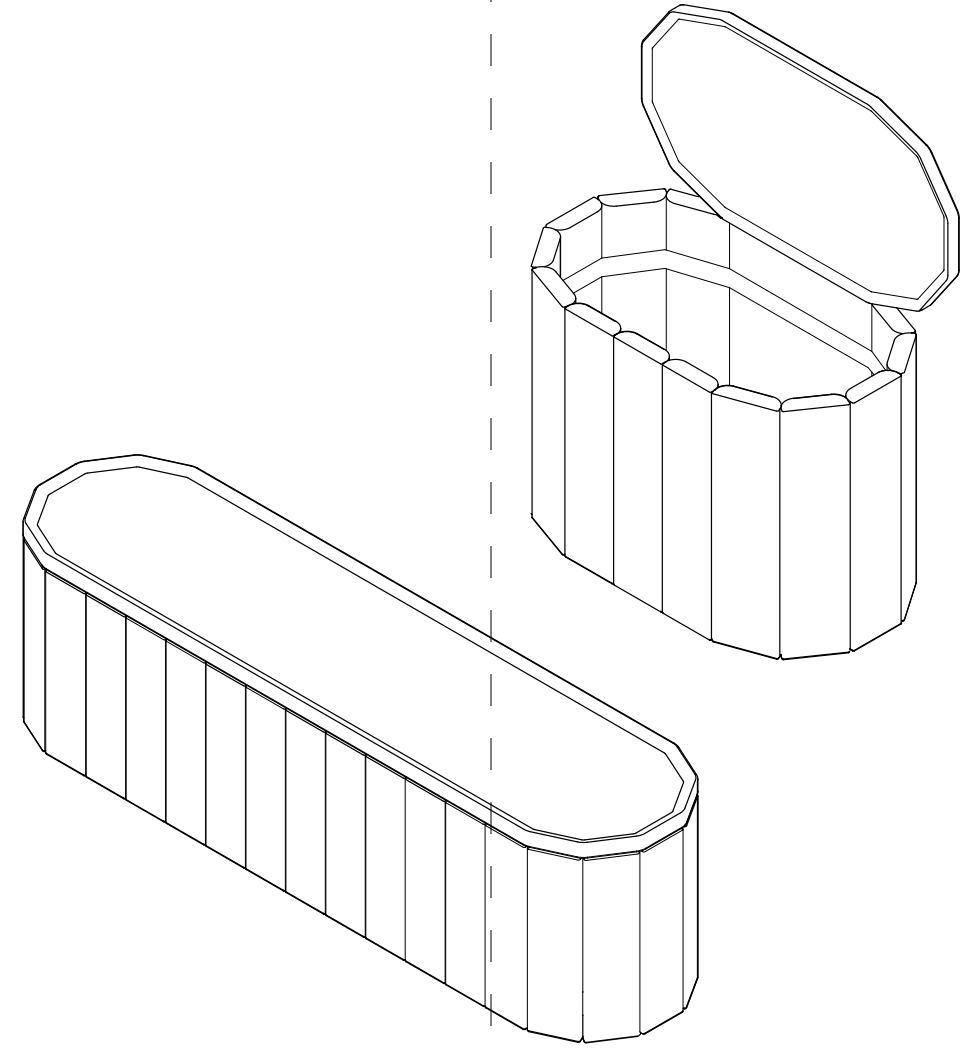
COOPER BOXES

Color stained solid ash.

11" x 6.25" x 8.25"

18" x 4.75" x 4.75"

Keeping things tidy and organized is a never-ending chore. Order is essential, and things must return to their proper place. Inspired by the Shaker devotion to order, these wall-hung units provide household objects with a dedicated place. The units are made to accommodate the small items and utensils that are commonly misplaced. Their form originates from the finely crafted wooden buckets, baskets and boxes of the Shaker community. The barrel principle is used for a rational and efficient construction.



Zoë Mowat Design

Zoë Mowat operates Zoë Mowat Design, a studio in Montreal, Canada, that focuses on furniture and objects. Mowat's approach is a sculptural and intuitive exploration of color, material, form and texture that is counterbalanced by a curiosity and desire to create functional objects that can be enjoyed and that can endure.



Montreal, Canada
zoemowat.com

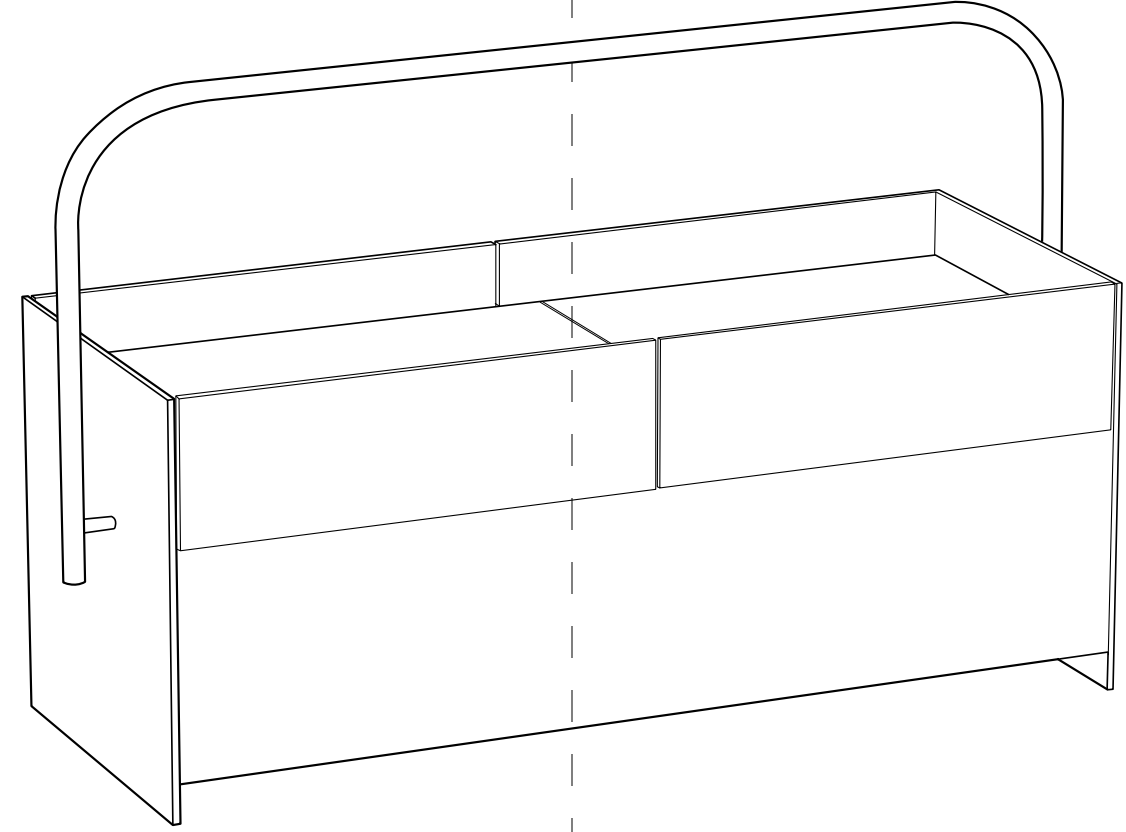
BEAU TRAVAIL TOOLBOX

Aluminum.

18" x 6.5" x 11"

The Beau Travail Toolbox was designed for those who need a basic to comprehensive set of tools for various projects and general upkeep around the home. Tasks such as installing a shelf or simply hanging a picture frame on the wall can become more challenging than necessary if the tools required for the job are not well-organized in one easy-to-find destination (random nails and screws in mason jars, a hammer hidden under the sink, a screwdriver with missing attachments, for example). Beau Travail, or "good work," is a colorful solution that encourages

just that. It includes a larger compartment and two removable stacking storage trays for organizing smaller tools and hardware, and it can easily be displayed on a shelf if desired.



PROJECT MADE POSSIBLE BY:

FURNISHING UTOPIA

Furnishing Utopia's grassroots mission is to engage audiences, including designer peers, in a conversation around Shaker values. The design collective (organized by Studio Gorm, Ladies & Gentlemen Studio and Christopher Specce) brings together a talented pool of international designers to immerse themselves by exploring, analyzing and reinterpreting traditional Shaker objects. The collective goal is to encourage a familiarity with Shaker craft that goes beyond aesthetics, instead dissecting design values to inspire and influence what surrounds us in contemporary life.

www.shakerdesignproject.com
@furnishingutopia

DESIGN WITHIN REACH

Design Within Reach is a modern furniture company known for introducing great design to the public. Founded in 1998, the company has built a reputation on educating the consumer about design classics and 20th-century greats. In the 20 years since its founding, DWR has become more than a home for midcentury design, investing in the future of the industry and the 21st-century designers who will become design greats. DWR is proud to support Furnishing Utopia 3.0: Hands to Work and provide a public platform for this exceptional group of designers who seek to encourage conversation about the items we surround ourselves with and their purpose in the world we want to create.

www.dwr.com
@DesignWithinReach

NORWEGIAN CONSULATE GENERAL NEW YORK

The oldest and largest of Norway's consulates in the United States, the Consulate in New York works to promote Norwegian Culture (contemporary art, crafts, design, architecture, performing arts, literature, music and film) and Norwegian Businesses in New York. The Consulate supports the arts and culture arena in New York through visitor programs for press, curators and presenters within a wide range of cultural fields, in addition to facilitating for and providing financial support to projects taking place in the city.

www.norway.no/en/usa/
@norwaynewyork

HANCOCK SHAKER VILLAGE

Hancock Shaker Village is a living history museum situated on 750 acres in the Berkshires of western Massachusetts that has brought the Shaker story to life for more than 2 million visitors and scholars from the region and abroad. A National Historic Landmark, HSV includes 20 original buildings, a working farm with livestock and heirloom medicinal and produce gardens, a Discovery Barn providing hands-on activities and a fully accessible nature trail.

www.hancockshakervillage.org
@ HancockShakerVillage

MOUNT LEBANON SHAKER MUSEUM

The Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon was founded in 1950 as a public museum and holds the

most comprehensive collection of Shaker materials in the United States. The Museum's collection is housed in Old Chatham, New York, and is available for research by appointment. The Museum's historic site is in New Lebanon, New York, and is open to the public for tours Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, from mid-June to mid-October.

www.shakerml.org
@shakermuseum

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Ladies & Gentlemen Studio
Christopher Specce

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Millie Parkinson

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Norway
www.stineaas.com

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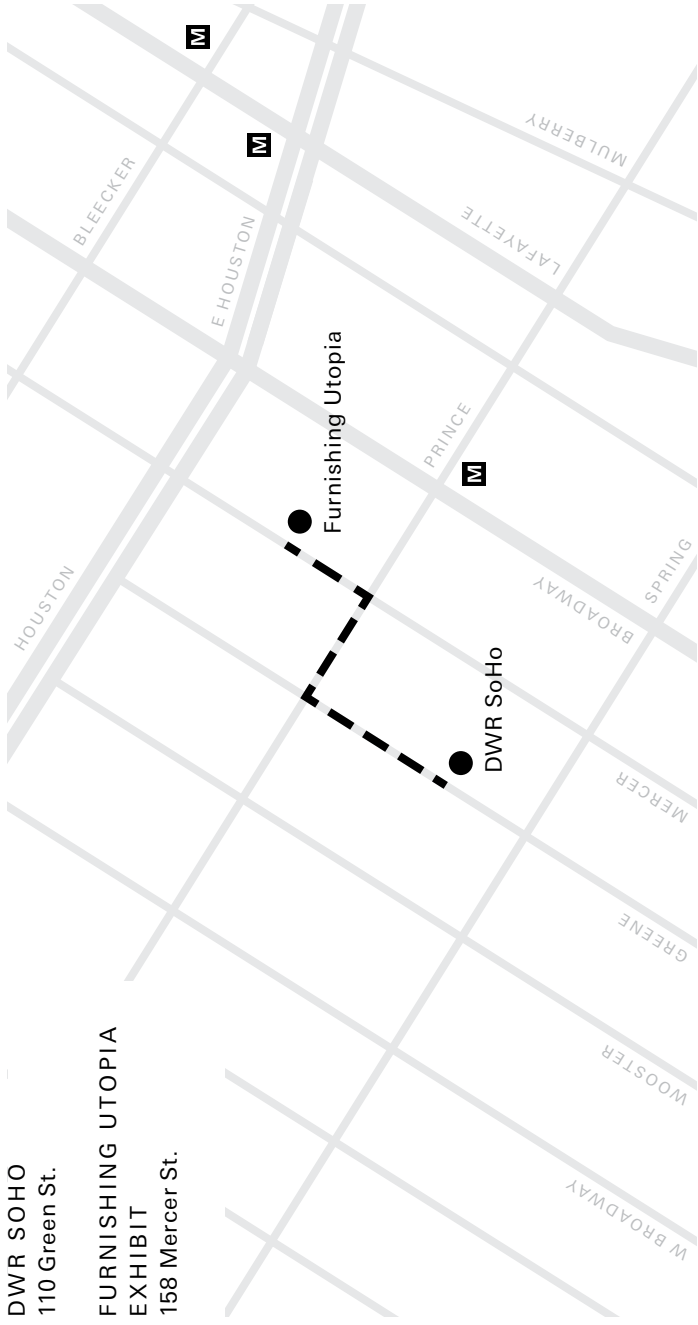


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