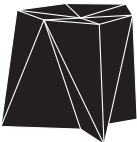




foldschool cardboard furniture

foldschool - a collection of do-it-yourself cardboard furniture for kids. Patterns and a manual can be downloaded from the Internet for free.

www.foldschool.com



Starting point

As is generally known contemporary «design furniture» is expensive. High retail prices are caused mainly by the numerous levels in the wholesale trade and by the costly production procedures in the furniture industry - also because of protection against reproduction. However the history of design has proved that simplicity and elegance can be combined. That's where *foldschool* intervenes. One of the goals is to return design to one of its core aims: creating an aesthetic and functional product at a reasonable price through a smart production process and through appropriate dealings with resources. As a countermovement to mass culture that is run by superficiality the mindset of *foldschool* is to put product and consumer in a personal relationship by understanding craftsmanship as a direct approach to design.



Concept

The concept of *foldschool* is based on sustainability playing out the qualities of a recycled material: folding a flat piece of cardboard according to ergonomic and formal considerations enhances its substandard value generating a spatial structure. Cardboard is a highly suitable material for kids furniture: it is lightweight, it has soft and warm properties and the kids can paint on it. Once it has served its time it can be disposed of with a clear conscience.



Manufacturing process

Each fragment of the pattern can be printed out on DIN A4/US letter or on DIN A3/Tabloid. Therefore the pattern charts can be manufactured everywhere. The assembly of the furniture requires only easily available tools and devices: cutter, ruler, folding tool, cutting mat, spray adhesive, needle, glue and masking tape. The printed fragments of the pattern are fitted together and fixed on a sheet of cardboard with spray adhesive. After this cut along the outlines of the pattern and press the edge of a ruler into the cardboard in order to have the folds at the right place. If one sticks together the matching lugs, the unrolling will turn into a spatial element. Each design consists of several elements, which glued together create a completed piece of furniture with no open edges: it turns out to have a surprising spatial virtue. The selected folding and gluing technique has originated a collection consisting of a stool, a chair and a rocker. All of them are ergonomically shaped due to the sculptured surface. For illustrated instructions visit the «How to» section on the website.



nicolafrombern

The furniture available through *foldschool* is designed by Swiss-based architect Nicola Enrico Stäubli (Bern, 1978). He completed his degree in architecture at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH) in 2004. After he gained experience as an architect he decided to broaden his field of activity - since 2005 Nicola Enrico Stäubli has been working under the label of *nicolafrombern* as an independent architect and designer. *Foldschool* is his first mass product.

www.foldschool.com
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