# Wire Chair

## Charles & Ray Eames, 1951



**Wire Chair**

Designed by Charles and Ray Eames out of welded steel wire, the Wire Chair is a variation on the theme of the organically shaped one-piece seat shell, combining transparent lightness with technological sophistication. The seat shell can be joined with a variety of different bases. The Wire Chair is available without upholstery, with a seat cushion or with a two-piece seat and back cushion known as the ‚Bikini' pad due to its shape.

The Wire Chairs have a powder-coated finish; some models also come in a chrome-plated version. DKR and DKX models with a powder-coated finish are ideally suited for both indoor and outdoor use.

In 2016 Vitra has added approximately 20 mm to the height of the Wire Chairs, while also revising the seat geometry. These modifications, which are aesthetically almost imperceptible, increase the comfort of this classic chair design, especially in combination with contemporary tables.

The Wire Chairs by Charles and Ray Eames owe their transparent look to the spot-welded steel wire shell, while the wooden base of the DKW (Dining Chair K-Wire Wood Base) lends a contrasting note of warmth to the essentially technical appearance of the design. The metal components of the DKW chair have a black powder-coated finish; the wooden legs of the base come in various shades of maple.

**Materials**

- **Upholstery:** unupholstered, with seat cushion or with seat and back pad. Seat and back pads can be removed and reattached; available in Hopsak fabric or leather.


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# Dining and Restaurants

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## Dining

Thanks to their new seat height, adjusted to today's needs, the Wire Chairs are ideal to be placed at contemporary dining tables. The various configurations in chrome, powder coating and wood, combined with the different covers in a range of colours, mean that the right Wire Chair can be found for every setting.

## Restaurants

Available in a number of different hard-wearing designs, the Wire Chair can be used in restaurants, canteens and cafeterias, not just at home.

## Materials

- **DKX:** Dining Height K-Wire Shell X-Base
- **Seat shell:** bent and welded steel wire, chrome-plated or powder-coated. The powder-coated version is suitable for outdoor use.
- **Base:** four-legged tubular steel base, surface finish matched to seat shell. Fitted with plastic glides for carpet; felt glides for hard floors optionally available.

- **DKW:** Dining Height K-Wire Shell Wood-Base
- **Seat shell:** bent and welded steel wire, powder-coated in basic dark.
- **Base:** solid maple with stained finish, steel rod cross struts. Fitted with plastic glides for carpet; felt glides for hard floors optionally available.

- **DKR:** Dining Height K-Wire Shell R-Wire Base
- **Seat shell:** bent and welded steel wire, chrome-plated or powder-coated. The powder-coated version is suitable for outdoor use.
- **Base:** four-legged base with cross struts, surface finish matched to seat shell. Fitted with plastic glides for carpet; felt glides for hard floors optionally available.



DKR | DKR 2 | DKX 5 | DKW | DKW 2

# Public Space, Conference and Meeting Rooms



## Public Space

The construction, from refined steel wire with spot welding, ensures that the Wire Chair is robust and stable and can be used in a variety of ways in public spaces. A number of completed projects bear witness to this, such as the installation of Wire Chairs in open areas at the bus station on the Vitra Campus, in the German town of Weil am Rhein.

## Conference and Meeting Rooms

For conference, meeting, media and other such rooms, where it is important to emphasise distinctive aesthetics, the iconic Wire Chairs are a great solution.

## Materials

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DKR 2



DKR 2



DKX 5



DKW



DKX 5

# Seat upholstery





### Cushions

The Wire Chairs can be equipped with a seat cushion or with a combination of a seat and back cushion. The latter is nicknamed the "Bikini" due to its shape.
The cushioned Bikini is available in fabric or leather. An elasticated band is used to stretch it over the chair, it is simply secured with small hooks and closed elegantly at the back with a button.
The seat cushion is adapted to the chair's geometry. The base consists of a contoured seat mount made of wood, that is cushioned and covered with material or leather.
The covers are available in Hopsak material or leather. Hopsak is available in 28 colours and leather in 30. The back of the leather cushion is covered with Plano fabric.

### Materials

- **Upholstery:** unupholstered, with seat cushion or with seat and back pad. Seat and back pads can be removed and reattached; available in Hopsak fabric or leather.

### A World of Colours

In collaboration with Dutch designer Hella Jongerius, Vitra has developed a wide range of cushion shades that permit endless options when it comes to colour combinations.



DKW 5



DKX 5



DKX 2



DKR 2



DKW 2



## Outdoor

The Wire Chair model versions DKR and DKX, featuring designs with a powder-coated finish and no seat cushion, are suitable for outdoor areas and wet areas. The powder coating is available in the colours black, cream and dark grey. The Wire Chair can be used in natural garden settings as well as on modern terraces due to its light aesthetics and it functions as a modest, yet distinctive accent.

### Materials

- **DKR:** Dining Height K-Wire Shell R-Wire Base
- **Seat shell:** bent and welded steel wire, chrome-plated or powder-coated. The powder-coated version is suitable for outdoor use.
- **Base:** four-legged base with cross struts, surface finish matched to seat shell. Fitted with plastic glides for carpet; felt glides for hard floors optionally available.



DKR



DKX

# The Authenticity of the Vitra Eames Collection

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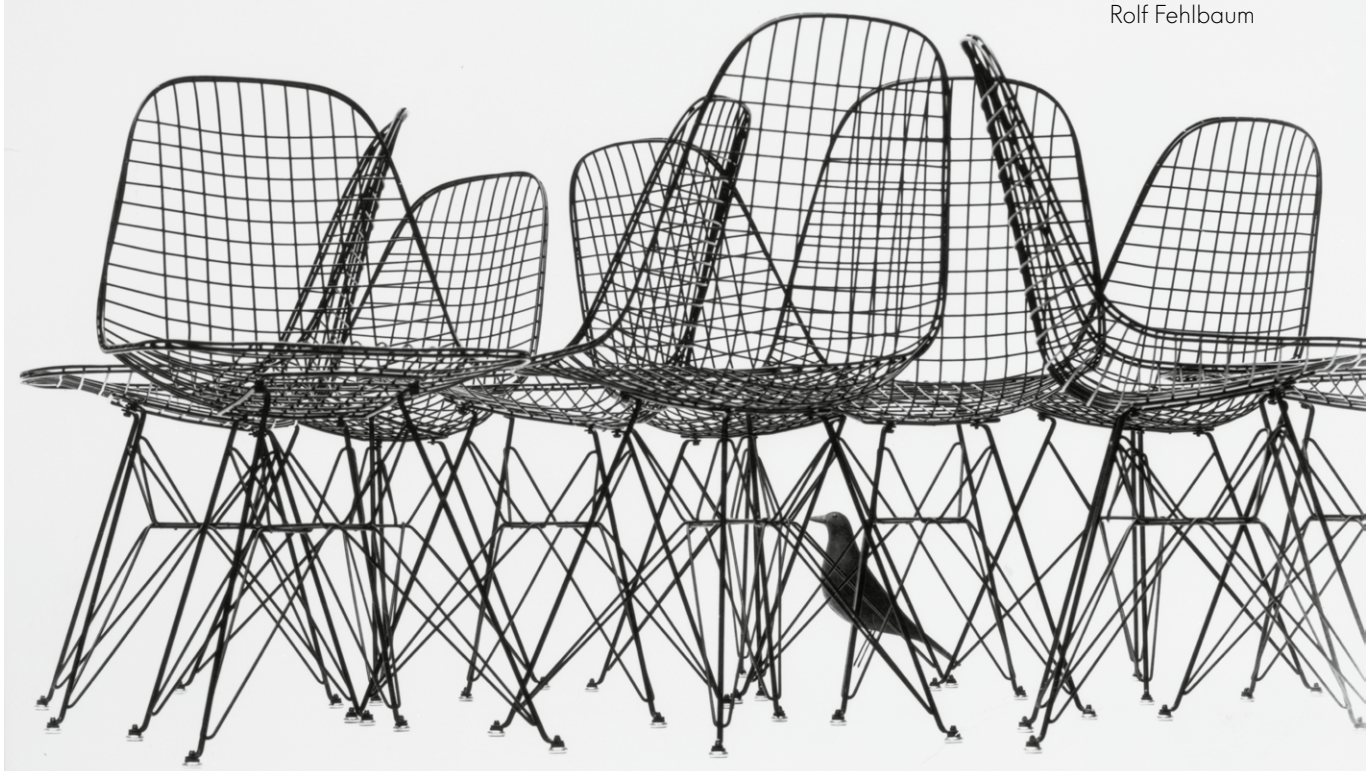
In design, the word "original" can be used if the legal and ideational requirements are fulfilled.

The term means that a design has been manufactured by the legitimate producers, regardless of the time of its creation, in the spirit of the designer and that it is therefore authentic.

A prerequisite for having the status of an original is, in fact, the relationship between the designer (or their descendants) and the manufacturer of the products. It has a legal and an ideational component. In order to be able to speak of an original, the designer must transfer the right to produce to the manufacturer. Anyone who manufactures a design without this legal basis is making use of a third party's property. That applies not only to the manufacturer but also to the consumer who purchases this product.

Just as important is the ideational relationship between designer and manufacturer. It expresses itself within the close collaboration on all production issues. The copyist does not have this relationship: the extent to which the copy deviates from the original idea, whether that is from lack of knowledge, sloppiness or cost-saving, remains unknown.

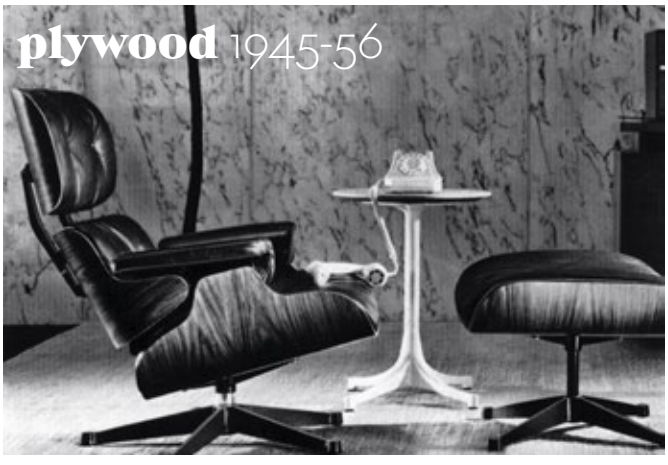
Rolf Fehlbaum



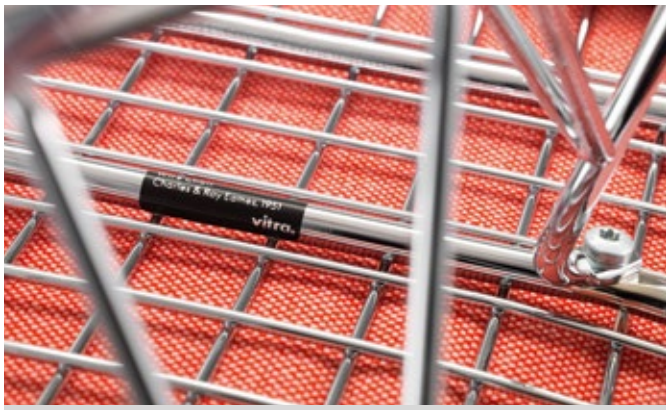
**wire** 1951



**plastic** 1948-61



**plywood** 1945-56



# Authenticity

In close cooperation with the Eames Office, which represents Charles & Ray Eames' family, Vitra guarantees that each Wire 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





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## Hopsak

100% polyamide | 550 g/m²

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 28 colours.



**71** yellow/pastel green

**85** mint/ivory

**69** grass-green/ ivory

**87** ivory/forest

**86** mint/forest

**81** ice blue/ivory

**83** blue/ivory

**74** dark blue/ivory

**70** grass green/ forest

**77** nero/forest

**73** petrol/moor brown

**82** ice blue/moor brown

**84** blue/moor brown

**75** dark blue/moor brown

Hopsak

**79** warmgrey/ivory

**80** warmgrey/moor brown

**88** cognac/ivory

**63** red/poppy red

**67** poppy red/ ivory

**05** dark grey

**76** marron/moor brown

**96** red/cognac

**68** pink/poppy red

**66** nero

**78** nero/moor brown

**62** red/moor brown

**65** coral/poppy red

**72** yellow/poppy red

Hopsak



## Checker

77 % cotton, 23 % polyester | 467 g/m²

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.



**01**
black/white

**Checker**



## Premium Leather

Thickness 1,1-1,3 mm, semi-aniline-leather

Premium leather is a relatively smooth cowhide leather with a flat grain and fine top sheen. It is dyed-through and lightly pigmented. The semi-aniline leather is soft to the touch, like a leather glove.
Premium leather is available in 22 colours.





**72/88**
snow/white



**71/80**
sand/coffee



**87/54**
plum/brown



**60/69**
smoke blue/dark grey



**73/70**
clay/stone



**63/80**
cashew/coffee



**74/80**
olive/coffee



**97/67**
cognac/cognac



**69/54**
marron/brown



**61/69**
umbra grey/ dark grey



**64/05**
cement/ cream white/sierra grey



**62/80**
ochre/coffee



**58/40**
khaki/ coconut/ forest



**93/11**
brandy/ marron/cognac



**77/54**
brown/brown



**67/69**
asphalt/dark grey



**65/19**
granite/sierra grey



**75/80**
camel/coffee



**59/40**
jade/ coconut/ forest



**22/96**
red stone/ red/ cognac



**68/54**
chocolate/ brown



**66/66**
nero/nero

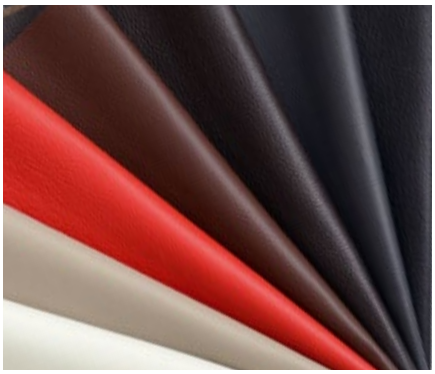
**Leather Premium/back panel Plano**



## Leather

Thickness 1,1-1,3 mm, pigmented leather

The standard grade leather used by Vitra is a robust cowhide leather, dyed-through, pigmented and embossed with an even grain pattern. Since it is hard-wearing and easy to maintain, it can also be used in office environments.
Standard Leather is available in 7 colours.



**72/88**
snow/white

**21/19**
dim grey/sierra grey

**69/54**
marron/brown

**71/80**
sand/coffee

**67/69**
asphalt/dark grey

**68/54**
chocolate/ brown

**66/66**
nero/nero

Leather/back panel Plano

## OBERFLÄCHEN UND FARBEN

**17**
cream matte powder-coated (smooth)

**32**
dark grey powder-coated (smooth)

**01**
chrome

**30**
basic dark powder-coated (smooth)

Seat and base (Wire Chair DKR, In- & Outdoor)

**30**
basic dark powder-coated (smooth)

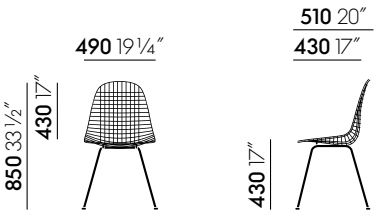
Seat and base (Wire Chair DKR, DKX)

**30**
basic dark powder-coated (smooth)

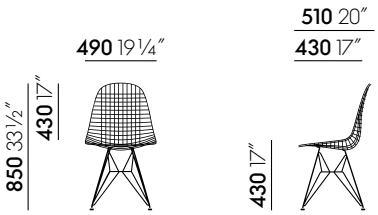
Seat and base (Wire Chair DKX, In- & Outdoor)

**30**
basic dark powder-coated (smooth)

Seat shell


490 19¼″
850 33½″
430 17″
510 20″
430 17″
430 17″

DKX


490 19¼″
850 33½″
430 17″
510 20″
430 17″
430 17″

DKR


490 19¼″
850 33½″
430 17″
510 20″
430 17″
430 17″

DKW

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**www.vitra.com/wirechair**