

ID Chair Concept

Developed by Vitra in Switzerland

Design: Antonio Citterio, 2010/2016

The ID Chair Concept makes it possible to configure an almost endless number of individual chairs based on the same system. Different variations of the FlowMotion synchronised mechanism, a selection of backrests, seats, armrests and bases, along with a broad array of fabric colours and accessories, give the customer great freedom in choosing the perfect office chair for virtually any area or type of use.

Modern knowledge workers desire a high degree of personal autonomy in office environments, and they value the task chair above all other furnishings. The ID Chair Concept enables companies to take the specific needs of diverse users and groups into account by providing 'different' ID Chairs – thus enabling an individualised workspace. At the same time, the ID Chair Concept lends a distinctive identity to both the company and its office interiors. The modular ID Chair system offers seating options for project teams or entire departments that fulfil a wide range of functional demands, while its harmonious aesthetic conveys a unified corporate image.

The patented FlowMotion mechanism is the core element of the design. This compact mechanical unit allows a continuous range of movement in the backrest and – as a new innovation – enables a forward and backward tilting motion coupled with synchronised weight adjustment. A scientific study of the ID Chair and the FlowMotion mechanism conducted by the Institute for Biomechanics at ETH Zurich yielded the following conclusions: dynamic sitting can actively prevent health problems, and the forward tilt function of the seat has especially beneficial effects. It activates the muscles and triggers movement in all segments of the lower spine. This increases blood flow to the muscles and enhances the diffusion of nutrients to the intervertebral discs, thereby improving overall health.

A selection of six different backrests are available for the ID Chair: a transparent 3D spacer fabric, stretched over the frame, emphasises the chair's technical elegance (ID Mesh); an upholstered backrest with foam padding, which comes in two different heights, has a classic, neutral look (ID Soft and ID Soft L); a sandwich construction, also available in two heights, conveys an aura of modern craftsmanship (ID Trim and ID Trim L); and an innovative perforated plastic backrest permits great freedom of movement (ID Air). The chair can be further adapted to personal needs with functional components such as lumbar supports, armrests, headrests or coat hangers. Cover fabrics in a wide range of hues introduce many options besides black – the dominant colour for traditional task chairs – providing a rich palette to complement the airy, home-like comfort of modern office environments.

In 2016, Vitra has continued to expand this successful family of chairs: in addition to the standard seat, which allows the sitter to move freely, a new contour seat has been developed. The curved profile of

the contour seat supplies additional lateral support and an immediate sense of comfort. Furthermore, the model ID Soft, featuring an upholstered backrest, has now been supplemented by ID Soft L, a version with a taller backrest.

The ID Chair Concept is also attractive from an economic perspective. It enables companies to provide for the different seating requirements of their employees without having to acquire several different types of task chairs. The modular ID system makes it possible to calculate from the very outset with an exact price-performance ratio, and its service-friendly maintenance and sustainable quality can be relied on for the entire service life of the products. Vitra's comprehensive warranty and service options are paired with the high quality of its technical solutions, materials and design aesthetics to ensure longevity. The ergonomic characteristics, versatility and durability of seating products based on the ID Chair Concept arise from over 40 years of technological evolution at Vitra and from the proven design competence of Antonio Citterio.

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