

Barber & Osgerby and Vitra

Edward Barber and Jay Osgerby have worked together with Vitra for over ten years, sharing the same passion for challenge, exploration and design. A request for school furnishings in 2008 presented the first opportunity for an exciting and innovative collaboration: the result was Tip Ton – a chair that offers dynamic movement, with physical and mental benefits. The creative partnership has been evolving ever since.

Edward Barber and Jay Osgerby met as fellow students at the Royal College of Art in London, where they both graduated in architecture. Together, they founded their industrial design studio in 1996 and went on to create Universal Design Studio, an architecture and interior design practice, in 2001 and the innovation incubator Map in 2012.

'Every time we start a project, we approach it like it's the first thing we've ever done.' Jay Osgerby

Motion plays an integral role in the designer duo's projects — movement in products, with products (Olympic Torch 2012) and even in the design process and in user thinking. They always try to look at new ways of doing things, often not ending up where they thought they would. This change of direction reflects their open mind, transversal design approach and the diversity of their projects.

The partnership with Vitra has produced a portfolio that is as innovative as it is diverse: from Tip Ton (2008) to the Wood Table and Bench (2014) to the Mariposa Sofa (2014). The new Pacific Chair is their first office chair for Vitra. Visually calm and simple to use, this latest design takes movement to the next level.

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