

Rookie

Developed by Vitra in Switzerland

Design: Konstantin Grcic, 2018

For many years Vitra has been working with Konstantin Grcic on the development of concepts and products for agile and flexible working environments of the future. It is in this context that Rookie was developed, a small and – by office standards – unconventionally simple chair. It provides a high level of immediate comfort with a minimal number of adjustments.

‘Rookie is all about flexibility and change. Its design aesthetic symbolises that magic moment when something new is beginning, but everything is still up in the air. A student can use Rookie as a solo desk chair, but at the same time this chair could be found on the premises of the most diverse companies. It is designed for environments that encourage the creation and exchange of ideas.’ Konstantin Grcic.

Rookie has a spring-mounted swivel seat that is height-adjustable. An invisible joint at the front edge of the seat ensures that the lower thighs slope down comfortably while working in a forward-leaning position. The backrest is also height-adjustable and flexes slightly in response to the user’s movements.

A few aesthetic details reveal affinities with Allstar, the first office chair developed by Grcic for Vitra. Just like Allstar, Rookie is suited for use in modern offices, universities and other environments where users are not inclined to make a lot of adjustments, because they move around a lot and can spontaneously choose their work setting.

Modern injection moulding technology is used to manufacture Rookie’s plastic seat shell, which extends upward to join the height-adjustable, upholstered backrest element and provide vertical support for the spinal column.

A selection of various fabrics and one type of leather are offered for the seat and backrest covers of Rookie. This presents a wide range of possible colours that can be combined with all types of furnishings, whether subtle or striking. And as every single one of these materials and colours belongs to the Vitra Colour & Material Library curated by Hella Jongerius, the products can be grouped together to designate special areas or team zones within an office or interpreted in the context of a corporate colour scheme.