WALTER KNOLL

Press Release

Shinzo Lounge Chair.

Design. EOOS.

At the intersection of top quality, masterly craftsmanship and timeless aesthetics

A piece of furniture that reflects our entire expertise: our new signature piece immediately brings quality to a room and makes an impressive statement. Showcasing the strength of craftsmanship from the fine decorative seams to the precise upholstery, the combination of wood, leather, fabric and steel, and its very own look. Shinzo is a result of more than 25 years of lasting partnership and deep devotion – of EOOS and Walter Knoll.

"Everything we know, everything we have experienced together, has gone into this armchair."

Martin Bergmann, EOOS

The armchair is the result of our common understanding. It demonstrates what we stand for and what is important to us. It is the culmination of the creation and identity of EOOS and Walter Knoll. Shinzo is an expression of the demands we make on design language, workmanship, comfort and durability.

Shinzo means heart in Japanese

The heart of the chair, the upper back, was created during the design process of cutting and material tensioning. Its geometric freeform gives expression to its rare rational emotionality. And last but not least, Shinzo, because of its uniqueness and the years of work involved in the design, has become a matter of the heart for both partners – a genuine favorite.

For a lifetime

Martin Bergmann from EOOS: "Shinzo is very much a candidate for becoming a life companion. This armchair has what it takes to become an icon, we know that from experience. I can just imagine it being passed down from one generation to the next, enjoying a second and third life. It will work in another life, in its next one – made for a lifetime and beyond."

We would greatly appreciate a courtesy copy. Thank you.

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"Even though the armchair is distinctly complex, it takes just a second to realize: this is true character.

Shinzo is unmistakable. There is so much to discover about it."

Gernot Bohmann, EOOS

Design

Shinzo's characteristic appearance, the significant geometry, the exact surfaces and the fourfold materiality of solid wood, saddle leather, fabric and steel attract attention: How is that done? There is a special story behind every single detail. Shinzo invites you to experience its beauty and complexity.

Material & finishing

All natural materials are carefully selected and combined by us, creating, a tactile and visual sensation. When combined with craftsmanship, the result is a diverse product experience.

Over the years, we have taken the greatest care to develop manufacturing processes which enable us to make a complex product which doesn't reveal a single screw. The saddle leather is finished in house at workshop in Herrenberg. We use a recessed decorative seam in Shinzo, as otherwise only seen in the finest tack.

Both sewing and upholstering the chair require the greatest dexterity. In this way, Shinzo's fine seams, hand-dyed saddle leather edge and the artistic upholstery attest to a high level of craftsmanship. The frame forms the basis for the precise upholstery, finely divided by leather-covered piping. As a graphic element, the piping supports the three-dimensional look of the upholstery.

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Function & variation

You gently sink into the soft, generous cushion, the sloping back provides a pleasant surface to lean on, relaxed arms rest on the wide solid wood armrests. Its fine, warm tactile surfaces entice and encourage a sense of touch.

Shinzo is mobile: despite its size, the armchair gracefully floats through the room. With its discrete castors and elegant handle on the back, the armchair is easy to move.

Shinzo is available in lots of variants which can be put together individually. The armchair comes in two sizes – with a high or low back. The matching footstool functions as both a convenient footrest and very comfortable seat. Choose from our four solid wood colors, different saddle leather and fabrics, bases in bronze or black. The leather piping can also be made in one of our Saddle leather colors to coordinate with the back shield.