40/4 A moving legacy

40/4 by David Rowland / An icon moving the world





We believe in the sense of movement at HOWE; the idea that what we do is not only moving the levels of craftsmanship or the confinements within design but also the people who use it every day.

This is why all chairs and tables from HOWE offer impeccable functionality. You can fold them. You can stack them. You can roll them any way that you want, optimising the spaces in which we work, think, study and communicate.

Just as you can feel comfort in them; the look, the originality, the way form follows function to the very last detail. Time and time again.

We are HOWE and we believe in moving design. Since 1928.



Intelligent, purposeful, refined design

The journey of the 40/4 chair began one afternoon in Rowland's New York apartment when he was experimenting with stackable chair designs and challenged himself to figure out a design that would allow the greatest number of chairs to fit into the smallest space. Eventually, he realised he could stack 40 chairs to a height of 4 feet. Rowland continued to develop the 40/4 in his spare time for the next eight years, constantly refining the design. He built 32 handmade full scale models in order to perfect the principles, form, and comfort of the chair.

40/4 chair by David Rowland 1964







Recognised as the world's first stacking chair

The 40/4 chair is recognised as one of the most important and groundbreaking designs of the 20th century for its compact stackability, excellent ergonomics and comfort, versatility, and timeless grace.



Learn more: https://davidrowland.design



40/4 Moving the world



Most people see the 40/4 as a pioneering design that has stood the test of time. We like to think of it as a legacy that continues to move you in new ways.











40/4 upholstered side chairs KULTURØEN Middelfart, Denmark



SIMPLY REMARKABLE

David Rowland's 40/4 stackable chair is one of the most important designs of the 20th century. Its elegant lines, excellent ergonomics, and unsurpassed ability to create space without taking up space continues to attract architects and designers. An indisputable icon of multifunctional design, the 40/4 chair is featured in design collections and museums all over the world.



Long-lasting durability

Our hard-wearing furniture solutions have a proven track record stretching back more than 45 years - they simply become companions.

2500 40/4 chairs by David Rowland at St. Paul's Cathedral in the UK have been used and moved each day since 1973 and are still in good condition.















40/4 veneer side chairs ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL London, UK







Optimising space



40 chairs on a single dolly take up only 0,47 m^2 / 5.1 ft 2 of floor space.

160 chairs on a quadruple dolly take up less than 2 m² / 21.5 ft² of floor space.





72"











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The service of design to the world is to be purposeful and problem-solving.

David Rowland



Designer David Rowland

40/4 is as strong and sturdy as it is refined. Its gentle, contoured lines disguise the chair's rugged durability. The elegant and minimalist design allows it to effortlessly exist within diverse architectural venues.









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40/4 side chairs PFARRZENTRUM Hard, Austria

Photo: Marcel Mayer Architect: Architecthaus Früh













Custom engraved monogram NOTE NOTE

with custom engraved monogram CHAPELLE DES JÉSUITES Saint-Omer, France

40/4 veneer side chairs







40/4 plastic side chairs BI - CAMPUS TRONDHEIM Trondheim, Norway

















40/4 upholstered armchairs UN CITY Copenhagen, Denmark







40/4 linking







LD5S linking (EN 14703 compliant)

Armchair linking



Hook-eye linking

Fin linking







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David Rowland

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40/4 writing tablet

With or without cup holder Right or left-handed version

Side chair



Armchair











40/4 swivel

Veneer/plastic/upholstered

Side chair - veneer/plastic



Armchair - veneer/plastic











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40/4 auditorium

Veneer/plastic/upholstered

40/4 upholstered auditorium chairs with writing tablets UCC CAMPUS CARLSBERG Copenhagen, Denmark

Photo: Paustian









40/4 barstool

Veneer/plastic/upholstered/outdoor

Veneer/plastic



Counter height Veneer/plastic













40/4 wood frame

Veneer/seat upholstered







Floor linking











40/4 upholstered side chairs + Tutor tables ESSEC BUSINESS SCHOOL Cergy-Pontoise, France













40/4 veneer side chairs SILVER SPRING CIVIC CENTER Silver Spring, USA







 A 40/4 plastic side chairs
THE SIBYL CENTRE AT THE WOMEN'S COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY Sydney, Australia 40/4 veneer side chairs V ESCUELAS PÍAS Madrid, Spain





∧ 40/4 beam seating ECODROOM Geel, Belgium

40/4 semi-upholstered side chairs V IKAST GYMNASIUM Ikast, Denmark







40/4 veneer side chairs AIRBNB INC. San Francisco, USA

Moving Sustainability

At HOWE we believe that good design is design that moves you. Just as we believe that every good design must contribute to a more sustainable future. Because our world needs it more than ever.

No matter the scale or requirements of your project, no matter how you want to work out your ideas, we continue to provide you with the utmost sustainable value.

We use the environmental-friendly chrome III, not the conventional chrome IV. We do not use any kind of toxic chemicals and have plastic identification codes for maximum recycling value. In fact, we have a complete environmental guide and certifications, ISO 9001, ISO 14001, FSC and PEFC, also Global GreenTag^{CertTM} and HPDs to back it up.

This is our move. This is us, ensuring that every design from HOWE delivers a valuable difference, whether it concerns originality, functionality or indispensable sustainability. Because it has never made more sense.











The mark of responsible forestry Suffolk One case story

Suffolk One case story

Suffolk One provides top level education facilities for over 2,000 16 to 19 year old students. The objective was to develop an inclusive and inspirational Learning Centre, sitting in the heart of a collaborative learning community where all talents and achievements are valued. The innovative design acts as a mirror for the fresh approach to education.



40/4 chairs + Tempest tables SUFFOLK ONE Ipswich, UK 40/4

BY DAVID ROWLAND When choosing seating, sturdiness of the chairs was important. In a school environment, the chairs are likely to experience hard and frequent use. Suffolk One chose the 40/4 chair due to its durability, as well as its simple and elegant design.

Suffolk One case story

Monash University case story

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Monash University case story

Monash University has pioneered a new educational environment of 65 learning spaces – both formal and informal – for its 25,000 students. In doing so, it has created a concept called 'education innovation', which inspires a more contemporary approach to learning. Here the focus is placed as squarely on pre- and post-class learning as on traditional in-class learning.



40/4 chairs + SixE chairs MONASH UNIVERSITY Melbourne, Australia Photo: Jesse Hisco Photography







STUDY SPACES AND NOOKS The architects have designed in a vast number of informal study spaces and nooks. For many of these spaces, they've chosen HOWE as a design partner to provide seating. Two of HOWE's chair families – 40/4 and SixE – sit within the Clayton Campus, across meeting rooms and informal breakout spaces, canteen facilities and study areas.

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The pre- and post-class learning is self-directed and ideally happens on the university campus, with students learning from each other. It's a learning process that needs an informal setting.

> Meaghan Dwyer Principal at John Wardle Architects



Sacred space

Salisbury Cathedral

in the UK is a beautiful, historic building and a world-class heritage attraction. As the Cathedral is host to many different events, chairs often need to be moved, removed, and stacked. The design of the furniture, however, must respect the dignified environment of the cathedral. The 40/4 chair was chosen for its proven durability and simple design.





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