

BENCHMARK

THE SAGE COLLECTION BY DAVID ROCKWELL FOR BENCHMARK



Sage High Sofas and Occasional Table by David Rockwell for Benchmark

Leading British furniture maker Benchmark presents a new collection of furniture by award-winning American architect David Rockwell at 100% Design from 18 – 21 September, during the London Design Festival.

The Sage Collection is designed for office and commercial/hospitality environments as well as the home, with a specific focus on human health and well-being within the built environment and meets the standards required for WELL certified buildings. The tenets of biophilic design inspired the collection, with its natural materials, colours and textures, rounded profiles and inviting ergonomic shapes. These elements are intrinsic in the work of both Benchmark and David Rockwell, which, together with an interest in transformation and mobility, have resulted in a collection that offers moments of both refuge and prospect.

The collection comprises of sit-stand desks, meeting tables, sofas, a lounge chair, occasional tables and storage all of which is made with only natural, sustainable non-toxic materials and finishes combining ash, sycamore and oak with patinated copper accents and textured wool upholstery.

The characteristics of wellbeing, comfort, privacy, and flexibility are all requirements of a modern, vibrant workplace and have informed the Sage collection.



Sage Meeting / Dining Table and Bench, Sage Sofa by David Rockwell for Benchmark

In an effort to challenge the way that upholstery is usually constructed, Benchmark has chosen not to use plastic foam and has instead developed the collection with entirely natural materials including coir, latex, sheep's wool, and recycled cotton. This overcomes the significant environmental concerns surrounding the disposal of plastic foam in landfill as well as eliminating the need for toxic, fire-retardant chemicals.

With complete material transparency and low chemical emissions, the Sage Collection launches with the DECLARE label, an internationally recognised 'nutrition' label which provides complete material transparency showing a product's wellness and sustainability credentials to help specifiers source products that consider both the environment and human health.

The Sage Collection comprises:

- **Sage Sofa / Sage High Sofa**

Available in 2- and 3-seater high and low-back variations, the curving timber frame of the Sage Sofa emphasises the natural grain of the wood. Generous cushions and full width upholstered seats, which are made from 100% natural non-toxic materials, provide a welcoming feel with essential support and comfort. The high back creates an individualised environment in open-plan workspaces, allowing for privacy and acoustic separation.

The combination of natural fillings with 100% natural and sustainable wool upholstery eradicates the need for toxic fire-retardant chemicals. The Sage Sofa is available in oak with a natural or whitened oil finish or in walnut with a clear natural oil finish.

With extra height, the Sage High Sofa is a great way to divide a space or provide some extra privacy.



Sage Sit-Stand Workbench and Desk by David Rockwell for Benchmark

- **Sage Sit-Stand Workbench and Desk**

Inspired by the classic drafting desk, the Sage Sit-Stand Workbench and Desk transform from seating to standing and offer a contemporary solution for flexible work surfaces. Signature details such as rounded corners and soft waterfall edges add a sense of comfort and tranquil touch. A 100% wool felt and natural cork privacy panel acts as a useful pinboard and space divider for the Workbench, which also features an illuminated arch. For the Desk, the panel folds up and down as the height is adjusted. Both offer integrated power and data and a helpful felt bag on the underside of the desks to organise cables.

The Sit-Stand Workbench and Desk are available in a range of timbers and finishes, including sycamore, oak, and walnut tops - all with natural oil finishes. The mechanics come in grey or black while all variations feature patinated copper detailing. 100% felt wool panels are available in a range of colours.

- **Sage Lounge Chair**

The Sage Lounge Chair has a curved back and tactile edge profile that celebrates the natural wood's materiality and fluidity. Relaxed cushions, made from 100% natural and fire-safe upholstery, deliver comfort whilst the neat proportions make it a flexible choice for breakout areas, offices, and the home. The Lounge Chair is available in oak with a whitened natural oil finish or in walnut with a clear natural oil finish.

- **Sage Bench**

Versatile and adaptable, the Sage Bench is offered in three styles: a fully upholstered seat; part-upholstered seat with back; and with a solid timber top. The upholstery is made from 100% natural non-toxic materials. The Sage Bench is available in sycamore, oak and walnut with clear or natural oil finishes.

- **Sage Meeting / Dining Tables**

The versatile Sage Meeting / Dining Tables are available in round, oblong and rectangular shapes all featuring the collection's signature rounded forms and patinated copper detailing. The rectangular format is available as both a static and sit-stand option which is height adjustable for flexible and ergonomic working. The round format is available as both seated and standing height. All include integrated power and data.

The Sage Meeting / Dining Tables are available in the following finishes:

- Solid sycamore top with a whitened natural oil finish and ash underframe with a grey tinted natural oil finish and grey sit-stand mechanics
- Solid oak top with a whitened natural oil finish and oak or ash underframe with a grey tinted natural oil finish and black or grey sit-stand mechanics
- Solid walnut top with a clear natural oil finish, walnut underframe and black sit-stand mechanics.

- **Sage Credenza**

An essential space planning element, the Sage Credenza is made in solid oak or walnut with sliding doors featuring patinated copper handles. With the addition of an optional shelving unit, the credenza can act as a room divider or stand against a wall to provide useful storage and various space configurations. Internally, the credenza has adjustable shelving and the option for cable management and ventilation for media equipment. The Sage credenza is available in oak with a whitened natural oil finish or in walnut finished with a clear natural oil.

- **Sage Occasional Tables**

The Sage Occasional Tables function as side tables, coffee tables, and work surfaces to complement the collection's upholstered seating and benching. Tables are available in oak and sycamore with a whitened natural oil finish or in walnut with a clear natural oil finish.

Discussing the new collection, David Rockwell, founder of Rockwell Group says: *“My team and I were inspired by the simplicity of Benchmark’s approach and their passion for finely wrought craft and honest materials to create a collection that is visually calming and intuitive. With productivity, healthfulness, and comfort in mind, we wanted to create a vibrant collection for what people want today.”*

Sean Sutcliffe, Founder of Benchmark says: *“Working together with David and his team, we have created a collection that we can all feel very good about. In a world that is full of plastic solutions, we think that the Sage collection brings a very fresh look using the most modern of materials – solid wood. We hope that its users will benefit not only from its aesthetics but also the inherent wellness it will bring.”*

The Sage Collection is on show at 100% Design from 18-21 September.

Notes to Editors:

About Benchmark

Founded by Terence Conran and Sean Sutcliffe over thirty years ago, Benchmark are widely regarded as a powerhouse of craft. With a sustainable approach at the heart of everything they do, Benchmark design and make furniture using traditional craft techniques alongside innovative technology. Benchmark’s particular strength is making spaces more human, welcoming and personal, blurring the lines between home and commercial space and instilling natural warmth and soul. All of their furniture is made in their own workshops in West Berkshire, and Dorset in England, which means that they are able to offer a fully bespoke service to create truly individual spaces.

www.benchmarkfurniture.com

About Rockwell Group

Based in New York with a satellite office in Madrid, Rockwell Group is an interdisciplinary architecture and design firm that emphasizes innovation and thought leadership in every project. Founded by David Rockwell, FAIA, and led by David and partners Shawn Sullivan and Greg Keffer, the 250-person firm merges theatre, performance and architecture to create extraordinary experiences and built environments across the globe, including restaurants, hotels, and airport terminals, to products, museum exhibitions, and Broadway sets.

www.rockwellgroup.com

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