

# 27 Chairs: Eames

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## Today

Gary Marshall on Carlos Cruz-Diez  
Eames Lounge

## Modern Chairs

Charles and Ray Eames, husband and wife, members of Mid Century Modern/Organic design movement. Pioneered fiberglass and molded plywood seating. Many designs for huge furniture manufacturer Hermann Miller (Grand Rapids, MI). Eames Intro: <http://www.eamesoffice.com/eames-office/charles-and-ray/>

They made a number of educational films as well. My favorite is

Powers of Ten: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0fKBhvDjuy0>

watch!

Eames were big in the Organic movement: Incorporated user experience philosophy (the good host, providing comfort) with pioneering manufacturing process; formed plywood shells + upholstery

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUOFhnWTbm0> The Eames Creative Process.

You have probably sat in this at an airport:



Eames Tandem Sling, by [Herman Miller](#). Still available new. Aluminum frame, vinyl fabric. 2 seater \$4200 up to 47 seats for \$24K. Refurbished with leather, \$6K on Etsy. I always try to sit in these at airports; they fit me.

<https://www.cooperhewitt.org/2017/01/10/title-to-comees108-sofa/>

Cooper Hewitt is the US design museum, part of the Smithsonian, located in NYC



ES 108 sofa

## Eames Lounge Chair and Ottoman



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBLMoMhIAfM&feature=youtu.be> Eames introduce the lounge chair on national TV, the Today Show, in 1956 . Long, and difficult for a feminist to watch.

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(Hermann Miller part numbers 670/671)

Design notes <http://www.eamesoffice.com/blog/eames-lounge-chair-is-cared-for/>

BRANDMADE.TV. How an Eames Lounge Chair Is Made - BrandmadeTV, 2015. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SFaLpbmPOYw> . Provides context. Horrible music. 8 minutes.

How We Make the Eames Lounge Chair: Six New Films About the Classic, n.d.

Eames Office. 670/671 (13 Minute Version) by Eames Demetrios, 2013.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=40&v=tbF8QYU4LSA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=40&v=tbF8QYU4LSA)

Designed specifically for mass production, **organically** so that the elements of the mass production process actually enhance the design of the chair. Aimed at the middle class. Now \$4935, still available new from Herman Miller, more than 50 years after its introduction. Priced a bit high for the current middle class.

\$300 Herman Miller Eames Replica Lounge Chair - Is It Any Good? 10/16/2018

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJ4HjiUbCRs> Review. Doesn't actually recline...


[https://www.amazon.com/Mophorn-Ottoman-Century-Recliner-Armchair/dp/B07J4VQT5J/ref=as\\_li\\_ss\\_tl?](https://www.amazon.com/Mophorn-Ottoman-Century-Recliner-Armchair/dp/B07J4VQT5J/ref=as_li_ss_tl?)

[keywords=eames+replica&qid=1550044298&s=gateway&sr=8-6&th=1&linkCode=sl1&tag=hitmanb88-20&linkId=e8f10eef0c3b3e5ac756250e51193b63&language=en\\_US](https://www.pinterest.com/pin/keywords=eames+replica&qid=1550044298&s=gateway&sr=8-6&th=1&linkCode=sl1&tag=hitmanb88-20&linkId=e8f10eef0c3b3e5ac756250e51193b63&language=en_US) \$550



<https://shanechendesign.com/lounge-mouse>

However, the Eames' goal was a single piece, inexpensive chair. Plywood was hard to mold in 3D. They tried stamped steel and aluminum. Eventually they made one from a new material, fiberglass; i.e. glass fibers impregnated with polyester (epoxy) resin: the Shell chair



**The Eames Molded Plastic & Fiberglass Armchair** is a fiberglass chair, designed by Charles and Ray Eames, that appeared on the market in 1950. The chair was intentionally designed for the 'International Competition for Low-Cost Furniture Design.

**Designer:** Charles and Ray Eames


**Style / tradition:** Mid-century modern furniture d...

**Materials:** Zenaloy (polyester reinforced with fi...

**Date:** 1948-1950

[en.wikipedia.org › wiki › Eames\\_Fiberglass\\_Armchair](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eames_Fiberglass_Armchair)

[Eames Fiberglass Armchair - Wikipedia](#)



Robin Day's 1960s stackable Polyside chair relauches









Eames Tucker | 20 September 2015 | 7 comments

Later redone in polypropylene by Robin Day

Life Magazine article, 1950: "Eames is so interested in making the products of his drawing board available at the lowest cost that the modest retail price of his recent chair (\$32.50) bothers him... he guiltily feels that it should sell for less." \$32 in 1950 is equivalent to \$350 today.

About 1,310,000,000 results (1.09 seconds)

Ads - Shop side chair

 <p>SALE</p>	 <p>SALE</p>						
<p>Knoll Spark ... <b>\$179.00</b> <del>\$240</del> knoll.com</p>	<p>Carson ... <b>\$257.95</b> <del>\$287</del> Overstock.c... ★★★★★ (29)</p>	<p>The ... <b>\$179.00</b> Levity Free shipping</p>	<p>Newnan 26.5" <b>\$269.99</b> Wayfair ★★★★★ (105)</p>	<p>High-quality ... <b>\$324.00</b> Rove Conce...</p>	<p>Gray Fabric ... <b>\$599.00</b> Article ★★★★★ (118)</p>	<p>Verity Leather <b>\$599.00</b> Poly and Bark Free shipping</p>	<p>Wishbone ... <b>\$209.00</b> Interior Icons ★★★★★ (46)</p>