CHAIRS

Klismos  Greek 5th & 4th century BCE
Curving, splayed sabre-shaped legs
Hand carved
Fabric or animal skin on the seat.

MICHAEL THONET
Bentwood chairs, light and curvilinear.
Developed a system of steam bent veneers.
Seats of cane or plywood.
Mass production, low prices
Cafe chair 1st produced 1859 & still in production.

MARCEL BREUER, architect Bauhaus
Among first to use tubular steel

Wassily Chair
For painter Wassily Kandinsky's home
Tubular-steel & leather

Cesca Chair
Most archetypal ex. of steel furniture
Woven cane seat, cantilever
"Cesca" after daughter Francesca.

MIES VAN DER ROHE
Cantilever Chair
With and without arms
Tubular steel and leather

Barcelona Chair (Mies)
First displayed International Exposition 1929
Chrome frame
Leather upholstery & straps
Cantilevered over x frame

Brno Chair
For Tugendhat House in Brno, Czech
Cantilever
steel and leather

LE CORBUSIER
Grand Comfort Armchair
Furniture = machine for sitting
Chrome plated tubular steel frame.
Leather cover

Chaise Lounge
Rubber webbing and animal skin/leather
Rocking and multiple positions

EERO SAARINEN
Tulip chair
One leg - pedestal chair
Reinforced-plastic shell
Load-bearing capabilities of early plastic required aluminum stem.

Womb chair
Covered fiberglass shell with:
foam rubber padding and upholstery

RAY & CHARLES EAMES
Architect & Furniture design,
Function of chair more important than appearance.
Charles & Ray Eames (husband & wife) and
Eero Saarinen developed (1940's):
New laminates & wood bending techniques,
Fiberglass and plastics for furniture.
Produced for Navy during the WWII:
Wood leg splints, stretchers, & aircraft parts

Eames Wood Dining Room Chair
Laminated Wood
Some with metal legs
Some animal hide upholstery
mechanical details visible

Lounge Chair and Ottoman
Eames' first design for luxury market
Leather and wood
Not mass-produced, hand labor & craftsmanship

EAMES AND SAARINEN
Plastic armchair
Fiberglass shell
Material developed for aircraft radar domes
First fiberglass chair

ARNE JACOBSEN, Danish architect
Ant Chair Jacobsen's most successful design
Still in production
1 piece molded plywood seat & back

Egg Chair
Shell + molded polyurethane foam
Upholstered with fabric or leather
Can swivel & adjustable
Tension depending on the user's weight.
Star base is made of aluminum.

Swan Chair
Similar to egg chair, with wings.

GERRIT RIETVELD
Red and Blue Chair 1918
Regarded as first modernist chair.
Lacquered wood
RIETVELD (CONT.)
Zig-Zag
Wood, cantilever
Response to Bauhaus steel chairs

ALVAR AALTO  Finnish Architect
Cantilever
Removed layers of veneer at areas of greatest curve
Laminated birch, bent and rolled to provide support

60’S CHAIRS:
Pop culture in / functionalism out
Explore the new materials and processes.

VERNÉR PANTON
First single-piece plastic chair
Borrowed shape of Rietveld’s Zig-Zag

HANS WEGNER, Danish
Peacock Chair
solid ash and teak
comfort was a goal
Classic Chair (aka “The chair”)
solid teak, woven cane seat
harmony of craftsmanship & modern design
handmade
sculpture-like forms.
Careful study of human form

ITALIAN CHAIRS:
Sacco
Leather or vinyl bag
Filled with polystyrene beads
Marilyn (After Marilyn Monroe)
Lips design
Reinterpretation of Dali’s Mae West Sofa
Lightweight foam construction
Joe
(After Joe DiMaggio)
Inspired by Claes Oldenburg
Natural glove leather, expensive
Molded polyurethane foam
Blow (inflated)
pop material
cheap and expendable

70’S CHAIRS
Growing concern over environment:
Oil crisis of 1973, earth’s dwindling resources.

FRANK GEHRY
Easy Edges
Laminated corrugated cardboard
Immediate success, withdrawn by Gehry
( Didn’t want to distract from reputation as architect.)

Little Beaver
Edges left as if an animal had been chewing
Laminated corrugated cardboard

(FRANK GEHRY, CONT.)
Hat Trick or Apple Basket series
Inspired by wicker furniture & bushel baskets
Collection named after ice hockey terms
Laminated hard white maple

PHILIPPE STARCK, French
Defends plastics as only ecologically sound solution

Costes Chair
Plywood on black lacquered steel base
Leather and ebony trim
Eros
Martini glass shape.
Plastic and chromed-steel base
Dr. Glob Chair
Front legs and seat polypropylene (red),
Rear legs; steel tubing

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS
Design for large-scale industry & mass distribution.
Significant style trends Industrial design
1.  MAYA Design
   Most advanced, yet acceptable
2.  Packaging Embellishment
   Protective case for a product
3.  Streamlining -- bullet shapes & sleek lines
   Minimizes resistance through a fluid or air.
4.  Accelerated obsolescence
   Esthetic design changes that tempt owners
to replace goods more frequently

AMERICAN DESIGN examples:
Zeroll Ice Cream Scoop
Defrosting fluid uses body heat
Zippo Lighter lifetime guarantee
Lear Jet First mass manufactured business jet
Slinky -- Originally to stabilize ship instruments
Tupper Ware Original seals for WWII gas masks
Tea Kettle Michael Graves
Segway Human Transporter-self-balancing scooter
Intel microprocessor. IBM used in its first PC
Macintosh Classic Apple computer

RAYMOND LOEWY
One of most successful American designers
Largest design firm in 1930’s
Air Force One for President Kennedy
S-1 Locomotive, Silversides Greyhound bus
Studebaker automobile, Sncase helicopter
Sears Coldspot refrigerator
Lucky Strike pack, Shell & Exxon logos

WALTER DORWIN TEAGUE
Kodak cameras and Polaroid Cameras
Cash Register
TEAGUE CONT

Texaco Stations
Blue Sled glass radio
Boeing 707 interior

PHILIPPE STARCK
Architect, furniture & industrial designer
Designed interiors for French President Mitterand
Hot Berta tea kettle. Water in thru handle
Juicy Salif lemon juicer cast aluminum
Dr. Kiss toothbrush, Dr. Skud fly-swatter

ARCHITECTS
EERO SAARINEN, Finnish
International Style (Modern) & Expressionism

General Motors Technical Center Mich. reflected modern technology stainless steel

CBS Headquarters - only skyscraper (NY)

Dulles Airport, Virginia
For Federal Government. Steel & concrete suspension structure.

TWA Kennedy Airport
Free-flowing curves, concrete Bird-like symbolism
Fully-designed environment

Gateway Arch St. Louis, Missouri stainless steel graceful sweeping tapered curve

PHILIP JOHNSON
Modern & Post Modern architect.
Director Architecture Department, MOMA (New York)
Intro. European modern architecture to America
Coined term: International Style:

Seagram’s Building
Collaborated with mentor, Mies on

“Glass House,” Connecticut
Johnson’s own home Rectilinear structure
Use of large glass panels as walls. Central brick cylinder containing a bathroom Low walnut cabinets for kitchen equipment.

Crystal Cathedral. Garden Grove LA Structure: 4-pointed star
A gigantic chimney for cooling. Bigger than Notre Dame Cathedral
Steel frame tent with glass panels

Post Modern Architecture & Johnson
Late 20th-century architecture
Includes historical references Classical elements reintroduced More playful than classical or classical revival

American Telephone and Telegraph N.Y.
Top resembles Chippendale cabinet Postmodern architectural landmark

Pittsburgh Plate Glass -- Gothic post modern

San Francisco Financial District:
101 California sawtooth setbacks glass cylinder, open atrium 40 foot piers cut through atrium
580 California faceless sculptures glass mansard roof

MICHAEL GRAVES
Portland Building Post-Modern Icon
Energy efficient, low budget Small square windows Deep colors—browns, blues, and rusty red

Team Disney, Burbank Post-modern
Disney Corporate Offices & studio lot. Columns: 7 dwarfs Mural in dinning room by Graves

Hyatt Regency Japan Copper clad columns, red sand stone base Pyramid on dome, which illuminates lobby

Clos Pegase Winery, Napa Valley, post modern

FRANK GEHRY, Canadian
Deconstructed architectural style Exploded aesthetic.
Adapted aerospace software to architecture.

Gehry House Santa Monica Deconstruction
Re-working conventional, bungalow “Cheap tech” off-the-shelf and ordinary Old house wrapped with metal slipcover Slanted lines and angled protrusions.

Norton House Venice, California Post-Modern Lifeguard shack, log tori Maximize views & privacy on a tiny site
Chiat/Day Office Venice, California.
White building nautical look
Copper clad columns: forest
Binoculars (Claus Oldenburg)
entry to the building
skylights in eye piece
conference rooms

Netherlands Group, Czech Republic
“The “Wave” or Fred and Ginger
Steel, glass, precast concrete

Guggenheim, Bilbao, Spain
Limestone, titanium

Walt Disney Concert Hall, LA
Exterior titanium. Interiors douglas fir.

RICHARD MEIER
Modern architect
Materials and techniques
White enameled panels and glass.
Influenced by Corbu

Douglas House  Michigan
Lake side slope
White structure contrasts with environment
Interior floor extends through glass wall to
deck
Multiple levels/planes
Nautical look

High Museum of Art, Georgia
Steel columns & concrete
White porcelain-enamed steel
Interior is an homage to Wright’s Guggenheim
Getty Center  Los Angeles, 1997.
Art Museum funded by: Getty, American
city billionaire
Material: travertine (type of limestone)