

Press release
Frankenberg, october 2022

The 809 Work – Complete with writing table

Design: Formstelle (Claudia Kleine and Jörg Kürschner), 2018

Thonet's 809 lounge chair is the "little brother" of the successful 808 model. It shares the same comfortable upholstery and enveloping shell, but as an additional feature, the new 809 Work (809 K) comes with a neat writing table attachment, making it an ideal chair for informal working.



Munich-based design studio Formstelle created the 808 lounge chair to provide maximum comfort and a range of customisation options. The design plays with the contrast between the chair's protective shell and an inviting openness. When it came to the compact 809 version, Claudia Kleine and Jörg Kürschner from Formstelle drew upon key design elements from the original: the 809 retains the distinct shape of the 808's seat and back, which envelop the occupant of the chair, and offers the same ergonomic cushioning. The contrast between the soft waves of the upholstery and the angular outer shell unmistakably echoes the features of the 808 range. Yet despite this family resemblance, the 809 is a distinctive design in its own right, with a lower seat back and without a headrest. It's a chair that offers premium comfort, one that is a pleasure to sit in. The 809 also swivels and features an automatic return function. Available in various upholstery fabrics and materials, the chair is perfectly at home in a variety of settings – from living rooms to hotel lobbies, and from modern offices to lounge areas.

Completing the range, the new 809 Work (809 K) model is now available with a handy writing table in slate grey. Made of solid core laminate, the table can be used to set down a coffee cup or to take notes, providing the perfect solution for informal meetings or workshops. It's also the ideal workstation for anyone who wants to escape to a quiet corner of the office to focus on a task. The 809 Work (809 K) brings style, comfort and ergonomic design into the workplace.

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Thonet – future-oriented furniture design with a long tradition

The unique success story of Thonet began with the work of master carpenter Michael Thonet. Ever since he established his first workshop in Boppard on the River Rhine in 1819, the name Thonet has stood for high-quality, innovative and elegant furniture. The breakthrough came with the iconic chair No. 14, today known the world over as the Vienna Coffee House Chair: the pioneering technique of bending solid beechwood enabled the mass production of chairs for the first time. The second milestone in design history was the tubular steel furniture by the famous Bauhaus architects Mart Stam, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Marcel Breuer in the 1930s. During those pioneering years, Thonet was the world's largest producer of these tubular steel furniture designs, which are today considered timeless.

For the company today, the continuous process of innovation is the top priority, together with a focus on tradition and fine craftsmanship. Thonet's furniture designs originate both from its collaborations with renowned national and international creatives and from the in-house Thonet Design Team. Chief Executive Officer Brian Boyd and Creative Director Norbert Ruf manage the company from the corporate head office and production site in Frankenberg/Eder (Germany). Michael Thonet's fifth- and sixth-generation descendants are actively involved with the company's business as partners and sales representatives.