

Workplaces

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Send To: news@bellow.press Please include high resolution photos along with your release; at least 300 dpi. https://bellow.press/SubmitNews Business of Furniture and Workplaces magazine are the go-to sources for keeping you informed about everything that is happening in the industry. From trends that affect your bottom line, to new products that will help your customers work better, to stories that will help you run a better, more informed company. ROB KIRKBRIDE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Reviewed & Rated Reviewed & Rated

Werksy chair by OM

IT ISN'T OFTEN THAT MY FAMILY FIGHTS OVER A PIECE OF OFFICE FURNITURE WHEN

TARRIVES FOR REVIEW. A chair that arrives in a large cardboard box on the stoop usually garners a groan and a complaint about how our house is beginning to look like a used office furniture store. But when I unboxed the Werksy chair by California-based office furniture maker OM, I was greeted with a much different reaction.

Werksy chair by OM
From \$745

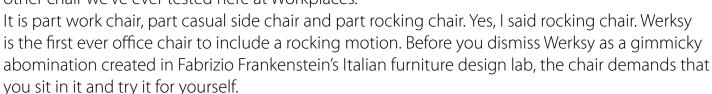
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"I want that for my room," said my 14-year-old daughter when she saw it. "It's going upstairs," she added after sitting in it for the first time.

That's probably because Werksy is different than any

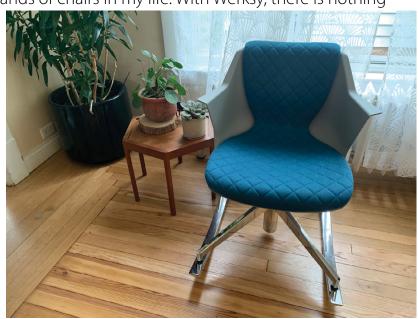
other chair we've ever tested here at Workplaces.



As a reviewer, I usually have a baseline for describing chairs. I am able to objectively determine whether a chair is good or bad, comfortable or uncomfortable, ergonomic or painful to use because I've literally sat in and used thousands of chairs in my life. With Werksy, there is nothing

to compare it to — no other office chair that does exactly what Werksy does. So I can confidently say, it is the most fun office chair I've ever used. And I can also tell you with experience that "fun" and "office chair" are words that are rarely strung together in a review.

At its core, Werksy is a smartly designed shell chair that comes as a stackable guest chair and simple action tilting seat. But the third model — the rocker, which is the one I am reviewing here — is creating an entirely different spin on active seating. I mean, really, how many



height-adjustable swivel rockers with auto return have you seen on the market?

The company never set about designing a rocker. Instead, OM wanted a collection to fill spaces that supplement the formal workspace. Your desk chair is one, a light scale tasker could be another. And the company found that a rocking chair sitting in a collaborative environment ends up being yet another.

We are told the Werksy rocker stemmed from the idea of creating freedom of motion in a chair. OM worked with designer Henner Jahns of Gecco Vision on Werksy, and as they began developing Werksy, the idea of a rocking chair seemed to lend itself toward the idea of active seating — a key component in all of OM's offerings.

Werksy isn't perfect, but it is pretty darn close. We love the chair shell and the way the arm rest is cut out and allows for side-saddle seating while still being comfortable. We also love the way the fabric is treated



on the seat — quilted and shaped in a kind of hourglass design to make the shell feel smaller and visually lighter. Our test version came with a light gray shell and cerulean blue fabric. It is a beautiful combination.

If we have any issue with the chair, it is in the base. We like the chrome look, but the base is heavy and looks a bit out of place with the light scale shell that sits above it. We realize that might be the engineering price we have to pay for being able to rock when we work, but it would be fun to see if OM could find a lighter material to use for the base (though we are not seating engineers and understand that probably isn't possible). It is a small quibble though for an exceptionally fun chair.

Werksy is surprisingly comfortable. Working for an entire shift using the chair is not only possible, it is quite enjoyable. It is not designed for all-day use, but there are days we used it that way, and it performed admirably. Still, Werksy is at its best when it is used in a collaborative setting. It is a great chair when sitting in on a meeting since you can move around, which we find helps us keep our focus.

What we like best about Werksy is how it surprised us in every way — it is surprisingly fun, surprisingly comfortable, surprisingly solid and well built, and surprisingly functional. All this in a chair we never knew we needed. Werksy also proves that innovation isn't dead in the office furniture industry.

Werksy Rocker starts at \$745 and can be purchased by contacting your local representative, which you can find at https://www.omseating.com/company/sales-rep-locator/