

Prototype to Production

Very Good & Proper / Ed Carpenter / André Klauser

with Commentary

Rachel Gannon

1. MT Club Chair Ply / Frame

Upholstered Foam shell, Formed Plywood / Steel Tube Legs

The MT Club Chair was designed for The Merchants Tavern, a restaurant in Shoreditch, East London. It is a development of a chair we originally designed using a shaped flexible polypropylene sheet, that was cupped and held in place by an external frame.

We loved the result of the original chair, but the restaurant felt uncomfortable about the flexible nature of the arms, and also wanted an alternative leg design, which was not possible with the existing design method.

We proposed keeping the overall shape and feel of the original, but instead of forming the shell from a flat surface we would mould the shell with a internal (hidden) frame.

2. Harbour Chair

Beech

The original Harbour chair was made using a metal frame attached to a wooden seat and backrest. We loved the look and feel of this chair and it was shortlisted for the Design of the Year in 2011. Commercially however, we found it very difficult to get the production costs down to a sensible level so we decided to introduce the all-wooden version in 2013.

3. Spun Lights

Spun Copper and Aluminium

The Spun Pendant Light is inspired by the simple functional shades once common in factories, workshops, and municipal buildings. The VG&P Pendant is made up of two separate spun aluminium parts, allowing for contrasting metallic colours and finishes.

4. Utility Chair

Formed Plywood Seat, Steel Tube Legs

The Canteen Utility Chair was originally designed for the restaurant group Canteen. We were asked by Canteen to reinterpret the classic PEL (Practical Equipment Limited) chair that was designed by Bruno Pollock for the BBC in the 1930s.

The simple, light weight and stackable design retains the look and feel of the original, whilst simultaneously updating and modernising the aesthetic and production methods. The seamless steel frame combined with the U-shaped press formed seat creates a very strong yet visually light chair.

5. Trestles

Folded Sheet Steel, Steel Tube

The simple, sturdy structure moves away from the typical four legged A-frame trestle. When assembled, we see a table, not a top resting on trestles. Made from powder-coated sheet steel and flat-oval tube. The four laser cut parts slot together with precision before hidden welds bond them.

6. Croquet Freestanding Unit by Michael Marriott

Folded Sheet Steel, Solid Oak, Brass

This practical shelving in oak, stainless steel and folded sheet steel fits perfectly with the VG&P aesthetic. The wall mounted uprights are available in both a three hoop and five hoop configuration, resulting in a flexible system that can be extended and adapted to as required.

7. Canteen Leg

Gravity die-cast Aluminium

We were approached by Canteen to design a new table for one of their restaurants. When looking at the brief we suggested that rather than design a standalone table, why not design a common leg that would work on the majority of table sizes needed in a restaurant.

At the time we were working in a studio in Whitechapel renting from our friend and fellow designer Andrew Stafford. Amongst the various knick-knacks in the studio was a lovely Victorian cast iron bracket that was most likely used for holding up a old cistern. We decided to introduce a much larger XL version for use on large dining / meeting tables and desks. It is almost exactly 3x the size and weight of the original and with the right top, can comfortably accommodate tables of over 3m in length.

8. Pub / Bar Stool

Tubular Steel

We wanted to design a stool that was very robust, yet visually light. This is what led us to look at using a metal instead of a wooden frame.

9. A Joint Table by Henry Wilson

Oak, Aluminium

VG&P produce the A-Joint table by Henry Wilson in the UK. A simple aluminium clamp forms the legs and brace system for A-Joint. Using these clamps we can offer a flexible sturdy table in any length up to three meters.

1. The Collection

2. Tables with Objects

3. Stacking Chairs

4. Chairs and Interiors

5. Bar with Wooden Floor

6. Table with Letter Forms

All giclée prints

Exhibition Open
22.11.14 - 4.1.15

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