

MAT COLLECTION



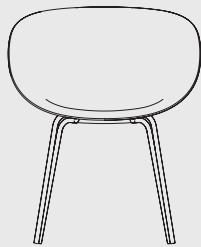
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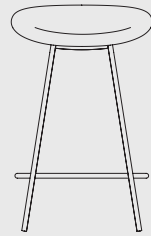
COLLECTION OVERVIEW



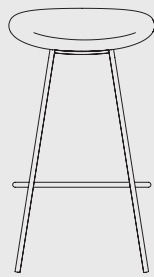
Mat Chair
Hemp / Seaweed



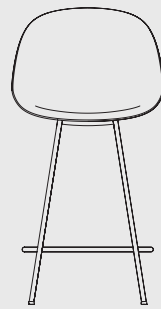
Mat Armchair
Hemp / Seaweed



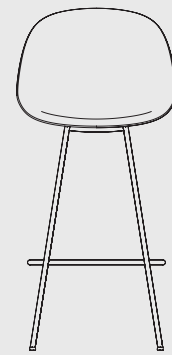
Mat Barstool 65 cm
Hemp / Seaweed



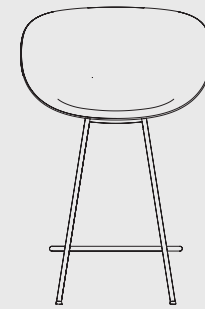
Mat Barstool 75 cm
Hemp / Seaweed



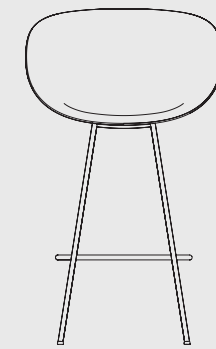
Mat Bar Chair 65 cm
Hemp / Seaweed



Mat Bar Chair 75 cm
Hemp / Seaweed



Mat Bar Armchair 65 cm
Hemp / Seaweed



Mat Bar Armchair 75 cm
Hemp / Seaweed

COLLECTION OVERVIEW



After years of extensive research, prototyping, and testing, Mat has come to life —a chair collection that ingeniously leverages highly renewable, durable materials of hemp and eelgrass, a type of seaweed, as superior alternatives to traditional 3D shell chair materials. Hence the name, Mat, a reference to the material innovation at the core of the design. Rooted in the principles of reduce, re-use, and recycle, the Mat Chair collection aims to revolutionize conventional furniture production methods through minimizing environmental impact, repurposing production waste, and facilitating end-of-life recycling. With innovation and circularity at its core, Mat is an exploration of how to create a contemporary shell chair with materials that have a lower environmental impact than the industry norm. Designed by Danish design studio Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, this new chair design is the result of years of research and development.

“When Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen approached us with their hemp chair project, we were immediately curious. Curiosity has always been a driver for Normann Copenhagen, and with our commitment to explore new, innovative production methods in mind, we embarked on a journey with Foersom & Hiort Lorenzen alongside hemp specialists from Danish Technological Institute to realize the project.”

Jan Andersen
CEO & Co-founder of Normann Copenhagen





Mat Armchair in Hemp with Black steel legs



Mat Bar Armchair 75 cm in Seaweed with Black steel legs

AN UNPRECEDENTED, INNOVATIVE PRODUCTION TECHNIQUE



Mat Chair shell ready for oil treatment

For years, the furniture industry has seen numerous iterations of the plastic shell chair. Meanwhile, designer Peter Hiort-Lorenzen has been working intensely on finding alternative, more sustainable solutions. In the end-1990's, Peter initiated what would become a decades-long process, that began with the idea to transform cellulose material into shell chairs with an aim of ultimately offering an equivalent substitute for plastic.

It has taken years to research, develop, and test the process of compressing hemp material into a shell chair that would meet the EN Level L2 standard for strength, stability and durability. This extensive timeline reflects the challenge of pioneering these production techniques, acquiring unique know-how and building expertise, given the absence of prior knowledge or precedent. Being among the first to embark on this endeavor demanded a significant investment of time to master the complexities involved.

Peter explains: "In 2005, we presented the first prototypes of the chair. Although an initial success, the timing wasn't right, and we were also experiencing production issues. After years of research, we started testing with one of the strongest natural fibers: hemp. Now, some 20 years later, the hemp material we have developed in collaboration with Normann Copenhagen is more responsible, sturdier and with a higher aesthetic appeal than any of the previous prototypes. It's a one-of-its-kind product."

The result is Mat, a conventional chair design with an unprecedented approach to materials. Using a minimalistic, timeless silhouette with ergonomic comfort, the collection encompasses numerous variations of dining chairs and barstools, available with and without upholstery. Utilizing the beneficial qualities naturally present in hemp, the shell is crafted of hemp fibers bound together by a recyclable binder. The chair also comes in a version with added eelgrass, another natural resource with many advantageous qualities and a distinctive aesthetic. The shells are mounted on a simplistic base crafted from either a timeless beech wood or powder coated steel, available in two color options.

Mat Chair shell in the compression process





Mat Armchair full upholstery with beech legs



Mat Chair in Seaweed with beech legs



Mat Chair in Hemp with Cream steel legs and front upholstery



Mat Armchair with Black steel legs and full upholstery



Mat Armchair in Hemp with Black steel legs



Mat Barstool, Bar Chair and Armchair in Hemp with Black steel legs





Mat Chair and Armchair in Seaweed with Cream steel legs



Mat Chair and Armchair in Hemp with Black steel legs



Mat Armchair with beech legs and front upholstery



Mat Armchair, Barstool 65 cm and Bar Chair 75 cm with beech legs and front upholstery



Mat Chair in Seaweed with Cream steel legs



Mat Chair in Hemp



A field of hemp

HARNESSING THE POWER OF HEMP AND EELGRASS

The shell of the Mat Chair is innovatively crafted using hemp and eelgrass, a type of seaweed. The materials constitute the very essence of the design. Not only do the materials provide a more responsible product, they also play a key role in the aesthetic of the design, highlighting the natural beauty and tactility of the materials.

Hemp

For thousands of years, hemp has been recognized for its resilience, durability and versatility. Hemp, a rapidly renewable resource, is widely considered an environmentally friendly natural resource. It requires minimal water and zero pesticides, and fertilizers. In addition, it absorbs carbon dioxide, reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Hemp's CO2 absorption varies based on growth conditions, but studies indicate a hectare of hemp can capture about 15 tons of CO2 in one season. This emphasizes hemp's potential as a tool for carbon sequestration and reducing overall CO2 footprints.

The hemp is sourced from near-market regions where the plant is typically used for food and products and the stems, considered a by-product, are commonly discarded. However, in crafting the Mat Chair, these otherwise discarded stems, renowned for their remarkable resilience, are used.

Eelgrass

Still a widely overlooked material in almost every industry, eelgrass, a type of seaweed, possesses numerous qualities that also make it an ideal resource for furniture making. In Denmark, more specifically on the island of Læsø, there has been a century-long tradition of using the extremely resilient seaweed species as a roofing material. The natural plant absorbs significant amounts of CO2 and is known to be a strong and highly durable material with a low environmental impact and carbon emission output.

Eelgrass is extremely important for the underwater ecosystem and so harvesting it would mean removing a vital resource from ocean. Instead, the eelgrass that naturally washes ashore the coastline of Denmark is collected and dried, making sure not to disrupt the plant's essential function in its natural environment.

For the production of the Mat Chair, the dried eelgrass, in combination with the milled hemp fibers, offers a grainy expression, exposing the natural beauty and tactility of the materials.



Eelgrass washed ashore on the Danish coast



Mat Chair in Hemp with Cream steel legs



Mat Armchair with Cream steel legs and front upholstery



Mat Barstool, Bar Chair and Armchair in various combinations



Mat Chair and Barstool in Seaweed with Cream steel legs



Mat Armchair in Hemp with Cream steel legs

DESIGNED FOR CIRCULARITY

With circularity and responsibility at its core, the Mat collection is designed for disassembly and recycling, ensuring that the components of the Mat Chair can be recycled into new productions for a fully circular life cycle.



Mat Chair in Hemp with Cream steel legs

Harvesting

Mat Chair is primarily crafted from hemp fibers, harvested from local, near-market farmers. Only the stem is used, a part of the plant generally considered a by-product since the rest is used for textiles and foods. Another variant includes added eelgrass, a type of seaweed which is collected from the coastline surrounding Denmark.

Shredding

For the milling process, the hemp stems, eelgrass and recycled Mat Chair shells are turned into scraps, ensuring a homogenous material composition and surface expression.

Binder

The milled fibers are then mixed with a special, fully recyclable binder designed for strength and durability. The mix is transformed into sheets, which ultimately will become the shell of the chair.

Compression

The sheets are compressed into chair shells. An expertly engineered process which ensures that the materials' ability to be recycled are not compromised. Hereafter, the shells are expertly cut to size, its edges meticulously hand-sanded, and its surface oiled by hand using a VOC-free linseed oil that ensures a lasting, durable finish.

Product

The result is the Mat Chair. Designed with circularity at its core, the products can be taken back at the end of their life upon agreement, whereafter they will be disassembled, sorted and re-milled for new products.

Reuse

At the production facility in Denmark, scraps from the production of the Mat shells are sorted to be shredded, and then turned into new chairs. In addition, this is where the chairs, both the shell and the legs, at the end of their life, can be disassembled and reused for new productions.





Mat Barstool, Bar Chair and Armchair in Seaweed with Cream steel legs



Mat Bar Armchair and Barstool in Hemp with Cream steel legs



Mat Barstool and Armchair in Seaweed with Black steel legs

FOR A DIVERSITY OF SPACES

Mat Chair collection includes a dining chair with two shell typologies, a barstool in two heights, a bar chair in two heights and a bar armchair in two heights, all available with a hemp shell or a hemp shell with added eel-grass, as well as with front or full upholstery. Available in two different material options, the base for Mat Chair is crafted in FSC™ certified (FSC-C163461) beech plywood and beech plywood from other controlled sources or a sleek, powder coated steel variant available in two timeless colors of Black or Cream. The wide-ranging nature of the collection enables the chair to cater to a diversity of spaces from restaurants to educational facilities to hotel lobbies as well as in private residential settings.





Mat Chair in Seaweed with Black steel legs and front upholstery





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


Model: Mat Chair
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2024
Dimensions: H: 79 x W: 51.6 x D: 53 x SH: 45 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: Powder coated steel

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.





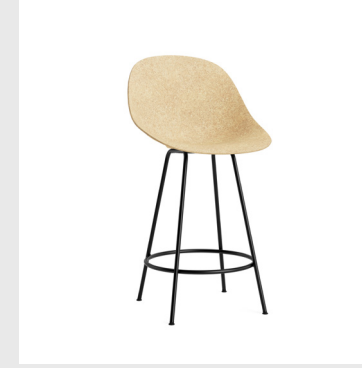
Model: Mat Chair Beech
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2025
Dimensions: H: 79 x W: 51.6 x D: 53 x SH: 45 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: FSC™ certified (FSC-C163461) beech plywood and beech plywood from other controlled sources.

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.





Model: Mat Armchair
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2024
Dimensions: H: 79 x W: 64 x D: 55 x SH: 45 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: Powder coated steel

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.





Model: Mat Armchair Beech
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2025
Dimensions: H: 79 x W: 64 x D: 55 x SH: 45 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: FSC™ certified (FSC-C163461) beech plywood and beech plywood from other controlled sources.

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.





Model: Mat Bar Chair 65 cm
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2024
Dimensions: H: 101 x W: 51.6 x D: 55 x SH: 65 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: Powder coated steel

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.





Model: Mat Bar Chair 75 cm
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2024
Dimensions: H: 110 x W: 51.6 x D: 53 x SH: 75 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: Powder coated steel

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.





Model: Mat Bar Chair 65 cm Beech
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2025
Dimensions: H: 101 x W: 51.6 x D: 55 x SH: 65 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: FSC™ certified (FSC-C163461) beech plywood and beech plywood from other controlled sources.

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.





Model: Mat Bar Chair 75 cm Beech
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2025
Dimensions: H: 110 x W: 51.6 x D: 53 x SH: 75 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: FSC™ certified (FSC-C163461) beech plywood and beech plywood from other controlled sources.

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.



Model: Mat Barstool 65 cm
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2024
Dimensions: H: 75 x W: 47 x D: 46.3 x SH: 65 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: Powder coated steel

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.



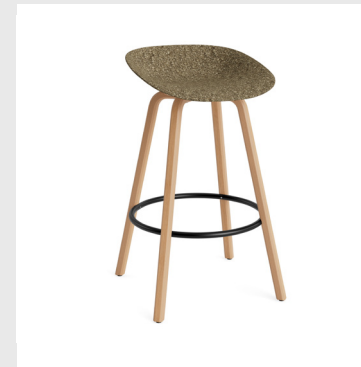
Model: Mat Barstool 75 cm
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2024
Dimensions: H: 110 x W: 51.6 x D: 53 x SH: 75 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: Powder coated steel

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.





Model: Mat Barstool 65 cm Beech
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2025
Dimensions: H: 75 x W: 47 x D: 46.3 x SH: 65 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)



Legs: FSC™ certified (FSC-C163461) beech plywood and beech plywood from other controlled sources.

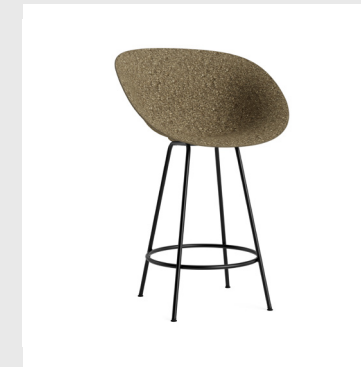
Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.





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



Model: Mat Bar Armchair 65 cm
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2024
Dimensions: H: 100 x W: 64 x D: 55 x SH: 65 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: Powder coated steel

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.





Model: Mat Bar Armchair 75 cm
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2024
Dimensions: H: 110 x W: 64 x D: 55 x SH: 75 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: Powder coated steel

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.



Model: Mat Bar Armchair 65 cm Beech
Design: Foersom & Hiort-Lorenzen, 2025
Dimensions: H: 100 x W: 64 x D: 55 x SH: 65 cm
Shell: Hemp fibers, Eelgrass (Seaweed)

Legs: FSC™ certified (FSC-C163461) beech plywood and beech plywood from other controlled sources.

Upholstery: Comes with front and full upholstery in a wide range of textiles and leathers from Camira, Kvadrat, Sørensen Leather and JAB.



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@normanncph

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Normann Copenhagen

Niels Hemmingsens Gade 12

1153 Copenhagen, Denmark

Headquarters: +45 35 55 44 59

normann@normann-copenhagen.com

normann-copenhagen.com