CH07 | SHELL CHAIR – Design: Hans J. Wegner

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HISTORY

Designed by Hans J. Wegner in 1963 for the annual Furniture Guild Exhibition in Copenhagen.

While some critics loved the avant-garde design, the general public was reluctant to accept the chair's bold and different design.

Initial sales were poor and it was only produced in limited quantities during the 1960s.

In the early 1990´s the "Three-legged Shell Chair" began to attract handsome prices at international auctions.

When Carl Hansen & Son re-introduced the chair in 1998, it immediately won several design awards - as well as broad public appeal.

DESCRIPTION

The chair achieves a floating lightness due to its wing-like lines, its tapered legs, and the arching curves of its laminated legs.

The three-legged construction employs great stability and the upholstered slightly bend shells provides generous comfort.

While its triangular footprint makes it suitable for corner settings, the chair is frequently placed where it can be viewed from all sides, on its own or in groups.

"The Shell Chair" also complements Hans J. Wegner's round coffee table, CH008, perfectly.

Seat and back is made from the highest quality form-pressed hardwood laminates. The front legs are made of one piece of continuous laminated wood, the back leg from another.

Upholstered in the customer's choice of leather or fabric.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

Carl Hansen & Søn and sustainability

People's fascination of the combination of good design and wood, as well as other natural materials, is something that transcends time and fashion. At Carl Hansen & Søn, we believe that this fascination helps to explain the great interest in our furniture, and we take very seriously concerns about the sustainability of the natural resources upon which we depend for our products. That is why we strive every day to improve our production methods, logistics and sales efforts in respect of scarce natural resources.

We buy wood only from sustainably managed forests. All sourced wood meets EUTR 2013 regulations, Danish Forest Legislation and current international certifications. Oak, beech and ash come primarily from Danish forests which are managed according to the principles described in Denmark's National Forest Programme; some of these wood types are also sourced from other similarly managed European forests, or, in the case of

THE DESIGNER

As a driving force behind 'Danish Modern', Hans J. Wegner helped change the general public's view of furniture in the 1950s and 1960s. His passion for designing chairs, more than 500 of them, is recognized worldwide and reflected in his title 'the Master of the Chair'. He is famous for integrating perfectly executed joints with exquisite shapes and combining them with a constant curiosity for materials and deep respect for wood and its natural characteristics. His designs furnish minimalism with organic and natural softness.

Hans J. Wegner was born in 1914 in Tønder in Southern Denmark, the son of a shoemaker. At the age of 17, he completed his apprenticeship as a cabinetmaker in the workshop of H. F. Stahlberg where his first designs saw the light of day. At the age of twenty he moved to Copenhagen, Denmark, to attend the School of Arts and Crafts, where he studied from 1936-1938 before embarking on a career as an architect.

In 1940, Wegner joined Arne Jacobsen and Erik Møller and began designing furniture for the new City Hall in Aarhus, Denmark's second-largest city. This was also the year when Wegner began working with master cabinetmaker Johannes Hansen, who played a major role in introducing modern design to the Danish public.

walnut and cherry, North American forests.

We use every possible bit of these fine hardwoods in our furniture production. Inevitably, however, there are some scraps, which are then used to produce other products or recycled in district heating plants.

Hans J. Wegner opened his own drawing office in 1943. In 1944, he designed the first China Chair in a series inspired by Chinese chairs from the Ming dynasty. One of these chairs, the Wishbone Chair, designed in 1949 and produced by Carl Hansen & Søn since 1950, went on to become Wegner's most successful design of all time.

Hans J. Wegner is considered one of the most creative and productive Danish furniture designers of all time. He has received several accolades given to designers, including the Lunning Prize in 1951 and The 8th International Design Award in 1997.

He became an honorary member of the Royal Danish Academy for the Fine Arts in 1995, and an honorary doctor of the Royal College of Art in 1997. Almost all of the world's major design museums, from The Museum of Modern Art in New York to Die Neue Sammlung in Munich, feature his furniture in their collections. Hans J. Wegner died in Denmark in January 2007 - at the age of 92.

Carl Hansen & Søn's alliance with Hans J. Wegner began in 1949 and resulted in the production of a wide range of Wegner designs spanning dining chairs, easy chairs, footrests, sofas and coffee tables, dining tables as well as high-end office furniture and children's furniture. Wegner's iconic designs from Carl Hansen & Son include the Shell Chair, Wing Chair and Wishbone Chair.

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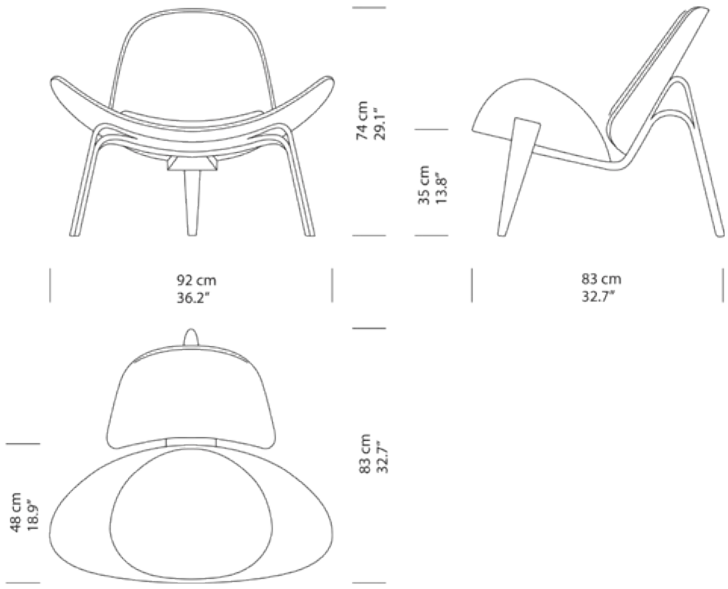
Experience Wegner's iconic Wishbone Chair

Watch the making of the Wishbone Chair

VARIANTS CHOICES AND DIMENSIONS



MATERIAL MATRIX

	Lacquer/Oil	White oil	CHS colors	Oil
Beech			●	
Walnut	●			
Oak	●	●	●	
Smoked oak				●

Oak and ash have a clearly visible wood structure when painted. Beech has minimal structure when painted. Oak is available only in black (NCS S9000-N).

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