

KAWARA ARMCHAIR

Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec



5 Key Features You Should Know

3-Dimensional Curves with Plywood's Elegance

The Kawara Armchair reveals the expressive potential of molded plywood through soft, flowing curves and a sculptural form. The 3-dimensionally curved backrest and armrests not only enhance comfort but also provide strength and stability.

Box-Shaped Chair

The box-shaped form embodies the ideal long envisioned by the Bouroullecs — now realized in wood and translated into a seating experience that gently envelops the body. This makes the Kawara Armchair one of their most representative and personally significant works.

Precision Craftsmanship in Wood

Each Kawara Armchair begins with custom-made plywood veneer, developed in-house to achieve its complex curves. The material balances flexibility and strength, enabling the smooth, sculptural form. The solid wood legs are precisely milled to connect naturally with the armrests and backrest — a seemingly simple detail that reflects deep knowledge and refined craftsmanship.

A Precise and Time-Intensive Process

Contrary to the perception that molded plywood forms quickly, shaping a single armrest alone requires a meticulous 20-minute process. To prevent cracks, artisans carefully control compression timing, pressing a button every three seconds while listening closely for any subtle cracking sounds—an exercise in precision and expertise.

Meticulous Material Preparation

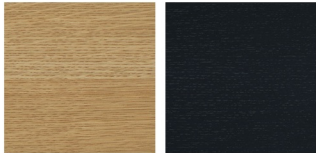
The process begins long before molding. Plywood sheets are soaked at night to soften the material, then wiped with a damp towel the following morning to adjust moisture content. This careful preparation ensures the perfect balance of flexibility and structural integrity, allowing for the chair's flowing, organic form. Every step reflects the dedication and skill of expert craftsmanship.



“We wanted to reveal the beauty of the wood, the beauty of the craftsmanship and the connection between them. We also wanted to showcase the extreme precision that can be found in KOYORI and Japanese manufacturing. It's a level of quality which we probably cannot find in Europe.” -Ronan Bouroullec

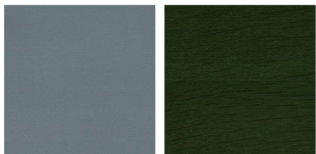
MATERIALS

OAK



T-NT
NATURAL

T-BB
BLACK

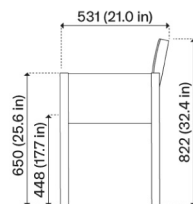
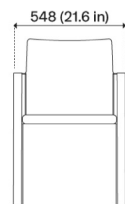
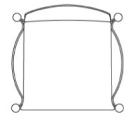


T-BY
GRAY

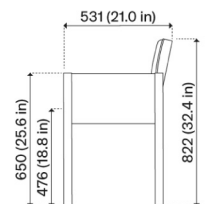
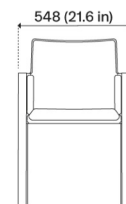
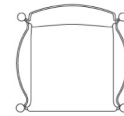
T-BG
GREEN

DIMENSIONS

Wooden Seat



Upholstered Seat



Check our website or catalog for available upholstery options.



Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec

Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec are French design brothers from Quimper in Brittany, France. They have been working together since 1999 with everything from industrial design to craft work, and large production runs to research, as well as the objects for the public space. Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec's creations span multiple fields of expression and have gradually entered our daily lives.

Photography: Alexandre Tabaste