

Year 5 Design and Technology: Prototype wooden furniture

Unit Vocabulary –

user	a person who uses something
purpose	the reason why something is done or created
design features	characteristics that meet an intended user and purpose
design brief	a document or set of instructions that outline what the purpose of the project is and what is required
design specification	a list of characteristics a product must have
functional properties	how something works
aesthetic properties	how something looks



Tools we will use –

Bench hook	Clamp	Hacksaw / Coping Saw	Glue Gun	Hand drill

Designer focus:

Bodil Kjaer



Bodil Kjaer, Professor, Architect MAA was born in Denmark in 1932. She was educated in Denmark, England and the USA, and practised as an architect, designer and planner from her own offices in Copenhagen and London.

She was invited to lecture on her work and to teach architecture students in Denmark and England and as a visiting professor at architecture schools in the USA, ending up teaching full time and immersing herself in research problems of architecture, some of which was later published in Cambridge, Paris, London, Washington and Boston.

But long before that, between 1955 and 1963, while designing public interiors Bodil Kjaer developed a series of elements of architecture to solve problems of functional and aesthetic nature. These pieces of furniture, lamps and glass were not designed directly for production, but as other architects discovered them and wanted them for their buildings, they were put into production and marketed in the USA as well as in Europe. Early on architects like Jose Luis Sert and Paul Rudolph, the heads of the schools of architecture at Harvard and Yale universities discovered Bodil Kjaer's designs and wanted them for the buildings they were designing. Harry Weese in Chicago and Marcel Breuer in New York wanted to specify them, too.

And so, production began, at first at C.I. in Boston, USA, and later at Denbo, E. Pedersen & Son and Torben Oerskov in Denmark, at Gullaskruf in Sweden and Form im Raum in Germany. Some of these pieces are still available, mostly at auctions, but may also be seen in for instance three early Bond movies, and in recent British films and television series.