

CH07 | SHELL CHAIR

HANS J. WEGNER | 1963

This chair has such a powerful presence that it wasn't an instant success when Hans J. Wegner designed it in 1963. While some critics loved the avantgarde design, the general public was reluctant to accept the chair's bold and different design and it was only produced in limited quantities during the 1960's. But when the Shell Chair was reintroduced in 1998 it immediately won broad public appeal as well as several design awards.

The floating lightness is achieved through the winglike lines and the arching curves of the tapered, laminated legs. The three-legged construction provides great stability and the upholstered, slightly bent shells offer generous comfort. The seat and back are 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.





HANS J. WEGNER

Furniture designer Hans J. Wegner is widely regarded as one of the founding fathers of Danish modernism and minimalist furniture design. Born in 1914, Wegner completed his cabinetmaker training in 1932. At the age of 20, he moved to Copenhagen to study at the School of Arts and Crafts, where he attended classes from 1936 to 1938. Working as a self-employed architect, he founded his own company in 1943.

Wegner's enduring love of quality craftsmanship and constant pursuit of minimalist expression made him a pioneer in a new generation of furniture designers. With such iconic works as the Wishbone Chair and Shell Chair, Wegner proved time and time again that well-conceived design never goes out of fashion. He received numerous design awards throughout his long and distinguished career, and his works have been on display at the Museum of Modern Art [MoMA] in New York as well as at many other exhibition venues. Wegner passed away in January 2007.

EVERY PIECE COMES WITH A STORY

When you choose a piece of Carl Hansen & Søn furniture, you get much more than a physical product. Every piece represents a proud tradition of beautiful, distinctive craftsmanship, where nothing is left to chance and every detail is executed with the greatest love for the history of the design and the crafting process.

Each iconic work passes through numerous expert hands before taking pride of place in your living room, where it can recount the story of masterful design crafted in quality wood from sustainable Scandinavian forests. We hope you will continue to tell the story. For us, that story is the reason for making furniture.

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