

BLOCKS, Designer: NERI&HU (2022)

Furnishing a space is a source of happiness when individuality and originality intuitively show the way. BLOCKS, the first collection to come out of the collaboration between Wittmann and Neri&Hu, answers this specification with an uncomplicated nonchalance, while impressing with its characterful presence. Different modules coalesce creatively to create myriad seating havens. Compatible with any environment, they work equally well as family islands in a home setting, or as communicative lounge and working furniture in contract use.

BLOCKS Sofa and Elements

Design duo Neri&Hu like to play with opposites and set great store by contemporary products that link with tradition. Their BLOCKS upholstered furniture series for Wittmann picks up on this design approach: organic and geometric at once, the individual low-slung modules lend themselves to a huge variety of combinations. The cover finished in the design of a slipcover creates a sporty and relaxed look. In a minimalist line that demands precision handcraftsmanship, the armrest and backrest circumscribe the generous seating area in a striking arc.

The inspiration for this shape was the geometry employed by Josef Hoffmann in his generously-proportioned CLUB 1910 armchair. With respect for tradition and an intuitive understanding of the contemporary zeitgeist, Neri&Hu singled out some of the specific hallmarks of Hoffmann's design before translating them into the modern era in line with contemporary demands. The outcome is a furniture series that has its own strong identity – it is a complete reinterpretation of an iconic form.

An inviting three-seater sofa and three different modular elements spark the imagination when it comes to creating flexible compositions. Corner, central and quarter elements can be freely positioned to create islands, snake through a room or act on their own terms as stand-alone pieces. The options are virtually limitless: from perfect circles to seats that face in different directions, all is possible. A table element, available with or without drawer, can either be added to an ensemble or positioned alone to make a statement in its own right. Made of wood, the body of the table can be adorned with a marble tabletop. Generously dimensioned, a square footrest – also suitable as a seating element – completes the series. All in all, the pared-down shape of BLOCKS makes for an exciting interplay of covering materials: elegant, almost severe in leather, or – depending on the choice of fabric – striking, youthful and laid back.

The artistic coup of a slip cover look allows the designers to playfully interrupt the minimalist lines of the piece and bestow an instantly likeable softness upon BLOCKS, while enlivening



the seat cushions with an animated surface. The cover panels are brought together at the outer edges of the element where they are joined by precisely executed, slightly raised stitching. Beyond that, BLOCKS is exceptionally comfortable – thanks to the tried-and-tested pocket spring construction of the seat.

Configurations:

- Sofa 285 dimensions: W 285cm, seat width 225cm, D 95cm, seat depth 65cm, H 70cm, seat height 44cm
- Corner, Centre and Quarter Elements dimensions: W 95cm, seat width 65cm, D 95cm, seat depth 65cm, H 70cm, seat height 44cm
- Stool dimensions: 95 x 48cm, H 44cm
- Table Element dimensions: 95 x 48cm, H 40cm
- Cover Sofa 285, all Elements
 - Standard: fixed cover
 - Surcharge: Removable cover (slip cover fixed to the body by hook and loop strips which run along the full length of the underside)
- Table Element – corpus:
 - Standard: Elm veneer
 - On request: Walnut veneer
 - Surcharge: With drawer
- Table Element – tabletop:
 - Standard: Elm veneer
 - On request: Walnut veneer
 - Surcharge: tabletop in marble Nero Marquina, Verde Guatemala or Frappuccino
- Frame: Black wooden base with felted glides

The Austrian family business Wittmann, now in its fifth generation, manufactures the highest-quality designer upholstered furniture using traditional handcraftsmanship. For more than 120 years, Wittmann has been known for precision, individuality and unparalleled expert craftsmanship. In collaboration with internationally renowned designers, perfectly manufactured furniture is created, which in its originality enriches private luxury interiors and extraordinary projects in hospitality, retail and corporate offices all over the world and thus is *making the difference*.

Our vision statement:

We aspire to a world that cultivates originality as the driving force for evolution, since conformity means standstill.

Our mission statement:

We inspire and encourage our customers from all over the world to live and express their originality. We do this by combining distinctive design with masterful craftsmanship to create meaningful and expressive furniture and lifestyle statements that last.



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