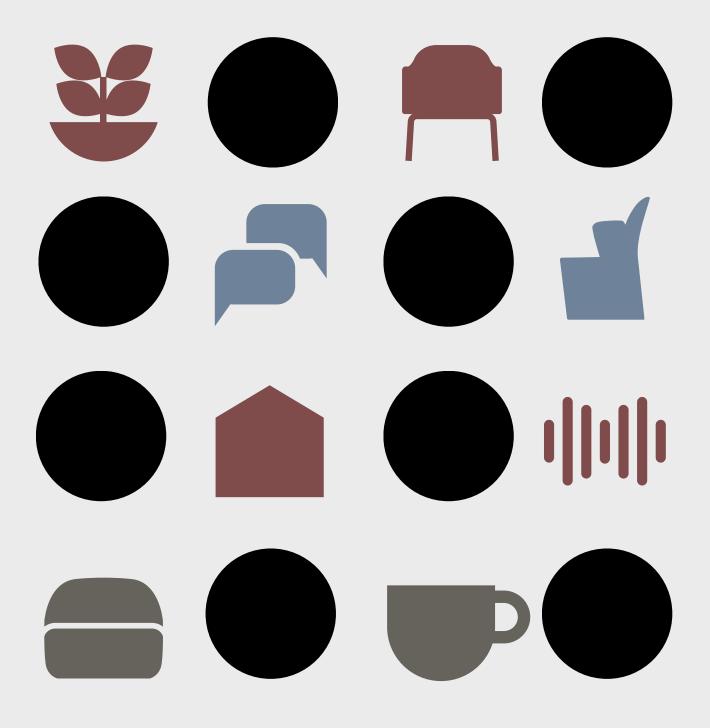
## bejot:magazine

autumn edition 3/2024



bejot:

In the autumn '24 edition, you will discover how to crate a wellbeing office and explore the influence of different generations on its shape. You'll also find an article on our new Fora\_care collection and learn about current trends.

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# Orgatec 2024 – the future of the work

The theme of this year's Orgatec is 'new visions of work', which refers to the future of the working environment. The new vision of the office encompasses not only developments in technology, but also the changing needs of employees.



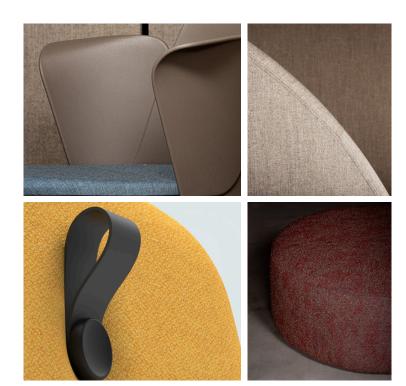
In our concept, the future of work is the young generation, which places particular emphasis on self-development, well-being and work-life balance and private life balance. Our priority is to create humancentred workplaces, taking into account the multi-generational nature of teams. That is why we focus on open and flexible spaces that can be adapted to changing needs.

At this year's Orgatec, we will be showcasing our novelties and bestselling products, which will be located in in three zones: focus, coworking and relax. Aligned with the latest trends, offices are increasingly incorporating coworking zones for brainstorming and both formal and informal meetings. That's why we allocated the most exhibition space in our stand to this particular area—the common space.

#### **Designer Days at Orgatec**

Meet the authors of our new collections during Designer Days. We will host three of our designers, who will be happy to introduce you to our new collections and answer any questions you might have.

Among the new collections, there will primarily be ergonomic office furniture designed to enhance comfort and productivity, innovative acoustic solutions to improve sound quality in workspaces, and soft seating options that create inviting and collaborative environments.





#### Marcelo Alegre

Alegre Design, based in Valencia, an international design firm. The team takes a holistic approach to design. Their products aim to improve the way we live, work and interact. They use design thinking and agile methodologies to manage projects and create new market opportunities.

**Meet the designer:** Oct 23rd 1.30 pm - 3 pm



Ewa Półtorak

The founder of Calma Creative studio in Valencia, where furniture designs are created for manufacturers from around the world. She is passionate about simple shapes, natural materials, and smart technical solutions.

Meet the designer: Oct 22nd 10 am - 3 pm Oct 23rd 10 am - 5 pm



Wojciech Wołczyk

Designer of seating forms, acoustic solutions and visual information systems. Has carried out projects for Polish and foreign brands. He has been working with Bejot for six years.

Meet the designer: Oct 22nd 1 pm - 2 pm

# Fora\_care ...because we care

Known for its simplicity danish design follows the principle "form follows function." Designs must be practical, without compromising on aesthetics. Danish designers strive for simplicity, creating forms that are harmonious and elegant in their simplicity. We talk with Kasper Mose – Fora\_care designer, to find out his inspirations and design process.



#### **Kasper Mose**

danish architect and designer. He graduated from the Aarhus School of Architecture in 2008 from the Institute of Design. He gained experience at top Danish design offices: Arkitema and Friis & Moltke Architects. In 2020, he opened his own design studio, where he seeks simplicity and a holistic approach to architecture and furniture design. Author of collections: Plint, Fora and Fora\_care in the Bejot portfolio.

Designer of collections: Plint, Fora and Fora\_care

## What is most important to you in your design process?

KM: My design is characterized by simplicity, functionality with focus on the craftmanship and details. I believe it's essential for the final product to stand the test of time—not just to follow current trends, but to remain relevant in 5 to 10 years.

## You've mentioned simplicity, functionality and style. Are any of these elements more important than others in the creative process?

KM: That depends on the specific project. The core philosophy of Danish design is to merge functionality with aesthetics, resulting in practical and durable creations characterized by a simple, clean design language.

## Was the Fora collection a benchmark for your design of Fora Care?

KM: Yes, the modularity, along with the durable, soft, and welcoming design, were key elements when developing Fora\_care.



## What in particular did you pay attention to while designing Fora Care modular system? What was the starting point?

KM: When working on interior projects in the care sector, key considerations often include easy maintenance, efficient cleaning, ergonomics tailored for elderly and disabled individuals, and furniture built to heavy-duty standards. At the same time, we aim for high comfort and a warm, inviting design. These qualities are what we sought to integrate into the Fora\_care collection.

## Did you design this collection for specific groups of people or dedicated spaces?

KM: The design is quite universal, but the anatomy of the Fora\_care collection is particularly well-suited for public areas, waiting rooms, schools, cafeterias, and the healthcare sector. All the seat, back and armrest are pulled a bit apart, creating space for easy and efficient cleaning. In public areas and hospitals everything is optimized, also the maintenance and cleaning process.





The upholstery design of Fora\_care allows for easy self-replacement, targeting the element that typically wears out first. How significant was durability, and thus ecology, in your design process?

KM: Absolutely, it's highly relevant. As designers, we have a responsibility to tackle environmental issues and to be innovative in our approach, especially when creating products for both consumer and contract markets. We should prioritize designs that can be repaired and updated, rather than discarding still usable furniture simply because 10% shows wear, is broken, or is no longer trending.

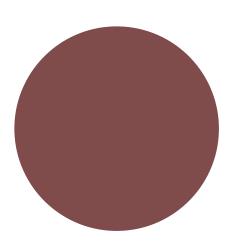
Fora\_care is designed for easy maintenance—not only have we made it simple to exchange individual parts, but clients can also easily change the upholstery themselves. That gives the collection a long lifespan and allows customers to modify the configuration or overall appearance.

## Fora\_care is a complex collection. Was it difficult to reconcile the wide range of configurations with maintaining a strong visual consistency?

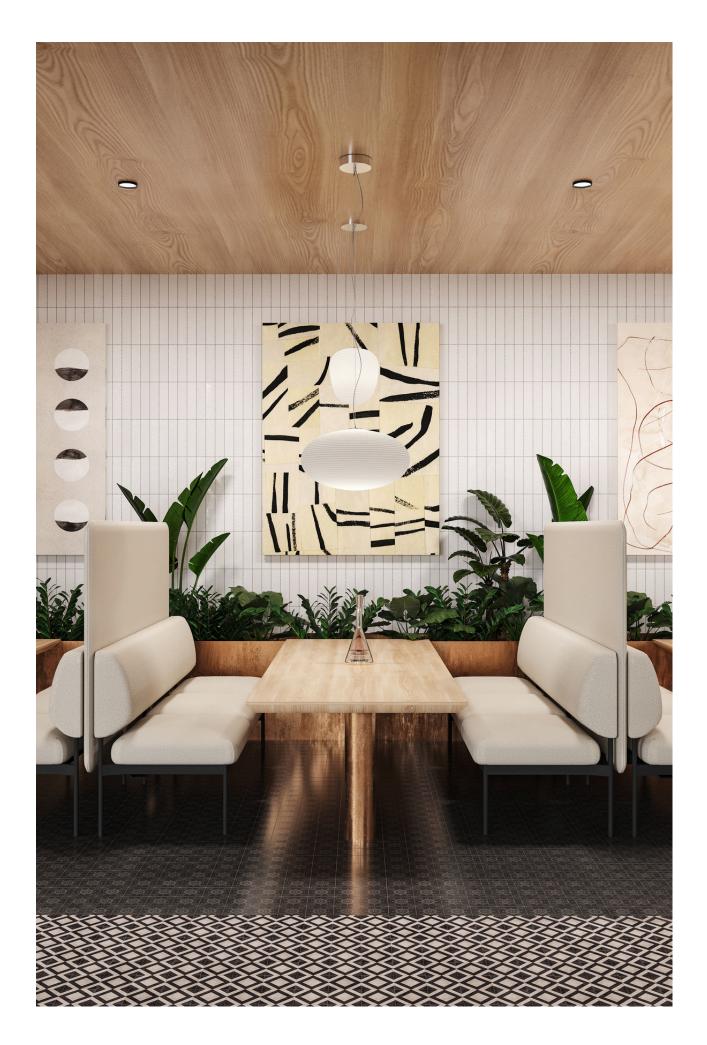
KM: Yes it was. I love simple and cozy design, but some situations require more complex solutions, where functionality becomes more important than simplicity. In such cases, it is crucial that the design of the various elements is simple and intuitive, while allowing the creation of a variety of configurations, while maintaining the impression of softness and coziness.

## What three words would you use to describe Fora\_care and why?

KM: Versatile, modular and comfortable.



Fora\_care anatomy suits well in public spaces, waiting rooms, schools, canteens or the healthcare sector.





## Why have you decided on relatively shallow and tall seats in Fora\_care?

KM: It is important for the seniors and people with disabilities to be able to sit comfortably for long periods of time in a waiting room, public space or clinic. Low and deep seats can make it difficult for them to get up and sit down, which requires a lot of effort. Therefore, it is important that they feel comfortable while sitting.







## Generations create office design

Thinking about the future, we often focus on technological advancements. However, it's the social and demographic shifts that are proving to have an even greater impact on shaping what lies ahead.

Social transformations and the expectations of younger employees are redefining how companies operate and design modern workspaces. In particular, two generational groups play a key role in office design: Generation Z and Generation Y (millennials).

Together, they currently make up 61% of the global workforce, and forecasts suggest that by 2034, Generation Z alone will constitute 34% of the labor market, becoming the dominant group.<sup>1</sup>



The modern office should be a functional set of zones that support the creativity and efficiency of the entire team.

#### Who are Generation Z and Millennials?

Millennials, also known as Generation Y, are young but experienced professionals born between 1981 and 1990. They are curious about the world, highly educated, and open to new experiences. Prioritizing personal development, they embrace change and tend to place a higher value on their private lives over their careers. Generation Z, the youngest group in the workforce, includes individuals born between 1995 and 2009. Growing up immersed in technology, they are highly adept with digital tools. They often switch jobs, driven by differences in values and worldview. Both Millennials and Gen Z share a strong commitment to environmental protection, work ethics, and social equality, preferring employers whose values align with their own.

## Commonalities and Perspectives on the Workplace.

While Gen Y (Millennials) and Gen Z are at different life stages, they share some similarities in their views on the workplace environment. Generation Y has made significant investments in their education and is currently focused on advancing their careers while also starting families. For them, workplace flexibility is crucial. In the context of hybrid work, 42% of Millennials define it as having flexible working hours, compared to 36% of Generation Z.2 On the other hand, Generation Z plays a vital role in shaping today's work culture. They are tech-savvy and driven by goals, seeking employment with companies that align with their values. Zetas prioritize a work environment that addresses their diverse needs, fosters positive relationships, and embraces workforce diversity.





## How to Design a Workspace for the New Generation?

Today's labor market encompasses four distinct generations, making it essential for office designs to consider the needs of all age groups, particularly the younger ones. Focusing on modular furniture and pieces that enable easy reconfiguration of the workspace is crucial.

A flexible office environment can adapt to various working styles by incorporating:

- common areas, such as coworking spaces
- · quiet zones for focus and attention,
- spaces for relaxation and informal meetings

The modern office should be a functional arrangement of zones that enhance the creativity and efficiency of the entire team. Selecting the right furniture and office solutions is crucial for creating these spaces.

In addition to ergonomic desks and chairs (Belt, Eleven, and Momo), incorporating acoustic solutions such as screens, wall and ceiling panels (like Selva, Flos, and Silent Block) is beneficial in shared spaces. Shared office spaces are increasingly functioning as hubs for intense teamwork and brainstorming sessions. Tall tables (such as Orte and Spin) combined with comfortable benches and seating (Flos, Epocc, and Ox:co small) are ideal for such environments.

These areas often require frequent rearrangements, so it's crucial to consider furniture that is easy to reorganize. This includes functional partitions that can also serve as storage (Saar), acoustic walls that double as dividers (Selva Fee and Alberi), and movable furniture.







Keeping comfortable silence level is essential in open-office. Acoustic booths, such as Treehouse or Quadra, are perfect for video conferencing or small meetings. Additionally, sets from the Leaf\_pod collection allow for the creation of separate spaces while ensuring proper acoustics in the office.

A key feature of a modern office is the establishment of a relaxation area. These spaces improve the productivity of employees by allowing them to relax. This includes comfortable sofas (Fora, Legvan) and armchairs (Epocc lounge, Flos, Ox:co, Vieni). The relaxation area is a place where silence must also be ensured, so armchairs and acoustic booths (Epocc lounge, Quadra) are a good option.



#### **Photos:**

- 1. Set Leaf\_pod, shelving system SAAR, table Spin and chairs Hens.
- 2. Swivrel chair Belt BE 102B, table Orte 4L.
- 3. Set Fora, shelving system Saar, swivrel chair Belt BE 1T3G.
- 4. AFlos:acoustics collection.
- 5. Treehouse THS 2SF G1.
- 6. Quadra Booth QD WPB 2.
- 7. Treehouse Booth TH 6 G2.
- 8. Set Leaf\_pod.
- 9. Set Quadra.

As more members of Generation Z enter the labor market, office spaces are evolving accordingly. Companies are increasingly adjusting their workplaces to meet the needs of this new, demanding workforce, for whom flexibility and sustainability are essential. These factors contribute to the broader concept of employee wellbeing.











# Wellbeing in the office - design can improve employee wellness

The average office worker spends around 48 hours weekly at work, making the workplace environment a major factor in their overall wellbeing. Key elements like ergonomics, acoustics, and air quality play a crucial role in supporting employee health and comfort.



#### Is Wellbeing in the Workplace Important?

Employee wellbeing refers to overall satisfaction with the workplace, encompassing comfort, mental health, and physical health. This concept is increasingly relevant for millennials and Generation Z, for whom wellbeing at work is a crucial factor. Central to this idea is the individual, and the environment they work in should promote a sense of security and tranquility. As a result, employee wellbeing is a vital consideration when designing workspaces, regardless of generational differences.

There is a strong and continuous link between employee engagement and wellbeing. Research shows that employees with high levels of wellbeing experience 38% fewer unscheduled absences compared to the average worker. Additionally, according to the Gallup Institute, employees who are content with their worklife balance are more likely to have a positive outlook on life (42%), and a majority (59%) do not plan to change jobs within the next year.

Promoting wellbeing in the workplace not only helps retain and attract talent but also reduces stress, lowers healthcare costs, and boosts employee engagement.

#### Office supporting employee wellbeing

One of the fundamental aspects of employee wellbeing is the work environment, making it essential to design office spaces that cater to the individual needs of people. A holistic approach that considers the diverse requirements of employees, especially those related to their wellbeing, is vital.

A holistic approach that takes into account the diverse needs of employees, especially those related to their wellbeing, is key. For the vast majority of Polish Generation Z employees (94%),<sup>3</sup> mental health is a priority. This is why it is so important to provide relaxation zones and solutions to help reduce stress levels.

## How can this be accomplished? Create Relaxation Areas

When designing communal spaces in the office, it's beneficial to set aside relaxation areas equipped with more than just comfortable sofas or armchairs. Incorporating swings or rocking chairs can be an excellent way to promote relaxation for employees. Research from Current Biology indicates that the human brain is evolutionarily attuned to respond positively to rocking. This soothing motion not only calms but also significantly enhances memory.<sup>4</sup>





## Introduce Natural Elements into Your Office Space

The colors, textures, and materials used in office furniture greatly influence employee well-being and productivity. To foster a welcoming atmosphere, consider adding biophilic elements. Furnishings made from natural materials, along with natural colors and textures reminiscent of the outdoors, can make a positive difference.

Additionally, incorporating live plants by placing them on shelves or bookcases, will help create a warm environment that encourages creativity.

#### **Design Ergonomic Workspaces**

In addition to measures for noise and stress reduction, seating comfort is a crucial aspect of an effective office. Ergonomic chairs and armchairs are essential for creating a comfortable workstation. Ensuring proper sitting posture can help mitigate the negative effects of a sedentary lifestyle on employee health.

#### **Prioritize Quiet Spaces**

Excessive noise in the workplace can significantly reduce productivity and increase stress levels among employees. A study published in the "British Journal of Psychology" found that the productivity of employees sharing a room with others who speak or read aloud declines by over 60%.

Implementing acoustic solutions, such as soundproof panels or booths, can greatly reduce noise in the office, ultimately enhancing employee well-being.

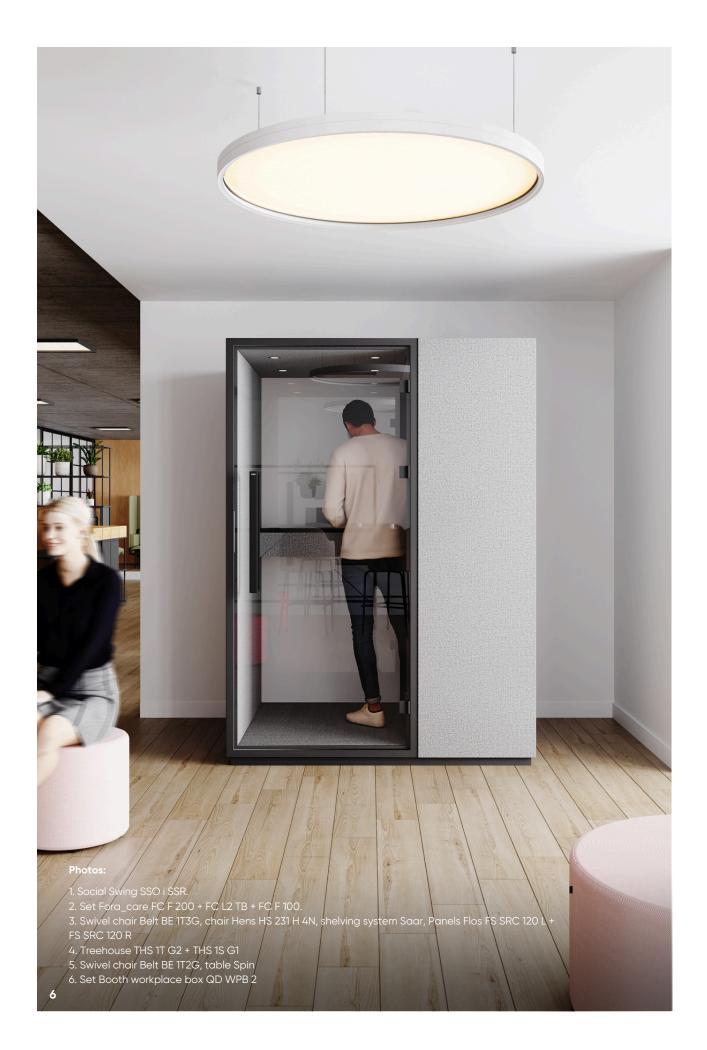
#### Sources:

- <sup>1</sup> Deloitte Global 2024 Gen Z and Millennial Survey
- <sup>2</sup> The Economics of Wellbeing Report, Gallup Institute, 2023
- 3 Gen Z o sobie i otaczającym ich świecie, jakie sa polskie Zetki. Uniwersytet SWPS
- 4 Current Biology, Whole-Night Continuous Rocking Entrains Spontaneous Neural Oscillations with Benefits for Sleep and Memory, 2019
- 5 Disruption of office-related tasks by speech and office noise, British Journal of Psychology, 2011







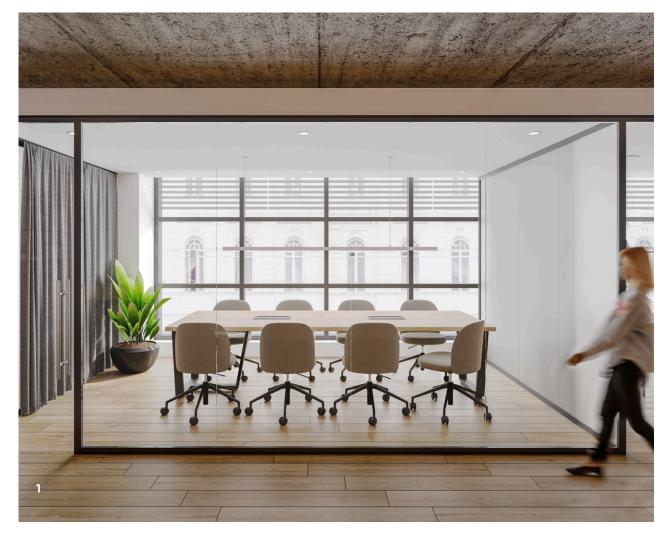


# Trend: Colours of Nature

The design of office spaces has significantly evolved in recent years, prioritizing employee comfort and wellbeing. In 2024, one of the major trends is the integration of natural tones into office design. Shades of beige, blue, and red are increasingly favored, fostering a harmonious and inviting work atmosphere. What are the benefits of this trend, and how does it enhance employee wellbeing?

#### **Beige: Warmth and Calmness**

Beige radiates warmth and tranquility, with its neutral tones providing a sense of balance in office spacess. In office design, incorporating beige walls, furniture, or accessories can create a calming atmosphere that promotes focus and reduces stress levels. This color blend well with natural materials like wood or stone, further enhancing the overall sense of comfort and serenity.

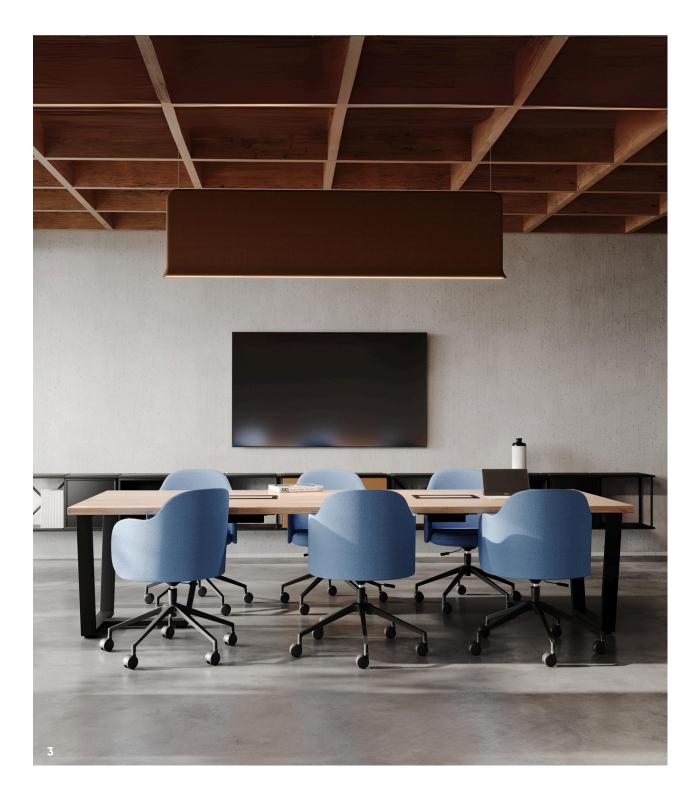




#### Shades of Blue: Calm and Professionalism

Blue is popular color in office spaces. Its various shades, from light blues to deep navy, can evoke a sense of calm, stability, and professionalism. Blue is also associated with focus and creativity, making it an

ideal choice for environments where intense mental work is a daily requirement. Additionally, lighter shades of blue can make a space appear larger, which is particularly beneficial for smaller offices.



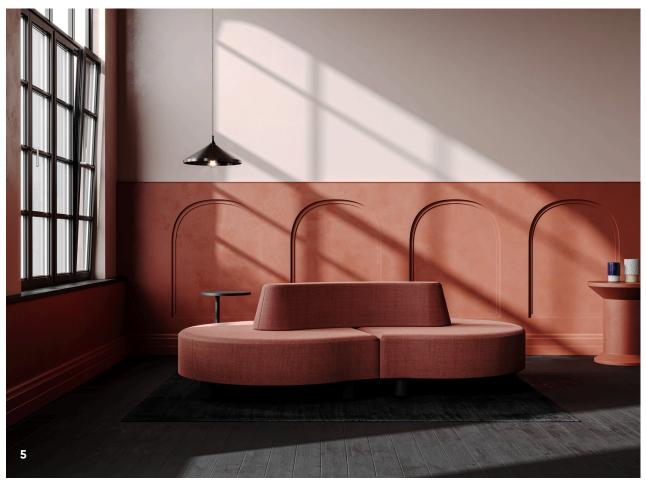


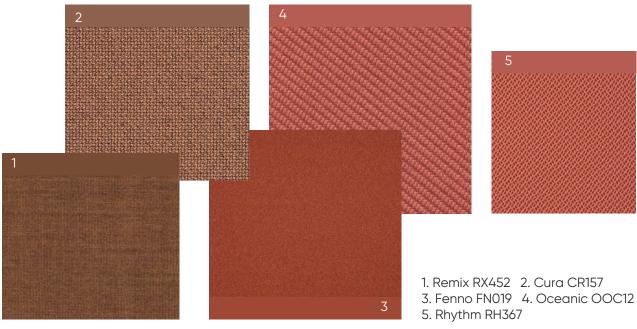
1. Blazer CUZ47 2. Blazer CUZ2Q 3. Ally AL653 4. Blazer CUZ1R 5. Cura GR 667 6. Charles CH009 7. Oceanic OOC14 8. Remix RX242 9. Alpa AP005

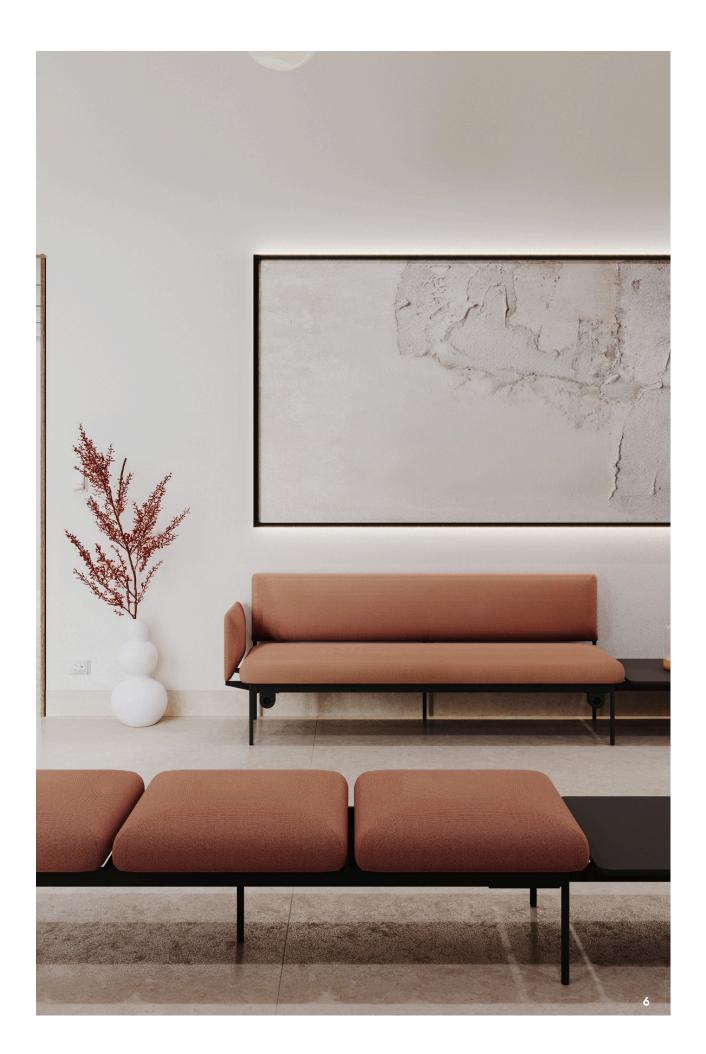


#### Reds and browns: Energy and Motivation

Warm colors like browns, ochres, and reds bring elements of energy and motivation into the office. These hues, inspired by natural earth tones, can be used as accents that add character and coziness to the space. Using warm reds in accessories such as cushions, curtains, or artwork can boost creativity and increase employee engagement.







#### **Wellbeing and Natural Tones**

Using colours of nature in office spaces aligns with current trends in workplace wellbeing. These nature – inspired hues have a positive effect on both mental and physical health. Designing an office that reflects natural surroundings can help reduce stress, increase comfort, and improve overall employee wellbeing.

Well-designed offices featuring ntone aesthetics can lead to higher job satisfaction and greater efficiency. Beige tones promote focus, blue stimulates creativity, and warm reds add energy—each of these colors plays a vital role in creating a healthy and productive work environment.

### Practical Tips for Designing office with Colours of Nature

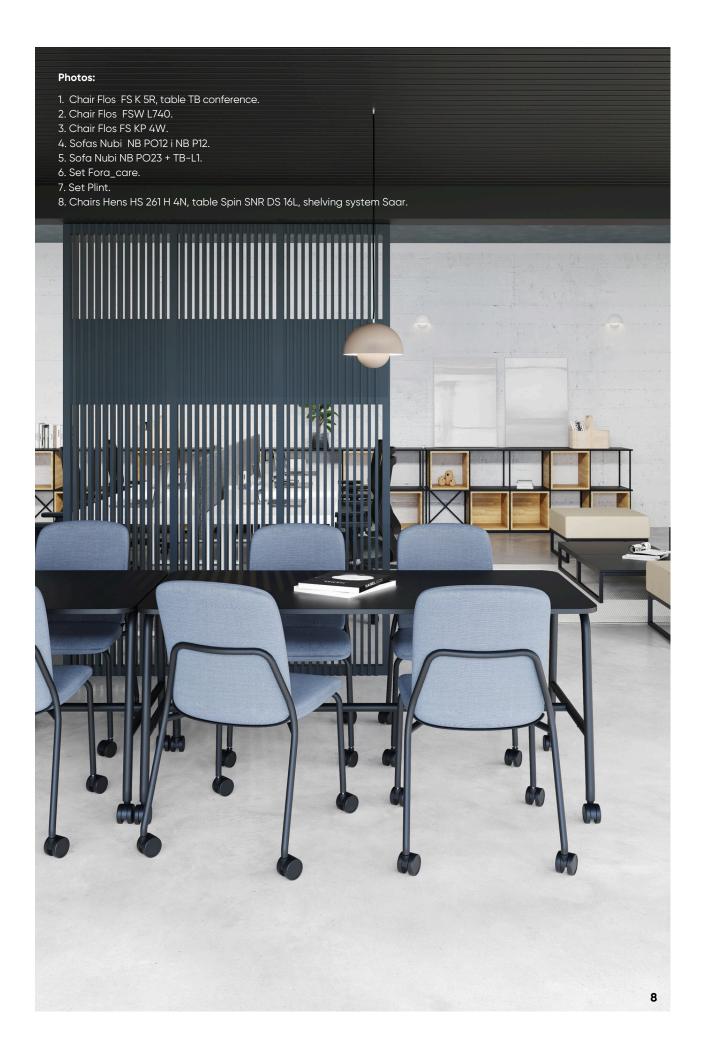
It's worth keeping a few key guidelines in mind when using natural tones in office design:

 Color Harmony: Be sure that beiges, blues and reds are well-balanced and don't overwhelm the workspace.

- Detales: Using natural tones as accents can help maintain consistency, while allowing you to introduce different tones without the risk of one color dominating.
- Lighting: Colors can appear different depending on the light source, so it's a good idea to test samples under both natural and artificial lighting.

Colours of nature – beiges, shades of blue and reds – are key trends in office space design in 2024, reflecting the growing importance of wellbeing at work. The use of these colors can significantly affect employee comfort and efficiency, creating a welcoming and harmonious work environment. Introducing natural tones into the office is an investment in team health and satisfaction, which brings long-term benefits to the organization.





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