

40/4®

HOWE

# PRODUCT DESCRIPTION



DESIGNED BY DAVID ROWLAND 1964

# 40/4®

David Rowland's 40/4 chair is arguably the most significant chair design of the past 50 years. Over 8 million chairs have been sold since its introduction in 1964. Honoured with numerous design awards, and exhibited in several museums all over the world, the 40/4 chair is widely appealing. Whether you go for its excellent ergonomic features, its graceful lines and durability or its unique space-saving attributes, there are at least 40 good reasons to choose this design icon. Renowned for its unsurpassed stacking and handling characteristics combined with its elegant and spare aesthetic, 40/4 is rightly a great favourite of specifying architects and designers. With seats and backs in polyamide, finely crafted wood veneer or as upholstered version, 40/4 does great service across the board in schools, universities, churches and cathedrals, as well as in corporate offices, conference centres and training establishments. 40/4 is also available in armchair, barstool, lounge chair, swivel chair, outdoor variations, and with wood frame.

## DESCRIPTION

Multi-purpose stacking chairs for conferencing, meeting, training, dining and visiting use. Stackable up to 40 chairs on dolly.

## PRODUCT DETAILS

### SEATS, BACKS AND ARMRESTS

The seats and backs are triple curved. The front of the seat is with "waterfall" curve.

### VENEER VERSION

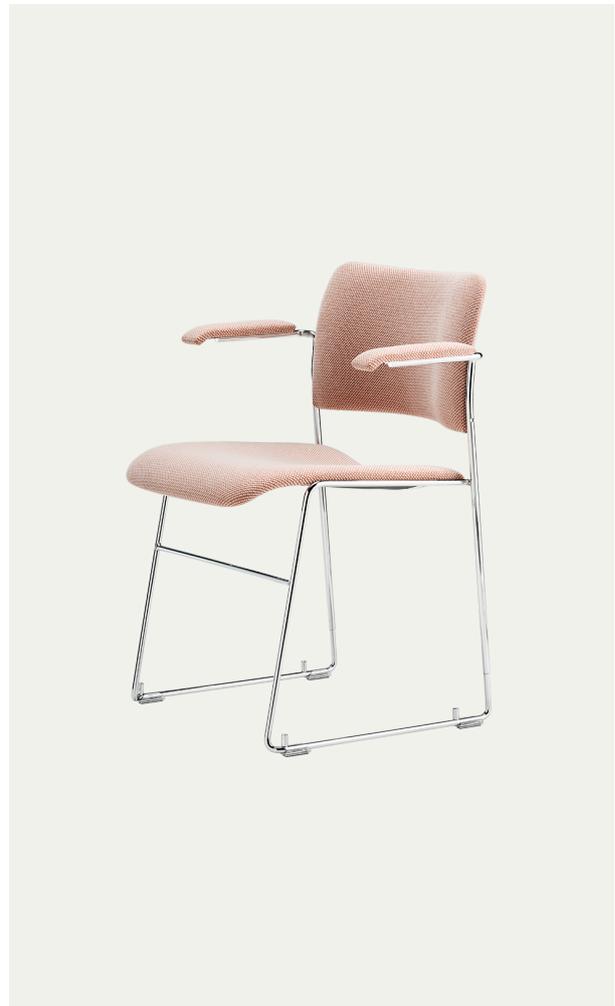
The surface veneer is in matt lacquered 0,6 mm semi-quarter cut, bookmatch sanded veneer on both sides. The inner layers are in 1,2 mm rotary cut beech: 7 layers on seat, 9 layers on back, 7 layers on armrests. The thickness of the seat is 9-10 mm, back 10-11 mm and armrest 9-10 mm.

Standard finishes:

Oak, walnut, and black stained.

### POLYAMIDE VERSION

The polyamide is a PA. The surface is slightly textured. The thickness of the seat is 5,5-10 mm, back 6,5-10 mm and armrest 10 mm.





Standard colours:

Howe grey, Ayers Rock red, Black, Blue eyes, Coconut, Mandarin, Olive green and Marine blue.

**FRAMES**

The sled frame is in round, solid steel rod.

Side chair (linking and non-linking): Ø11 mm rod.

Armchair: Ø11 mm rod/Ø13 mm rod at rearlegs and arm support.

Frame finish comes in trivalent chrome3 (min. 20 µ) or black, satin black, white, satin white, alu grey or Howe grey powder coating (min. 50 µ) as standard.

The glides are in transparent polycarbonate (PC). Glides with integrated moulded felt are optional. On chairs with integrated hook/eye linking one male and one female glide apply.

**VARIETIES**

The side chair is available with integrated linking systems, providing strong and efficient linking for mass seating. The linking systems are an integral part of the frame and are a solid three-point connection; 2 integral frame joints plus an interlocking glide joining point.

Two types of integrated linking systems are available:

- Hook and eye linking
- Brace linking

**LOUNGE VERSION**

The side chair is available as lounge version with lower seating height, wider seat and a more leaned back seating position.

The solid steel rod) is Ø11 mm. The lounge version is available in veneer, and upholstery finish.

**XTRA VERSION**

The side chair is available in an enlarged version with higher back, and wider seat and back. The solid steel rod is Ø11 mm. The xtra version is available in veneer and upholstery finish.

**BARSTOOL VERSION**

The side chair is available as barstool version with seating height of 775 mm as standard. Seating height 630 mm also available (counter height).

The seat and back is more narrow and seating position more leaned back for optimal comfort.

The solid steel rod is Ø14 mm. The barstool version is available in veneer, polyamide and upholstery finish.



**OUTDOOR VERSION**

The side chair, armchair and barstool are available for outdoor use. The frame is treated with e-coat and powdercoated on top - standard colour is alu grey.

The seat and back are injection moulded PA6 - standard colour is black. The frame, seat and back can also be ordered in any colour from the RAL-fan. The outdoor version is thoroughly tested to outdoor conditions.

**SWIVEL VERSION**

The 40/4 swivel chair is available in side chair and armchair versions. Choose between castors or glides. It is height adjustable providing a seating height span from 460-585 mm on castors and a seating height span from 425-545 mm on glides.

The seat, back and armrests are available in polyamide (PA6), veneer and upholstery finishes.

The solid steel frame is Ø13 mm. The seat support is in steel, and the aluminium die cast spindle dimension is Ø28 mm.

Castors with integrated wheel brakes are with Howe grey core and zinc corpus. Soft lane castor as an option. Glides in PP.

**WOOD FRAME VERSION**

The 40/4 wood frame is an alternative to the original chair with its iconic steel rod sled frame. The 40/4 wood frame is FSC® C041311 certified.

The goal was to retain the proportions, angles, and characteristic curves whilst giving the choice of a different material. The frame is pressed veneer with the dimensions of 27 x 23 mm.

The connector is in zinc and is powder coated in Howe grey. The 40/4 wood frame is available as a side chair with and without an integrated seat pad.

Standard finishes:

Oak, black stained, and walnut stained.

A floor linking system is available for the side chair. The linking brackets are retrofittable.



## UPHOLSTERY

The upholstery is in fabric, trevira, microfibre, leather or PU. The back is fully upholstered.

As standard the cushioning is fire retardant CMHR polyurethane foam. Thickness is 20 mm on the seat and 15 mm on the back. Foam density is 65 kg/m<sup>3</sup> on the seat and 65 kg/m<sup>3</sup> on the back. Arm rest: 20 mm thickness and density 65 kg/m<sup>3</sup>. Thin foam option available for Trevira and wool fabrics upon request.

The 40/4 chair in veneer and polyamide is available as semi-upholstered (seat upholstered - back in veneer or polyamide). This means reduced stackability.

## STACKING CAPACITY

The side chair in veneer and polyamide is stackable up to 40 chairs in height of 1465 mm on a dolly and up to 20 chairs on floor in height of 1040 mm. Rows of 2, 3, or 4 side chairs in veneer or polyamide with eye/hook linking can be lifted and stacked without being separated onto a double, triple or quadruple dolly.

The upholstered side chair is stackable up to 25 chairs in height of 1585 mm on dolly.

The armchair is stackable up to 25 chairs in height of 1765 mm (veneer and polyamide) and in height of 1790 mm (upholstered) on dolly.

The lounge chair in veneer is stackable up to 20 chairs in height of 1000 mm on floor.

The xtra chair is stackable up to 40 chairs in height of 1470 mm (veneer) and up to 25 chairs in height of 1585 mm (upholstered) on dolly.

The barstool in veneer and polyamide is stackable up to 10 chairs in height of 1260 mm on floor.

The 40/4 wood frame is stackable up to 25 chairs in height of 1720 mm on dolly and up to 12 chairs on floor in height of 1090 mm.

The 40/4 wood frame with seat pad is stackable up to 20 chairs in height of 1565 mm on dolly and up to 10 chairs on floor in height of 1045 mm.

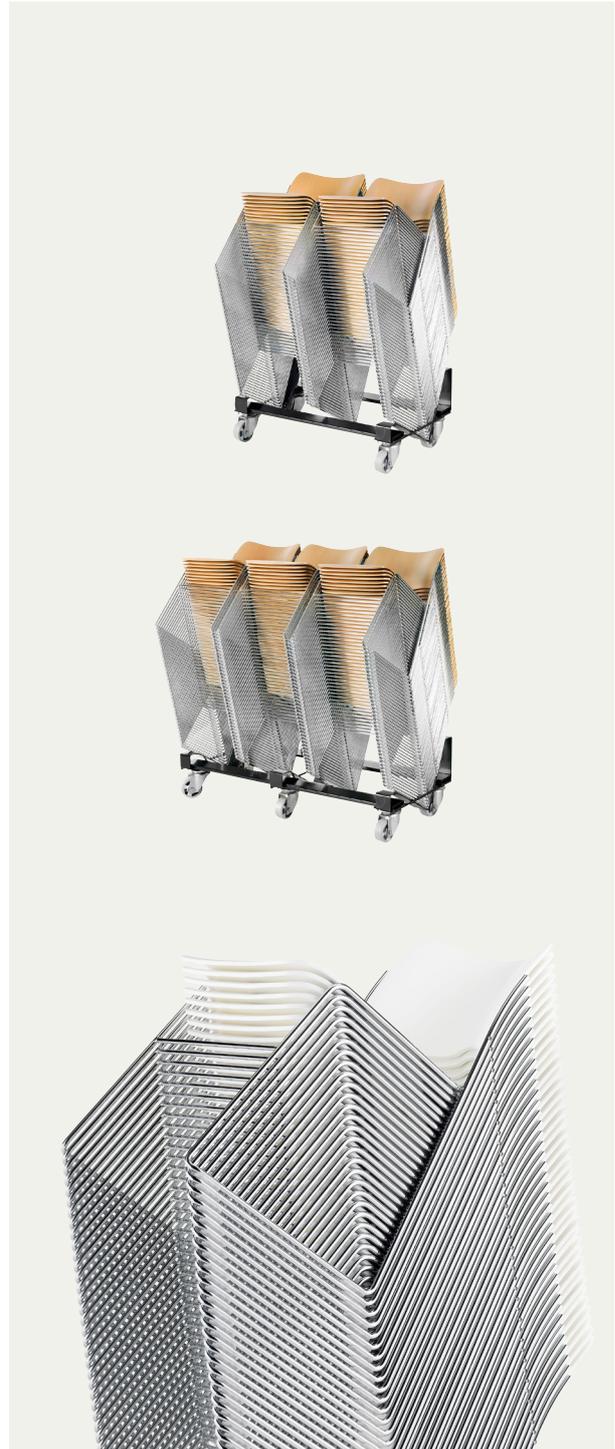
## REQUIRED FLOOR SPACE

Single dolly = 40 chairs = 0,47 sq. metres floor space.

Double dolly = 80 chairs = 0,94 sq. metres floor space.

Triple dolly = 120 chairs = 1,40 sq. metres floor space.

Quadruple dolly = 160 chairs = 1,87 sq. metres floor space.



## DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHT

### DIMENSIONS IN MM

| - VENEER CHAIRS                         | Chair | Lounge | xtra | Barstool | Barstool counter height | Swivel  | Wood frame |
|---|-------|--------|------|----------|-------------------------|---------|------------|
| Depth of seat:                          | 435   | 435    | 435  | 405      | 405                     | 435     | 435        |
| Width of seat:                          | 425   | 465    | 465  | 405      | 405                     | 425     | 410        |
| Height of back:                         | 250   | 255    | 255  | 225      | 225                     | 250     | 245        |
| Width of back:                          | 465   | 505    | 505  | 445      | 445                     | 465     | 465        |
| Height of chair:                        | 770   | 710    | 775  | 1075     | 940                     | 775-900 | 775        |
| Depth of chair:                         | 530   | 595    | 530  | 540      | 540                     | 660     | 535        |
| Width of chair:                         | 490   | 530    | 530  | 475      | 475                     | 660     | 525        |
| Width of two chairs with brace linking: | 1025  | N/A    | 1105 | N/A      | N/A                     | N/A     | N/A        |
| Width of chair with armrest:            | 605   | N/A    | N/A  | N/A      | N/A                     | 660     | N/A        |
| Seating height:                         | 455   | 400    | 455  | 775      | 630                     | 460-585 | 460        |
| Armrest height:                         | 660   | N/A    | N/A  | N/A      | N/A                     | 665-790 | N/A        |

### WEIGHT

| VERSION                  | Polyamide | Veneer  | Upholstered       |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------|-------------------|
| SIDE CHAIR - non linking | 6,5 kg    | 6,1 kg  | 6,3 kg            |
| SIDE CHAIR - linking     | 6,6 kg    | 6,3 kg  | 6,5 kg            |
| ARMCHAIR - non linking   | 7,7 kg    | 7,1 kg  | 7,6 kg            |
| ARMCHAIR - linking       | 7,8 kg    | 7,2 kg  | 7,7 kg            |
| LOUNGE                   | N/A       | 6,0 kg  | 6,4 kg            |
| XTRA - non linking       | N/A       | 6,3 kg  | 6,5 kg            |
| XTRA - linking           | N/A       | 6,4 kg  | 6,6 kg            |
| BARSTOOL                 | 10,4 kg   | 9,1 kg  | 9,4 kg            |
| SWIVEL SIDE CHAIR        | 11,6 kg   | 11,2 kg | 11,4 kg           |
| SWIVEL ARMCHAIR          | 12,4 kg   | 12,0 kg | 12,2 kg           |
| WOOD FRAME SIDE CHAIR    | N/A       | 4,7 kg  | 5,7 kg (seat pad) |



## ACCESSORIES

TRANSPORT DOLLIES with capacity of 40 chairs per unit. Single dolly (18,5 kg), double dolly (26 kg), triple dolly (34 kg), quadruple dolly (41,5 kg).

ROW SPACER BAR holding linked rows of chairs secure in the case of an emergency - often a local authority requirement. The steel bar is 3 mm in thickness and aisle created is 350 mm from seat front to chair back. Fixed with rubber lock.

WRITING TABLET, right or left handed version. Attachable/detachable. Black or white compact laminate version in 10 mm thickness. With or without cup holder.

TRANSPORTER FOR WRITING TABLETS  
 Dolly with three boxes, capacity 18 pcs.  
 Dolly dimensions: L 600 x D 400 x H 140 mm.  
 Double dolly with six boxes, capacity 36 pcs.  
 Dolly dimensions: L 915 x D 565 x H 140 mm.

BOOK RACK in solid steel rod. Retrofitable mounting on frame underneath the seat.

HYMN BOOK HOLDER in chrome, 120 mm high, 175 mm long, 154 mm wide (distance between front legs of chairs). With integrated linking.

TABLE SURFACE PROTECTOR for armchairs - Soft poplyamide device mounted on steel rod below the armrest. Armchair can be hung on the table without scratching the table surface. Cannot be installed subsequently.

LINKING TOOL aiding the linking/unlinking operation of chairs with integrated frame linking.

#### ARMCHAIR LINKING SYSTEM:

Linking device mounted on armrests.

SLIM ARMRESTS: The slim armrest solution was developed to enable the combination of armchairs and side chairs in one row. The overall width of the chair has been reduced from 605 mm to 560 mm by optimizing the frame geometry and incorporating slimmer armrests. When combined with linking, the slim armrest and side chair can be linked consecutively to create a row with arms.

#### ELECTRONIC NUMBERING SYSTEM:

The black electronic tag features a battery-powered, readable display for seamless use. Designed for wooden and upholstered backrests, its slim profile preserves both comfort and aesthetics.

## ERGONOMICS & ENVIRONMENT

The chairs triple curved form moulds to body's natural contours. The waterfall seat design does not restrict blood circulation and so prevents undue pressure under the thighs.

The stacking of the chairs is ergonomically correct - the chairs only have to be lifted low to slide from front. All parts of the chair can be dismantled and recycled.

## TESTS

The chair is designed for severe contract use and has been subject to a variety of tests to ensure its highest quality and durability.

The furniture is tested by third-party organizations and passed testing according to the required EN and BIFMA standards, staying also in line with strict emission regulations.

All the certificates are available for access and download [here](#).

## WARRANTIES

HOWE a/s provides a 10-year guarantee on all 40/4 chairs against weld breakages, defective materials, workmanship, and performance under normal use. The only exception is the 40/4 wood frame chair, which comes with a 5-year guarantee.

For full information please see the warranty provision on [howe.com](http://howe.com)

## PACKAGING

Side chairs = 10 per carton/0,33 m<sup>3</sup>.

Armchairs = 5 per carton/0,37 m<sup>3</sup>.

Upholstered side chairs = 5 per carton.

Upholstered side chairs with extra thickness cushioning = 5 per carton.

Upholstered armchairs = 5 per carton.

Upholstered armchairs with extra thickness cushioning = 5 per carton.



## AWARDS

- 1964: Grand Prix, Milan Triennale for '40/4' Chair (one of only two Americans to receive this award, the other one being Buckminster Fuller for his Geodesic Domes).
- 1965: American Institute of Designers (AID) award for best piece of business furniture.
- 1965: Product Engineering Magazine Award, '40/4' Chair (one of 12 best products introduced in the United States in 1965).
- 1969: Austrian Gold Medal Award for furniture.
- 1979: Institute of Business Designers (IBD) Gold Medal for best product in Special Seating Category.
- 1979: Institute of Business Designers (IBD) Gold Medal for best product of entire awards competition.
- 1980: International Council of Societies of Industrial Design (ICSID) Exhibition, Milan, Italy.
- 1984: 'Design in America: The Cranbrook Vision 1925-1950'.
- 1992: Metropolis Magazine recognized '40/4' as one of the Classic Designs from around the World - of the Past 50 Years.

## PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

The chair is in the permanent collections of the following museums:

- NEW YORK / Museum of Modern Art, Cooper-Hewitt, Museum of Design, Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Brooklyn Museum  
 LONDON / The Design Museum  
 PARIS / Musée des Arts Décoratifs  
 CHICAGO / Art Institute of Chicago  
 MONTREAL / Musée des Arts Décoratifs  
 WEIL AM RHEIN / The Vitra Museum  
 MUNICH / Die Neue Sammlung  
 RIO DE JANEIRO / Museu de Arte Moderna  
 FLINT / Institute of Fine Arts  
 PHILADELPHIA / Philadelphia Museum of Art  
 CRANBROOK / Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum



