

# Alcove

Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec, 2006/2015



## Alcove

The 'room in a room' is a concept that Vitra has intensively pursued over many years in collaboration with the designers Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec. The idea of mobile micro-architectural elements has led to a wide variety of designs, among which the Alcove Sofa stands out as one of the most remarkable.

The various Alcove sofas were conceived for open-plan offices, where they provide sheltered, private spaces in busy or hectic surroundings. This makes them a perfect place to withdraw for concentrated work or small meetings.

The different models in the Alcove family

can be variably combined, thus offering a diverse range of possibilities for organising open-plan offices without having to install fixed structures. This enables the creation of cohesive central areas in open office environments – Meet & Retreat zones with a unified aesthetic.



## Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec

The brothers Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec live and work in Paris. Their oeuvre ranges from small everyday objects to architectural projects. They have worked with Vitra since 2000 and have contributed numerous designs to both the office and home collections.

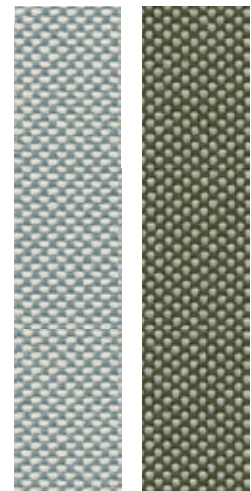
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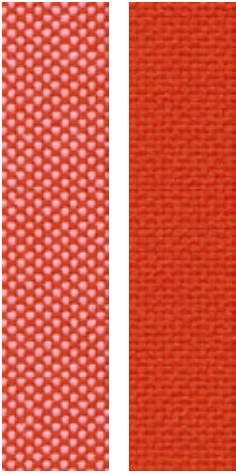
Alcove Highback Cabin Two-Seater with Credo fabric in the colour sand/avocado, Work upholstery. Table with integrated power supply and U-Turn lamp.



Alcove Sofa Two-Seater with Laser fabric in the colour ice blue/ivory and Love Seat with Laser fabric in in the colour light grey/forest, both with Lounge upholstery. Ottoman with Laser fabric in the colour ice blue/moor brown.

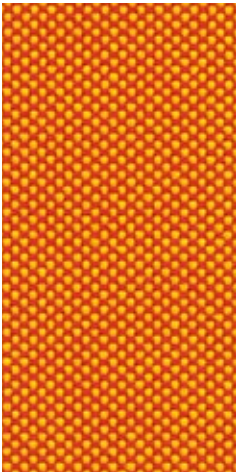


Alcove Highback Three-Seater with Laser fabric in the colour petrol/moor brown, Lounge upholstery.



Alcove Plume Contract Two-Seater with Laser fabric in the colour pink/poppy red and Fauteuil in the colour poppy red.

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Alcove Plume Contract Highback Three-Seater with Laser fabric in the colour yellow/poppy red.

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Alcove Highback Work with Laser fabric in the colour red/poppy red and tablet desk with leather surface in the colour sand, Work upholstery.

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The models in the Alcove sofa family with a tubular steel frame and 17 cm floor clearance come in two heights: Lowback (94 cm) and Highback (136 cm).

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Alcove Plume Contract, which has no tubular steel frame and a low floor clearance, comes in two heights: Lowback (85 cm) and Highback (123 cm).

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	Lowback	Highback
Alcove Sofa	Love Seat, Two-Seater, Three-Seater	Love Seat, Two-Seater, Three-Seater
Alcove Highback Work		Alcove Work
Alcove Plume Contract	Fauteuil, Two-Seater, Three-Seater	Fauteuil, Two-Seater, Three-Seater
Alcove Cabin		Two-Seater, Three-Seater

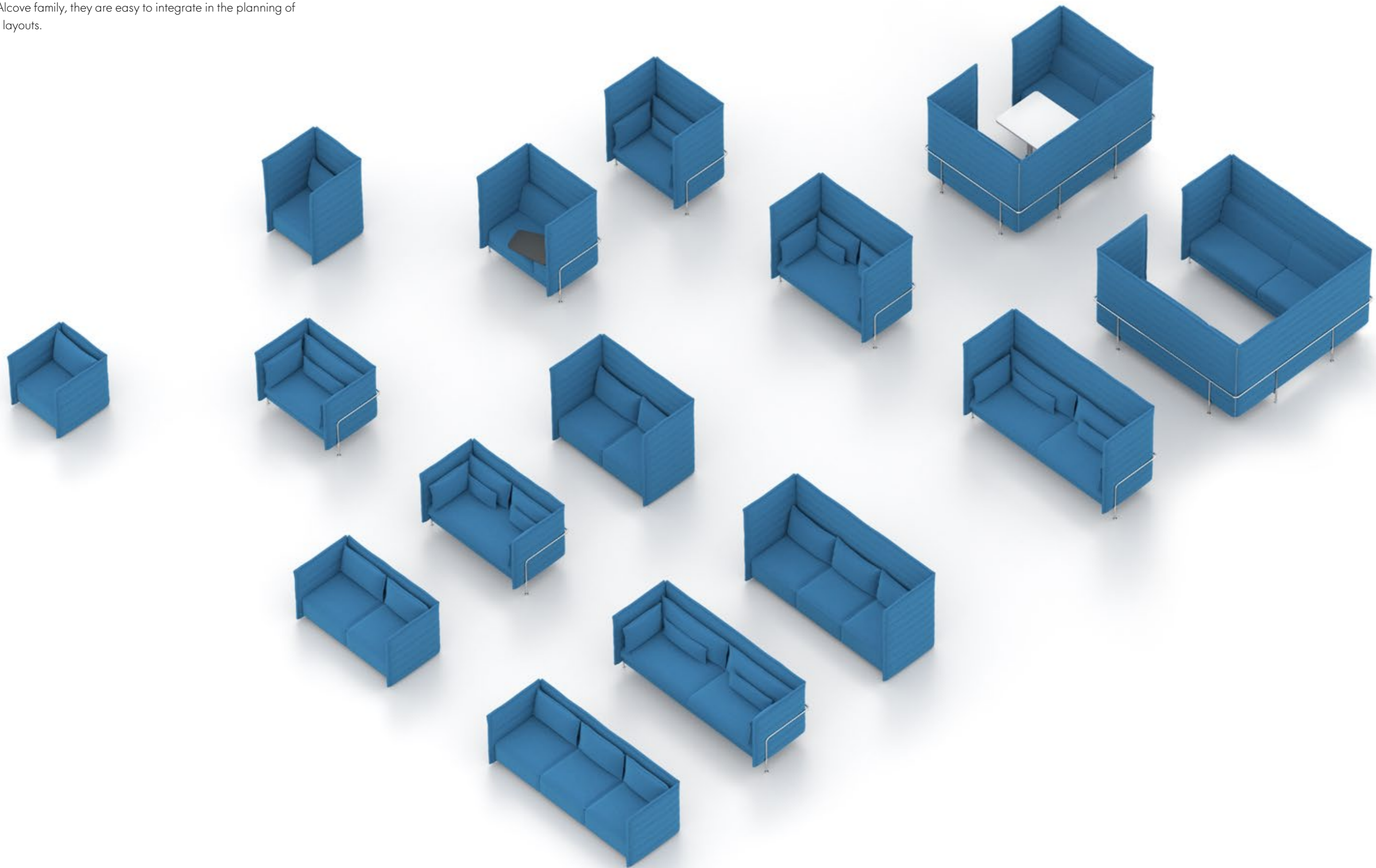
**ACOUSTICS**

The quilted side and back panels are a distinguishing characteristic of the various sofas in the Alcove family, helping to shield sitters both visually and acoustically and creating a sense of calm and privacy. The thin panels enable an efficient use of space while inviting users to lean against the softly padded surface and enjoy their flexible support.





Thanks to the uniform widths and depths of the various products in the Alcove family, they are easy to integrate in the planning of spatial layouts.



Alcove Lounge upholstery



Alcove Work upholstery

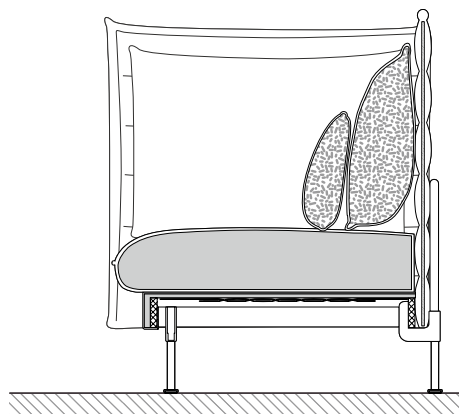


The soft 'Lounge' upholstery offers a relaxing place to sit, enhanced by arm cushions and small back pillows for even greater comfort (seat height 485 mm, 325 mm with applied load).

'Work' upholstery is firmer, providing sufficient support for working in a comfortable upright posture (seat height 480 mm, 385 mm with applied load).

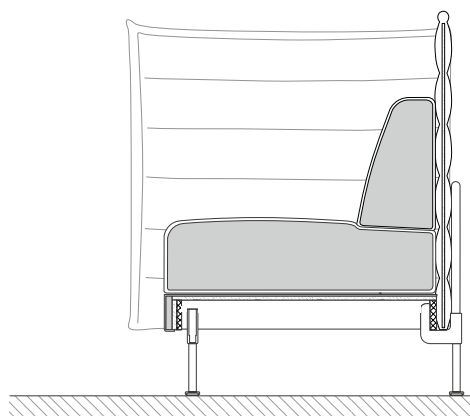
### Lounge upholstery

Lounge upholstery has a frame with elastic webbing to provide relaxed sitting. The seat cushions consist of polyurethane foam and polyester fibre; the back cushions are filled with polyurethane chips and microfibre.



### Work upholstery

Work upholstery has firmly padded seat and back elements that jointly form a comfortable seat for table-oriented postures and working tasks. The seat cushion rests on a metal frame with an integrated MDF panel; like the backrest, it consists of polyurethane foam and polyester fibre.



### Alcove Plume Contract upholstery

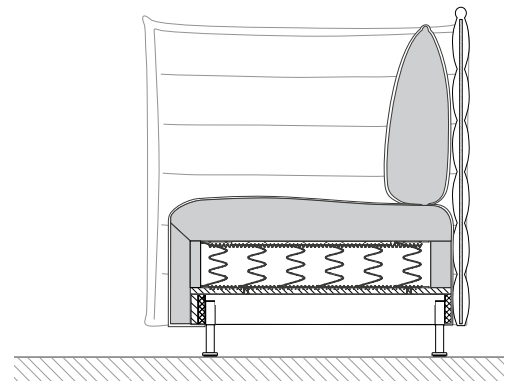


The plush cushions of Alcove Plume are slightly rounded to offer the soft, casual comfort of a lounge sofa (seat height 410 mm, 310 mm with applied load).

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### Alcove Plume Contract upholstery

The Bonnell spring core is sheathed in a textile fibre-composite mat and covered with layers of polyurethane foam in different densities to provide excellent comfort. The seat modules are supported by MDF base panels. The back cushions are composed of polyurethane foam and polyester fleece.





# Alcove, Alcove Highback

Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec, 2006/2012

**vitra.**



## Alcove Love Seat, Alcove Highback Two-Seater and Alcove Highback Three-Seater

A sofa can go beyond being a mere piece of furniture to become a room within a room.

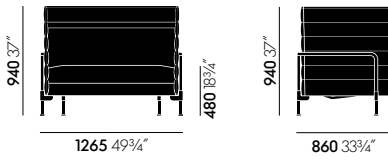
This was the idea that inspired Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec in their design of the Alcove Sofa.

With its comfortable seat and backrest upholstery and the high, flexible side and back panels, the Alcove Sofa forms the basis for the entire Alcove family.

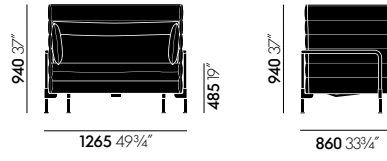
The fundamental concept behind the Alcove product line – creating places of shelter and seclusion – is especially evident in the Alcove Highback Sofa. With its high side and back panels, the Alcove Highback Sofa shields users both visually and acoustically from the surrounding environment. It offers a space for withdrawal and privacy. Thanks to the excellent acoustic qualities and its function as a visual screen, the Alcove Highback Sofa provides a truly peaceful oasis. This effect is even more pronounced when two sofas are positioned across from each other to form a room-like space.

### Materials

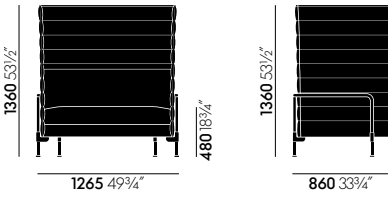
- **Structural frame:** tubular steel, chrome-plated or powder-coated (smooth); metal frame with upholstery webbing (lounge upholstery) or MDF base board (work upholstery).
- **Body:** back and side panels with integrated MDF boards for structural support, panel sections connected with zip fasteners.
- **Upholstery/seat:** polyurethane foam and polyester fibre. Alcove Sofas come in two different upholstery versions: soft 'Lounge' upholstery for relaxed sitting and firmer 'Work' upholstery for work-oriented sitting.
- **Seat heights:** Lounge upholstery 485 mm (325 mm with applied load, measured in accordance with EN 1335-1); Work upholstery 480 mm (385 mm with applied load, measured in accordance with EN 1335-1)
- **Covers:** removable.
- **Back cushions and cushion set:** polyurethane chips and microfibre filling. The cushion set is sold separately.
- **Legs:** tubular steel, chrome-plated or powder-coated (smooth).
- **Alcove Love Seat:** incl. 1 back cushion.
- **Cushion set for Love Seat:** 2 armrest cushions and 1 small back cushion.
- **Alcove two- and three-seater:** incl. 2 back cushions.
- **Cushion set for two- and three-seaters:** 2 armrest cushions and 2 small back cushions.



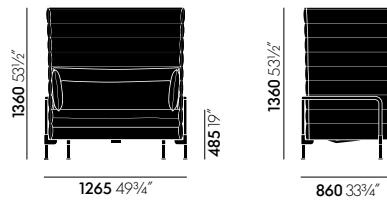
Alcove Love Seat (Work Upholstery)



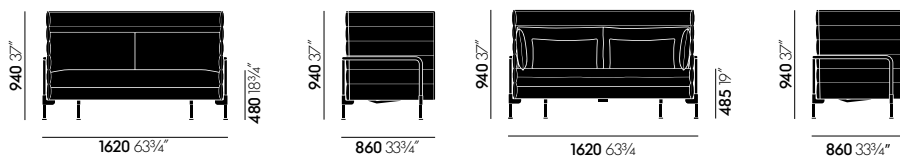
Alcove Love Seat (Lounge Upholstery)



Alcove Highback Love Seat  
(Work Upholstery)

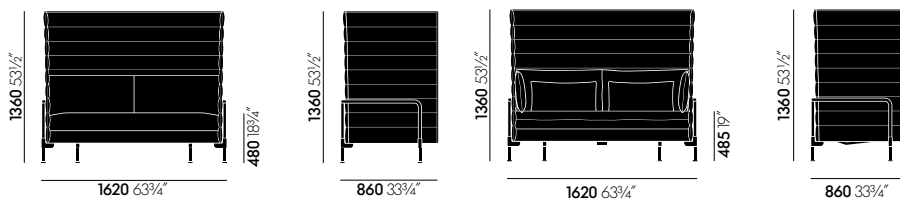


Alcove Highback Love Seat  
(Lounge Upholstery)



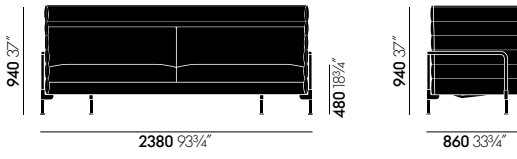
Alcove Two-Seater (Work Upholstery)

Alcove Two-Seater (Lounge Upholstery)

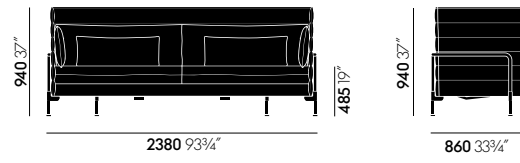


Alcove Highback Two-Seater  
(Work Upholstery)

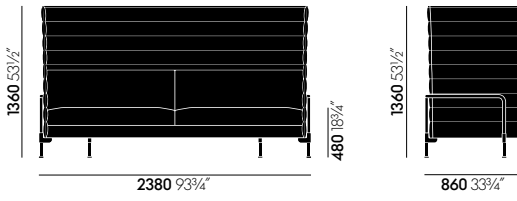
Alcove Highback Two-Seater  
(Lounge Upholstery)



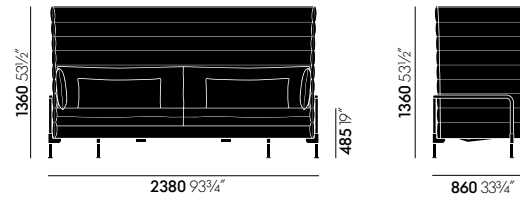
Alcove Three-Seater (Work Upholstery)



Alcove Three-Seater (Lounge Upholstery)



Alcove Highback Three-Seater  
(Work Upholstery)



Alcove Highback Three-Seater  
(Lounge Upholstery)

# Alcove Plume Contract

Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec, 2015

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## Alcove Plume Contract Two-Seater, Alcove Plume Contract Highback Fauteuil and Alcove Plume Contract Highback Three-Seater

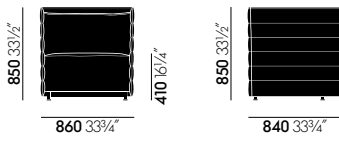
Alcove Plume Contract dispenses with visible legs and an external tubular steel frame, which emphasises its reductive design and almost makes it appear like a minimalist sculpture. As cubic architectural elements in two different heights, the various models of this sofa can be used to structurally organise an interior space. In contrast to their emphatically linear contours, they offer the soft comfort of a lounge sofa and bring

a sense of cosiness to offices and public areas. Alcove Plume Contract Highback, in particular – due to its high back and side panels – creates an inviting place to withdraw, while two facing sofas form a comfortable meeting area.

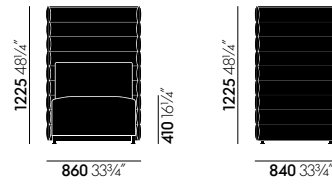
### Materials

- **Structural frame:** powder-coated steel, no external tubular frame.
- **Back and side panels:** integrated MDF panels for structural support; panel elements connected by zip fasteners.
- **Seat cushion:** multilayer PU foam upholstery with Bonnell spring core. The seat cushions can be individually detached and the fabric seat covers are removable.
- **Seat height:** 410 mm (310 mm with applied load, measured in accordance with EN 1335-1).
- **Back cushions:** filled with PU foam and PE fleece.
- **Legs:** tubular steel, chrome-plated or powder-coated (smooth).

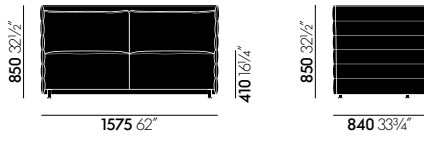




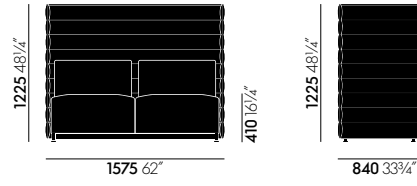
Alcove Plume Contract Fauteuil



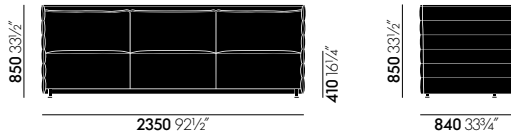
Alcove Plume Contract Highback Fauteuil



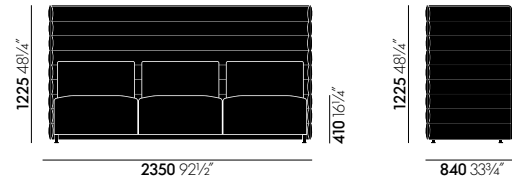
Alcove Plume Contract Two-Seater



Alcove Plume Contract Highback Two-Seater



Alcove Plume Contract Three-Seater



Alcove Plume Contract Highback Three-Seater

# Alcove Highback Work

Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec, 2010

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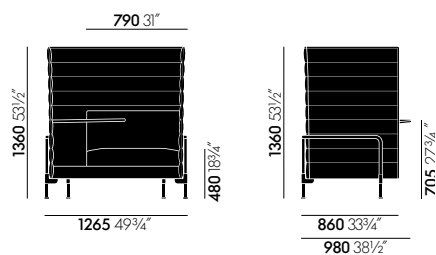
## Alcove Highback Work

The fundamental idea behind the Alcove product family - providing places of shelter and seclusion - also applies to Alcove Highback Work: it shields users both visually and acoustically from the surrounding environment, forming a space for withdrawal. With its integrated tablet desk, storage box and cable inlet, Alcove Highback Work offers a flexible and private workspace in the open-plan office for individual tasks requiring concentration.

### Materials

- **Structural frame:** tubular steel, chrome-plated or powder-coated (smooth); metal frame with MDF panel.
- **Body:** high back and side panels form a visual and acoustic shield, integrated MDF boards for structural support, panel sections connected with zip fasteners.
- **Seat and back cushions:** polyurethane foam and polyester fibre. Work upholstery for work-oriented seating.
- **Seat height:** 480 mm (385 mm with applied load, measured in accordance with EN 1335-1).
- **Box:** MDF carcass covered in polyurethane foam.
- **Legs:** tubular steel, chrome-plated or powder-coated (smooth).
- **Tablet desk:** two bonded MDF panels, covered in leather.

## DIMENSIONS



Alcove Highback Work, armrest left, sitting right (02/L)

# Alcove Cabin

Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec, 2012

**vitra.**



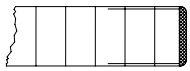
## Alcove Cabin Highback Three-Seater

Alcove Cabin creates a secluded space, which is enclosed on all sides and accessible through a single opening. It provides visual and acoustic privacy for four to six people – especially the version with extra-high side walls. On the inside, Alcove

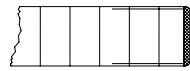
Cabin has facing upholstered seats and can be optionally equipped with a table, power connections and lighting to serve as a full-fledged workspace.

### Materials

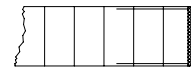
- **Structural frame:** tubular steel, chrome-plated or powder-coated (smooth); metal frame with MDF panel.
- **Body:** back and side panels with integrated MDF boards, connecting panel with integrated MDF board and metal structure, panel sections connected with zip fasteners.
- **Upholstery/seat and backrest:** polyurethane foam and polyester fibre. Work upholstery for work-oriented seating.
- **Seat height:** 480 mm (385 mm with applied load, measured in accordance with EN 1335-1).
- **Covers:** removable.
- **Legs:** tubular steel, chrome-plated or powder-coated (smooth).
- **Table top:** powder-coated MDF or oak veneer (Europe).
- **Table legs:** tubular steel, chrome-plated or powder-coated (smooth).



MDF powder-coated in soft light  
25 mm thick



Veneer in light oak  
25 mm thick



Veneer in dark oak  
25 mm thick

**ELECTRIFICATION**



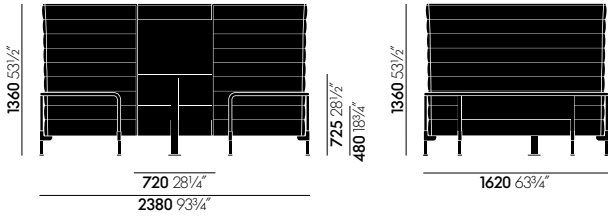
Port 180 provides two power outlets and a central attachment point for accessories.



Port 180 is equipped with power and data connections.

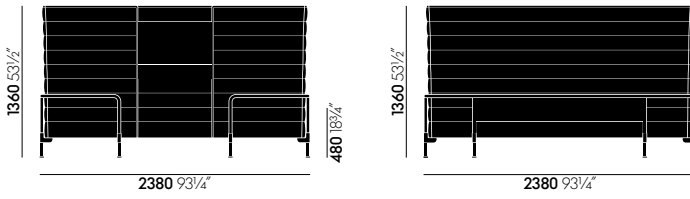


Port 180 has power outlets on both sides.



Alcove Cabin Highback Two-Seater

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Alcove Cabin Highback Three-Seater

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## COLOURS AND MATERIALS

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**06**  
Japanese red  
powder-coated  
(smooth)

**12**  
deep black  
powder-coated  
(smooth)

**32**  
dark grey  
powder-coated  
(smooth)

**Tubular steel frame**

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**01**  
chrome

**59**  
pearl grey  
powder-coated  
(smooth)

**52**  
soft light  
powder-coated  
(textured)

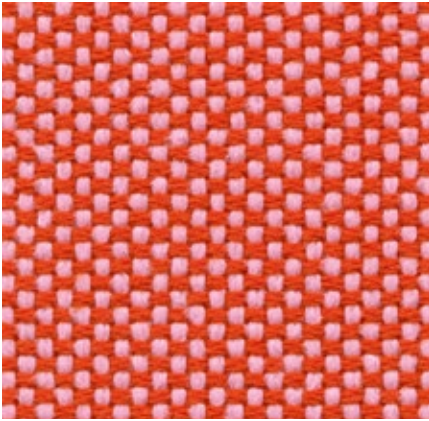
**17**  
light oak

**04**  
dark oak

**Table top**

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# Laser Home/Office, F40



With its distinctive woven structure, Laser makes a robust and striking cover fabric. The varied palette offers a wide selection of colours, with the duotones showing off the woven structure to even greater advantage. Practical and easy to care for, as well as durable and highly abrasion-resistant, Laser is also well suited for office environments.

Laser is available in 35 colours.

Material	100% polyester Trevira CS
Weight	520 g/m <sup>2</sup> (15.3 oz/y <sup>2</sup> )
Width	145 cm +/- 2 cm (57")
Abrasion resistance	40,000 Martindale
Fastness to light	Type 6
Pilling	Grade 4-5
Fastness to rubbing	Grade 4-5 dry and wet



# Credo Home/Office, F120

**vitra.**



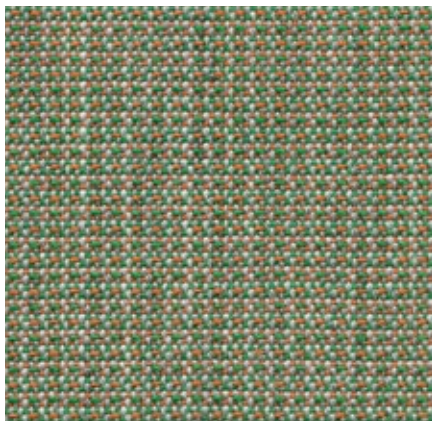
Credo is a durable woollen fabric made of premium worsted yarn with a pleasant feel. The two- and three-tone colours give this fabric a characteristic structure and vibrant appearance. Credo allows for an effective exchange of heat to ensure comfortable thermal conditions for the sitter. The fabric can also be used in office environments.

Credo is available in 22 colours.

Material	5% polyamide, 95% new wool
Weight	640 g/m <sup>2</sup> (18.9 oz/y <sup>2</sup> )
Width	145 cm +/- 2 cm (57")
Abrasion resistance	100,000 Martindale
Fastness to light	Type 6
Pilling	Grade 4
Fastness to rubbing	Grade 4-5 dry and wet



# Tress Home/Office, F80



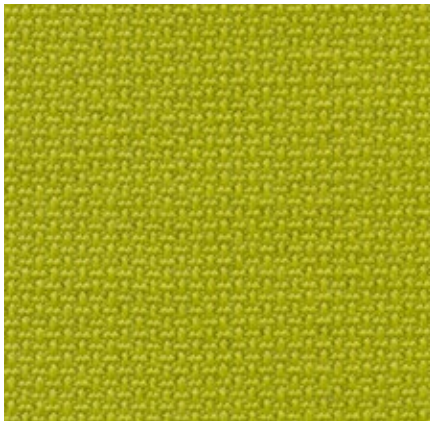
Tress is a flat woven fabric with a lively appearance that derives from the contrast between its even structure and the natural melange of colours. The combination of yarns with varied hues creates a harmonious and yet vibrant look. Thanks to its high wool content, Tress is a durable, easy-care material with a home-like aesthetic.

Tress is available in 22 colours.

Material	8% polyamide, 73% new wool, 19% polyester
Weight	310 g/m <sup>2</sup> (9.1 oz/y <sup>2</sup> )
Width	142 cm +/- 2 cm (56")
Abrasion resistance	40,000 Martindale
Fastness to light	Type 6
Pilling	Grade 4-5
Fastness to rubbing	Grade 4-5 dry and wet



# Volo Home/Office, F6o



Volo is a finely structured wool blend with a refined weave that gives it an elegant appearance. This expressive textile shows strong solid colours to full advantage while simultaneously offering pleasant tactile qualities. With its soft look and appealing texture, Volo is a perfect fit for home interiors, but it is also well suited for use in the contract sector.

Volo is available in 17 colours.

Material	15% polyamide, 85% new wool
Weight	435 g/m <sup>2</sup> (12.8 oz/y <sup>2</sup> )
Width	145 cm +/- 3 cm (57")
Abrasion resistance	100,000 Martindale
Fastness to light	Type 6
Pilling	Grade 4-5
Fastness to rubbing	Grade 4-5 dry and wet



# Leather Home/Office, L2o

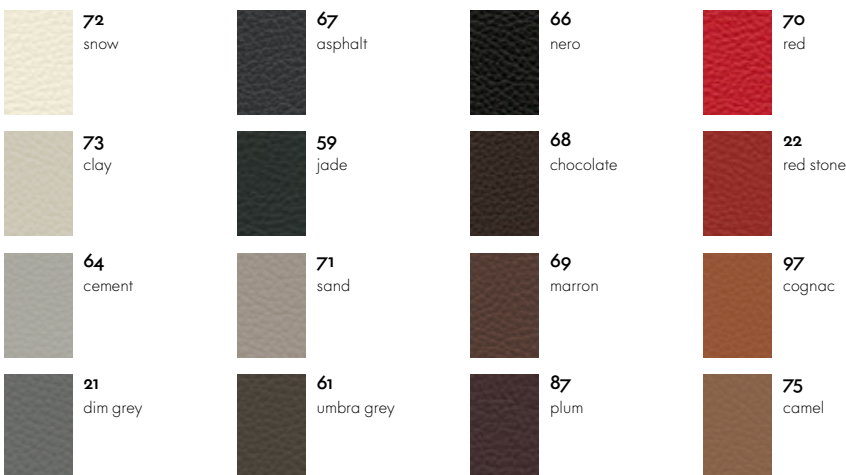


## Leather (shelf Highback Work)

The standard grade leather used by Vitra is a robust cowhide leather, dyed-through, pigmented and embossed with an even grain pattern. Since it is hard-wearing and easy to maintain, it can also be used in office environments.

Leather is available in 16 colours.

Material	Robust cowhide with a distinctive, even grain
Fastness to light	Type 6
Thickness	1.1-1.3 mm
Fastness to rubbing	Grade 4 dry and wet



Vitra has over fifty years of experience in the production of upholstered furniture. Premium materials, skilled craftsmanship and high quality standards at Vitra are a guarantee for long-lasting products. In Vitra's own test centre, our upholstered furnishings are regularly subjected to rigorous tests that far exceed common standards.

**Care instructions:**

Exposure to direct sunlight should be avoided, since ultraviolet rays can cause cover materials to fade.

To retain the original fullness and shape of your sofa, cushions should be regularly shaken and plumped.

Folds and creases from sitting can be prevented in all types of upholstery by smoothing the cover material after use.

**USEFUL FACTS ABOUT COVER MATERIALS**

Cover fabrics have a decisive influence on the appearance and characteristics of upholstered furniture. Technical properties such as resistance to abrasion, fading or stains play an important role, along with the quality of fibres, weaving technique and aesthetic features of the textile.

Function and performance are primarily determined by the type of fabric used. In general, synthetic fibres are superior to natural fibres in terms of their technical characteristics. For this reason, blends of different materials are employed to combine the advantages of the individual fibres.

Following, you will find some of the key features of the textiles used by Vitra in its upholstery covers:

**Cotton (CO)**

Skin-friendly natural fibre of plant origin, pleasant tactile qualities, readily absorbs moisture. Often inferior to synthetic fibres with regard to colourfastness and light resistance; flat weaves susceptible to pilling.

**Linen (LI)**

Natural fibre of plant origin with slight lustre, cool and comfortable, repels dirt, no pilling. Limited colourfastness to light and crocking, creases easily.

**Wool (WO)**

Elastic natural fibre of animal origin, naturally self-cleaning – a brief airing disperses absorbed odours, leaving the wool smelling neutral and fresh again. Good resistance to light and abrasion, highly absorbent, minimal creasing, low flammability. Subject to pilling and matting.

**Polyester (PE), Polyacrylic (PA), Viscose (VI)**

Synthetic, highly uniform, lightfast fibres. The non-absorbent properties of synthetics can be mitigated with fibre blends and weaving techniques.

The overall look of a piece of furniture is influenced by the colour and type of cover fabric, its properties (elastic or non-stretch) as well as the upholstery technique (removable or attached covers). Consequently, a sofa can take on a different appearance depending on the cover material. Generally speaking, cover fabrics with some elasticity are less susceptible to creases and puckering, since they have an adaptable fit on three-dimensional forms. Heavier cover materials such as Over, Laser or Credo drape more smoothly, while thinner materials exhibit a finer rippling effect.

**Care instructions:**

All Alcove covers are removable. Fabric covers can be professionally dry cleaned. Prior to treatment, please be sure to note the material composition of the cover fabric.

Should you ever need to replace individual parts or covers due to wear and tear, please contact your local Vitra retailer.

