

World

Designed by Niels Diffrient



World

No matter the work environment, task chairs are essential for focus, comfort, and everyday support. Too often, however, complex adjustments and bulky designs hinder their functionality, forcing users into unhealthy postures and positions. World aims to change this, offering effortless ergonomic support through innovative simplicity. With a streamlined, lightweight design and tailored mesh comfort, World adapts to every user, promoting health and wellbeing anywhere work happens.





Achieving More With Less

While the average task chair uses 200+ components, World is built with just 78. That simplicity reduces the need for ongoing repairs, extending it's already long life, and minimizing its impact on the environment.



A World Of Options, Tailored To You



- Various arm options
- Made to fit 95% of all body types
- Form Sensing Mesh
- Pivoting backrest
- Self-adjusting recline
- Available in Upholstered or low-abrasion Mesh seat
- Adjustable seat depth

Promotes Spontaneous Movement

Niels Diffrient’s revolutionary approach to chair design fundamentally changed the relationship between the user and their seating, replacing cumbersome controls like locks, knobs, and levers with an intuitive system using principles of physics and the sitter’s own body weight. His work embodies a philosophy of simplicity, where the chair adapts automatically to the user, providing instant support across any position without requiring manual adjustments.

This ethos makes World’s functionality “invisible to the user,” ensuring that anyone can sit comfortably without instructions. It also encourages healthy, spontaneous movement while lending the sitter ergonomic support throughout every posture.



Patented Form Sensing Mesh™

World's tri-panel, low stretch mesh back ensures a personalized fit for every user, conforming to the body's natural contours to deliver tailored lumbar support and maximum adaptability. Unlike traditional single-panel mesh chairs, Form Sensing Mesh takes on the exact shape of the sitter's back, as if it were made just for them. Perfect for dynamic workspaces, World promotes balanced movement and unmatched comfort throughout the day.



Niels Diffrient was inspired by the way clothing designers create three-dimensional shapes using panels of fabric.

This technique allows the backrest to take on whatever shape is pushed against it.



True Minimalism and Great Ergonomics
Coexist Beautifully

Built with just 78 durable components, World is a testament to the power of simplicity. With its lightweight construction and advanced materials, the chair proves that great design can be both beautifully minimal and supremely functional, setting a new standard for ergonomic excellence.



Express Yourself

With over 300 shades to choose from, World offers unparalleled personalization to suit your needs. Whether you prefer bold hues to make a statement or soft neutrals for a calming aesthetic, there's a color and pattern to complement every space. Explore the full palette to create a chair that truly reflects your vision.





Design by Niels Diffrient

With a career spanning more than 50 years, industrial designer Niels Diffrient revolutionized the industry by focusing on the human experience. He developed a deep understanding of how people live, work, and interact with their environments, creating products with timeless forms that solve functional problems as simply and elegantly as possible. Above all, Diffrient put the user first. As he once stated, *“The best way to know what people want and need is not by asking them, but by understanding them.”*

For World, Diffrient sought to solve a critical issue: traditional task chairs are complicated to adjust and often leave users in unhealthy, unsupported postures. His solution replaces bulky excesses with an innovative Gravity Mechanism™ that uses the sitter’s body weight to provide automatic recline and balanced support. Combined with the tri-panel, low-stretch mesh backrest that adapts to the body’s natural curves, World delivers effortless comfort in a simple, lightweight design.



Niels Diffrient

“The best way to know what people want and need is not by asking them, but by understanding them.”

— Niels Diffrient

Sustainability

At Humanscale, our approach to product development and manufacturing embodies our mission to minimize our impacts. We believe that the best designs in the world achieve more with less, so we act accordingly. World is no different, made with fewer parts than the standard task chair, and thus reducing its climate footprint.

World is also certified Climate Positive, as well as certified SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold and BIFMA LEVEL® 3, DECLARE - LBC Red List Approved, Living Product Challenge Certified (LPC), Health Product Declaration (HPD) and 95% Recyclable.*

By purchasing this product, you are helping create a cumulative Net Positive impact on the environment by the following amounts:

10 kg CO2

Climate Positive

32 Gallons

Water Positive

32 kWh

Energy Positive



Awards



Chicago Athenaeum Museum of
Architecture Good Design Award



reddot

Red Dot Design Award
Winner



Mixology
People's Choice Award
Winner



Interior Design Best of
Year Award



GIO Design Awards
Winner



Your World, Your Way

Providing effortless ergonomic support in minimalist form, World is designed for modern offices, agile workspaces, and collaborative environments. Its lightweight design and advanced functionality make it the perfect solution for spaces where comfort, simplicity, and adaptability are key.









Built to Last

World delivers effortless ergonomic support with a minimalist design, combining intuitive functionality, tailored comfort, and sustainable engineering for every user.

- World automatically adjusts to each user without the need for complex adjustments.
- Upholstered or in all-mesh, World’s design compliments any workspace.
- Tri-panel mesh back offers intelligent support for your unique pressure points.
- Lightweight design makes it exceptionally easy to assemble and relocate.
- Climate Positive certification means each chair produced restores energy and clean water while reducing environmental waste.
- World’s testing surpasses industry standards, greatly exceeding the limits of most other chairs. This makes for long-lasting comfort across years of heavy use.
- Our cylinders are cleaner and more reliable than cheaper greased cylinders, sealing grease in the lower unit to protect both user and chair.
- Our Duron arm pads have a multi-layer design allowing for a softer cushion and a more durable cover.

Warranty
World comes with an industry-leading 15-year warranty. Made from highly durable materials, World is designed to last, staying in use and out of landfills. Comprised of just eight major parts, World also requires less maintenance and works as well after a decade as it does on day one.

World
15 Years, Components and Parts | 5 Years, Fabric and Cushions



Clean Gas Cylinder



Duron arm pads



Statement of Line



World - Mesh



World - Upholstered



World High Task - Mesh



World High Task - Upholstered

Frame Color

- White
- Black
- Gray

Casters

- Hard
- Soft
- Glides

Duron Arms

- Armless
- Fixed (optional matching textile)
- Height Adjustable (optional matching textile)
- 4D

Cylinder

- 5" Standard
- 3" Return-to-Height
- 5" Return-to-Height
- 3.75" Low
- 8" High
- 10" Extra-High w/ 20" Foot Ring