

SWU FURNITURE
UPHOLSTERY
JOINERY

Commercial furniture

Built to last, made to be kept



Made for this fit-out. And the next.

Furniture that's built properly costs less over its life. It takes the wear, it can be repaired, and when the room changes it can be re-covered rather than skipped. The tea and coffee is always on, so come and see us or give the team a call.

Refurbished, not landfilled

The most sustainable chair is usually the one you already have. Re-covering one produces around 50–100kg of CO₂; buying new produces 200–300kg. When a room changes, we'll tell you honestly whether what you've got is worth keeping.

Contents



Our story 04



Banquette seating 06



Bespoke items 14



Chair collection 16



Tables 24



Outdoor seating 26



How we make it 28



Case studies 34



From workshop to finished space 42

It started in a shed...

It started with a holiday, and a question. Andy, a fitter in Bristol, asked his father John what he actually did all day. John was a trimmer for First Bus. By the end of that conversation the two of them had decided to have a go themselves, at weekends, in John's back garden.

That became a shed. Andy and John built it by hand, with the wider family pitching in and materials found wherever they could be. It was meant to be small. It took over the garden, and it's still standing today. They worked nights and weekends around their day jobs.

Ryan, John's grandson, was there from the start. Saturday mornings he'd be at the First Bus trim shop, learning the craft at his granddad's elbow. When he left school he took the business on, pushed it well past pin money, and eventually won First Bus itself as a customer. That was the day John left the depot to come and work for his son and grandson instead.

When the chance came, they bought their own workshop, a former window works they cleared out themselves, and brought the whole operation under one roof. More of the making comes in-house every year.

It's still a family business. Andy, who built that first shed with John, still works here today. Ryan's sister Abbie oversees the customer side and has a big hand in the day-to-day running of things. Their cousin Jake looks after commercial enquiries in the office, and family members are part of the logistics team, making sure every delivery gets five-star service. Family or not, the whole team wants to see SWU grow.

The aim now is bigger than any one of them: a business that lasts well past the people running it today. The way of working won't change. Make things built to last, remake what's worth keeping, and treat every piece, and every customer, like you'll see them again in twenty years. Because some of them, you will.



Where it all began



John, showing them how it's done



Andy working hard in the workshop



A young Ryan getting stuck in



Banquette seating

Every banquette is made to order in our Bristol workshop, built to your measurements, in the style, fabric and finish you choose. Restaurants, pubs, clubs and hotel bars: if people sit together, we can build for it.



Choosing your banquette

We believe banquette seating to be a practical yet impressive solution to elevate your interiors without having to compromise on space.

Frame

Choose from our standard sizes for a straightforward solution, or take it a step further and create something completely bespoke for your space.



A smarter build for banquette seating

Our CNC-led process ensures precision and consistency, allowing us to manufacture offsite and deliver fully assembled, ready-to-install banquette seating. That means less disruption onsite and a faster installation.

Built from robust 18mm plywood and MDF, our seating is designed to last. Removable base and back cushions make future repairs or reupholstery straightforward, helping extend the life of the seating.

Style

From plain finishes to fluted or buttoned designs, we have styles to suit every taste and interior.



Choose your finish

Banquette seating offers a wide range of design options. Once you've selected your preferred frame method, you can choose from a variety of upholstery finishes whether plain, fluted, buttoned or bespoke.

From there, customise your seating with a wide selection of colours, materials, kickplates, and leg styles to create a look that's uniquely yours.

Foam

We offer a range of foam options to suit your specific needs and preferences.



Built to last, tailored to you

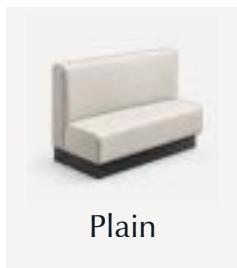
We recommend our standard foam and material combination for a durable, high-quality finish that stands up to heavy use.

However, if you prefer a softer feel, we also offer alternative options to create the perfect seating solution for your comfort and space requirements.

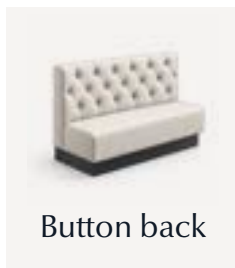


Style guide

Our banquette seating can be tailored to suit your space, style and practical requirements. From simple and timeless to more decorative or fully bespoke designs, each option can be customised in size, fabric and finish to create the right look for your interior. Choose your style.



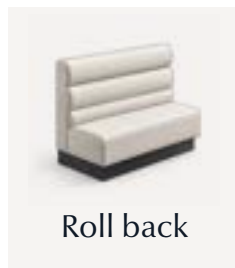
Plain



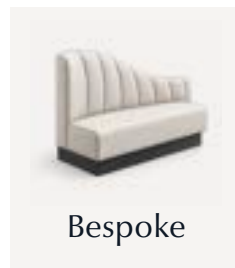
Button back



Fluted



Roll back



Bespoke



Plain

Simple & timeless

You cannot go wrong with this one, whether you're working with a loud interior space or just prefer something simple. This look works great and represents the less is more approach.



Button back

Classic & elevating

Button back finish is a lovely look and is a great way to show off the upholstery. It takes a plain fabric and creates a beautiful finish. Choose from 3 or 5 lines of buttons.



Fluted

Sleek & modern

A popular choice to give your seating that extra something. Flutes can look smart in a range of environments. It also looks great when contrasting fabrics between base and back flutes.



Roll back

Elegant & refined

Featuring a gently curved upper backrest, this style offers a refined silhouette that adds character to any space, whether it's a chic restaurant, a boutique hotel, or a sophisticated home dining area.



Bespoke

Unique & contemporary

Make a statement with banquette seating that's crafted just for you. Our bespoke banquettes blend tailored design with standout style, offering a seamless balance of form, function, and comfort.

See more online

Visit our Instagram and LinkedIn profiles for the latest examples of our banquette seating.

Foam options

Foam is the part nobody sees and everybody feels. We offer two combinations, one firm enough for a busy commercial floor and one softer for spaces where people settle in, and we'll tell you straight which suits yours.



Standard foams

Our preferred foam combination features a slight pitch in the base, creating a more refined and luxurious seat profile. This subtle shaping not only enhances comfort but also adds a premium feel to the overall design.

Built with generous, firm, high-quality foam, this model is particularly well-suited for commercial settings and high-use environments. The durable construction ensures long-term performance without compromising on comfort, making it a reliable and stylish choice for any seating area.

Softer foams

Building on our tried-and-tested design, this foam combination offers a softer, more relaxed seating experience. Designed to let you gently sink into the seat, it evokes the comfort of a sofa-style feel, making it an ideal choice for casual environments and laid-back lounge areas.

The softer profile encourages longer stays and a more inviting atmosphere, perfect for spaces where comfort is key.

Fully customisable

Kickplates

A kickplate offers a sleek and durable finish to your banquette or booth seating, enhancing both style and practicality. We offer kickplates as standard in oak or matt black, providing two versatile looks that complement a wide range of interiors. Looking for something more personalised? We also offer bespoke kickplates in metal or brass, or MDF cut to size and ready to paint in any colour of your choice, perfect for matching brand palettes or adding a pop of personality. Whether you're going for bold contrast or subtle coordination, our kickplate options help you complete the look, your way.



Egger

A very durable finish that's easy to clean and maintain. We keep two Egger finishes as standard, natural oak and black, along with raw MDF ready to paint.



MFC bonded with Egger
H3170 natural Kendal oak st12



MFC bonded with Egger
U999 black st2



Raw MDF board
Ready to paint



Need to match the rest of your interior? Any decor from the full Egger range can be ordered in for your job. Browse the collection at [egger.com](https://www.egger.com) and give us the code.

Need more than just a beautiful seat?

We can incorporate hidden storage, lift-up seat pads, integrated plug sockets, and other smart features to suit modern living or high-traffic commercial use.



Lift-up seat pads



Integral plug sockets

Why not show some leg instead?

Please note: colours can vary slightly depending on the grain pattern of the wood.



Wendolene
Raw
(fully customisable)



Wendolene
Medium Brown



Wendolene
Tudor Oak



Wendolene
Jacobian



Bespoke & exclusive

If you're after something you won't find in a catalogue, we'll make it. Bespoke pieces are designed around your space and your brief. Exclusive pieces go a step further: made for your venue or brand, and not made for anyone else.

Whether it's a single statement piece or a signature design rolled out across every site, our upholsterers will work through the shape, comfort and detail with you, then make it here in our Bristol workshop.





The chair collection

A variety of styles to suit every interior, with a combination of comfort and quality.



Dining chairs

From bentwood classics to clean modern frames, each one chosen to take the wear of a busy floor and finished in your choice of leather, cloth or vinyl.



Houston



Joe



Beatrice



Wave



Greenwich



Apollo



Repton



Repton armchair



Naya



Elizabeth



Camden



Camden



Camden



Garda chair



Garda chair

Armchairs, cocktail chairs, sofas & bespoke builds

Comfortable lounge seating, made for people who plan to stay a while. Looking for something unique to your venue? We can make exclusive bespoke furniture for your brand.



Brunel armchair



Whitchurch armchair



Cadbury wing back



Square arm cocktail
Exclusive client commission



Round arm cocktail
Exclusive client commission



Day bed
Exclusive client commission



Cosy Low sofa with Led light
Bespoke build for Cosy Club



Cosy Low



Tiered round seat



Round seating unit



High stools

Our comfortable, stylish and durable high stools are available in a variety of fabrics, to suit any space.



Houston



Limone



Repton



Bari



Wave



Naya



Elizabeth



Beatrice



Camden
with round pedestal



Camden
with legs



Camden
with wooden legs



Garda
with round pedestal



Garda
with wooden frame



Footstools & Pouffes

Plain and buttoned footstools and pouffes, made to order in a range of sizes and a wide selection of fabrics and finishes.



Plain footstools



Buttoned footstools



Plain pouffes (fabric)



Plain pouffes (fabric)



Pouffe with back



Buttoned pouffes (fabric)



Buttoned pouffe (leather)





Tables

From traditional pedestal styles to contemporary metal frames.



Classic Bistro 4 Leg



Dome



Norock Trail



Queen Anne

A choice of tabletops

Stocked in a variety of sizes (including round, square and rectangle)



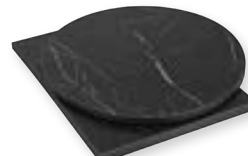
Timeless Wood Finish

Made from solid oak, perfect for restaurants, pubs and bistros



White marble-effect laminate

Egger laminate, perfect for all indoor hospitality environments.



Black marble-effect compact

Hard-wearing, easy to clean, with an adjustable groove fixing.

Outdoor seating

Stylish outdoor seating designed to complement a wide range of spaces. Get a consistent look which works in your outdoor commercial setting.



Marseille



Carcassonne



Marbella



Barcelona



Salzburg



Vienna



Madrid (Note: Cushion is a bespoke option using outdoor foam – materials build to last)



Marlow



Made in Bristol

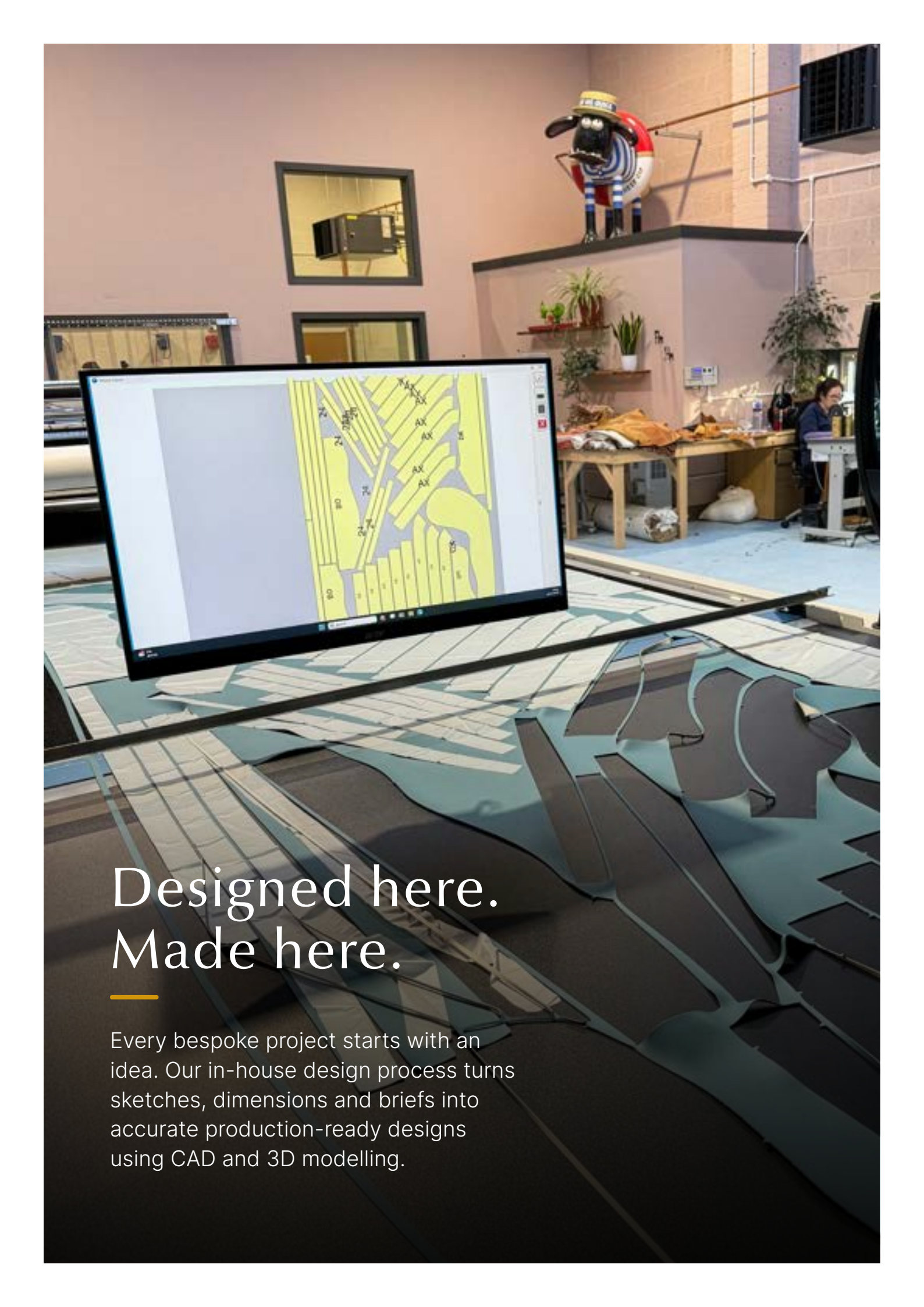
From timber frame to final stitch, our upholstery, banquettes and bespoke pieces are made and finished in our Bristol workshop.

Traditional upholstery skills sit alongside modern manufacturing, giving us control over quality at every stage. Our team builds, upholsters and finishes each piece with the same focus on durability, comfort and detail, whether it's a one-off bespoke piece or a full commercial installation.

Now the whole process is in-house, we can respond quickly, resolve details as we go and make furniture that is designed to be used, repaired and kept for years to come.

Email hello@swupholstery.co.uk to arrange your visit to see the workshop and our skilled upholsterers in action.





Designed here. Made here.

Every bespoke project starts with an idea. Our in-house design process turns sketches, dimensions and briefs into accurate production-ready designs using CAD and 3D modelling.

From screen to machine

Every job is drawn and modelled before anything is cut. Once a design is signed off, the same files go straight to Pathfinder, our CNC cutter, so the pieces that come off the table match the drawing.

That's what lets us process fabric, leather and vinyl in bulk. Whole hides, full rolls of cloth and long runs of vinyl are laid out and cut in one pass. Each hide is checked by eye first, so we can work around marks and get the most out of every one. Whether it's one chair or a full roll-out, every piece is cut the same way.



01. Develop

We take plans, sketches and client ideas and develop them into workable furniture designs.



02. Model

CAD and 3D modelling help us refine dimensions, construction and detail before manufacture.



03. Prepare

Pattern pieces are nested across each hide or roll, so we get the most from the material and waste less.



04. Make

Digitally controlled cutting for fabric, leather and vinyl, improving consistency across every component.

A large industrial CNC machine, likely a Bessel brand, is shown in a spacious workshop. The machine is white with green accents and has a long, flat worktable. A yellow flexible extraction arm is attached to the machine, curving upwards and to the right. The workshop has a high ceiling with exposed steel beams and large skylights. A red coiled cable is visible on the floor near the machine. The text "Cut to fit. Every time." is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

Cut to fit. Every time.

Our joinery workshop cuts every frame, base and kickplate straight from our design files, so what we build fits the space it was drawn for, whether it's one piece or a full roll-out.

Joinery, built here

Every frame starts as timber in our own workshop.

Our in-house joinery team works with a 5-axis CNC, so plywood, MDF and timber come off the machine as frames, bases, kickplates, and the kind of curves that would take days by hand. Our joiners then build and check each piece before it goes on for upholstery.

We build in 18mm plywood and MDF because the frame is the part that has to last. A good frame will outlive its covers, and ours are made to be taken apart, repaired and re-covered, not replaced.

Working from digital files also means we can make the same piece again, exactly. A banquette cut for one site can be cut again for the next, so a roll-out across several venues looks the same in every one.

It's not just seating. We also make panelling, tea points, storage and other fitted joinery, so one team can handle more of the fit-out.

Having joinery in-house means we're not waiting on an outside supplier. If a detail needs to change, we can redraw it, recut it and keep the job moving.



Accurate cutting of plywood, MDF and timber components directly from digital files.

Flightline Kitchen & Bar

Flightline is the café at Aerospace Bristol, set inside one of the museum's Grade II listed aircraft hangars. It takes its name from the old factory canteen that fed the Filton workers who built the Bristol Britannia and Concorde.

The whole interior is built around that history, and the seating was ours from start to finish. We designed and made every boxed cushion in the café, along with the red seatbelt straps and metal buckles that run across them. They're the detail people notice first, and they tie the room back to the aircraft built on the same site.

Getting that right took more than one go. We made up samples of the cushions and straps and worked through them with the project team, adjusting the fabric, webbing and fittings until they sat properly in an aircraft-inspired space and could take the wear of a busy café.

It felt like familiar ground. We started out trimming bus and coach seats in Bristol, so furniture that borrows from transport is close to where we began.

The result is a café that feels like part of the museum, not just a place to eat in it.

The joinery, including the long stainless steel service counters, was made by JS Mansfield.





Cosy Club

Cosy Club Reading was designed by Cassie Nicholas and Lyzanne Smith at Loungers, with a cinema-inspired interior that takes its glamour from the 1970s and 80s. Anna Hayman designed the prints for the carpets, wallpaper and upholstery.

We've worked with Loungers for many years. It started with a van full of second-hand furniture they'd bought on eBay and wanted brought back to life. Since then they've trusted us with more of each fit-out, because we give them furniture that's worth what they pay for it and lasts long enough to prove it. These days we build a lot of it from scratch, and Reading shows how far that has come.

The centrepiece is the snake banquette, a long run of seating that curves through the room, alongside Cosy Low chairs, Cosy Sofas and Tiered round seats. Seating like that only works if every curve meets the next one exactly.

We started with the Loungers team and their mood boards. We then drew every piece in CAD and modelled it in 3D before anything was cut. The frames were made to those drawings, and the upholstery was cut from the same digital files, so what arrived on site was what everyone had agreed on the screen.

It looks the way Cassie and Lyzanne drew it, and it's built for the wear a busy Cosy Club puts it through. That's why Loungers keep coming back, and why we're still getting better at it.





Hush

Hush is a private members' club in Warwickshire, designed by Black Ivy Design to feel like a 1920s speakeasy. The lighting is low, the colours are deep, and the seating is built for people who plan to stay the evening.

In a room like this, the banquette seating does a lot of the work. It sets how people sit, how the room is divided up, and whether guests want another round. Black Ivy's design called for long runs of [velvet] banquette, shaped to the walls and alcoves of the club.

We made it in our Bristol workshop, to Black Ivy's drawings. The frames are built to take a full house night after night, and the upholstery is finished to the standard a designer expects to see when they walk in on opening night. [Confirm: removable seat and back cushions, so it can be re-covered rather than replaced.]

A members' club asks two things of its furniture: look the part from day one, and still be right years later. **That's the kind of work we like best.**





Everything
under one
roof



From first idea to final installation, we keep more of the process in-house.

Our Bristol workshop brings together design, digital manufacturing, upholstery and finishing, giving us greater control over quality, detail and consistency at every stage. Whether it's a one-off bespoke piece, a full furniture package or a repeat commercial roll-out, our team can take a project from drawing to finished space.



Design

CAD and 3D modelling turn sketches, plans and dimensions into accurate production-ready designs.



Build

Our workshop combines traditional upholstery skills with modern manufacturing, including CNC cutting for timber components.



Upholster

Fabric, leather and vinyl are cut accurately using our Pathfinder system before being finished by our experienced upholstery team.



Install

Our own delivery and installation team takes finished furniture to site, positions, fixes and completes the final details.

From workshop to finished space

Our job doesn't end when the furniture leaves the workshop.

With our own delivery vehicles and experienced installation team, we can take projects through to final fit on site. Furniture can be delivered fully or partially assembled, positioned, fixed and adjusted by our team to suit the space.

For commercial projects, we work with the required risk assessments and method statements, and our installation team holds valid CSCS cards, helping us work safely and efficiently on live sites across the UK. From the first drawing to the final adjustment, we stay involved all the way through.



Made-to-measure

Frames are cut from plywood and MDF and built in our Bristol workshop, ready for upholstery.



Installation

Our team positions, assembles and fixes furniture on site.



Final adjustments

Kickplates, alignment and finishing details are completed before handover.



UK-wide

Our experienced in-house team is on hand to collect, deliver, and install. Our own vehicles transport furniture safely from our workshop.

Back for another life

Every piece we make leaves the workshop with its own SWU number, so when it comes back, we know exactly where it started.

Furniture we made in 2018 and 2019 is now coming back from customers' sites. The frames have done years of service and are still sound, so we strip them back, re-cover them and send them out again. When yours needs a refresh, send it back to us.



SWU16617 - Made 9th January 2019



SWU17779 - Made 2nd April 2019



SWU19442 - Made 7th August 2019



SWU17812 - Made 4th April 2019



SWU15242 - Made 3rd September 2018



SWU15890 - Made 26th October 2018

Or we'll come to you...

"The turnaround was minutes rather than hours or days."

Mark Pickering, Area Supervisor, McDonald's Bristol & Wiltshire

Every seat out of action is lost trade. For busy sites, we pre-cut the new covers in our Bristol workshop, do the swap just outside the door, and put the seat straight back into service. It's how we look after McDonald's restaurants across Bristol and Wiltshire.



Get in touch

We'd love to hear from you, whether you have a quick question or a large-scale project in mind. You can reach us by email, give us a call, or book an appointment to visit the workshop or showroom to chat to a member of our friendly sales team.

Contact us for a free no-obligation quote

Get in touch and we'll help confirm the scope, agree a palette and prepare a room-by-room loose furniture schedule for pricing and procurement.

0117 370 2745

sales@swupholstery.co.uk

swupholstery.co.uk

SWU

Units 7 & 8,
Novers Hill Trading Estate
Bristol BS3 5QY

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