# A system of office furniture designed for comfort

**VOLUME NUMBER** 

2

CATALOG
THE NEW LINE OF FURNITURE

# A system of office furniture designed for comfort

**VOLUME NUMBER** 



CATALOG
THE NEW LINE OF FURNITURE

Copyright © 1988, CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER
Copyright © 1988, CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STRUCTURE

### 1. INTRODUCTION

This system of furniture is intended to allow you to find a way in which you can hand tailor your own office, to reach a state so that it works perfectly for you, and you feel perfectly at home in it.

The items of furniture have the following characteristics.

- They are small, to make your office as spacious as possible.
- They are elegant, in an old style way.
- · They are colorful.
- The items are not homogeneous, as in past systems: instead the piece of furniture are each designed to perform their tasks as well as possible: the result, a room full of furniture which has the character and style of your own living room.
- The pieces can be joined to form permanent rooms which do not have the flimsy character of movable office systems, but more the solid permanence of a room that has been in a place for many generations.
- The pieces are loose, so they are easy to re-use and rearrange.
- The individual pieces of furniture emphasize comfort and convenience. The pieces are solidly built, simple, and minimal, and built to last.
- The system is designed to make rooms. The main target is not the furniture, but the space as a whole, the room in which you work, its pleasantness, efficiency and comfort.

# **CONTENTS**

# The following items of furniture are currently available.

WALL LIGHTS AND REFLECTORS

**REAL CEILING** 

**CUTTABLE WORKSURFACE** 

**EXECUTIVE DESK** 

PERSONAL CHAIRS

**WORK SOFA** 

**WORK ARMCHAIR** 

LIBRARY BOOKSHELVES

**FLAT FILES** 

LOW BOOKCASE

**CONFERENCE TABLES** 

JAPANESE SILK PANELS

STORAGE BENCH

**CURTAINS** 

**DESK WITH PIGEON HOLES** 

FILE BOXES

**ROLLING FILE CABINET** 

WINDOW PLACE

**DESK LIGHT** 

**COUNTER WITH SHELVES AND FILES** 

SIDE TABLE

**ROLLING TABLE** 

**COMPUTER SETUP** 

HANGING LIGHT

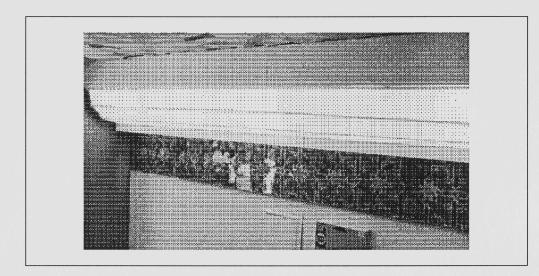
WALL SHELVES

**RECLINING CHAIR** 

WHITE BOARD

THE PERSONAL WORKPLACE
PAPER PILE ORGANIZER PATTERNED CARPET

### WALL LIGHTS AND REFLECTORS



Beautiful light in your office

A system of lighting that overcomes the oppressive uniformity of normal office lighting. The sparkle, and life of natural light.

The heavy and deadening quality of most offices comes from the system of lighting. Natural light has a sparkle, which works different on the eye, and differently on the body. It enormously increases your ability to work, think, discuss. It relieves your tiredness. The major feature of the lighting system is a system of wall lights which are placed at the wall-ceiling interface, to form a lighting cornice that forms a warm natural sheen, and also casts soft light on wall and ceiling surfaces. The wall lights are supplied with natural light reflectors that can be installed either below, or above, the wall light, according to room configuration. A major feature of this natural lighting system, is the use of colored surfaces, which have a geometry and sparkle, comparable to the sparkle which occurs in nature. The designs are hand-painted color structures, photographically reproduced. As the light bounces off these surfaces, the quality of the light has some of the luster and brilliance of daylight. The panels are available in a wide variety of designs, mounted on light plywood panels, with lacquered trim. They can be mounted directly to the wall surface.

### **REAL CEILING**

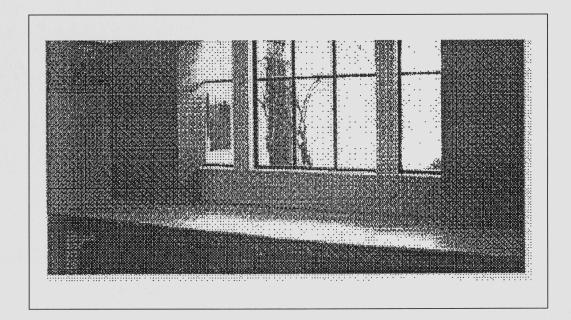


To enhance the quality and light in your office

The most formal rooms in traditional buildings always had carefully made and patterns ceilings.

The make the lighting system most effective, it is important that the multicolored reflectors installed with the lights are extended to the ceiling. This creates an elegant individually ceiling surface. The ceiling system is made of prefabricated panels, which can be easily installed over the top of most existing ceiling systems, without affecting accessibility of insulation value, or access to services. The new ceiling will improve the quality of light in your office, and, at a low cost, will create a level of finish which makes you and your clients more comfortable.

### **CUTTABLE WORKSURFACE**



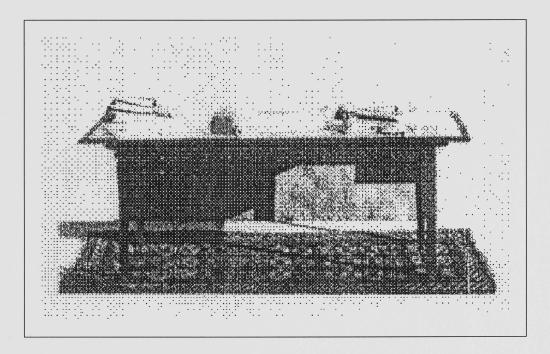
Fit the work surfaces you need as you need them

High quality soft linoleum top with high gloss enamelled wooden trim. Legs enamelled and removable for easy storage, with adjustable height. Brackets, instead of legs can be supplied, which enable it to be connected to any other existing furniture.

The top comes in three widths 24", 30" and 36". All tops can be supplied with built-in shelves or drawers. It is made so that it can be cut and fit to any length, to fit in any gap. The structure will span up to 14 feet without intermediate support. Tops can be cut with a skilsaw, and the molding fits back over the cut, so that you can hand tailor the counter to the nearest inch, and then have a finished thing which looks as if it came straight from the factory. Molding to finish open cut edge is supplied, so that it can be fitted and made to work in any dimension.

Top available in white, grey, black and green. Enamelled legs, brackets. Trim in polished cherry. Standard widths 24", 30" and 36". Standard lengths 48". 60" and 80" up to 170".

## **EXECUTIVE DESK**



### Elegant and formal work desk.

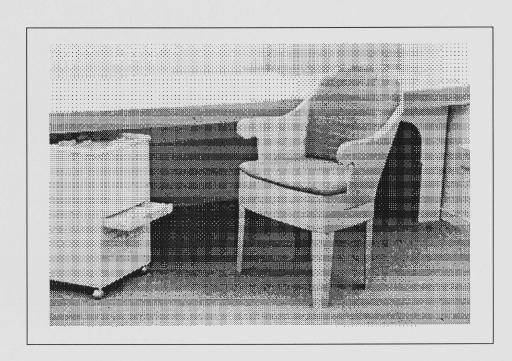
High gloss enamelled wood surface with soft durable writing surface.

Three to five drawers below desk.

Available in subdued red, malachite green, dove grey, black and deep blue.

Different compartment arrangements are available Lengths 45", 55", 65", 75" Depth 28", 35" Heights to order, 27" to 31".

### PERSONAL CHAIRS



Have a chair which is your own private chair made to measure

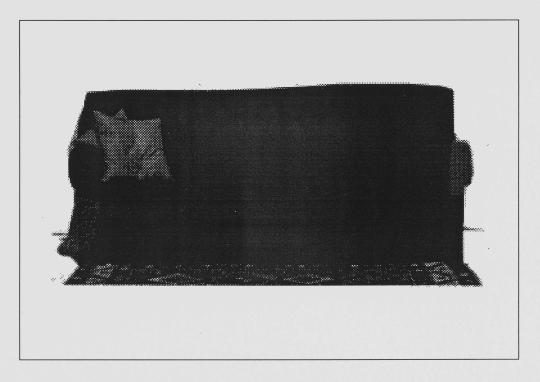
Light-weight armchair for office use. Frame of high strength plywood monocoque construction, lacquered surface. Upholstered seat in heavy duty corduroy or ribbed silk.

Custom chairs available made to measure. For a small extra charge, this chair can be tailored to your own body size, in a fitting jig. You sit in an adaptable chair-machine, and adjust width, depth, seat-height, arms, back-height, and back tilt to your own sense of comfort.

Also available in standard sizes for conference rooms, and general work areas.

Upholstery colors available: light red, deep blue, dark grey, mustard yellow, bottle green, silver grey.

### **WORK SOFA**



### Comfortable sofa at the right height for working at a table

Hard backed sofa, with seat at normal chair height, suitable for conferences, working at a work table, and relaxing. Can be used in conjunction with conference table.

Upholstered in durable corduroy, with sprung seats padding and wide comfortable arms.

Available in mahogany red, deep blue, malachite green, fawn, battleship grey and dove grey.

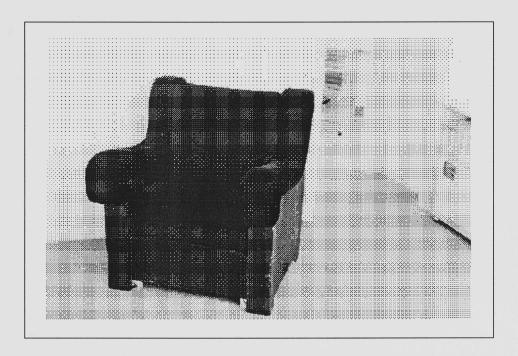
Standard depth 38". Standard lengths 54", 66" and 80".

Variations are available on special order, at a slightly increased cost.

Different upholstery materials.

Non-standard lengths

### **WORK ARMCHAIR**



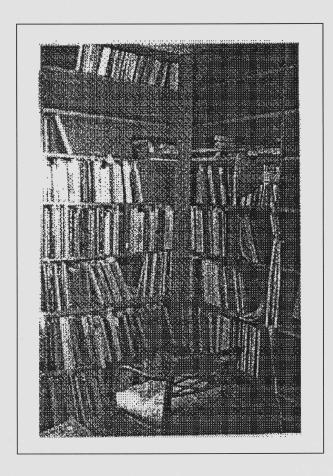
# Working chair, deep and comfortable, at the right height for table work or conferences

An easy chair at normal work-chair height, suitable for conferences, working at a work table, and relaxing. Can be used in conjunction with conference table. Magnificent shape, wide arms for maximum comfort, spacious and deep, a place where you or your visitor can feel secure, and comfortable, and highly formal or informal.

Upholstered in durable corduroy, with sprung seats padding and wide comfortable arms. Available in guava red, tangerine, lime green, steel blue, fawn, battleship grey and dove grey.

Standard depth 38". Standard width 34". Also available in a smaller and more intimate size

# LIBRARY BOOKSHELVES



### Books and papers around you

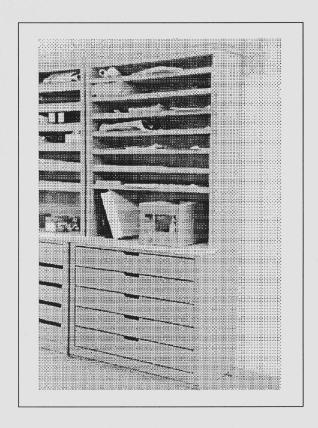
Full height bookcase, to create library effect and able to surround your work-space. All stored items available for easy view. Graded shelf sizes, with elegant vertical lines and moldings.

Available for wall to ceiling or for counter to ceiling installation.

Natural oiled cedar.

Specify height and length to nearest 6". Supplied with adjustable crown molding to fit to ceiling.

### **FLAT FILES**



All your papers where you can see them

Unique system of flat files, for easily visible storage of files, papers, manuscripts, and other flat items. All open for easy inspection. High version supplied with counter top.

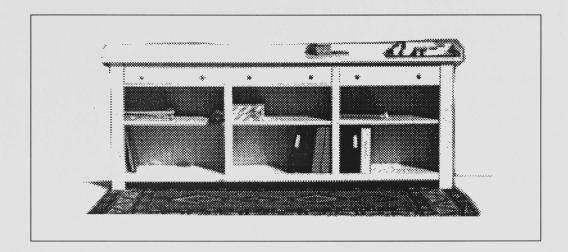
Enamelled or lacquered wood.

Specify height and length to nearest 6". Supplied with adjustable crown molding to fit to ceiling.

Colors available: sea green, deep blue, black, mahogany brown, dark grey, white, grey, pale yellow.

One standard width of 32". Can be combined in banks to fit almost any wall.

### **LOW BOOKCASE**



### A bookcase to use as a divider or as an edge to the room

White enamelled wood construction. Three drawers. Wide top with upstand on three sides to keep things from falling.

Simple and elegant storage for books and other objects. May be used against a wall or as a separator between two areas.

Height 29".

Depth 14".

Lengths available 4', 5', 6', 7', 8'.

### **CONFERENCE TABLES**



### Heavy conference tables which can be the center of action for years

Long table for major conferences, cherry and painted wood. Central panels and sides panels, polished cherry. Work surface, hand stencilled painted design, to order by your company.

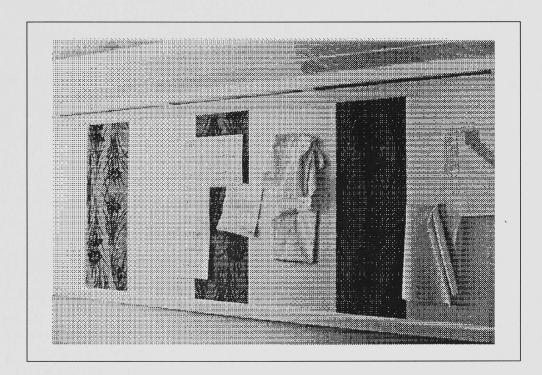
Very solid construction built to last. Central panel for water carafes, snacks, microphones or center piece. Work-surface pleasant to touch, and hand crafted, according to your own company's specifications.

Large size 35" wide, 84" long. Also available small, square, and round.

Height: 29".

Pedestal base.

### JAPANESE SILK PANELS



#### A beautiful japanese silk wall, and pin board

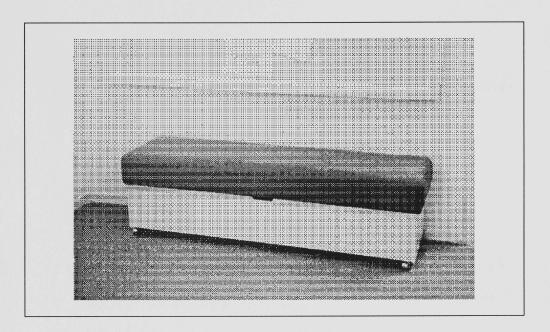
Panels of hand made japanese silk, no two alike. Shining colors, beautiful drawing. Blue-grey with white birds, olive green with leaves, red lilies, multicolored carp, yellow and orange with sprays of leaves and swans

One panel like this makes the quality of an office. To be used either as wall decoration mounted on the wall, or as pin boards for pinning notices and miscellaneous notes.

Each panel has a cork/celotex backing, for stability, and for easy insertion of pins. Frame is wood molding section, enamelled white or solid color to match silk. Brass mounting screws.

Available in any size. Silk to be chosen by color, and by photographs of actual pattern. Since almost no two silks are alike, individual silks cannot be chosen from a catalog. Panel will be supplied in integral one foot increments, next size above size order. Panel may then be cut, and trimmed out to desired size, and frame reset to fit.

### STORAGE BENCH



Seat which is beautiful, easy to move, and useful storage.

Many people use them as an extra item for informal discussion

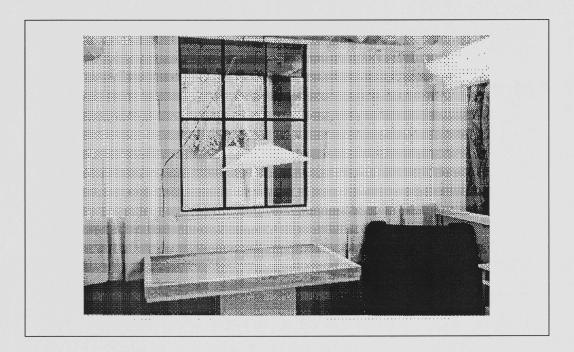
Storage bench on rollers, which provides a low work, storage, seat and layout surface anywhere in the office. At seat height, so people can also use it as a seat. Hinged top. Storage under seat.

Materials Lacquered wood, with cabinet doors in woven cane, and upholstered top in corduroy or brocade.

Sizes available 14" wide, 40", 48" or 60" long.

Height: 24". Base: rollers.

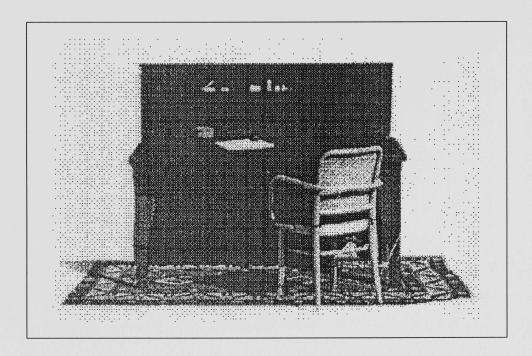
### **CURTAINS**



Soft light

Multi-purpose office curtains, heavy duty translucent linen, with brass rods and fixtures. May be installed in windows, over doors, on walls, over cabinets, or between spaces to provide flexibility of use in larger rooms. Sizes available made to measure.

## **DESK WITH PIGEON HOLES**



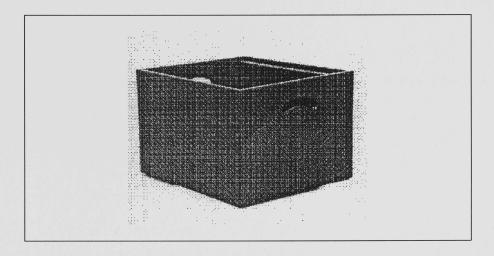
### A desk which forms a place

High gloss lacquered surface with leather top. Lacquered knobs, brass hinges.

Available in subdued red, malachite green, dove grey, black and deep blue. Standard dimensions Available in small medium and large. Other variations are available on special order, at a slightly increased cost.

Lengths 40", 60", 69" Depth 28"

### **FILE BOXES**

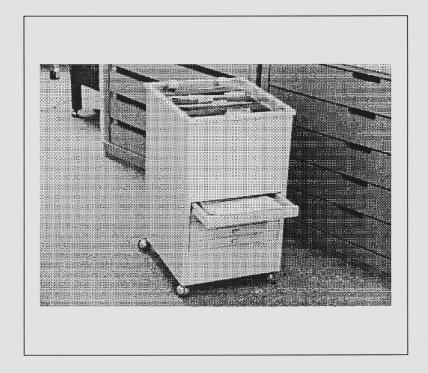


Stack your papers and files, and put them where you want them, under the desk, on the floor, wherever it is convenient to use them

Individual boxes for filing also available. Enamelled wood, supplied with handles for easy pickup, and steel bars for hanging files. Can be stacked, moved, stored in cabinets, used on the floor, on the desk. Extremely flexible and simple to use.

Sizes available 13" wide, 17" long. Height: 11".

### **ROLLING FILE CABINET**



### A small convenient file that you can roll around your office

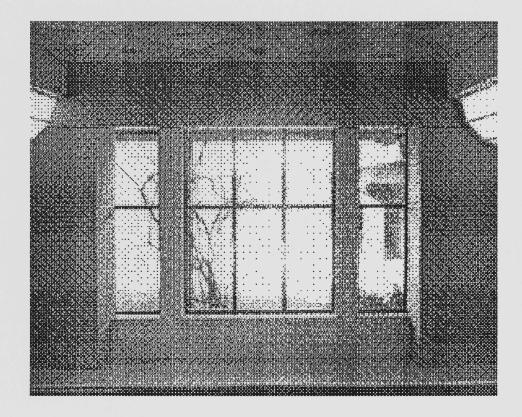
Small rolling cabinet, for personal files. Drawers below, and hinged glass top is also available. Enamelled wood, two colors, flat files drawers below for holding papers, glass top in enameled frame, drops away for easy access. So small you hardly notice it in your way, but always near you when you want it.

Sizes available 12" wide, 23" long.

Height: 26".

Base: legs or rollers.

### **WINDOW PLACE**



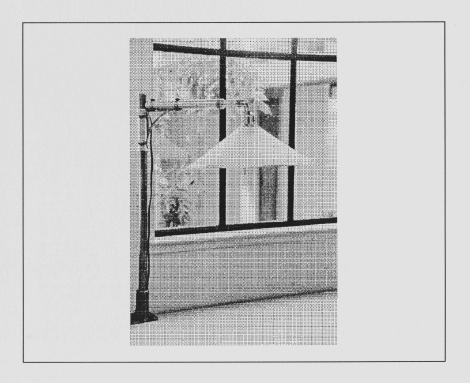
The window place has a major impact on personalization of the office, and transforms a homogeneous space into one with focus and character.

A set of three panels which can be used to form a window place in any office. These panels create wall surface and header, and sill. In cloth covered panels. May be used with curtains.

Available panels can be used to produce a window place within any standard office up to 15 feet width.

Colors available: white, grey, pale yellow, pale green, cinnabar red

### **DESK LIGHT**



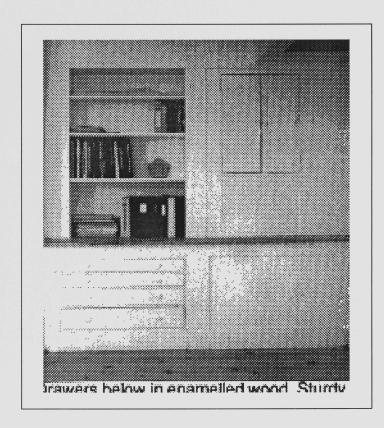
A beautiful light, which is well built, easy to move, and gives really excellent working light.

Many people need intense light on their work surface, above everything. This lamp provides an intense uniform spotlight, of warm color. The head, lamp, and reflector, are larger than in most currently available lights, and the reflector is designed to specifications of silvered reflector common in photoflood equipment.

The arm is designed to clamp anywhere on your desk top, by means of a special attachment which completely overcomes the flimsy and loosening clamps on typical or lights.

The arms are designed for special stability, and to permit instant positioning of the lamp head over a wide part of your work surface.

### **COUNTER WITH SHELVES AND FILES**



A most useful multipurpose storage system, which creates a solid atmosphere in your office.

Counter top in natural wood. Drawers below in enamelled wood. Sturdy, provides excellent combination of storage and layout space. Depth of counter 28". Counter height 28". Drawers below, are on easy slide steel and polyethylene rollers. Drawers are shallow, to increase total visible surface. Drawers in one standard width 28". Each counter can be supplied with one, two or three sets of drawers below, depending on length. Portions of counter front not occupied by drawers are supplied with a solid enamelled panel. Can be supplied in any length. Colors available: white, grey, pale yellow, pale green, cinnabar red

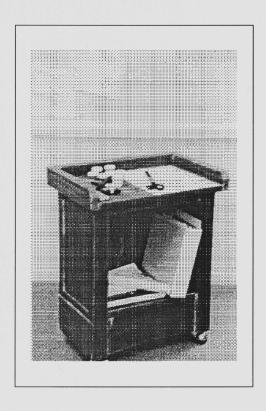
### SIDE TABLE

For use to make the office more comfortable, for almost any lower surface that you need.

Aa low multi purpose table with a square format, and all kinds of storage cabinets, lockers, shelves and compartments.

Multi colored. Hand painted stencilled ornament along the sides.

### **ROLLING TABLE**

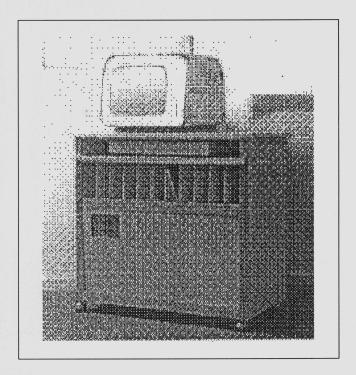


Put anything on it, move it as you wish

Rolling tables for miscellaneous machines and equipment, and sundry small items. Easy rolling, bulk storage below, easy access, ease of movement, sturdily built. Can be used for FAX machines, typewriters, small copiers, computers and computer peripherals. We also find these tables enormously useful for other miscellaneous items, spools, glue guns, files, assorted books, manuals, directories, pencils, pens, and other miscellaneous equipment.

Tables are easy to clean, and light rolling. Finishes available, black or grey enamelled wood Standard size height 28", top 32" by 17".

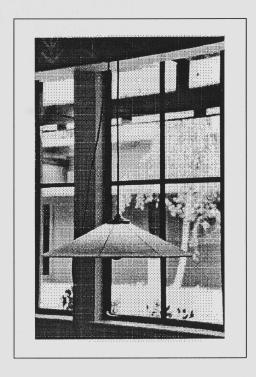
### **COMPUTER SETUP**



What you need to make the computer an easily functioning part of the office.

The computer setup is a multipurpose computer-specific trolley, which can take almost any make of micro-computer inside, and has room for all kinds of connections, and subunits. Outside, you have only the screen, which you can put on the trolley, or on your desk, and the keyboard, which goes away when you don't need it. Some people like to use the computer table in an armchair, on a board, or on their conference table where others can see it too.

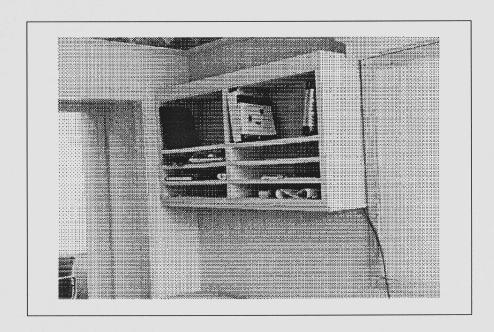
# **HANGING LIGHT**



Soft lamp shade for accent light, light over conferences, or desk.

A hanging lamp with silk or paper shade, translucent. Comes in three sizes.

# **WALL SHELVES**



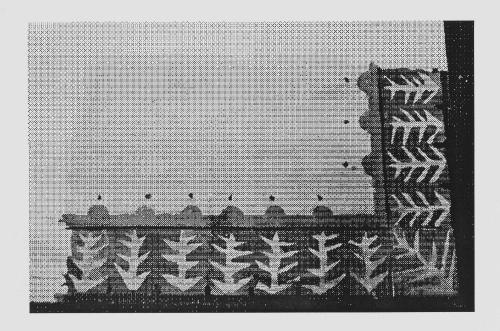
### Extra storage out of the way

A book-case which can be hung from the wall, and installed over other work-surfaces.

Available in six inch increments of height and length.

**RECLINING CHAIR** If you do a great deal of computer work, you may want a special reclining chair, as the main workplace for your computer.

### PATTERNED CARPET



Low cost, durable, hand patterned carpet

A wide variety of patterns available by computer scanning and high quality textile printing techniques, makes it possible for you to have your own carpet, in a unique pattern, consistent with the colors in your room.

Cheerful, personal, and capable of creating an important center in your office

Available in a wide variety of sizes and colors.

### **TRIM KIT**

Connects any two pieces of furniture in the personal workplace system, or connects any one piece to a wall.

A kit of trim parts which allows a smooth and permanent connection to be made between any two pieces in the personal workplace system. The kit includes brackets, rubber pads, mounting screws, and final trim pieces. All trim pieces are supplied in enamelled wood, with touch-up paint, and instructions.

The essence of a permanent office, is that it feels as though it has been there for ever. To achieve this sturdy permanent and comfortable quality, with items of furniture which can be freely moved about, CES has developed a system of trim pieces which make permanent connections between the pieces of furniture, and which create a continuous seamless whole in the office. At the same time, the attachment of these trim pieces covers gaps, but it does relatively little permanent damage, and pieces can be disconnected, and re-used.

The trim pieces are intended to permit cutting, sizing and shaping of individual pieces, in such a way that the pieces can be adapted to new situations in the office, without marring surfaces or finishes.