

dear users!

This is a handbook for building Social Furniture. It is intended for all those who want to create collective spaces of action with functional and well-designed furniture but have little money or specialist knowledge in furniture construction. Social Furniture establish spaces of communal use for living, cooking, and working together. In this context EOOS shares their knowledge with all those who don't want it for commercial purposes. Everything you need to know in order to personally build furniture for communities can be found in this catalog. You are welcome to follow our instructions, to build and modify the furniture for your own use. But bear in mind, the liability for safety is also your own.

The objective of Social Furniture is to sketch out prototypes for alternative models of how we live and work together in the future. This project emerged from reflections on the spatial and social circumstances of basic care provisions for refugees. The spatial and qualitative deficits found there led to the catalog before you with 18 SF furniture elements designed to support community life in basic care quarters while facilitating new forms of common welfare work in a workshop or small shops at the same time. The SF furniture is conceived to be serially manufactured in on-site workshops. They are built from solid wood, so they are easy to repair and alter. It is our hope that the furniture will also enthuse many people outside of refugee aid projects. For example, common areas in house projects set up by building groups or also social housing would be welcome contexts for the further development of SF furniture and the underlying idea.

We would be delighted when our Social Furniture became catalysts in collective, sustainable, and alternative fields of action. The designs are open to change, enhancement, and personalization.

Please upload images of your Social Furniture on Instagram #SOCIALFURNITURE.

EOOS, 2016

social furniture manifesto

I

In their simple realization Social Furniture set a basic standard for collectively used furniture.

II

The use of Social Furniture is not dependent on financial need.

III

Social Furniture are not second or third-class furniture – they are the expression of a worldview rooted in collectivity and common welfare.

IV

Social Furniture are designed to stimulate communication.

V

Social Furniture can be manufactured in a collective self-building process. The workshop is part of the project.

VI

Materials must be carefully chosen, taking into account aspects of social and environmental sustainability and circular thinking.

VII

Building the furniture only defines the material part of the project. The social construction (who uses the furniture) and the regulative level (the usage rules) must be determined in a collective (design) process.

VIII

Representation, status, private property, and dependency are replaced by sharing, autonomous action, and collective use.

IX

As a crown makes a king from the actor, Social Furniture make the user an important protagonist of an alternative lifestyle.

X

Social Furniture are like stage sets – simple and effective.

XI

Social Furniture tell stories about the collective.

XII

Social Furniture become an aesthetic common good through an abstract language.

XIII

Social Furniture emerge in the interplay between social design, open design, the culture of self-building, and the concept of common goods.

XIV

The functionality of Social Furniture is defined by the social functionality. Each piece of furniture represents an own functional unit.

XV

Each functional unit must fulfill symbolic, ergonomic, and aesthetic requirements.

XVI

The combination of the functional units creates scenarios for interpersonal encounters, for cooperation and exchange.

XVII

Each scenario supports the role and the potential of the protagonists and their meaningful actions.

XVIII

Ideally, the scenarios form the departure point for spatial planning. They define qualitatively charged spaces, even within difficult spatial contexts.

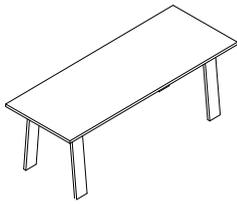
XIX

Adaptation to local cultural or spatial realities is desired.

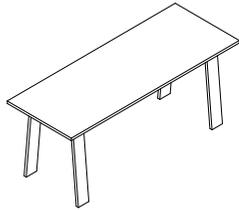
XX

The sustained modification of the furniture results in countless personalizations or even to the creation of a new archetype. The latter is a virtuous objective in the spirit of the project.

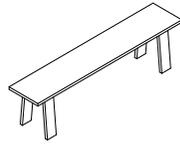
SF collection



SF01



SF02



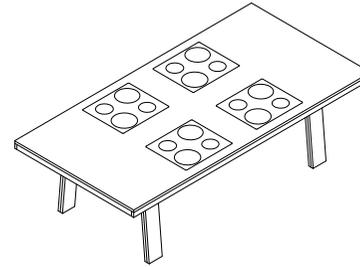
SF03



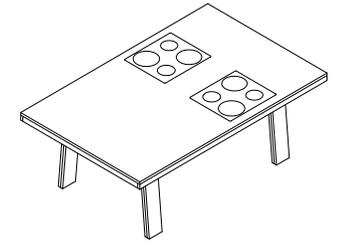
SF04



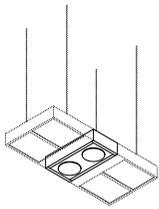
SF05



SF06



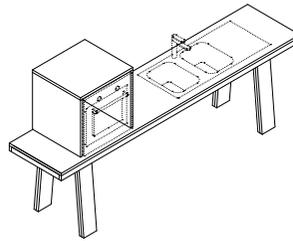
SF07



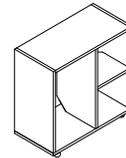
SF08



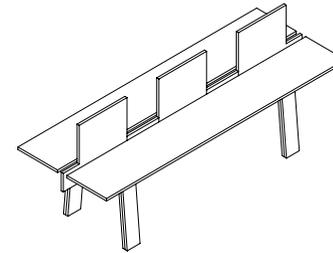
SF09



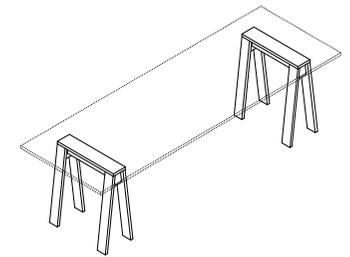
SF10



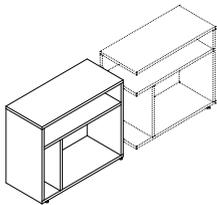
SF11



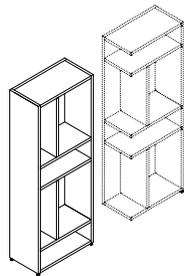
SF12



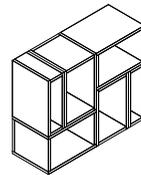
SF13



SF14



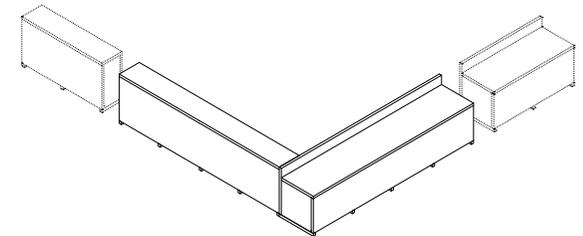
SF15



SF16



SF17

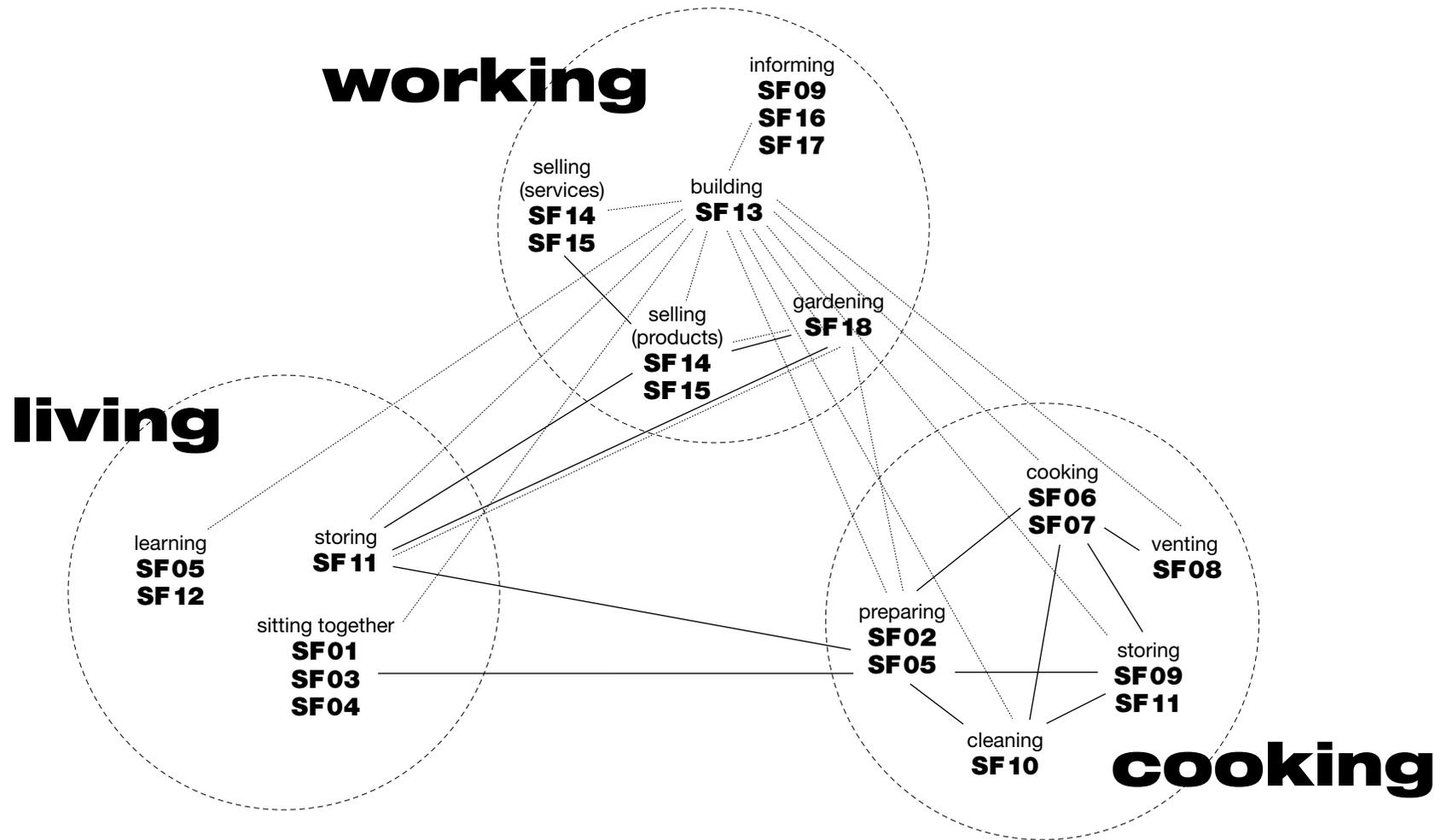


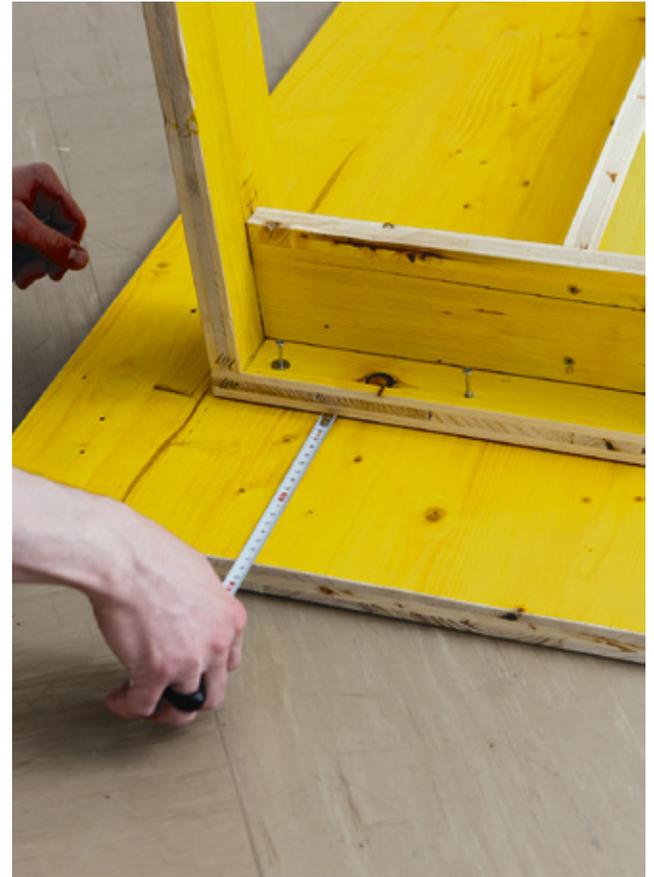
SF18

The collective activities living, cooking, and working are the main areas of application for the Social Furniture collection. The network diagram shows

the production and usage relationships between the activities supported by the different designs.

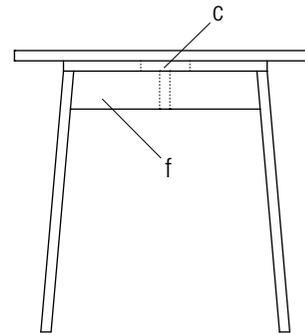
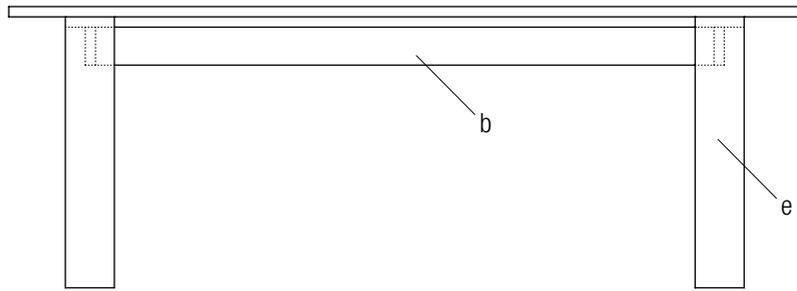
- autonomous production (produced in house)
- usage relationships
- - - - - collective activities





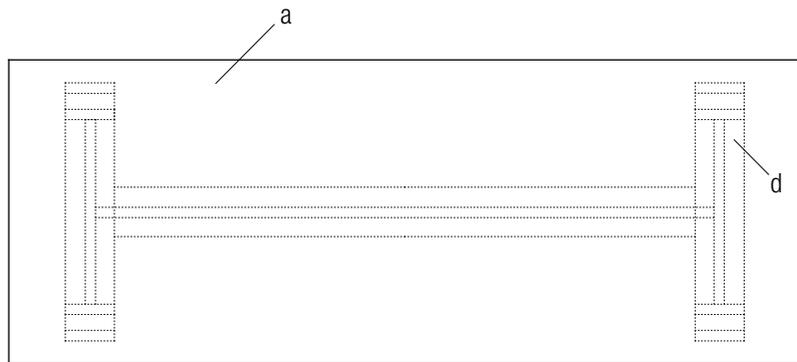
**do it
together!**





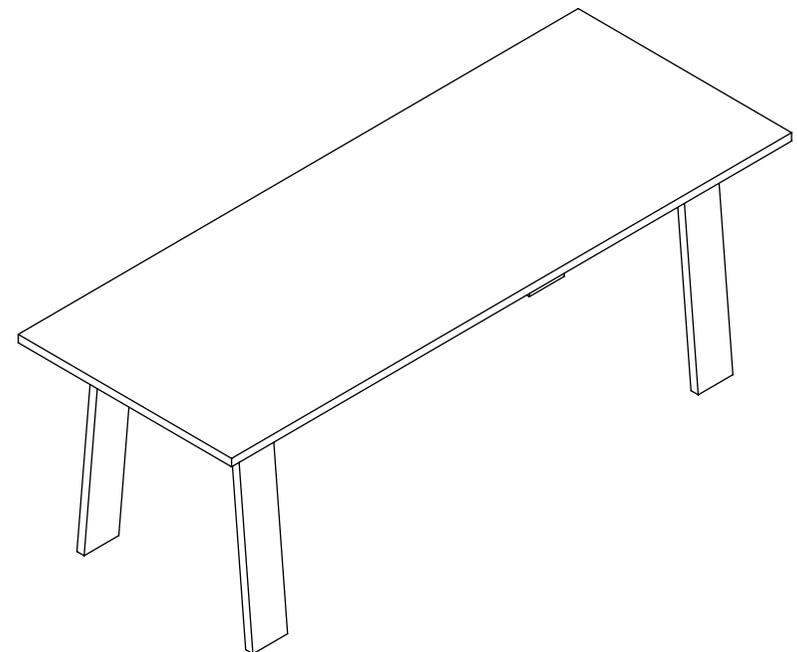
SF01 table

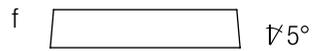
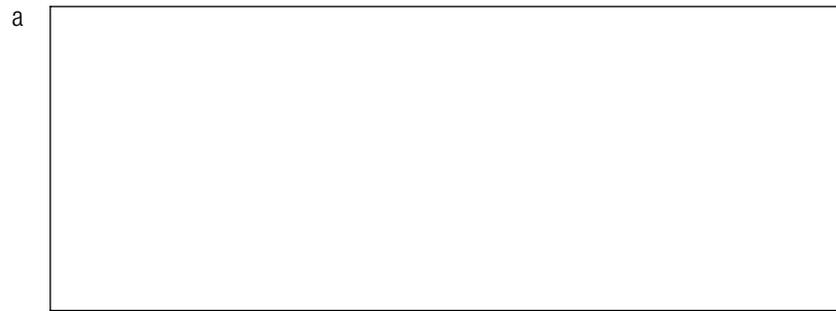
6–8 people
 L x W x H: 2100 x 800 x 740 mm
 Material quantity 2.64 m²



This design can be used as a working, dining, or meeting table. It accommodates three people comfortably on each long side with places at the heads of the table if desired. The bench (SF 03) or

the low stool (SF 04) can be combined with the table. An adapted version with a 3-meter-long surface is also possible.





No.	Size	Qty.
a	2100 x 800 mm	1
b	1640 x 100 mm	1
c	1540 x 130 mm	1
d	540 x 130 mm	2
e	690 x 130 mm	4
f	500 x 100 mm	2

screws $\varnothing 4 \times 50$ mm 69

board thickness 27 mm

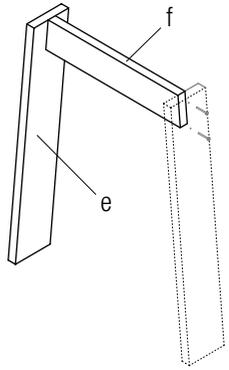


How to Build the Table Frames

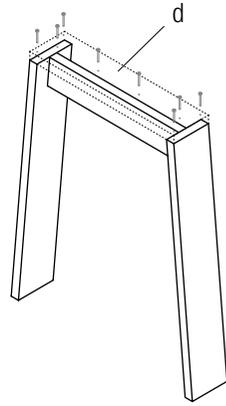
SF 01
SF 02



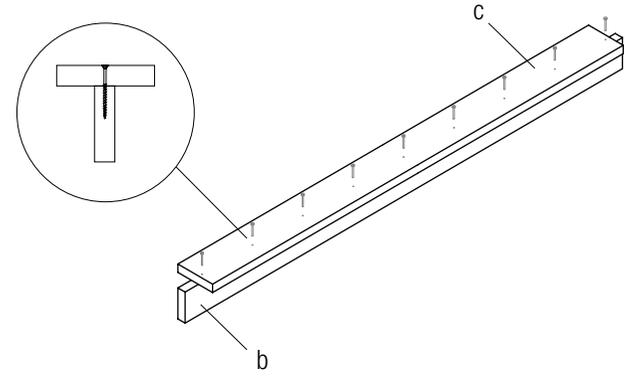
1



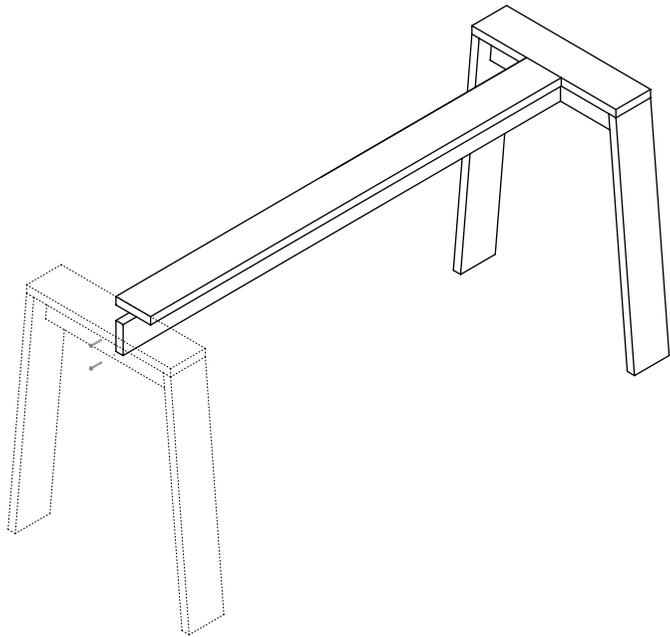
2



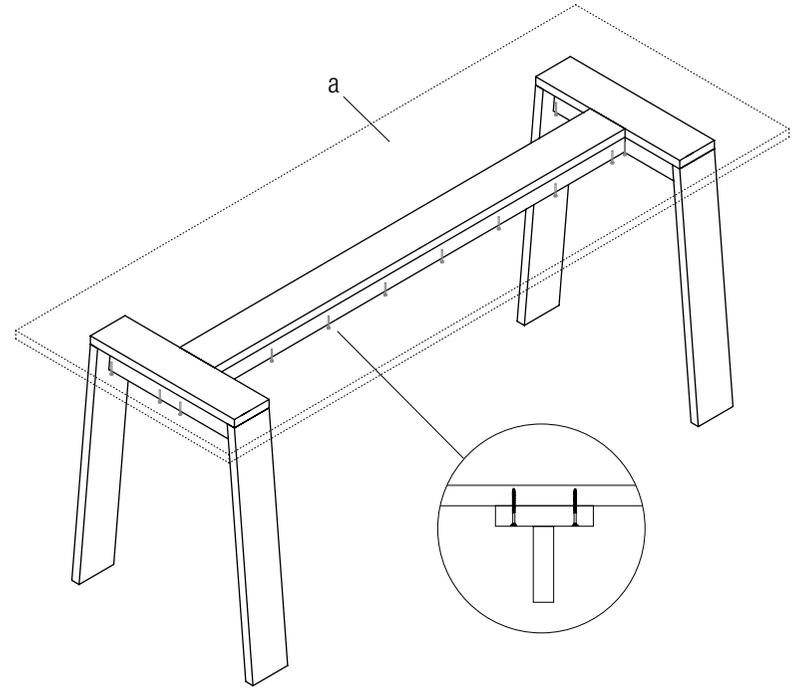
3

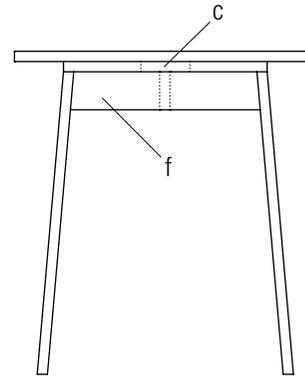
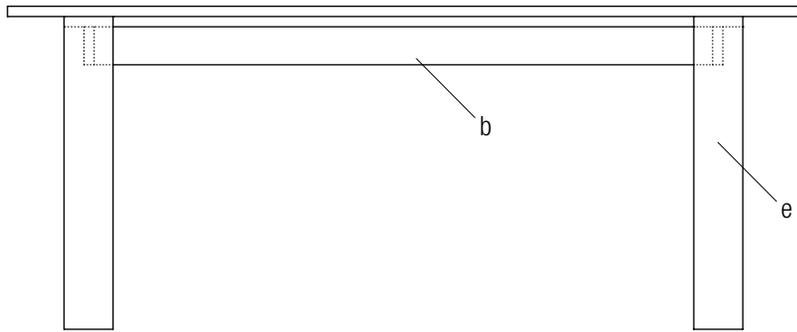


4



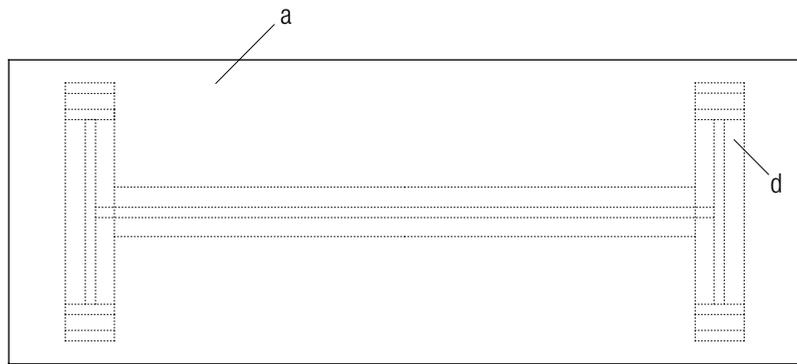
5





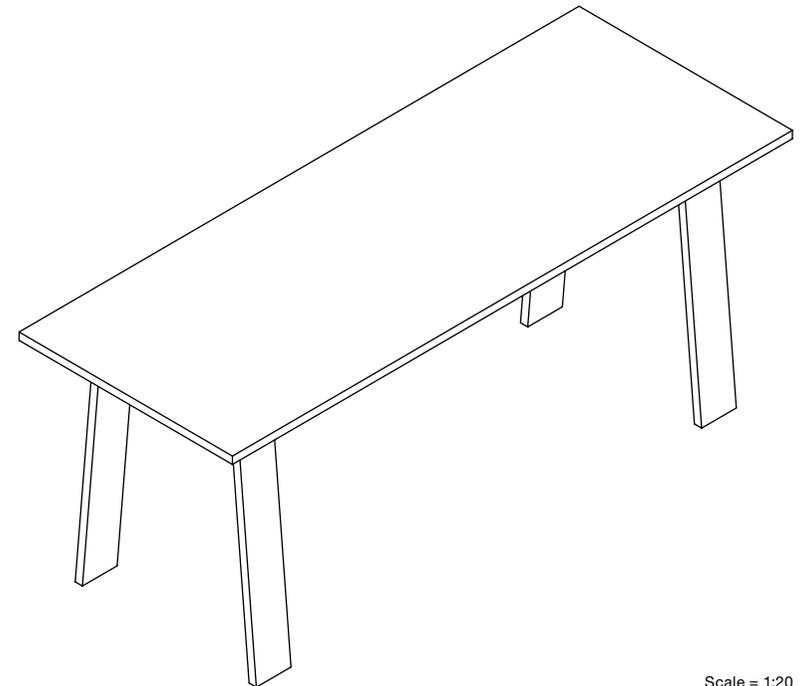
SF02 high table

6–8 people
L x W x H: 2100 x 800 x 850 mm
Material quantity 2.70 m²



The construction method is identical to that of the SF01 table. The table height of 850 mm was chosen to encourage interaction between seated and standing

people. As it has the same height as the cooking tables, it can be docked beside them to temporarily expand the work surface for preparing food.





No.	Size	Qty.
a	2100 x 800 mm	1
b	1640 x 100 mm	1
c	1540 x 130 mm	1
d	540 x 130 mm	2
e	800 x 130 mm	4
f	500 x 100 mm	2

screws Ø4 x 50 mm 69

board thickness 27 mm

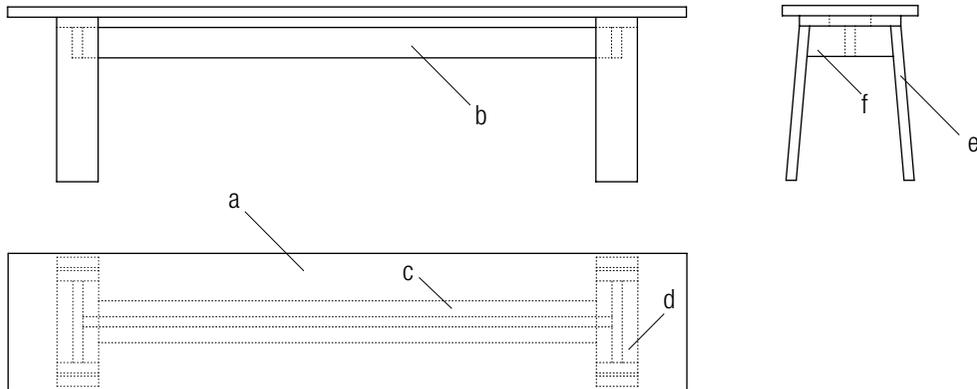


SF03 bench

3 people

L x W x H: 1800 x 380 x 460 mm

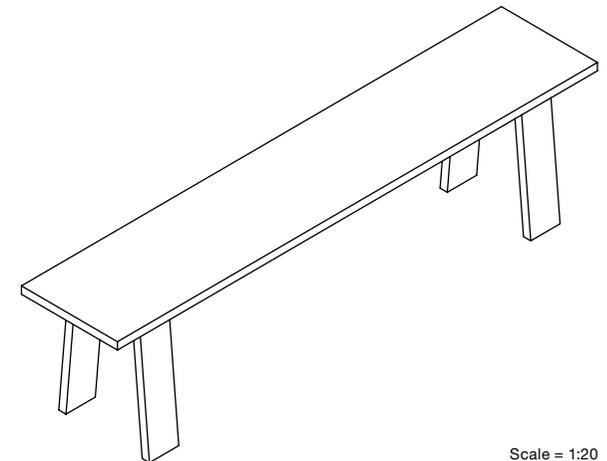
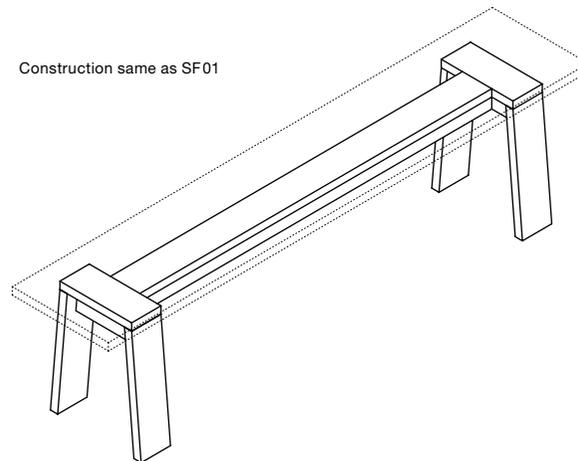
Material quantity 2.18 m²



Here the construction method of the table is applied to the bench. The T-connection between the feet facilitates a deflection-free sitting surface for at least three people. Aligned with the dimensions of the table, SF 03 is also

well-suited for sunbathing in front of the house. In Alpine vernacular such a place is referred to as the “Bauernparlament”: a “farmers’ parliament” for commentary on local social activities.

Construction same as SF01



Scale = 1:20



No.	Size	Qty.
a	1800 x 360 mm	1
b	1400 x 80 mm	1
c	1320 x 110 mm	1
d	270 x 110 mm	2
e	410 x 110 mm	4
f	230 x 80 mm	2
screws $\varnothing 4 \times 50$ mm		34
board thickness 27 mm		



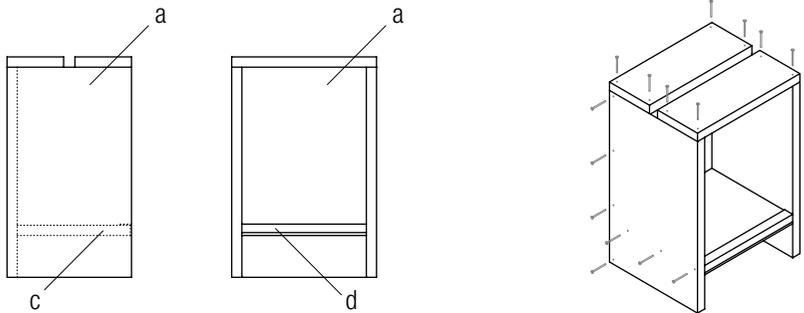
SF04 stool SF05 high stool

1 person

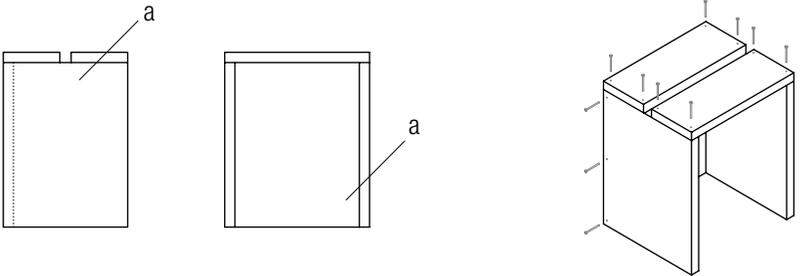
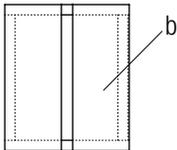
L x W x H: 384 x 330 x 460 mm (low)

L x W x H: 384 x 330 x 580 mm (high)

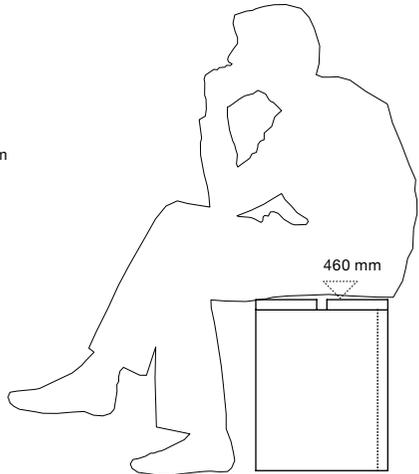
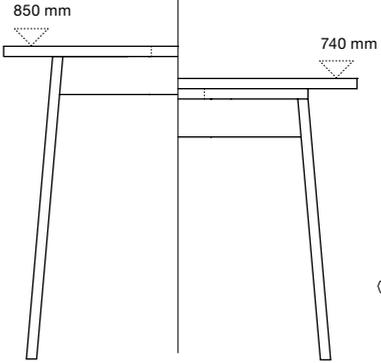
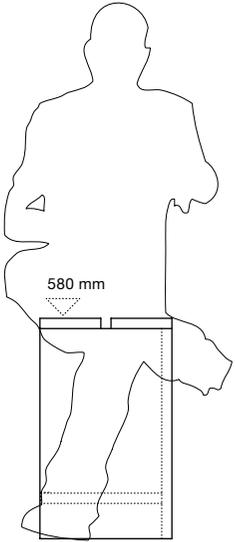
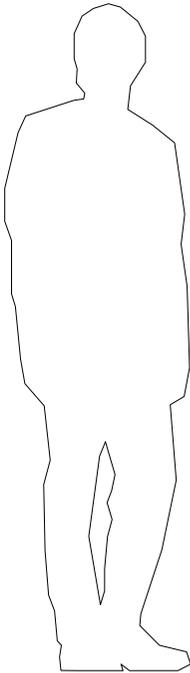
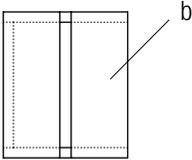
Material quantity 0.54 m² / 0.76 m²



SF 05

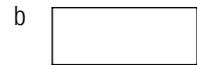


SF 04



Scale = 1:20

SF 04

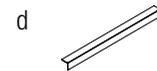
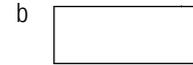
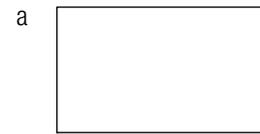


No.	Size	Qty.
a	433 x 330 mm	3
b	384 x 150 mm	2

screws Ø4 x 50 mm 14

board thickness 27 mm

SF 05



No.	Size	Qty.
a	553 x 330 mm	3
b	384 x 150 mm	2
c	330 x 300 mm	1
d	L-profile aluminum 24 x 24 x 3, 330 mm L	1

screws Ø4 x 50 mm 34

board thickness 27 mm



With a seat split into two boards, the stool is an easily transportable element.

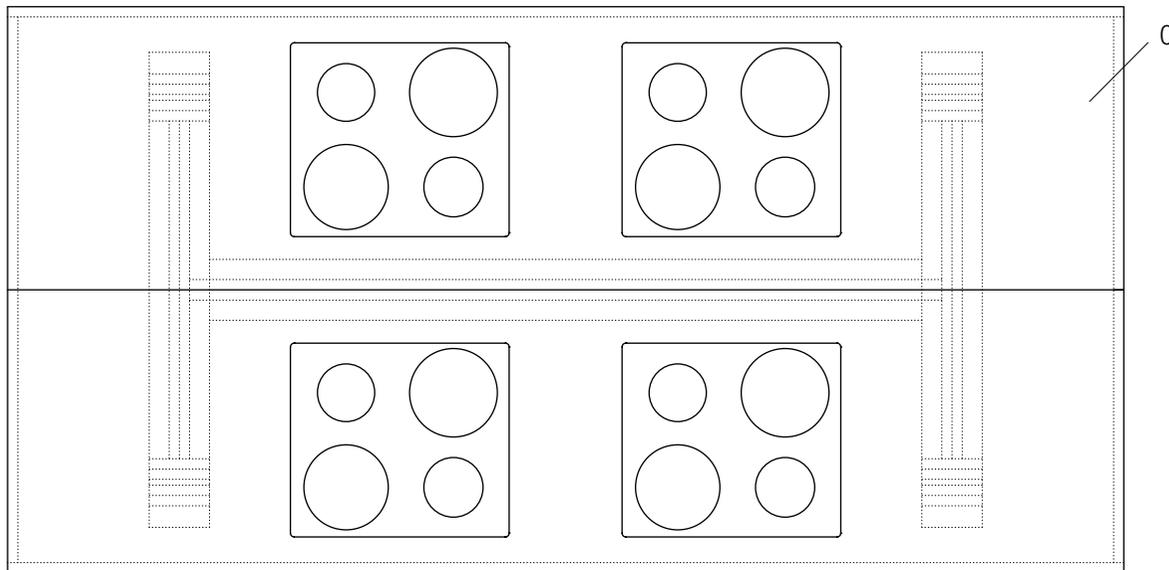
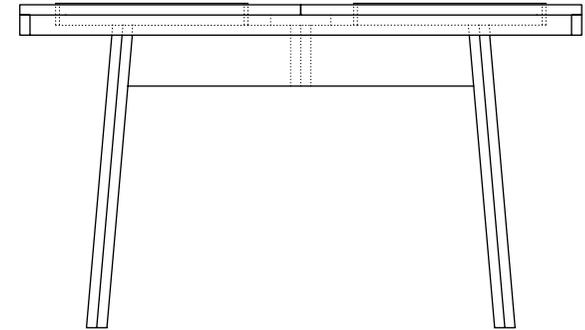
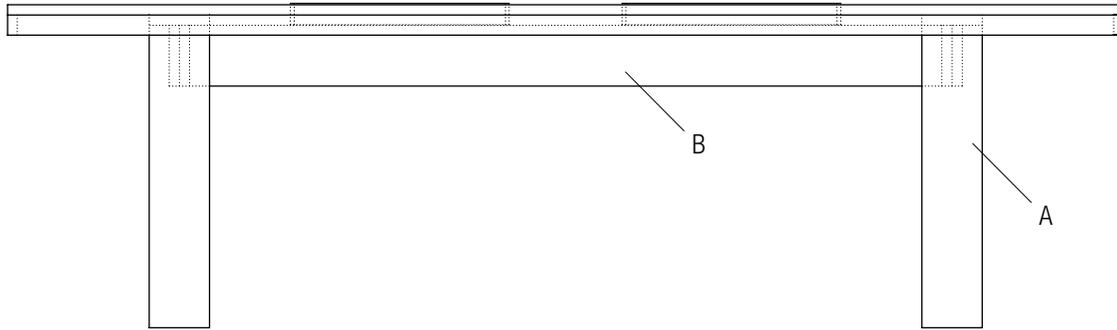
The high stool has an extra horizontal panel at the bottom to support the foot. The edge of this footrest is protected by an aluminum bracket to prevent wear. The stool is dimensioned for use as a seat or as a standing aid.



SF06 cooking table

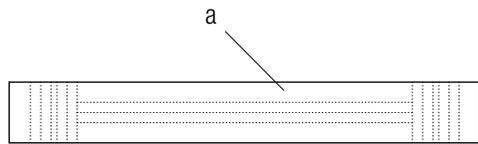
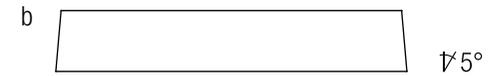
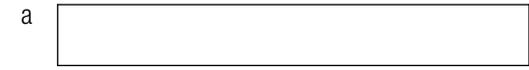
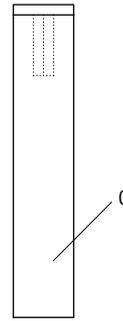
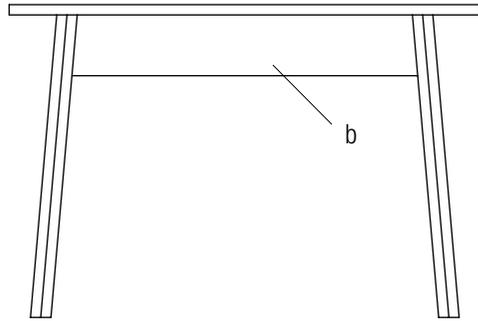
four cooking zones
max. 40 people
L x W x H: 2960 x 1490 x 850 mm
Material quantity 7.83 m²





The cooking table has a massive sub-structure created by doubling the boards. It is intended to stand freely in space so that many people can gather around it, cooking and preparing food. It forms a collective hearth, stimulating communication and exchange among users. In infrastructural planning for basic care one cooking zone is provided per 10 people.

A

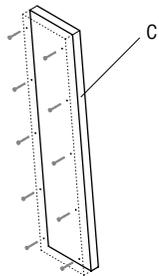


No.	Size	Qty.
a	1250 x 160 mm	2
b	917 x 160 mm	4
c	800 x 160 mm	8

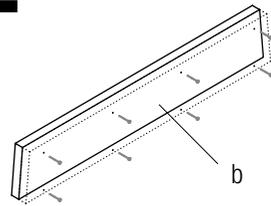
screws $\text{Ø}4 \times 50 \text{ mm}$ 46
screws $\text{Ø}4 \times 70 \text{ mm}$ 16

board thickness 27 mm

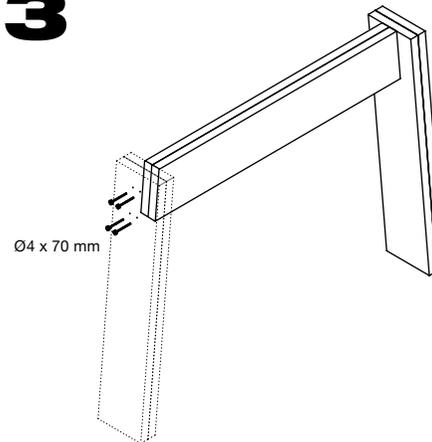
1



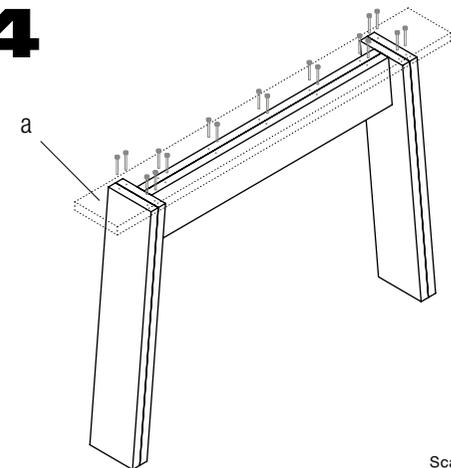
2



3

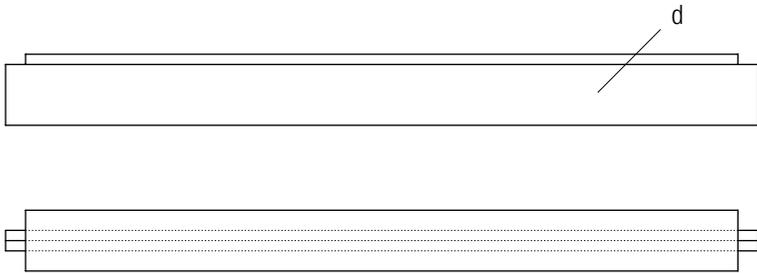


4



Scale = 1:20

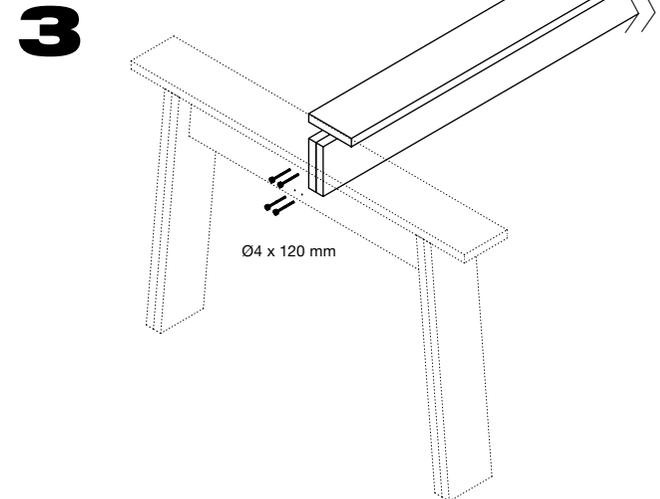
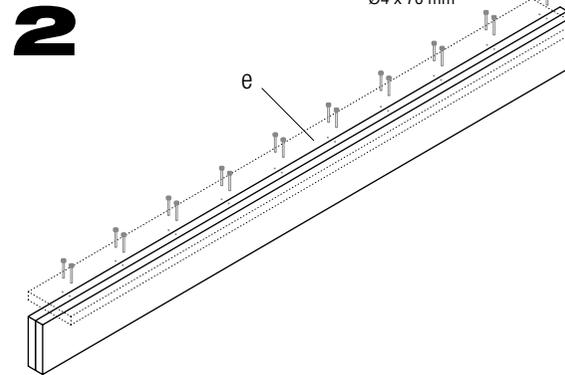
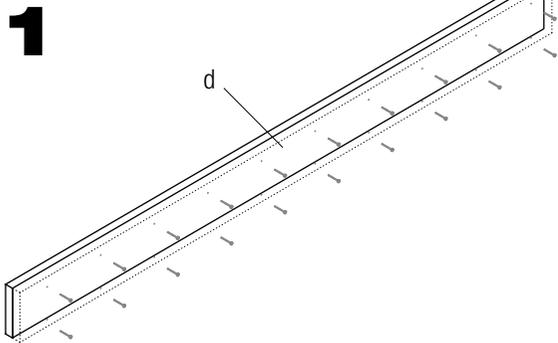
B



No.	Size	Qty.
d	1995 x 160 mm	2
e	1889 x 160 mm	1

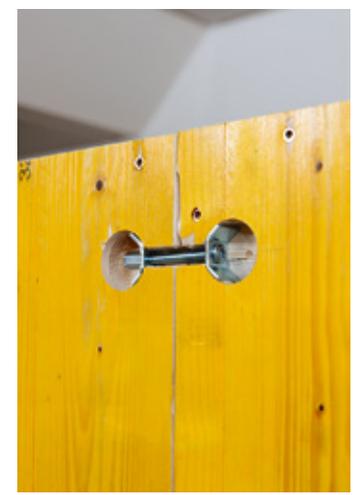
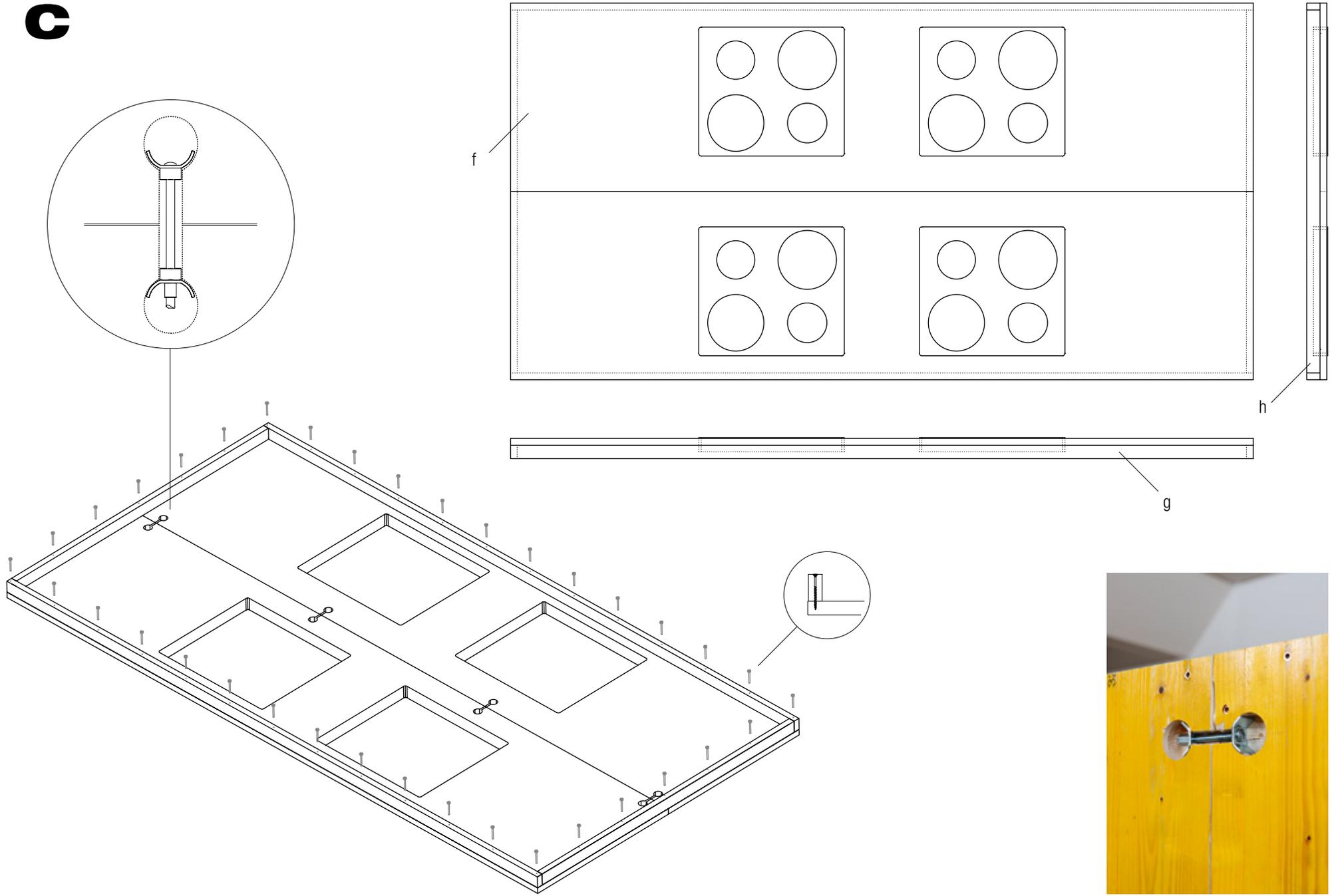
screws $\text{\O}4$ x 50 mm	20
screws $\text{\O}4$ x 70 mm	20
screws $\text{\O}5$ x 120 mm	8

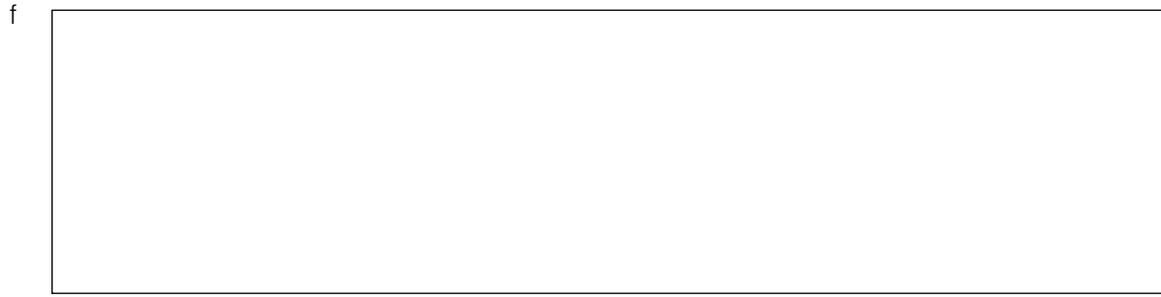
board thickness 27 mm



Scale = 1:20

C



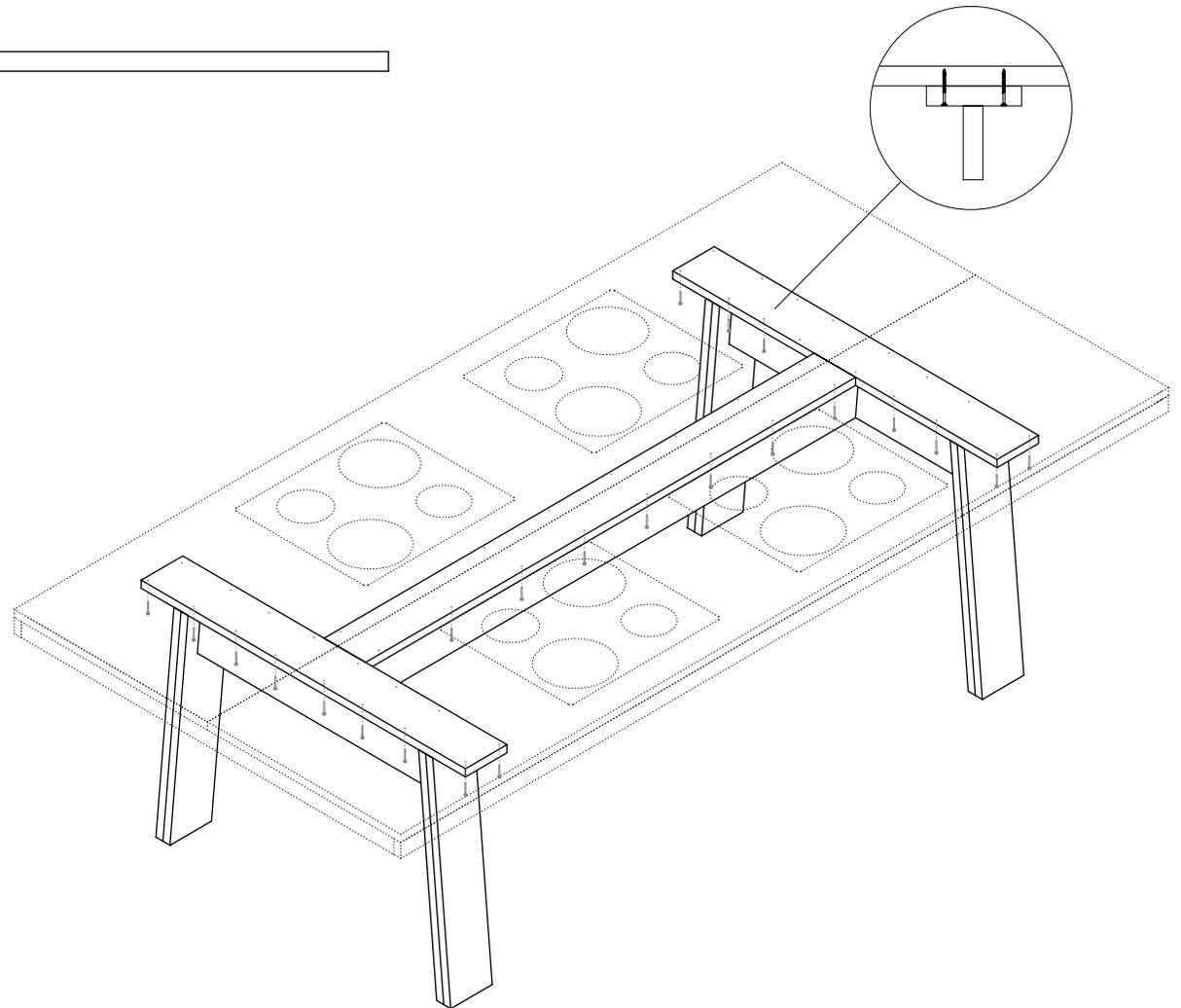


No.	Size	Qty.
f	2960 x 745 mm	2
g	2960 x 53 mm	2
h	1436 x 53 mm	2

table top connectors 4
 Ø35 / M6 x 65 mm
 screws Ø4 x 70 mm 30

board thickness 27 mm

cooking tops 4

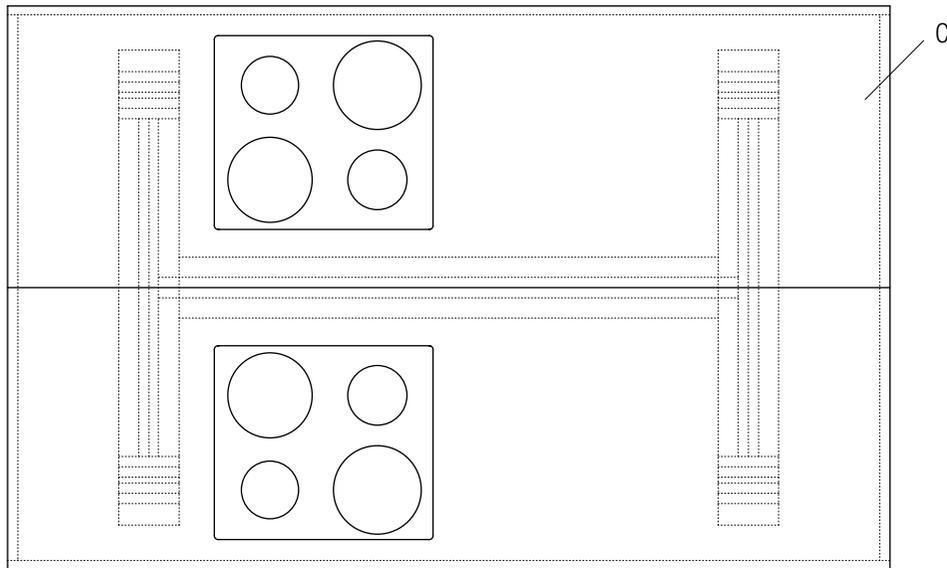
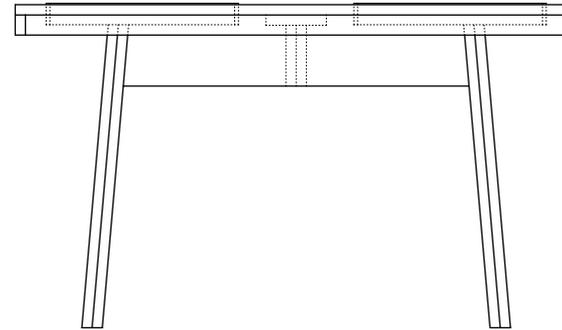
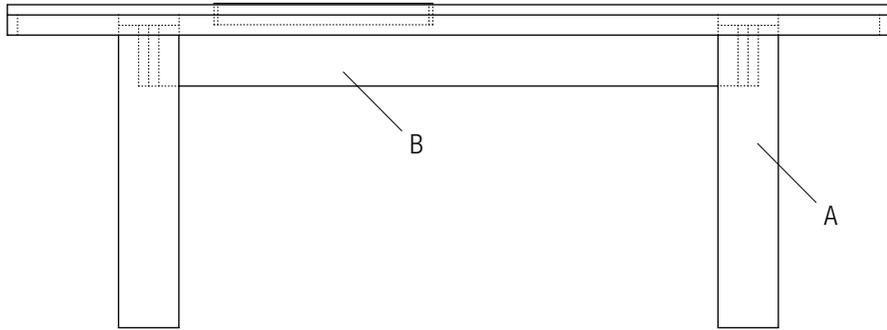


Scale = 1:20

SF07 cooking table

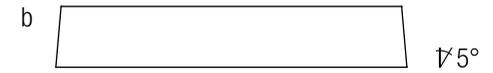
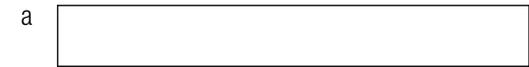
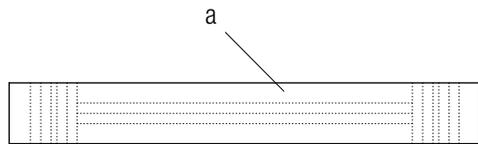
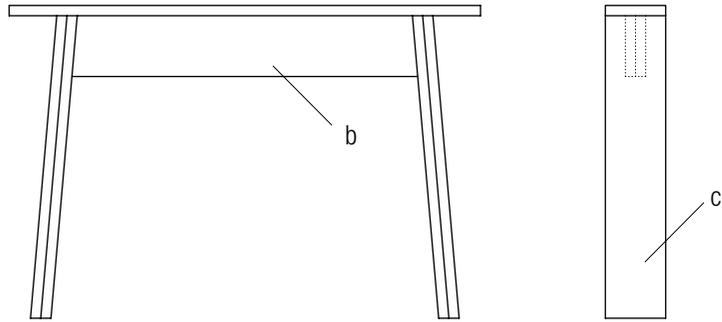
two cooking zones
max. 20 people
L x W x H: 2340 x 1490 x 850
Material quantity 6.62 m²





Identical construction as SF 06. The dimensions of the cooking table are prescribed for smaller spaces where, for example, it can be positioned with the head of the table against a wall by a window, thus simplifying electrification. It is important to provide sufficient space on the other three sides. In infra-structural planning for basic care one cooking zone is provided per 10 people.

A

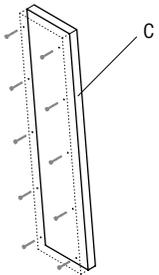


No.	Size	Qty.
a	1250 x 160 mm	2
b	917 x 160 mm	4
c	800 x 160 mm	8

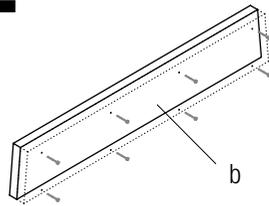
screws $\text{Ø}4 \times 50 \text{ mm}$ 46
screws $\text{Ø}4 \times 70 \text{ mm}$ 16

board thickness 27 mm

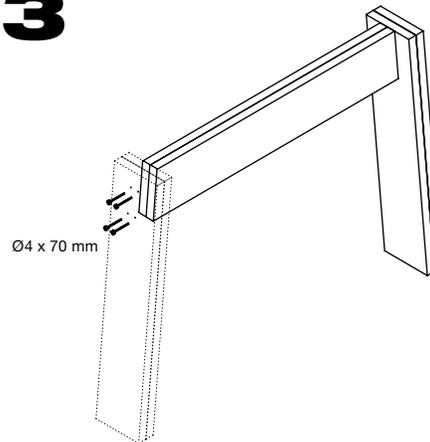
1



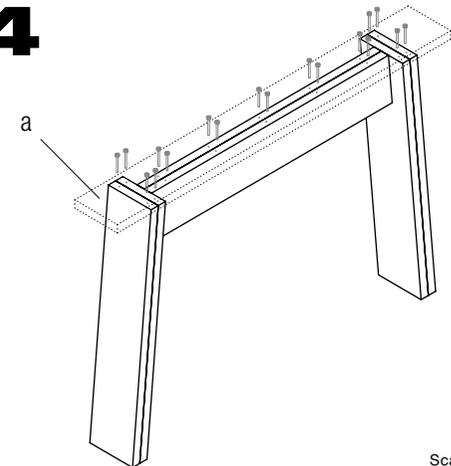
2



3

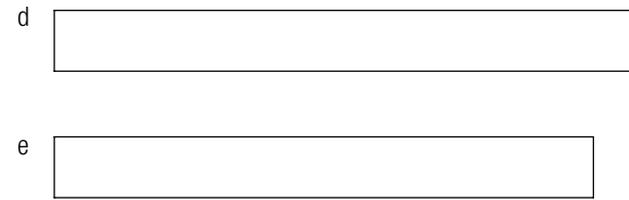
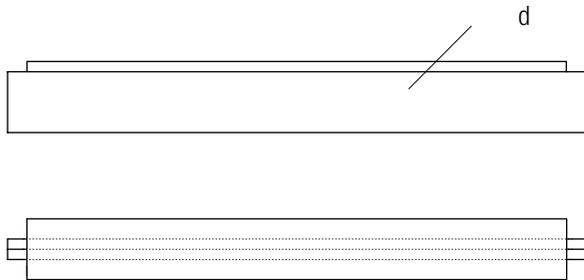


4



Scale = 1:20

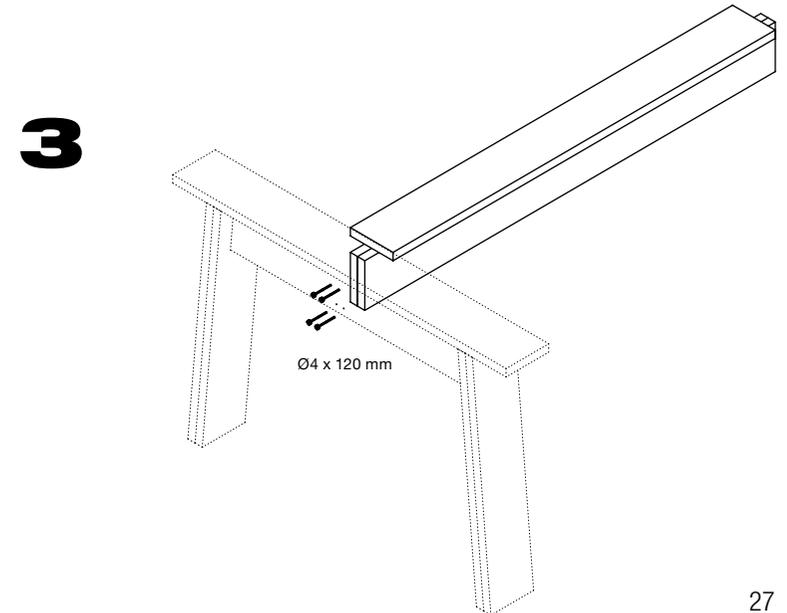
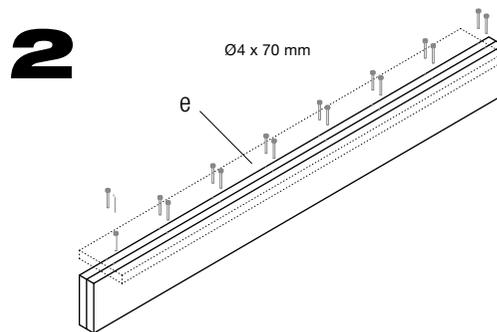
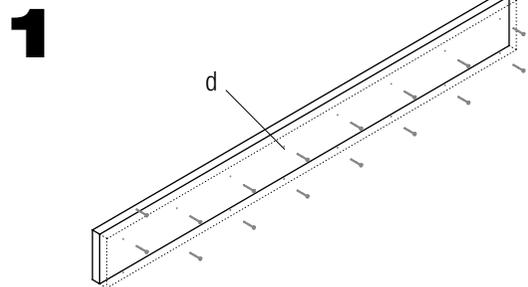
B



No.	Size	Qty.
d	1536 x 160 mm	2
e	1430 x 160 mm	1

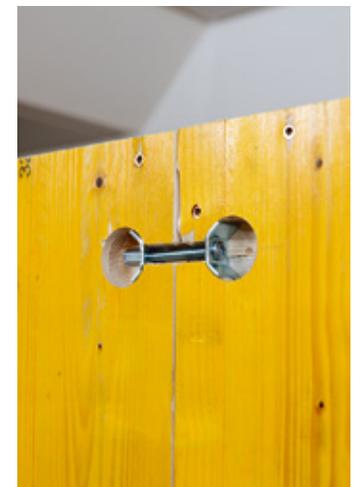
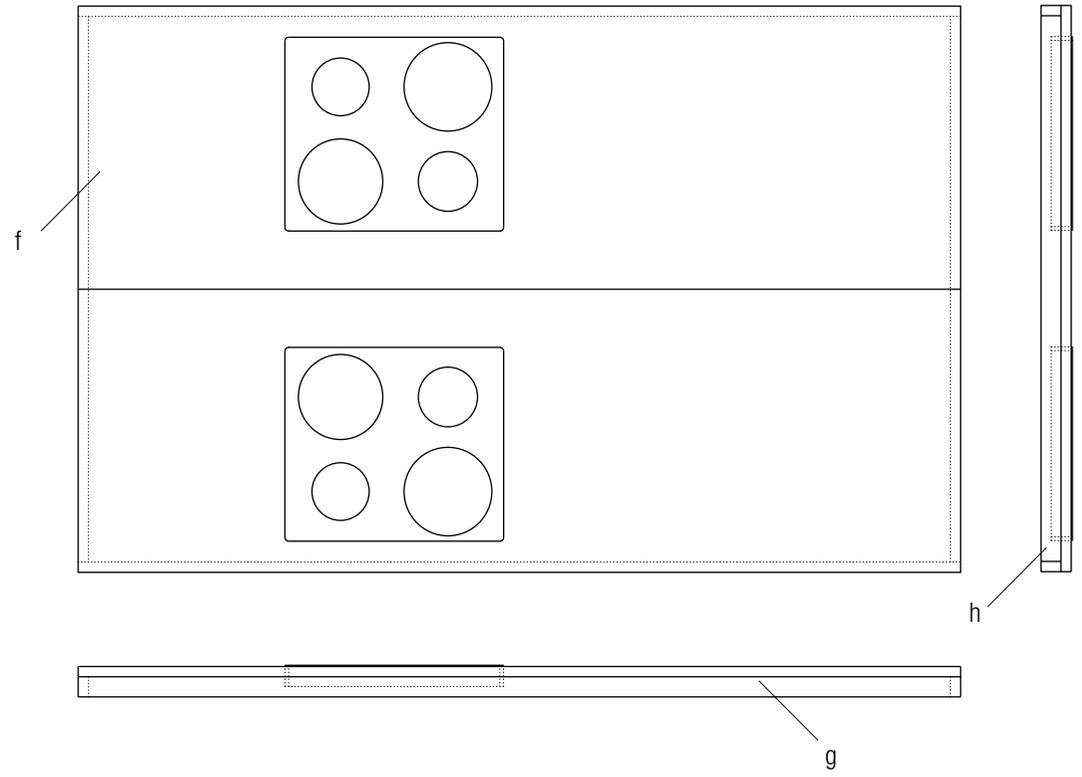
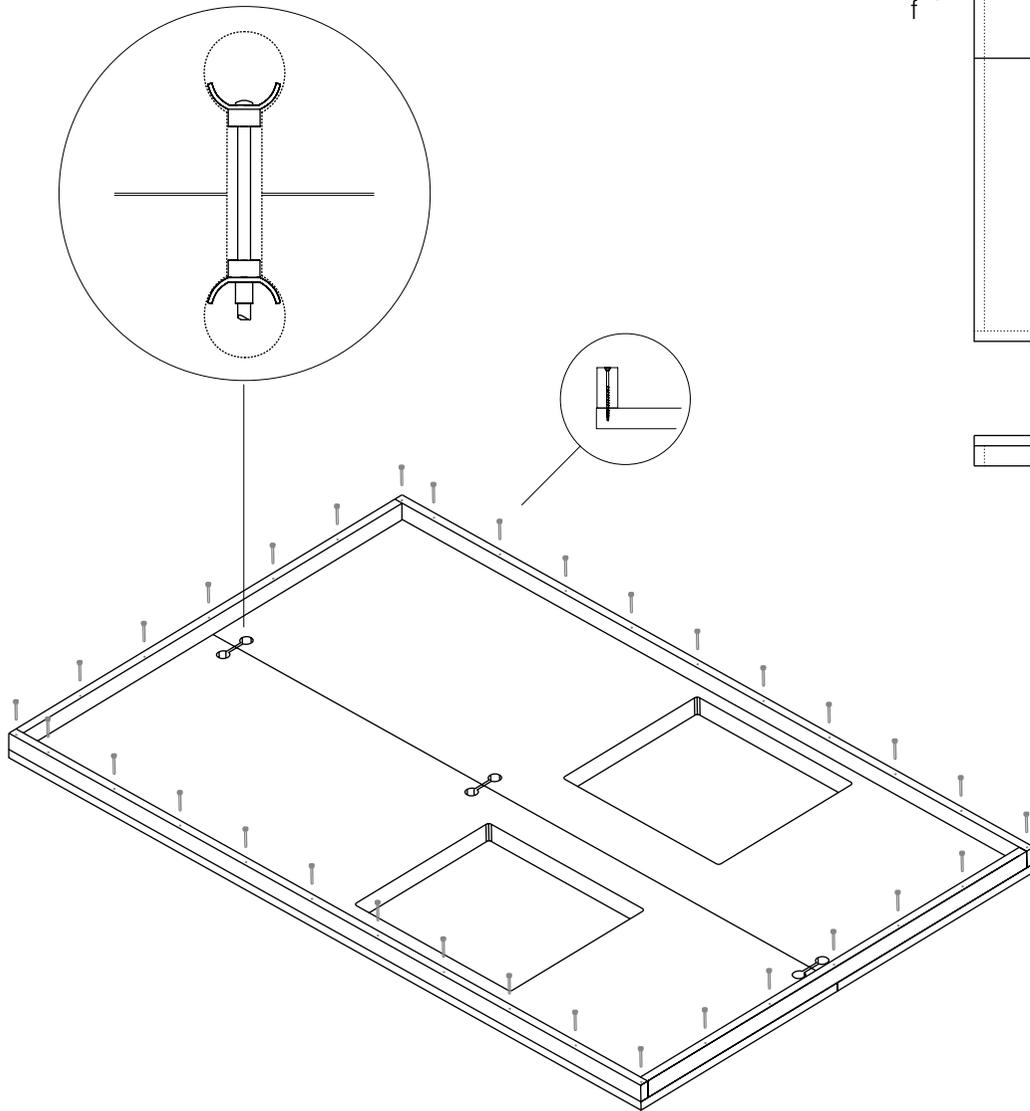
screws $\varnothing 4 \times 50$ mm	16
screws $\varnothing 4 \times 70$ mm	16
screws $\varnothing 5 \times 120$ mm	8

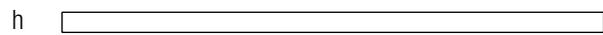
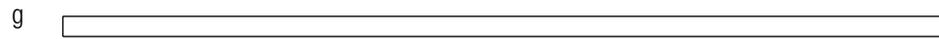
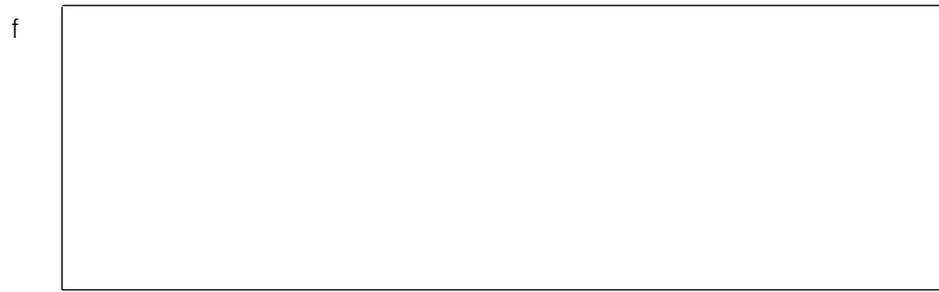
board thickness 27 mm



Scale = 1:20

C



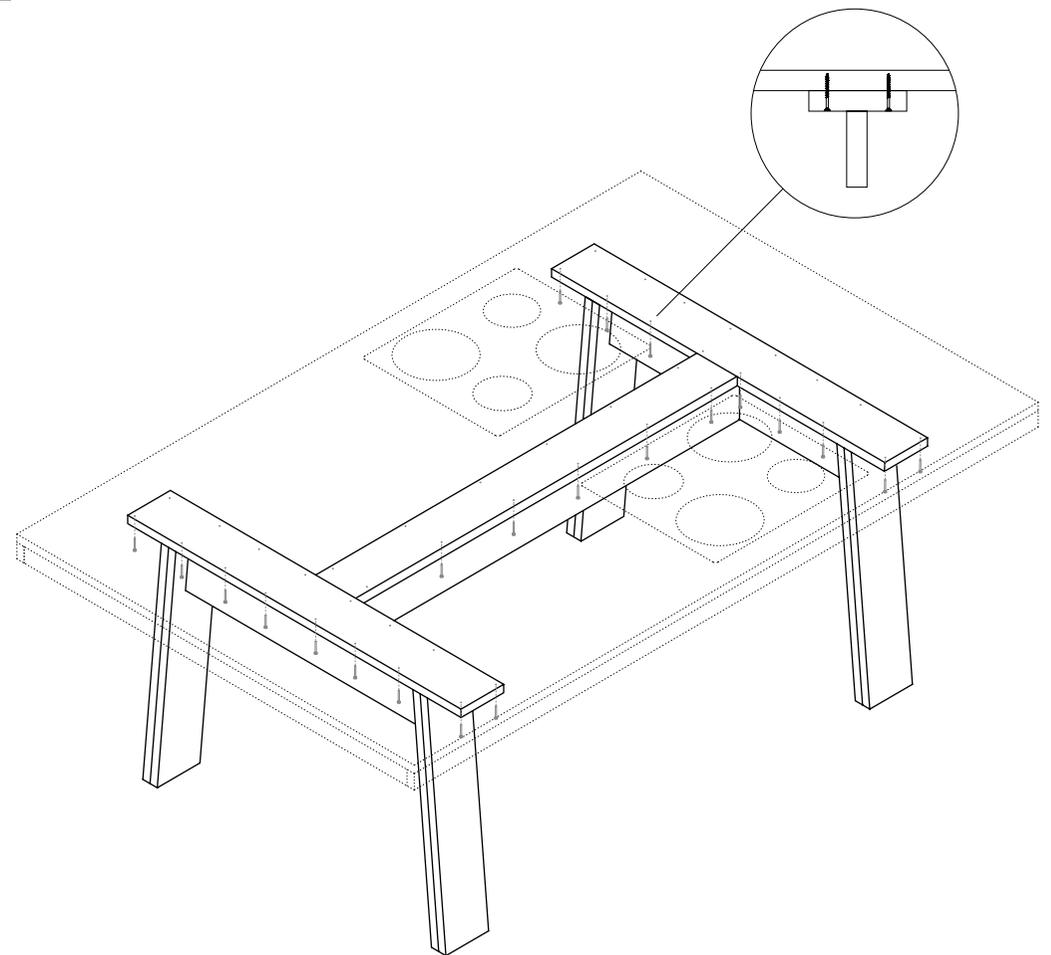


No.	Size	Qty.
f	2340 x 745 mm	2
g	2340 x 53 mm	2
h	1436 x 53 mm	2

table top connectors 3
 Ø35 / M6 x 65 mm
 screws Ø4 x 70 mm 30

board thickness 27 mm

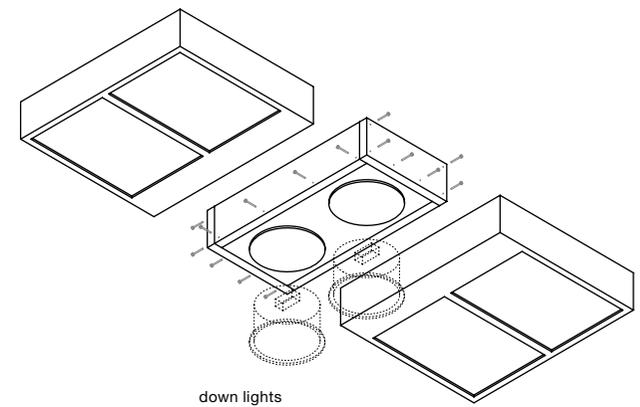
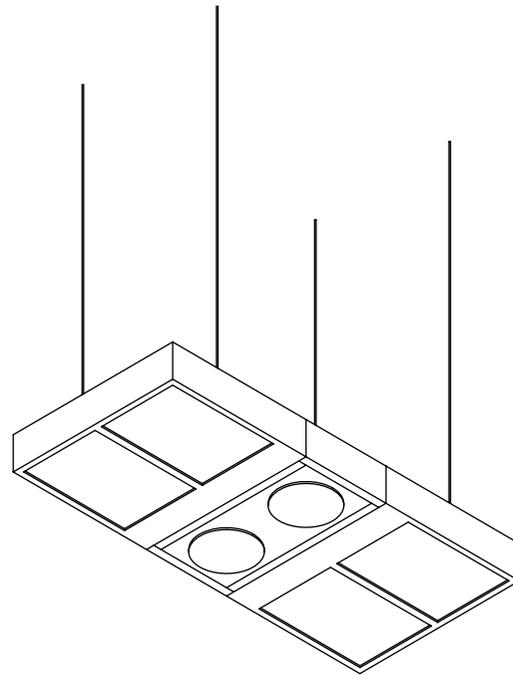
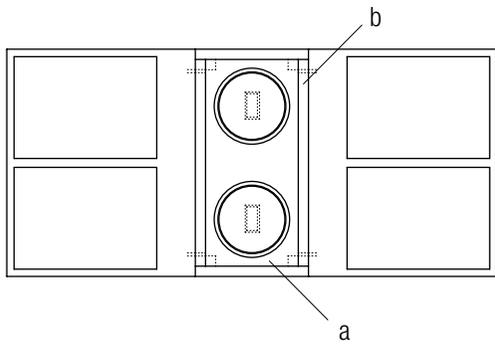
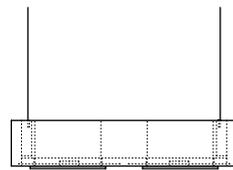
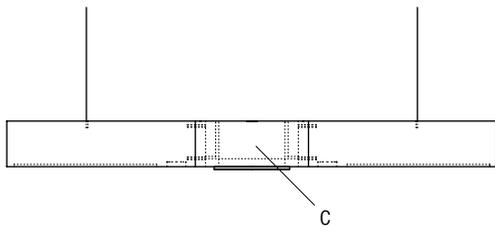
cooking tops 2



Scale = 1:20

SF08 air recirculator

for two cooking zones
L x W x H: ca. 1300 x 598 x 120 mm
Material quantity 0.47 m²





No.	Size	Qty.
a	544 x 246 mm	2
b	544 x 120 mm	2
c	300 x 120 mm	2

screws Ø4 x 50 mm 20

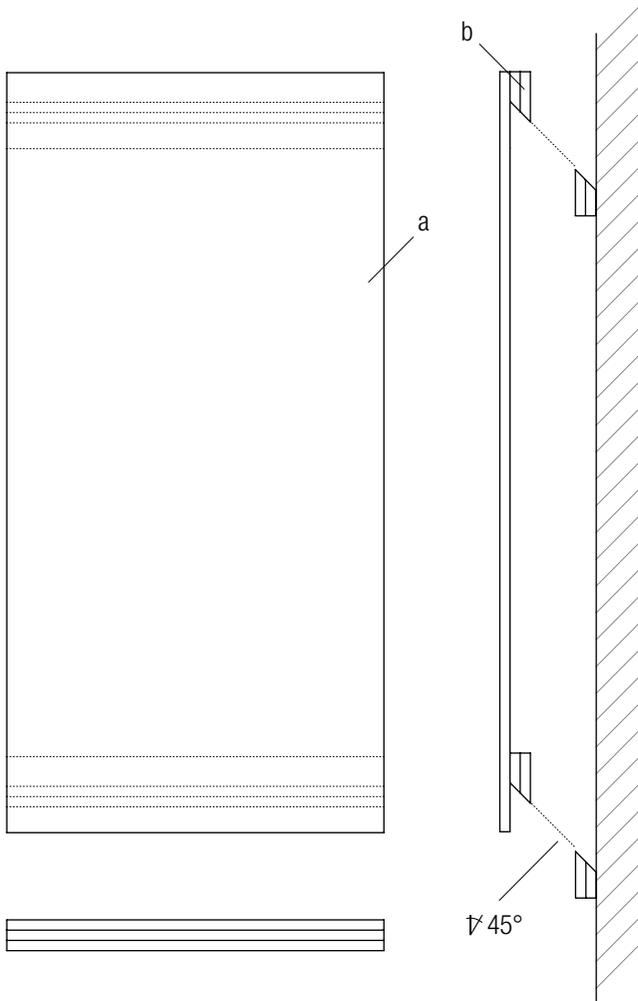
board thickness 27 mm

air recirculators	2
down lights	2
up lights	2



The air recirculation element consists of two standard cubic air recirculators connected together by a central box. The height of the box can be coordinated with the recirculators. Depending

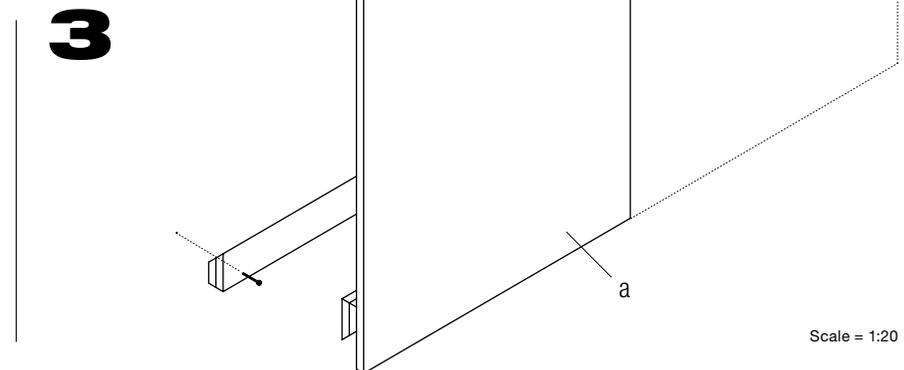
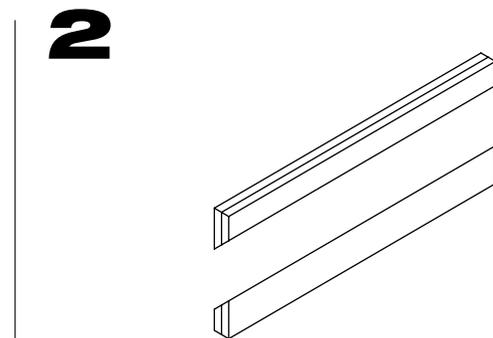
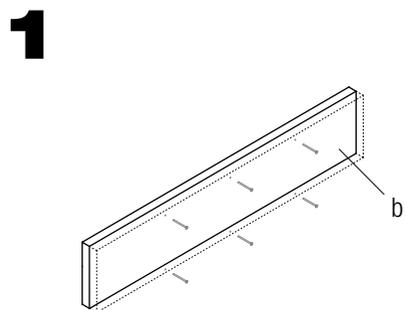
on the usage context, up and/or down lights can be integrated into the central element. The system is suspended by steel cables via the anchor points on the recirculators.

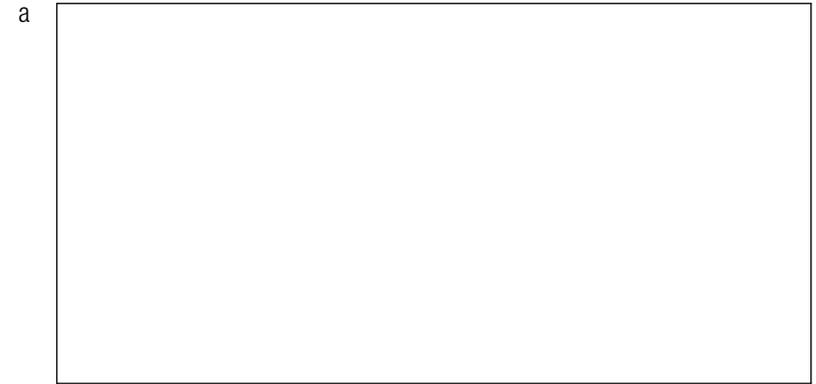


All cooking utensils are stored on the kitchen wall panel. In this way, they are easy to find and can be hung back in their place in an orderly fashion. An organizational form used in workshops is transferred to the kitchen. Cookware can be attached with nails or screw hooks. Strong magnets can also be used to hold magnetic objects such as pots and knives. When there is a greater number of users labels or outlines of the utensils can be added to the panel. Used as a plain back wall (e.g. in combination with SF 16), SF 09 can serve as an attractive information or graphic identity wall.

SF 09 kitchen wall panel

3 panels: max. 20 people
L x W x H: 1000 x 81 x 2000 mm
Material quantity 8.4 m²





1 panel

No.	Size	Qty.
a	2000 x 1000 mm	1
b	1000 x 200 mm	4

screws Ø4 x 50 mm 20

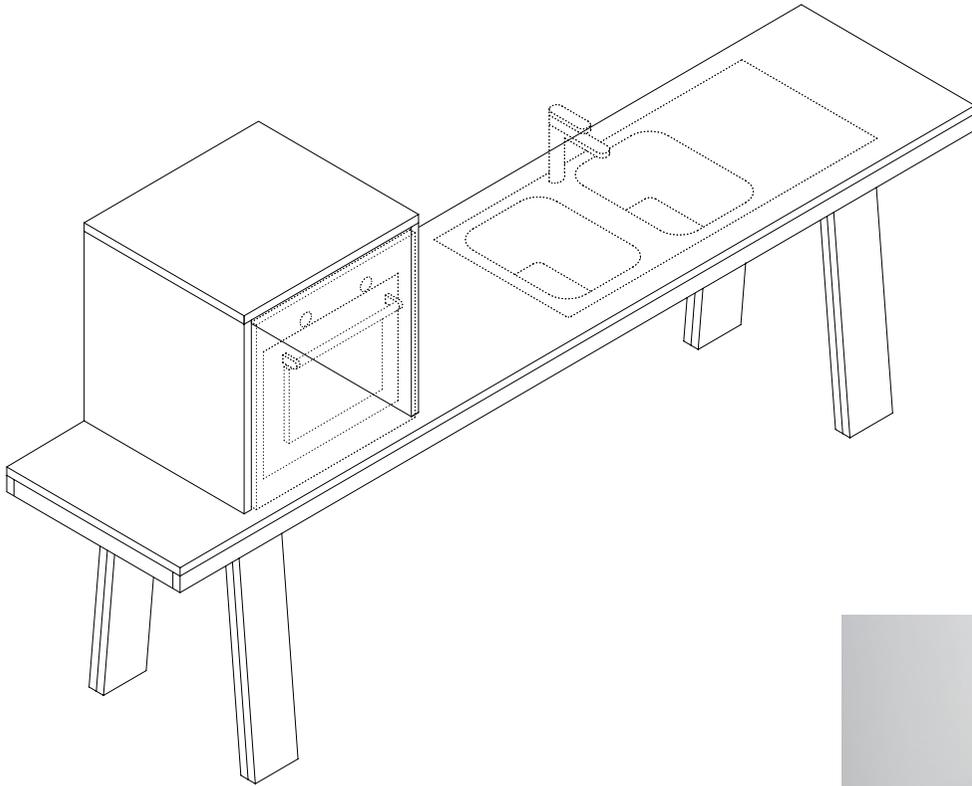
board thickness 27 mm

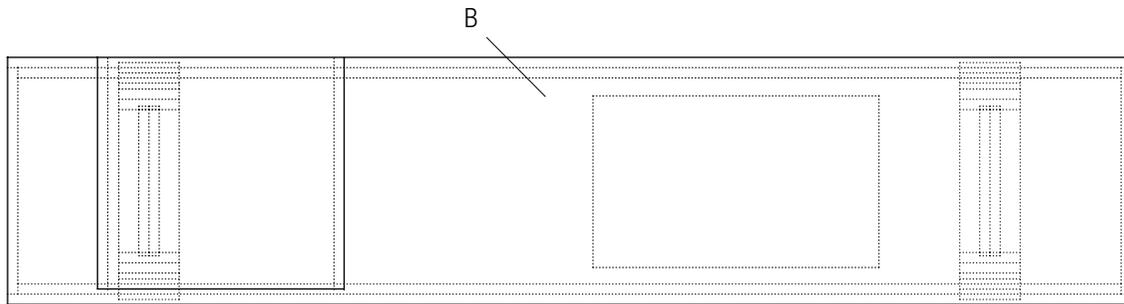
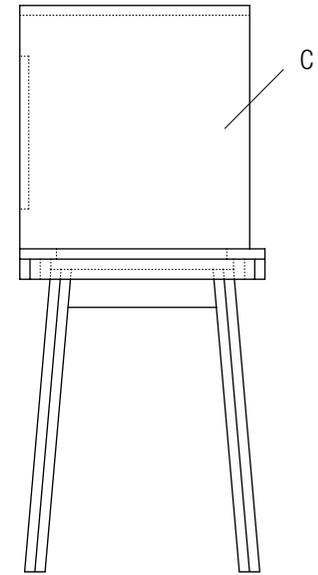
various amount of nails,
screws, hooks, or magnets

material for wall connection

SF10 sink & oven table

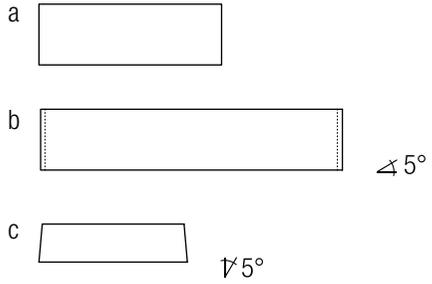
L x W x H: 2980 x 650 x 850 mm
Material quantity 5.32 m²





Derived from the cooking table, this slender variant can be used along a wall or freestanding in space. SF 10 together with a small cooking table (SF 07) and at least three kitchen wall panels (SF 09) forms the smallest collective cooking unit for a maximum of 20 people. However, this model can also be utilized in larger kitchens as a standalone sink table or with a number of oven elements.

A

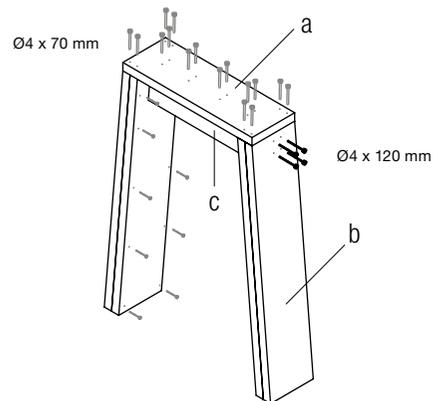


No.	Size	Qty.
a	484 x 160 mm	2
b	800 x 160 mm	8
c	394 x 100 mm	4

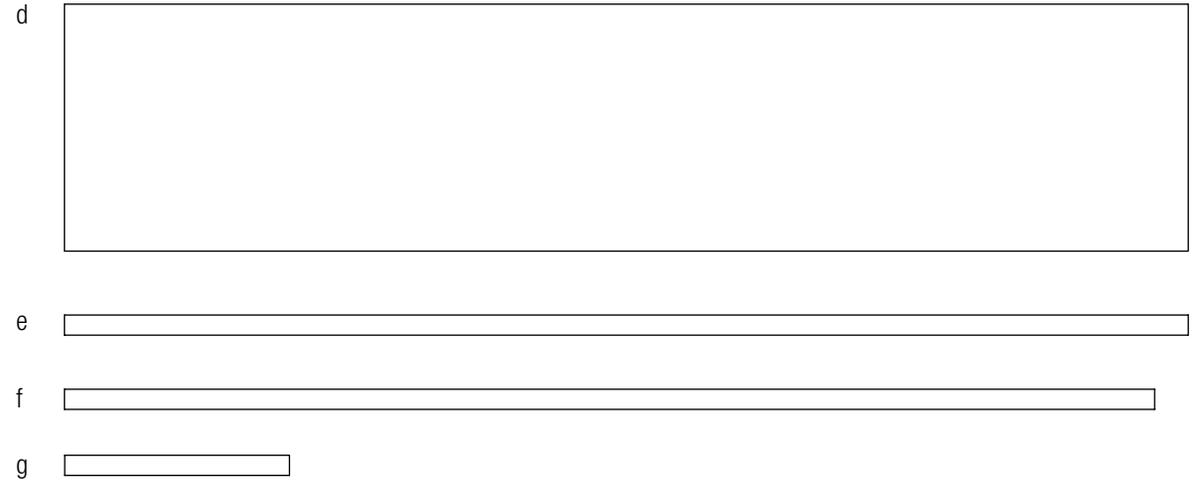
screws Ø4 x 50 mm 52
 screws Ø4 x 70 mm 72
 screws Ø5 x 120 mm 16

board thickness 27 mm

sink 1



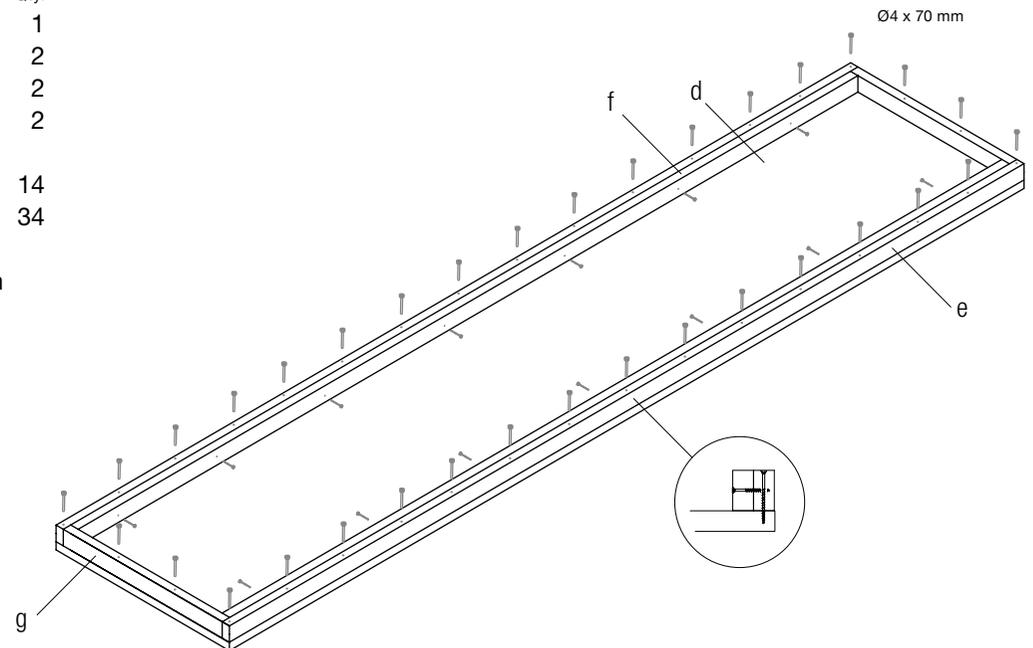
B



No.	Size	Qty.
d	2980 x 650 mm	1
e	2980 x 53 mm	2
f	2926 x 53 mm	2
g	596 x 53 mm	2

screws Ø4 x 50 mm 14
 screws Ø4 x 70 mm 34

board thickness 27 mm



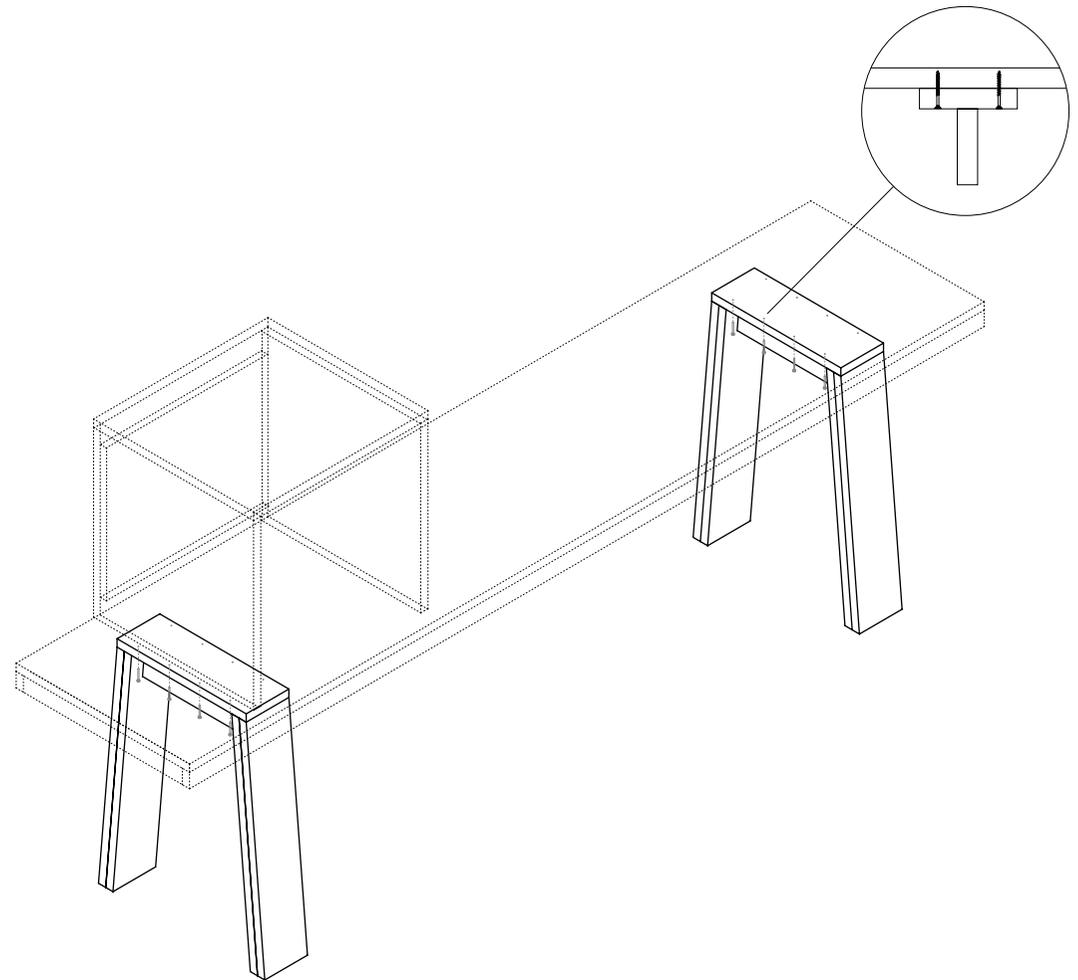
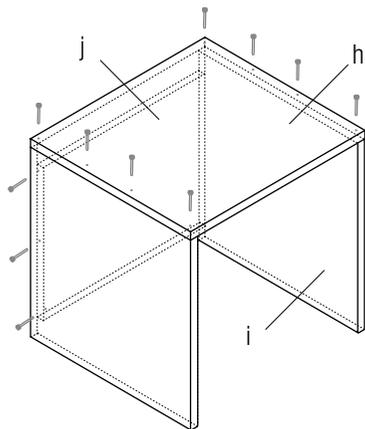
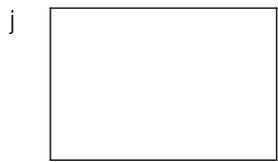
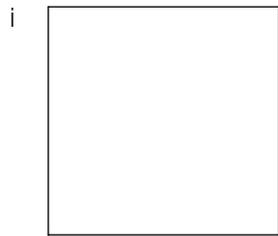
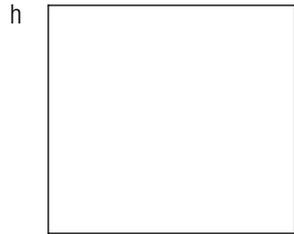
C

No.	Size	Qty.
h	654 x 600 mm	1
i	611 x 600 mm	2
j	600 x 400 mm	1

screws $\varnothing 4 \times 70$ mm 14

board thickness 27 mm

oven 1

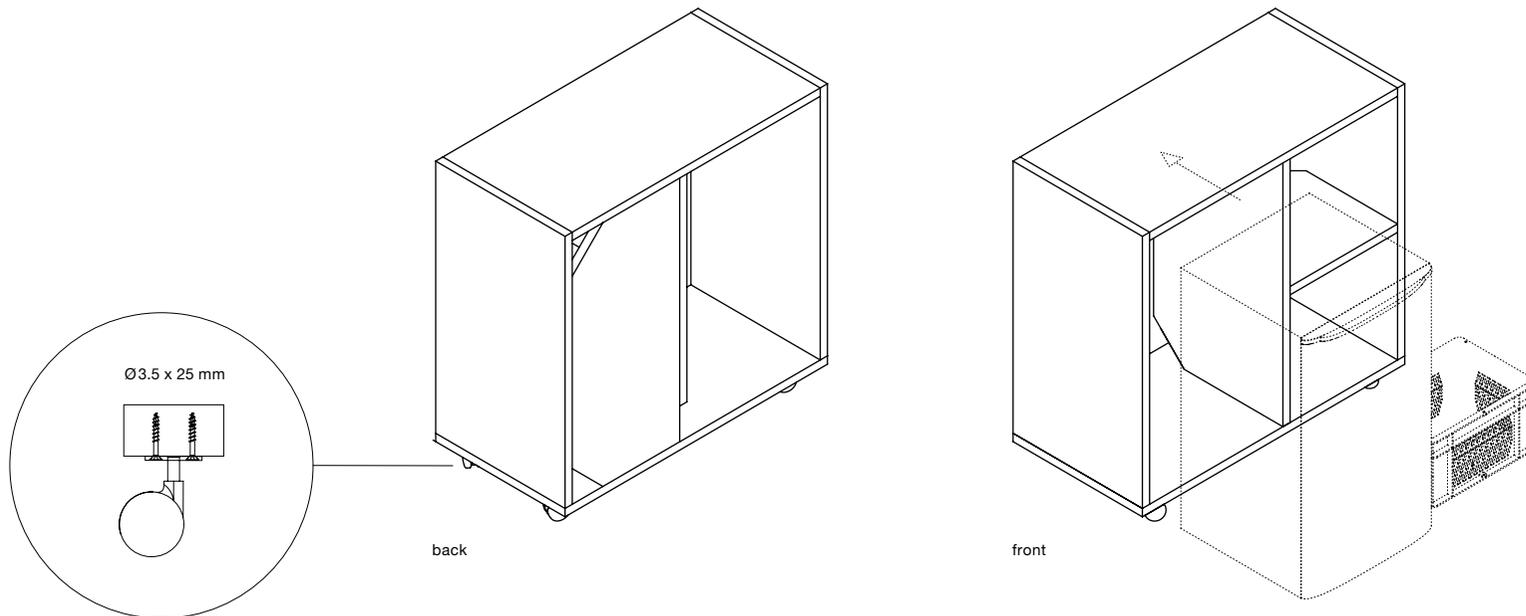
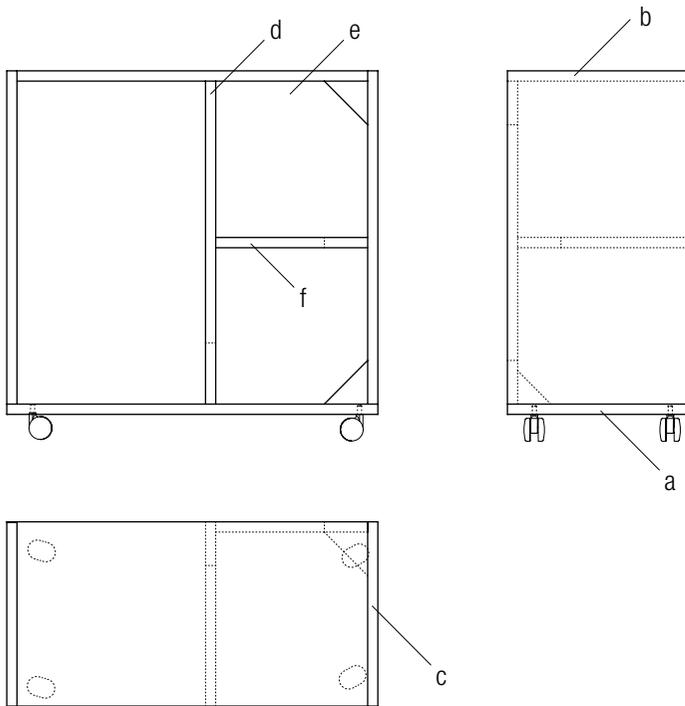


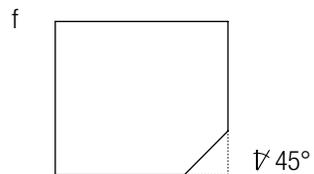
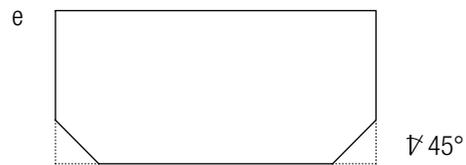
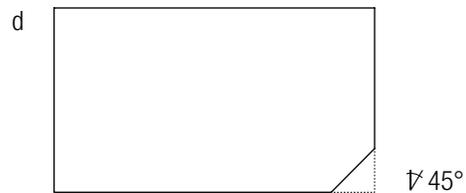
SF11 refrigerator furniture

2 people
L x W x H: 984 x 485 x 904 mm
Material quantity 2.72 m²

When a refrigerator is a common domain it can often lead to conflicts. The element proposed here is designed for up to two people and can be set up in a sleeping area, for instance. Two shelves, each with a smaller and a bigger baker crate, provide space for personal dishes and groceries. Along

with a hotplate, an electric kettle, and/or a coffee machine it becomes a mobile mini-kitchen. For parties a number of such elements can be arranged into a bar. The element can be moved in its entirety into the kitchen to cook, or one can simply use the baker crates to transport items.





No.	Size	Qty.		
a	984 x 485 mm	1	board thickness	27 mm
b	930 x 485 mm	1	wheels	4
c	877 x 485 mm	2	refrigerator	1
d	850 x 485 mm	1	840 x 490 x 490 mm	
e	850 x 403 mm	1	(baker) crates	var.
f	458 x 403 mm	1	400 x 300 x 120 mm	
			300 x 200 x 145 mm	

45° cut angle, 115 x 115 mm
(d, e, f)

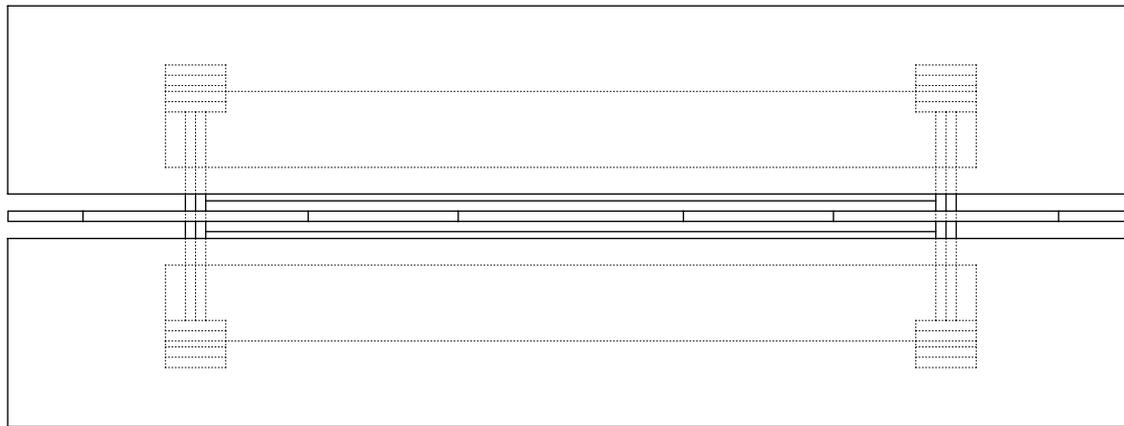
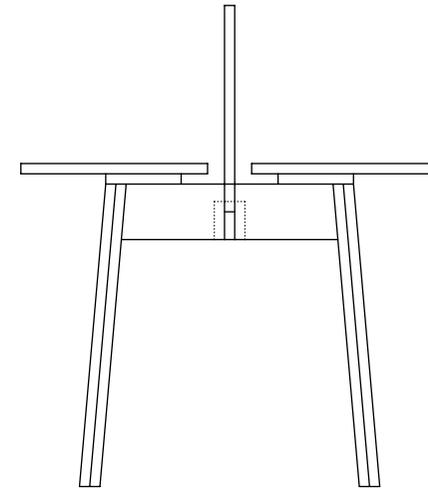
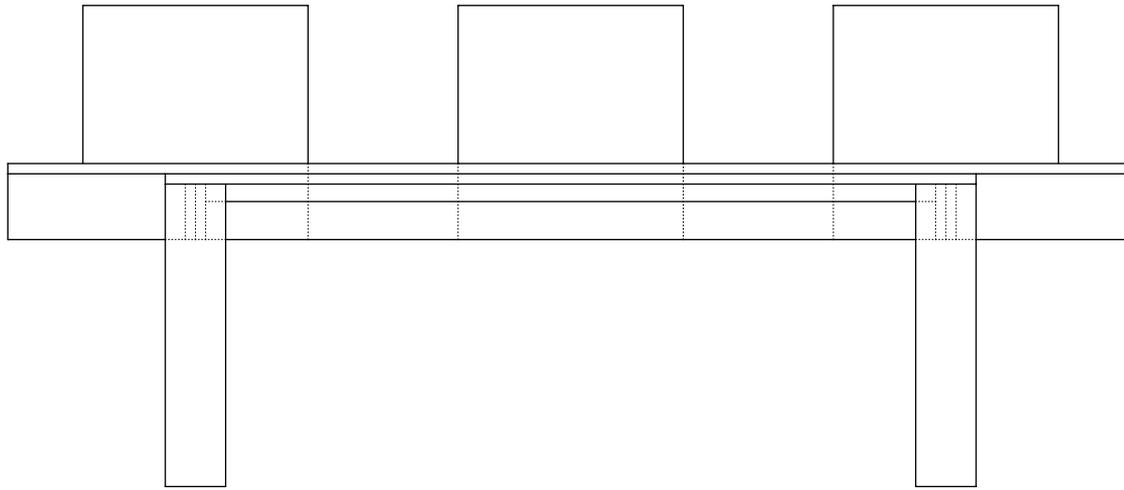
screws Ø4 x 50 mm 25
screws Ø3.5 x 25 mm 16



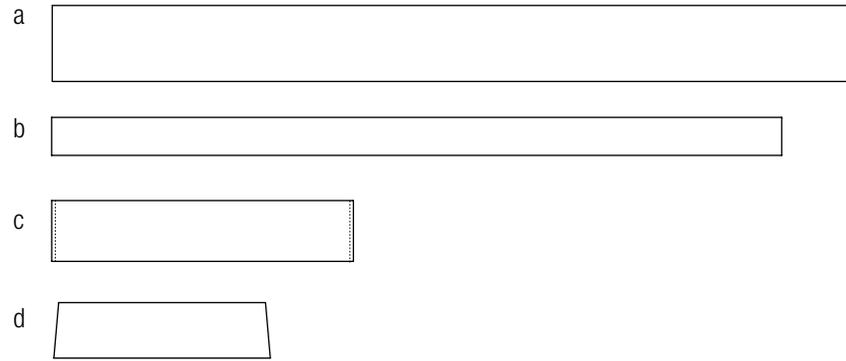
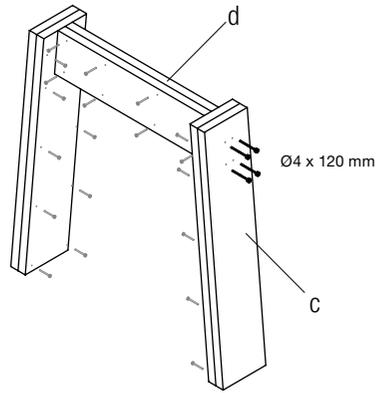
SF12 computer table

6 people
L x W x H: 2985 x 1107 x 850 mm
Material quantity 6.7 m²





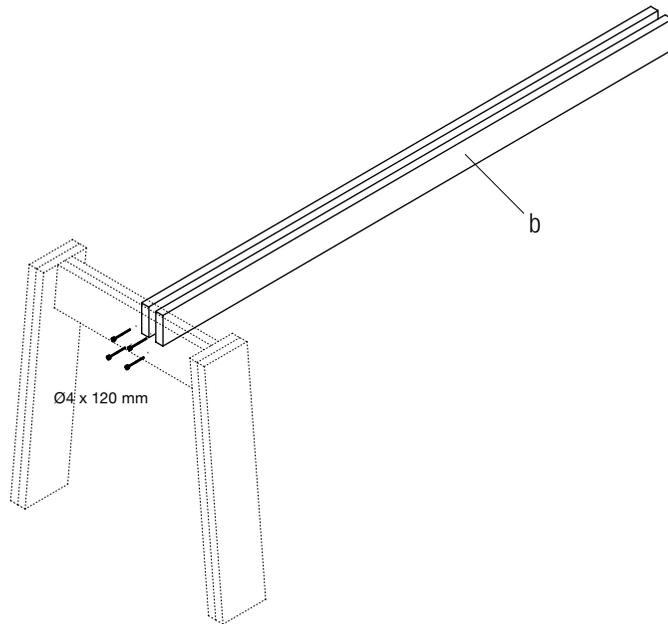
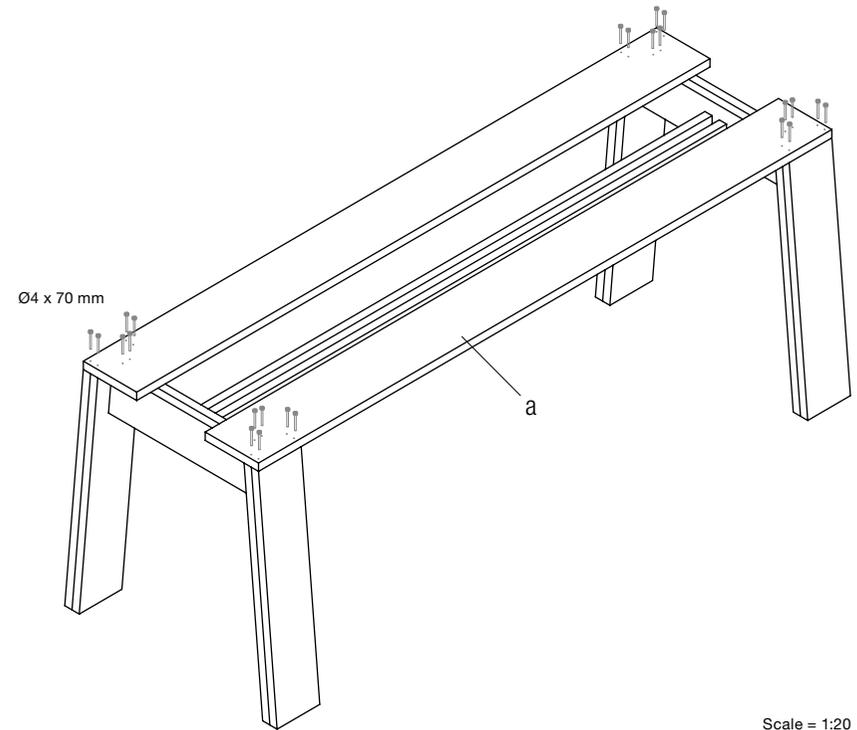
A working table for six computer work stations, which here in the high form facilitates communicative work. In this case, the three vertical panels hold and structure the monitors without supporting pedestals. The cables are put in the gap in the middle of the table. The design can also be realized with a normal table height. The back panel element can also be continuous or omitted altogether. By expanding the table depth a standardized permanent work station can be created.

1

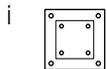
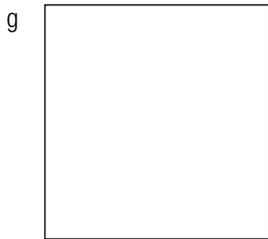
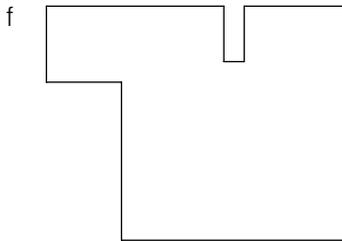
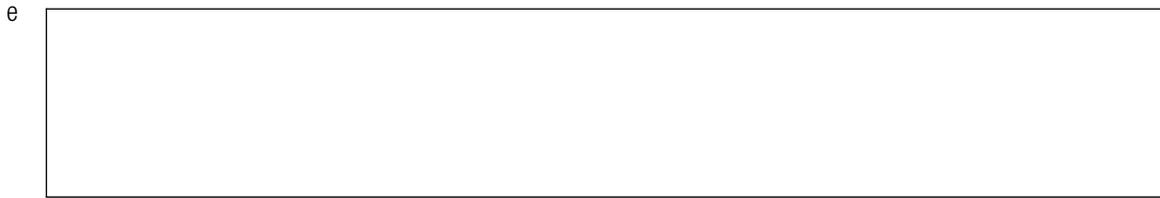
No.	Size	Qty.
a	2150 x 200 mm	2
b	1936 x 100 mm	2
c	800 x 160 mm	8
d	484 x 160 mm	4

screws Ø4 x 50 mm	50
screws Ø4 x 70 mm	24
screws Ø5 x 120 mm	24

board thickness 27 mm

2**3**

4

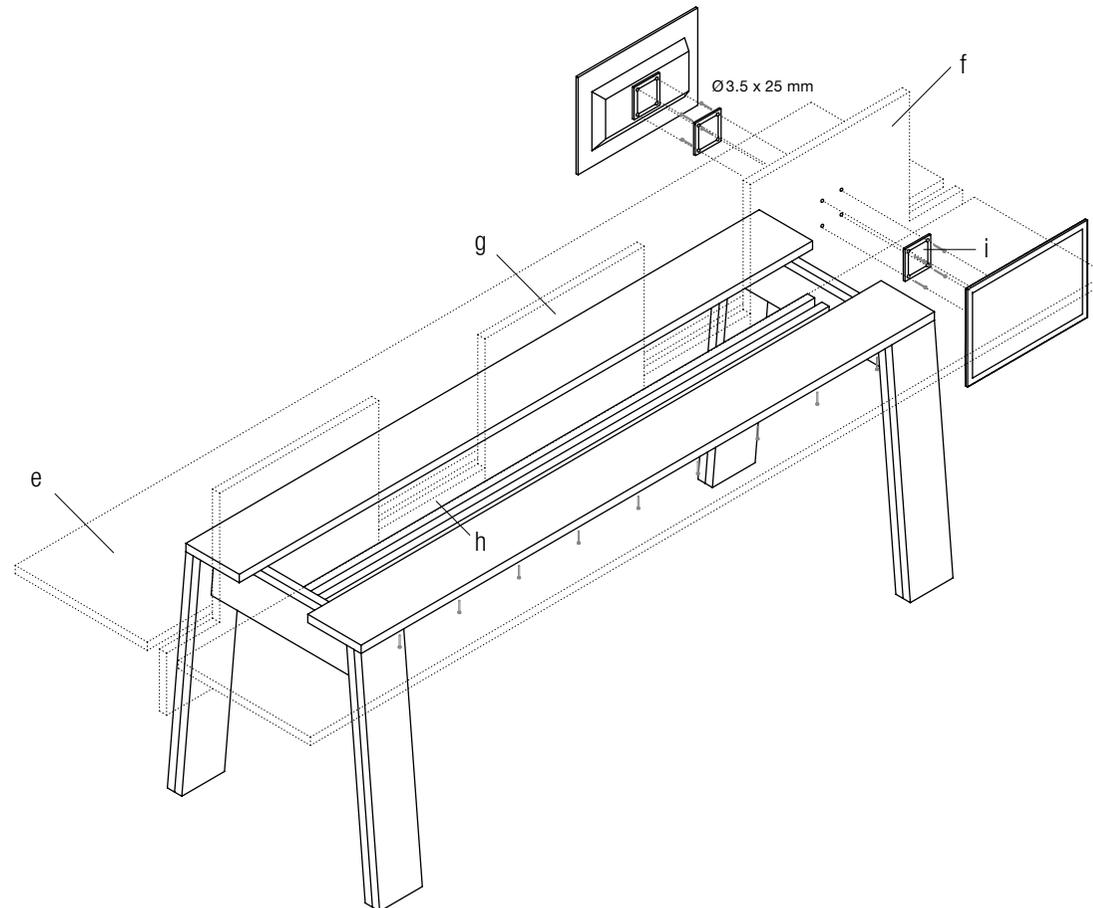


No.	Size	Qty.
e	2985 x 500 mm	2
f	611 x 600 mm	2
g	600 x 400 mm	1
h	398 x 200 mm	2
i	VESA adapter plates	6

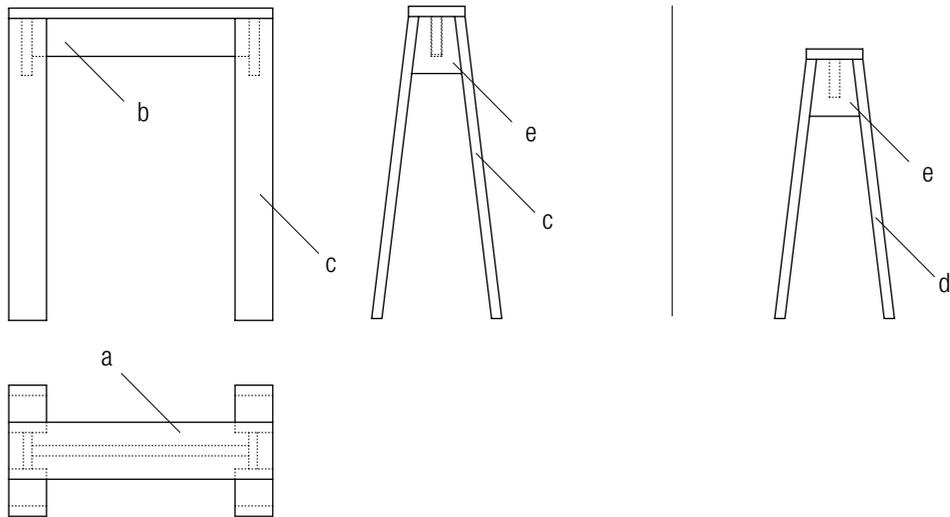
screws $\varnothing 4 \times 50$ mm 92
screws $\varnothing 3.5 \times 25$ mm 16

board thickness 27 mm

computer, screens 6



Scale = 1:20



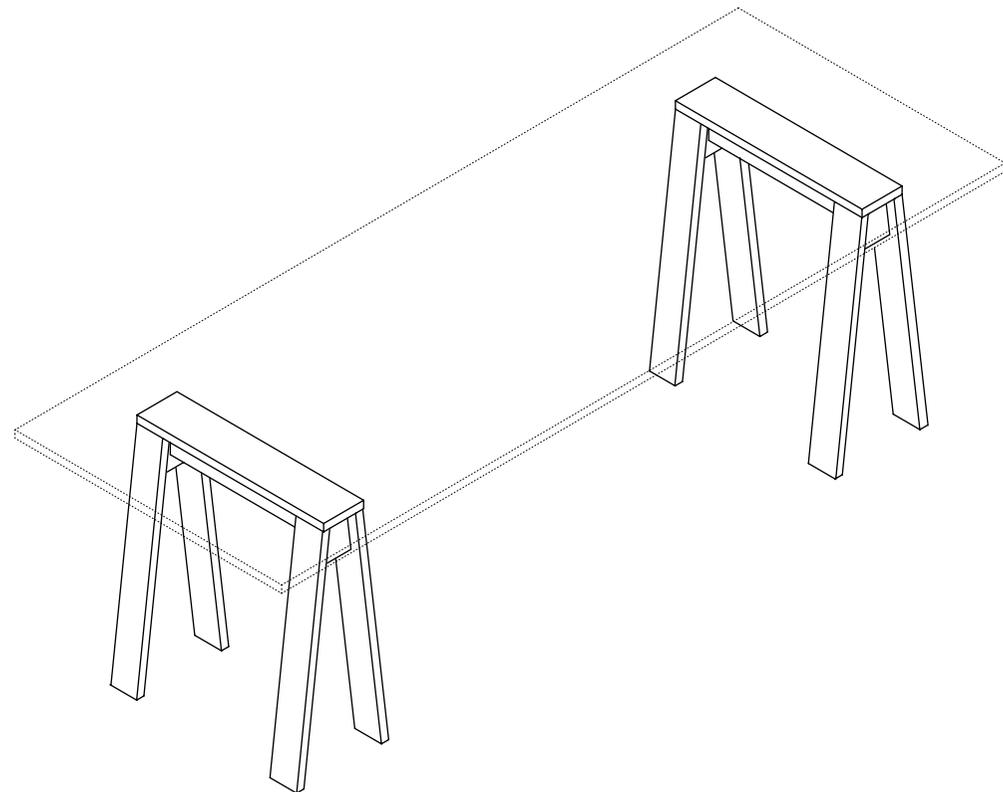
SF 13 workshop trestles

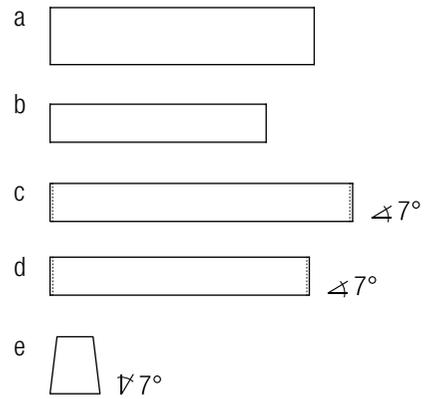
L x W x H: 700 x 345 x 710 mm (low)

L x W x H: 700 x 345 x 820 mm (high)

Material quantity (one pair) 0.96 m² / 1.04 m²

The main idea of the SF collection is the collective self-building of furniture. Both high and low trestles are used for workshop tables. The size of the work surface is flexible. The trestles are also suited as temporary tables at parties to serve and eat food, used in combination with the bench SF 03. The trestles can be stacked into each other to save space.





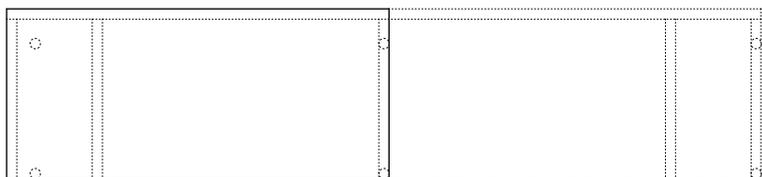
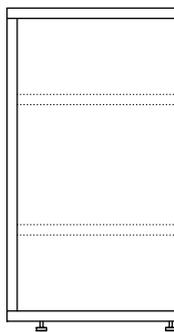
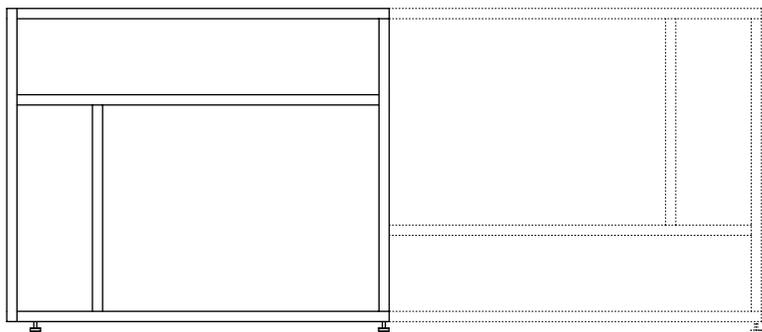
1 pair

No.	Size	Qty.
a	700 x 150 mm	2
b	573 x 100 mm	2
c	800 x 100 mm (high)	8
d	690 x 100 mm (low)	8
e	150 x 132 mm	4

screws $\varnothing 4 \times 50$ mm 40

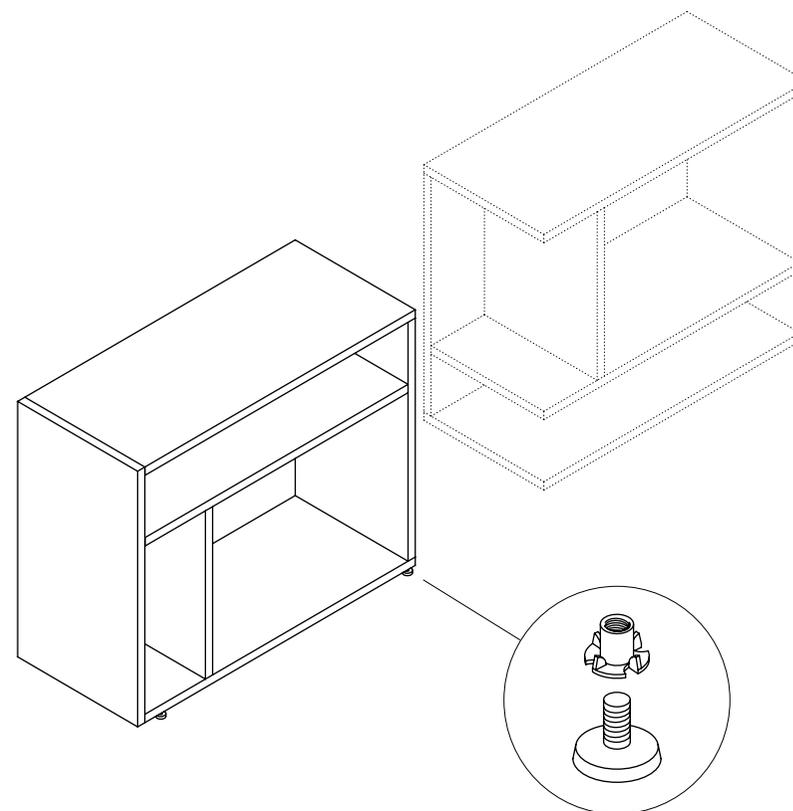
board thickness 27 mm





SF14 shop counter

L x W x H: 1015 x 450 x 825 mm
Material quantity 2.98 m² per element + side panel d



The shop counter consists of add-on elements with a variable length depending on the function. Together with the SF 15 shelf element you can create a

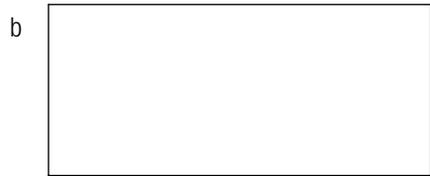
shop or even a bar setting (with lighting). The side with the shelves can be oriented to the outside as a display or inside for functional purposes.





1 element + side panel d

No.	Size	Qty.
a	987 x 770 mm	1
b	987 x 450 mm	2
c	960 x 423 mm	1
d	824 x 450 mm	1
e	770 x 423 mm	1
f	543 x 423 mm	1



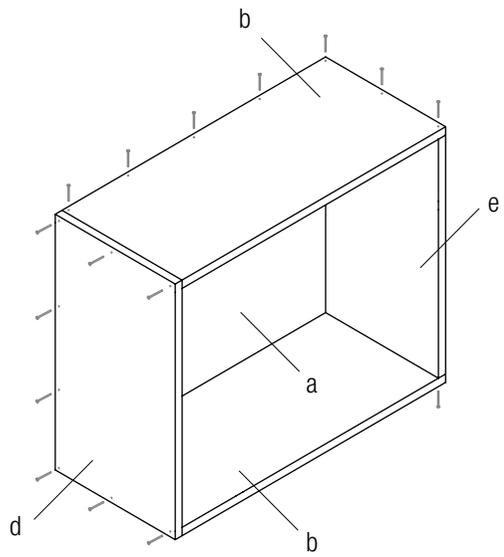
screws $\varnothing 4 \times 50$ mm 30

furniture feet 4

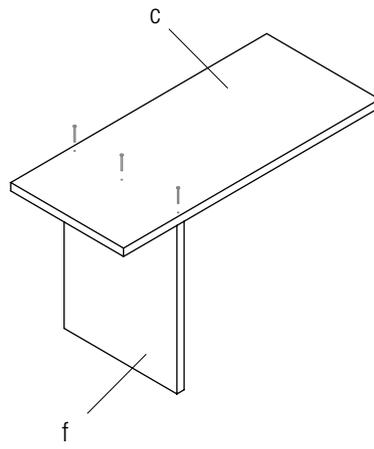
board thickness 27 mm



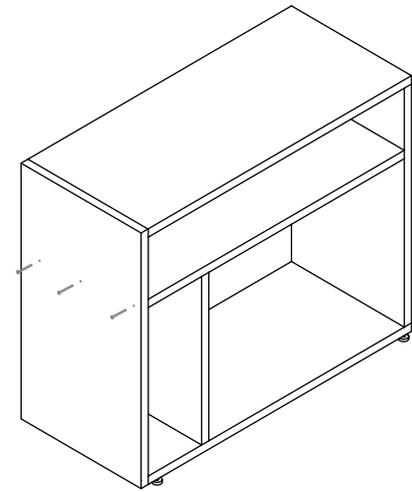
1

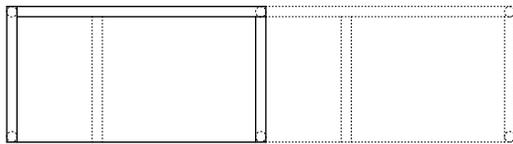
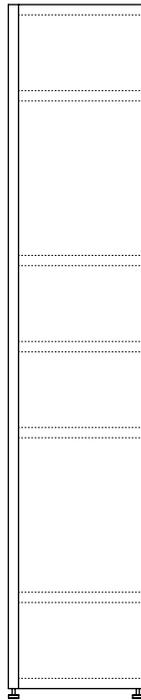
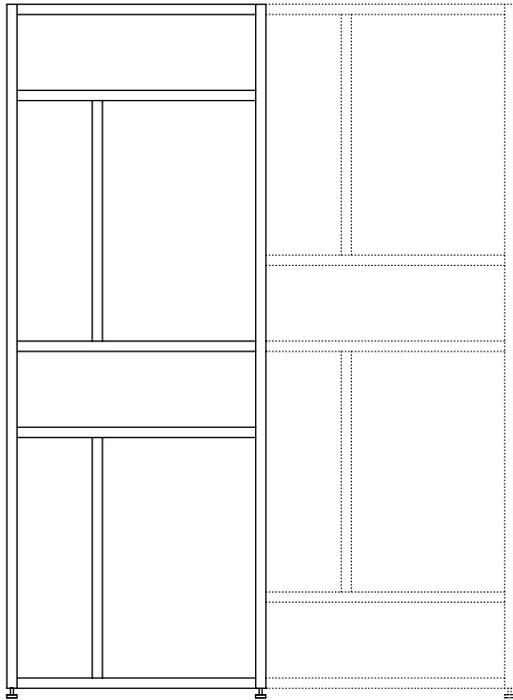


2



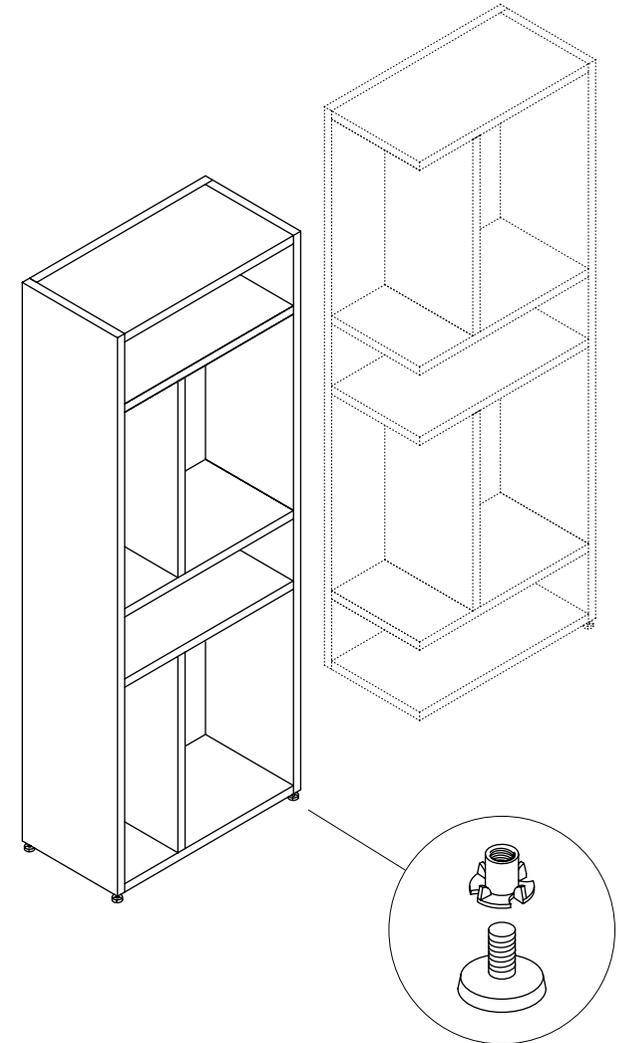
3





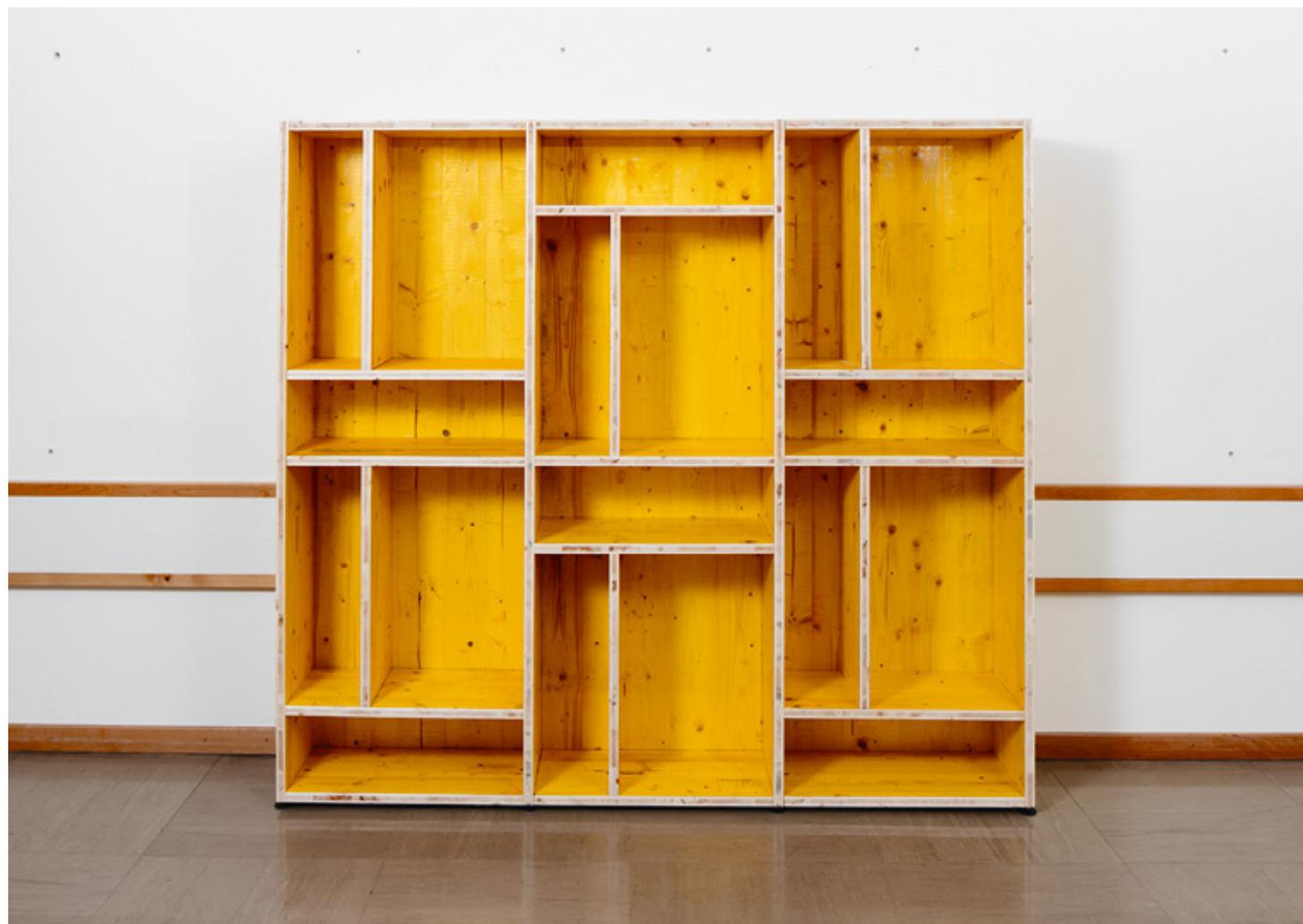
SF15 shelf

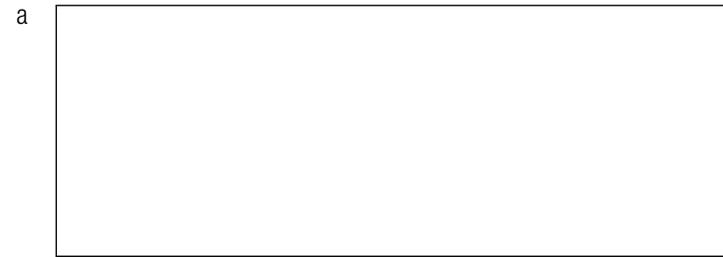
L x W x H: 687 x 357 x 1800 mm
Material quantity 3.65 m² per element + side panel b



Add-on shelving with a sculptural effect.
Can be employed as a standalone object
or also in combination with the shop
counter SF 14 as a functional element.

Positioned against a wall or freestanding.
Additional glass or wood shelves can be
inserted to optimize the use of space.





1 element + side panel b

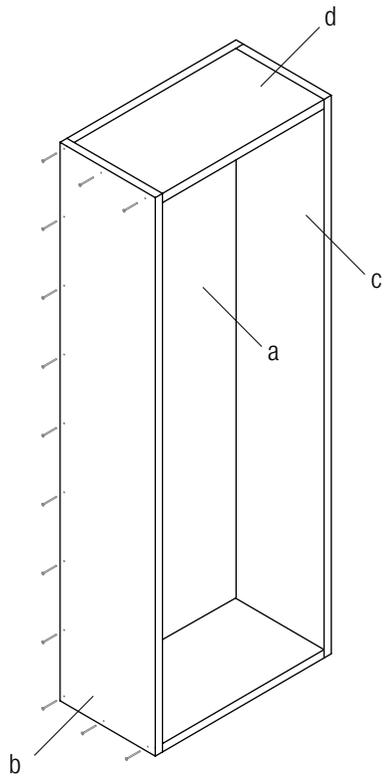
No.	Size	Qty.
a	1800 x 660 mm	1
b	1800 x 357 mm	1
c	633 x 330 mm	1
d	543 x 423 mm	7

screws Ø4 x 50 mm 50

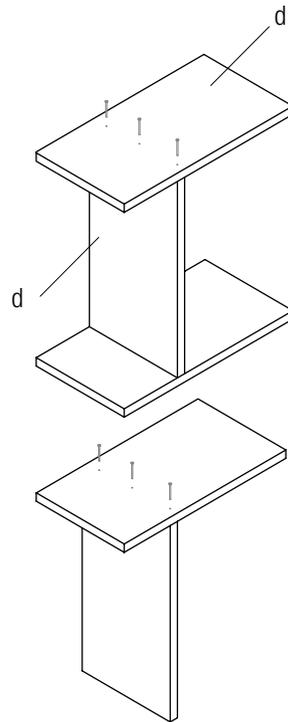
furniture feet 4

board thickness 27 mm

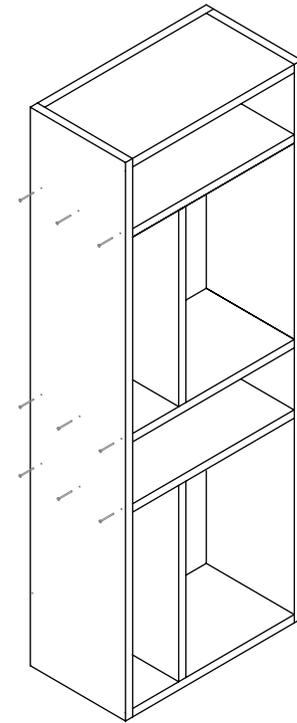
1



2

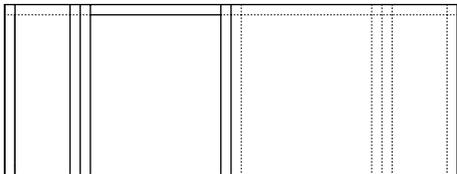
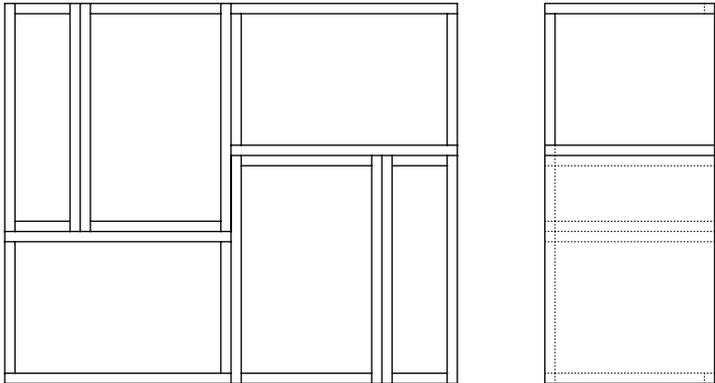


3

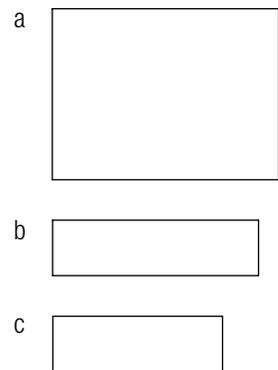


SF16 info counter

L x W x H: 603 x 450 x 1000 mm
Material quantity 4.91 m² per element (3 boxes in total)



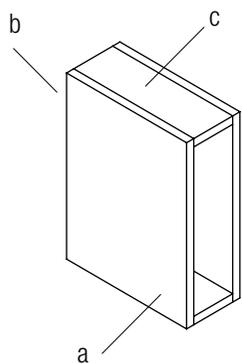
Small box



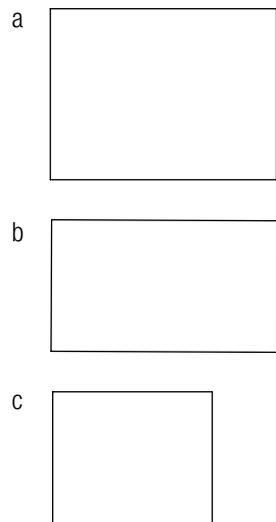
No.	Size	Qty.
a	600 x 450 mm	2
b	546 x 146 mm	1
c	450 x 146 mm	2

screws Ø4 x 50 mm 20

board thickness 27 mm



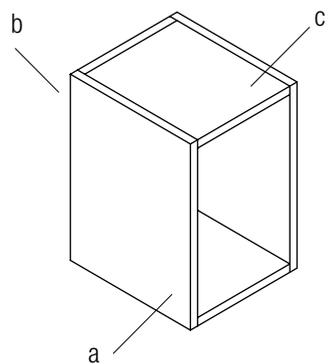
2 large boxes



No.	Size	Qty.
a	600 x 450 mm	4
b	600 x 346 mm	2
c	423 x 346 mm	4

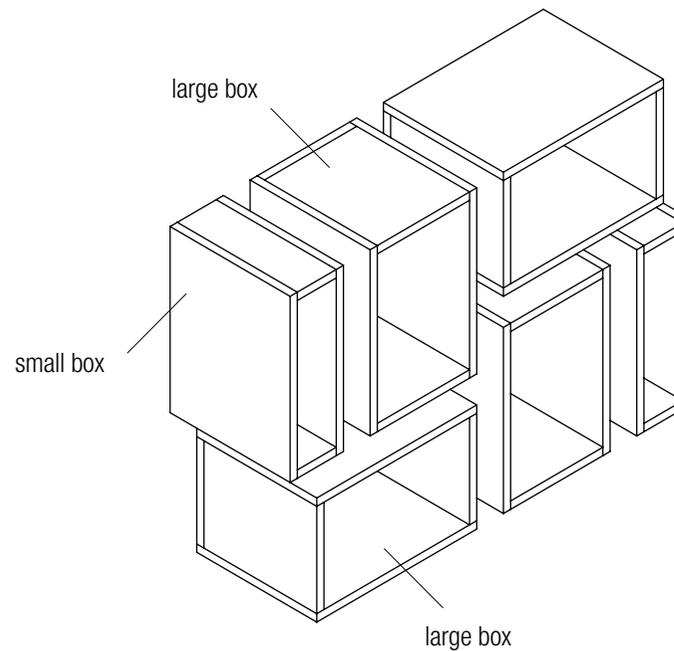
screws Ø4 x 50 mm 44

board thickness 27 mm



This functional sculpture serves a representational purpose. The furniture consists of two different sized boxes stacked offset in a row. When shuttering panels are used the edges can be finished so that the cut white edges of the small boxes create a graphic

pattern with the uncut edges of the larger boxes. The combination with a back wall panel (SF 09) achieves an attractive reception area.





SF17 wall panel

for guidance system
L x W x H: 500 x 54 x 1250 mm
Material quantity 0.68 m²

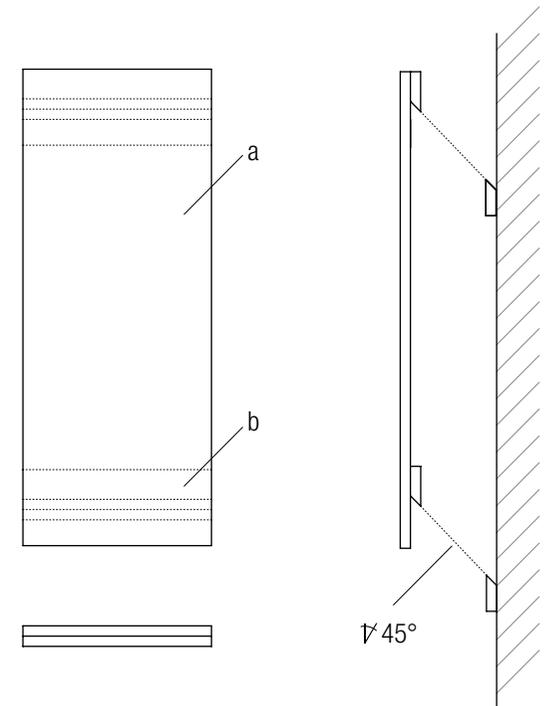
No.	Size	Qty.
a	1250 x 500 mm	1
b	500 x 100 mm	2

Signage system:
buerobauer.com/projekte/first-aid-kit/

screws Ø4 x 50 mm 20

material for wall connection

board thickness 27 mm



Mounting same as SF 09

Scale = 1:20



Simple guidance system to provide orientation in space, for example, with printed A4 paper as seen here. Neon paper is attached with wood glue and can be adapted to changes in the space



by simply over-gluing. The system can also be used at a smaller scale to number doors. In order to secure the signs the mounting strips should be screwed together from the top after attaching.

Wood framing system for large raised-bed gardens. To support the weight of the soil the hollow wooden bodies are either partially poured with concrete or filled with sand or stones. Another possibility is to connect adjacent elements with cables or tension rods. The edging elements are raised from the ground with slats and leveled, which

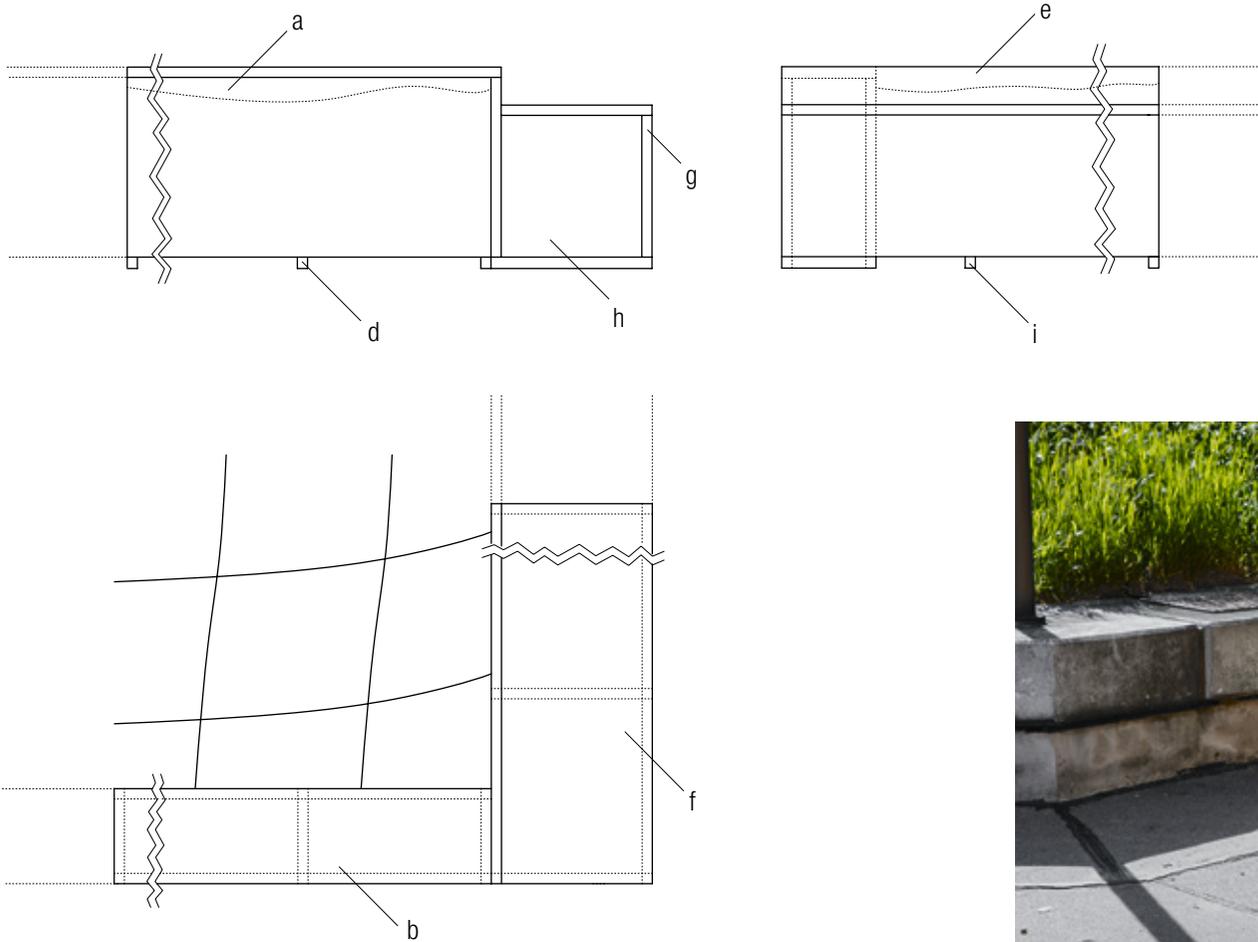
allows excess water to drain away on the sides. The bed composition comprises a drainage layer of stones or pebbles (ca. 100 mm), a separation fleece, and the soil. The needed garden tools can also be stored in the bench elements by incorporating hinges under the panels of the seating surface.

SF18 raised-bed garden

L x W x H: 3000 x 250 x 527 mm (edging element)

L x W x H: 3000 x 427 x 527 mm (bench element)

Material quantity 3.81 m² / 4.02 m² for a 3 m long element



Edging element

No.	Size	Qty.
a	3000 x 473 mm	2
b	3000 x 250 mm	1
c	473 x 196 mm	2
d	250 x 27 mm	6

screws Ø4 x 50 mm 80

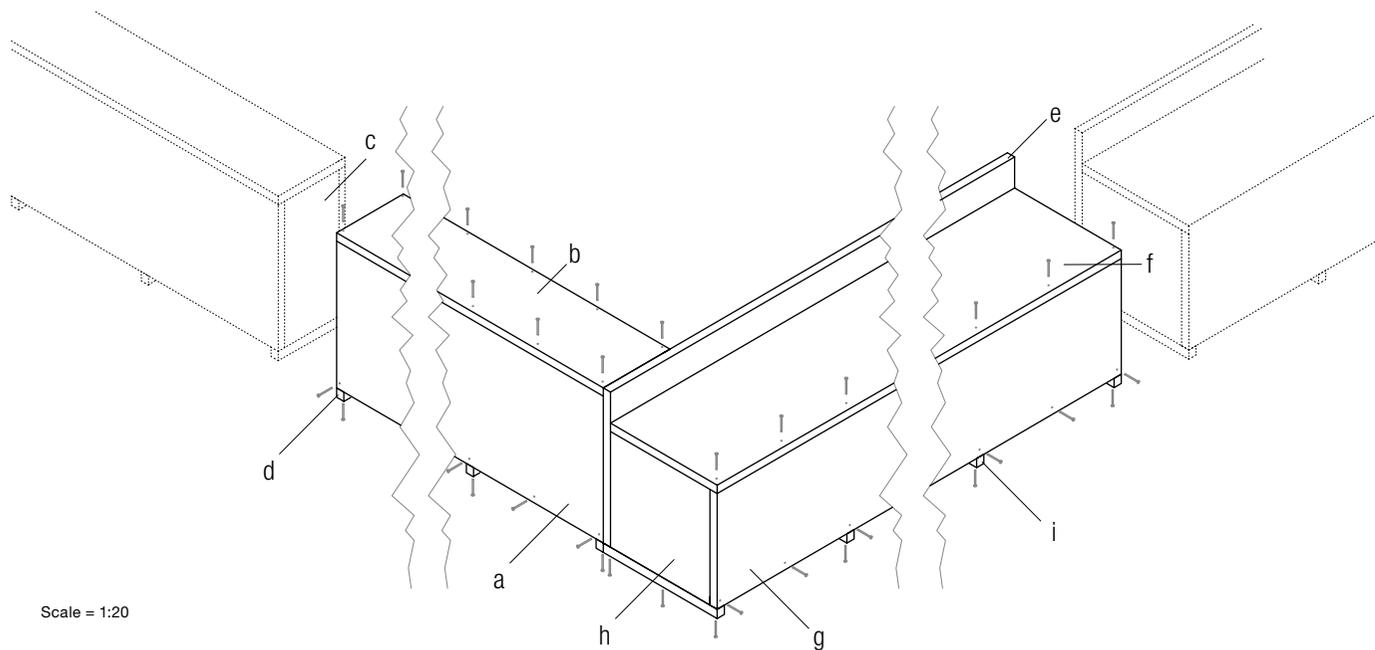
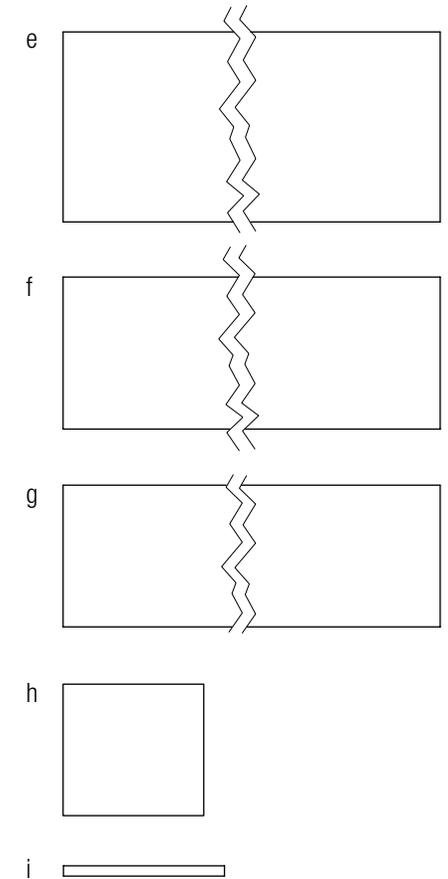
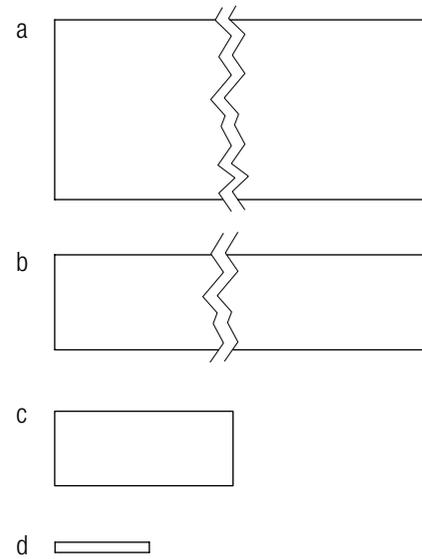
board thickness 27 mm

Bench element

No.	Size	Qty.
e	3000 x 500 mm	1
f	3000 x 400 mm	1
g	3000 x 373 mm	1
h	373 x 346 mm	1
i	427 x 27 mm	6

screws Ø4 x 50 mm 80

board thickness 27 mm



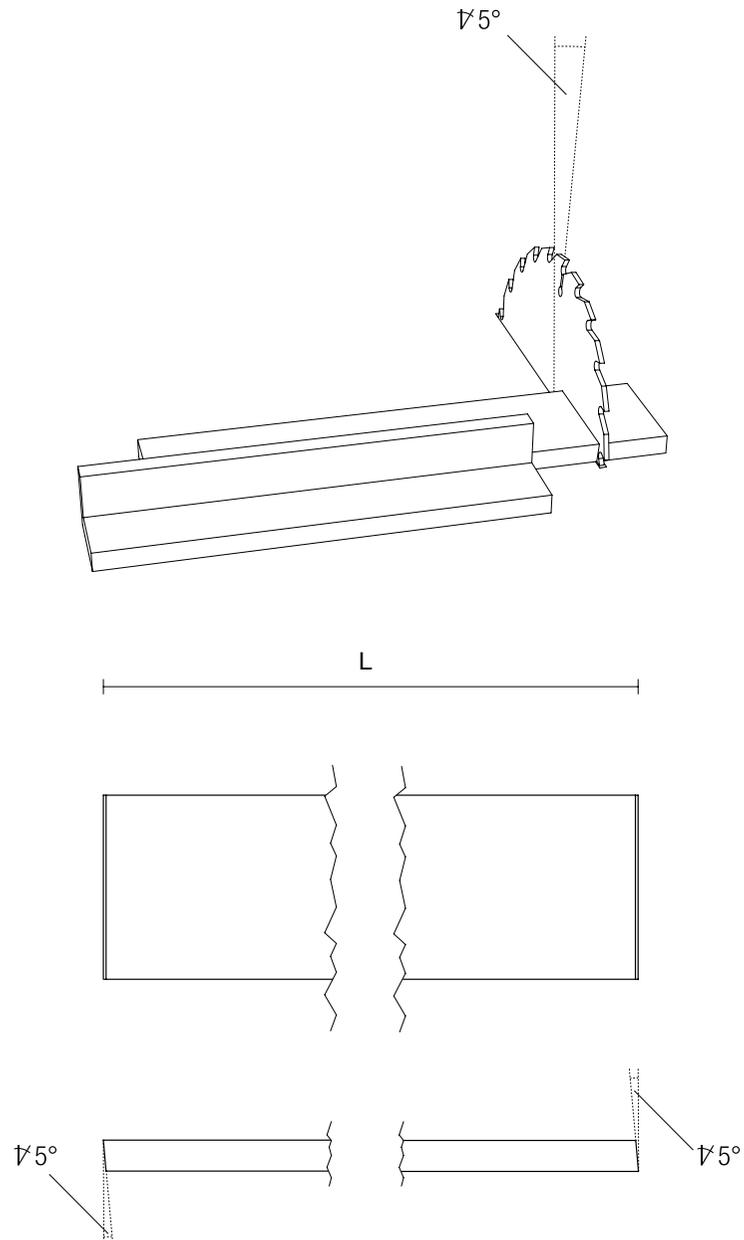
Scale = 1:20

Circular Saw, Special Cuts

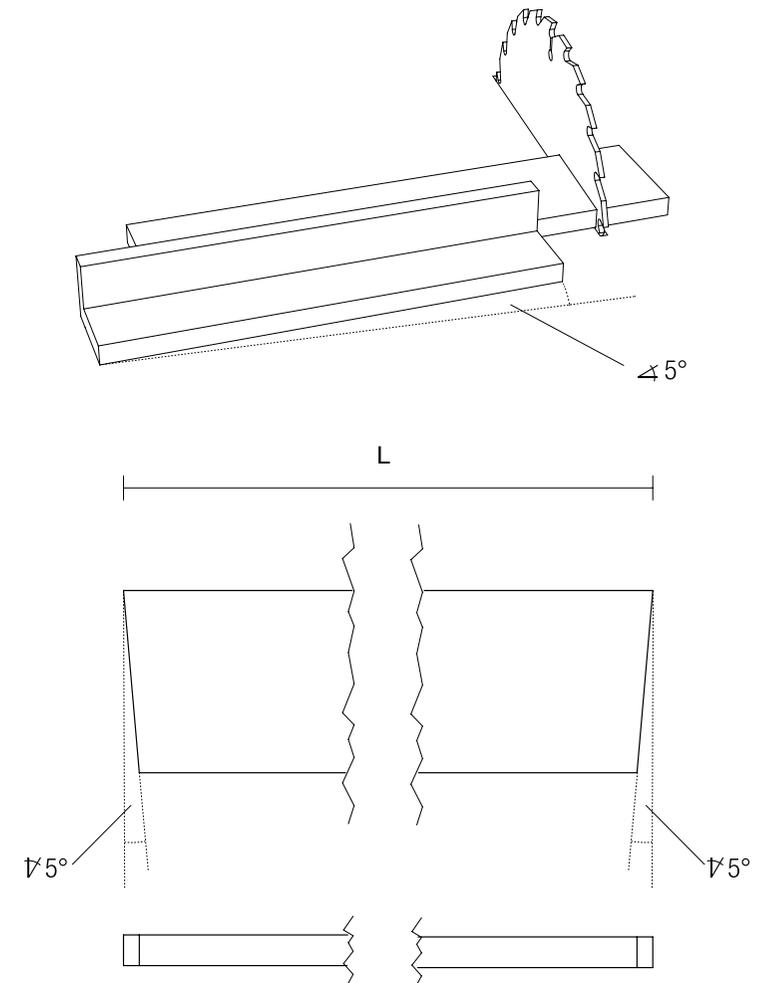
Nearly all of the cuts are made at right angles with a circular saw. The exception is all foot constructions. In order to make this constructionally efficient slant of the legs a cut is required for the feet with the circular saw blade tilted at a five-degree angle. The cut can then be made at a right angle to the long side of the leg (see image a).

The saw blade remains perpendicular when cutting the foot rib (the connecting elements between the feet). In this step the guide is swiveled by five degrees and then the piece is cut (see image b). The total length (L) stated in the material list always refers to the respective outer edge.

a



b



the tools



Material

27 mm-thick shuttering panels are the basis material for the SF collection. They are massive three-layer spruce wood panels with a waterproof traffic yellow melamine resin coating. The surface weight is 12.5 kg/m². The material is affordable and has a strong visual presence. The solid wood construction enables simple manufacturing and assembly but also repeated de- and reconstruction of the furniture when necessary.

The edges of the shuttering panels need to be properly deburred as there can be dangerous chips and splinters. Alternative materials can also be used, be it old wood or high-quality solid wood panels from harder timbers. Likewise, plywood panels with a natural finish or waterproofing are also possible. If plywood is chosen the thicknesses can be reduced. Note: In this scenario the dimensions might need to be adapted!



Circular Saw

For a larger number of elements a table circular saw with a vacuum would be handy. However, it is possible to make the complete SF collection with a handheld circular saw. This production method is definitely adequate for manufacturing individual items. When needed, another possibility would be to use the tools of a third party, for example a table circular saw in a public workshop. You can also borrow handheld tools for little money and thereby avoid the acquisition costs of rarely used production capacities. Or a saw could be shared in a neighborhood network. Note: Different materials might require different circular saw blades! You should use particularly sharp tools for softer grades of wood. Only skilled workshop personnel should work with the circular saw as accidents can result in severe injuries.

Power Drill

In his DIY furniture catalog “Proposta per un auto-progettazione” (1974) Enzo Mari insisted upon the elementary experience of building simple furniture out of raw boards with a hammer and nails and thereby emancipating oneself from the furniture industry. In the EOOS workshop the power drill counts among the most important tools to quickly test out an idea with wood panels. The power drill is an efficient tool for assembly, especially for the serial production of furniture typologies in large numbers, which the SF furniture instructions are conceived for. Even less-experienced workshop personnel can work safely and efficiently with it, in contrast to a circular saw. Different lengths of screws are used for the furniture; the respective lengths are listed in the instructions. The power drill can also be used to pre-drill holes. Holes are always pre-drilled to the core diameter of the screw, not the outer diameter of the thread. An assembly team should consist of at least two people, and one power drill should be available per assembly team. Each assembly team needs a workshop table (SF 13).





Cooking Utensils

Cooking is much more than just the mere preparation of food: It constitutes home, self-empowerment, and activity, often three times per day or more. Cooking together creates intimacy and exchange; sitting together at one table creates familiarity. In turn, Social Furniture can become the carrier of collectively used tools – “pot commons”. The kitchen wall panel SF 09 is an open system conceived for making cooking utensils available in communal kitchens. In order to encourage collective cooking

there should also be unusually large pots on hand. The cultural diversity of the users can find expression in the form of specialized or culturally specific tools. In the context of intercultural usage hygiene has a factual but also a symbolic significance. Due to various taboos in nutrition, contamination potential exists in the illegitimate use of a tool. Note: Creating a “pot commons” also means placing extra attention on clearly negotiating the rules of shared use.



Alternative Currency

An important factor in the Social Furniture concept is the compensation of material or labor investments via a local currency. Depending on the available digital infrastructure this currency could also be virtualized and personal credits could be administered with a cell phone, for example. If and how this currency correlates with an official one, if and how it can be exchanged, and whether the work time for different competences is evaluated in the same way has to be negotiated in the specific context.



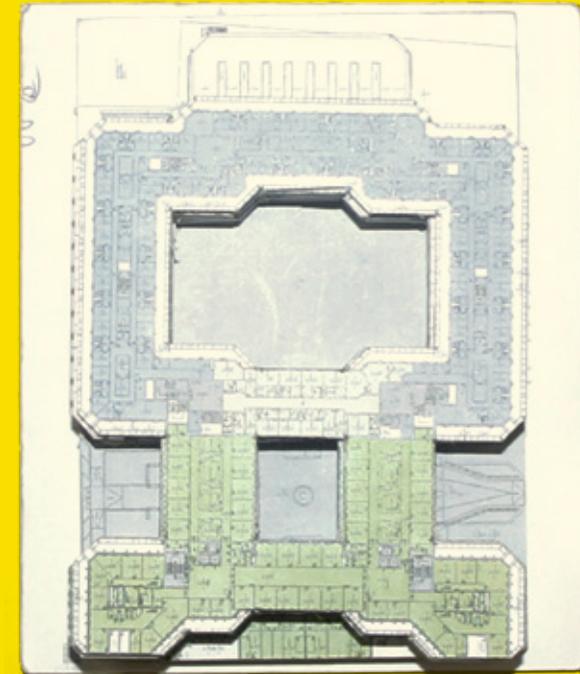
Utopia

EOOS's "Poetical Analysis" involves a search for images, rituals, and stories that could form the departure point or reference of a design. The social utopia that Thomas More conceived in 1516 represents an important departure point for the Social Furniture project. The island "Utopia" is autarkic but exchanges with its surroundings without taking on its value systems. A good life for all is the goal of Utopia's society, which does not need or aspire luxury in the common understanding. Like Utopia, a basic care facility is an island within a system with its own rules and numerous potentials that are not fully used today. The standards of basic care prescribed by the law stipulate an existential zero point in our society: five to six square meters of space with a maximum of five persons per room. A single-section closet, a table and chair, a wardrobe. Provision of food or a minimal financial contribution for self-sustenance, pocket money. No right to work or learning (the language) until the decision of the asylum board falls. On this basis, the Social Furniture project sets out to create models for an alternative way of living. The informal appropriation strategies of the inhabitants of the vertical slum Torre David in Caracas (Torre David, Urban-Think Tank, 2012) served as inspiration for the improvement of the specific spatial circumstances at House Erdberg and for the generation of spaces for new usages such as shops.

Context/Laboratory

Haus Erdberg is an administration building in Vienna built in the 1980s, which initially served as a school for customs police. Today it accommodates the Supreme Administrative Court, police units, two temporary quarters of Viennese schools, and a basic care facility for asylum seekers, distributed across 21,000 m² on four floors. In the framework of the “Places for People” project, developed for the Austrian Pavilion at the 15th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice, EOOS investigated how to improve the living conditions of asylum seekers. The aim is an alternative model that can also be

applied in other social contexts besides refugee aid. Conventional care practices and regulations for accommodating asylum seekers are put into question to arrive at new understandings of community from the perspectives of “living”, “cooking”, and “working”. 600 people from 40 countries who had to flee from their homelands put a social, cooperative, and common welfare living model to the test. The objective of the project method is a self-organizing social system with a high level of resilience and autonomy and an ecologically sustainable lifestyle.



Identity/Orientation

The materiality and color of the furniture create identity and qualities of place. In order to provide orientation and structure in buildings – and therewith safety – the usage of a fitting guidance system is recommended. Orientation and room labels are essential tools to help people find their way, but they also mark and promote functional infrastructure such as shops or info points.

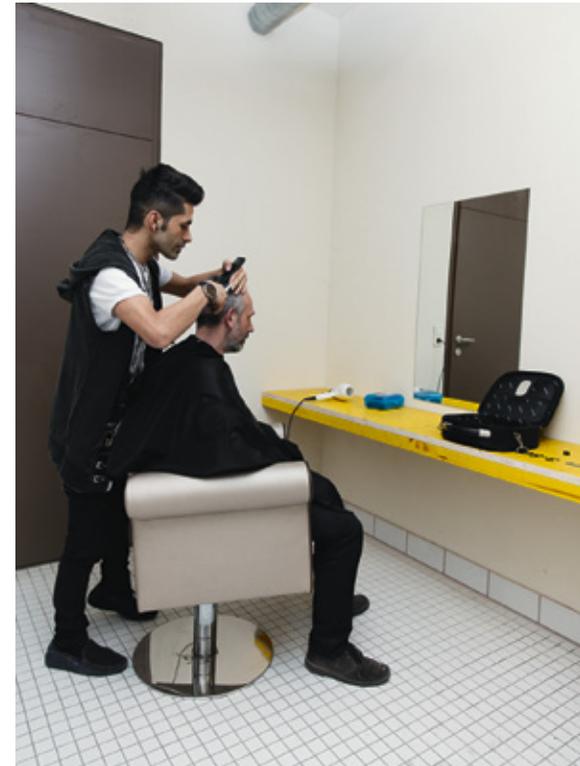


SF Stickers

The stickers are beacons of the Social Furniture project. You can label your reproductions with them. By building the furniture you have contributed to the ideals of Social Furniture. Spread the idea with the stickers! Let's do it together.

And don't forget: The process is not over once the furniture are built. Now you have to negotiate the rules of shared use.

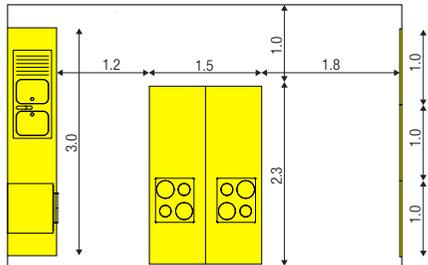




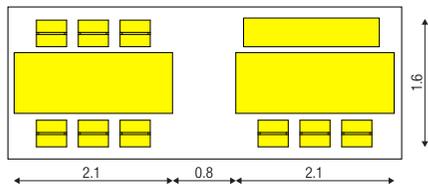


SF planning tips

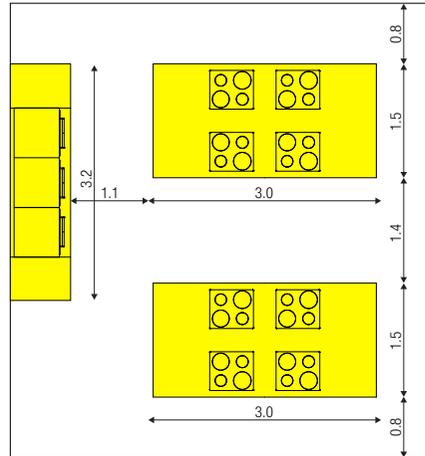
Small Communal Kitchen
~18 m²



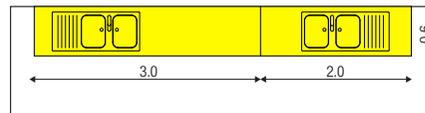
Dining and Preparation Area
~10 m²



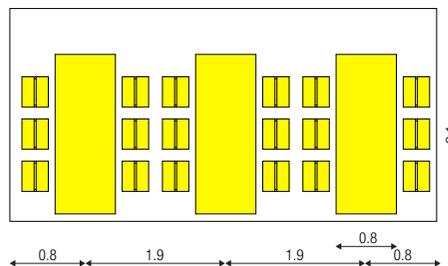
Large Communal Kitchen
~34 m²



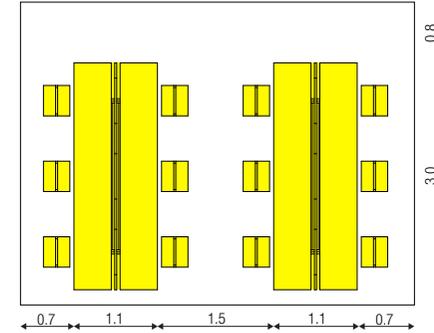
Cleaning Area
~8 m²



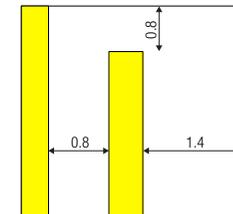
Dining and Preparation Area
~16 m²



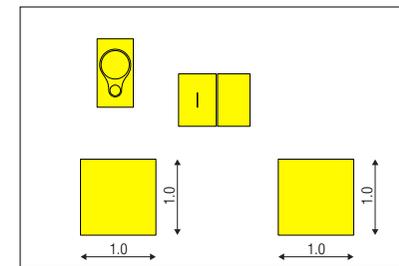
Learning Center
~20 m²



Shop
~8 m²



Workshop
~18 m²



The information about the spatial requirements of the SF furniture elements are general guidelines to assess if the spatial functions are applicable in a given space. The planning tips serve as a departure point for the redesign of shared spaces. The depicted floor plans are examples taken from the prototype context in the development of the furniture.

Small Communal Kitchen

This area consists of one small cooking table **SF07**, a three-meter-long wall panel for kitchen utensils **SF09**, and the sink and oven table **SF10**. Ideally, this scheme also accommodates at least one high table **SF02** with high stools **SF05** in the same space, then preparation can take place on the table by more users. It is best if the cooking table stands freely in the space; in smaller rooms the table can also be set up beside a window with the head against the wall, thus simplifying high-voltage electrification as well. With a freestanding table the electricity needs to be conducted along the floor or ceiling. When the room has a window that can be opened an air recirculator element **SF08** can also be used to vent.

Dining and Preparation Area

This area should be located in the same space as the small communal kitchen. The more tables **SF02** there are in the space, the greater the flexibility as the tables for dining and preparation can be used differently. The height of the cooking table **SF07** and the dining and preparation table **SF02** are the same. In this way, the table can be docked onto the cooking table when cooking together. The dining area can be planned with the normal height tables **SF01** together with the benches **SF03** or the individual stools **SF04**.

Large Communal Kitchen

This area consists of two cooking tables **SF06**. Ideally, the tables stand freely in the space. This facilitates uninhibited use by numerous cooks as all sides of the tables can be accessed flexibly for preparation. In this scheme the required ovens can be situated together on the slender table variant **SF10**. Its position in the room is variable as the only requirement is the provision of electricity. A large-scale kitchen wall panel **SF09** is also intended and can be divided up in the space. In a large kitchen it is practical when the air recirculator elements **SF08** are connected to a ventilation system to remove the exhaust air from the room. This can be achieved by adapting a wall or window opening.

Cleaning Area

Large communal kitchens include the sink table **SF10**. This element can be used both parallel to a wall and perpendicular to the cooking tables **SF07**. Above all, its location is dependent on the availability of a water connection. Freestanding waste bins can be placed under the sink table.

Dining and Preparation Area

For the dining and preparation area in the large communal kitchen a combination of a high table **SF02** and high stools **SF05** is recommended. The stools are often used as additional work surfaces beside the cooking tables. This area is ideally combined in the same room with the large communal kitchen and **SF10**.

Learning Center

Computer tables **SF12** usually stand freely in the space (with electricity provided via the floor or ceiling) or are set up with the head of the tables against the wall. The high stools **SF05** go together with the computer table.

Shop

Depending on the available space, the shelf **SF15** is used in combination with a shop counter **SF14**.

Workshop

Combination of freestanding machines (if any) and the workshop tables **SF13**. Make sure there is sufficient space to maneuver with large wooden boards on the machines! Ideally, the assembly of the SF furniture does not take place in the same room where the boards are cut. Given the dimensions it is advised to assemble the furniture directly in the spaces where they will be used. Partial assembly can take place in the workshop.

places for people

15th International Architecture Exhibition
La Biennale di Venezia, 2016

Austrian Pavilion

For the Austrian contribution to the International Architecture Exhibition 2016 my team and I invited two architectural offices and EOOS to examine the concrete and practical potentials of vacant properties for use as provisional refugee accommodations. For me, it was initially about defining architectural and design measures within the different requirements in an attempt to achieve immediate improvements in the living conditions of the people. At the same time, however, I also hoped to arrive at solutions that not only responded to the acute emergency situation but also provided knowledge and impulses for social life in general. Reproducibility, multiplicability, and scalability in different contexts should be as intrinsic to the concepts as their functionality in the given instance.

EOOS situated their laboratory and workshop directly on the site of their intervention, developing a catalog with 18 strategic DIY furniture elements on the basis of their observations and interactions with the supervisors and users. These individual pieces are functional objects but also versatile tools which can be variably deployed in different configurations – an integrative infrastructure with a strong connection to the architecture and space.

The reduced typology and consequent implementation are as convincing as the added value they have for community life. The social component of this furniture set manifests in numerous respects: All furniture are intended for collective use and produced in on-site community workshops. Supported by a specially developed app, they stimulate communication between the inhabitants as well as their self-organization and autonomy with the aim of developing a common welfare economy for exchanges through a shop-in-shop principle.

Above and beyond this pioneering vision, the spirit with which the EOOS team immerses themselves in these complex issues, often under pressing conditions, provides a source of great inspiration for me personally as an architect, and also for the entire discipline as well. This essential contribution reflects the role architecture and design can play in the future of social life.

Elke Delugan-Meissl

Commissioner
Delugan-Meissl Associated Architects