

■ QUILTED WOOD: NEW MATERIAL MAKES HARD SURFACES FEEL SOFT

Would you ever guess that wood could be sewn on a sewing machine as if it were fabric? “Chester”, a new material developed by Berlin-based product designers Anastasiya Koshcheeva and Oya-Meryem Yanik, is a surface material made of real wood that’s soft enough to be held together with thread instead of glue, making it more ecologically friendly.

Flexible layers of wood are stitched to create a sort of quilted surface, which not only revolutionizes the ways in which molded wood products can be assembled, but also gives what would normally be a hard surface a bit of cushion.

The material can be used alone or added to plywood for a decorative and functional finish. “Thus Chester reveals new possibilities for the traditional bentwood product and makes hard seats hum”, say the designers.

This isn’t the first time wood has been transformed into what seems like a different material altogether. “Translucent wood” is a high-tech hybrid material of wood slats and vertical light-transmitting strips that make seemingly solid walls see-through.



Source: <http://dornob.com/quilted-wood-new-material-makes-hard-surfaces-feel-soft/>

■ HYPER-FLEXIBLE WOOD NOTEPADS BEND THE RULES OF MATERIALS

Technology should be used to make our lives easier and better – there’s no doubt about it. The creative types at Snijlab agree: the Rotterdam-based service uses their computer-controlled laser cutter to make products on demand. Some products they invent and develop themselves, like these impressive wooden booklets.

The booklets use a revolutionary laser cutting technique developed by Snijlab for making wood flexible. The technique allows the single piece of wood to be bent nearly in half (without hinges and with no cracking or breaking) to form a front and back cover. Between the two covers is a small pad of paper held in place with a tiny clip.

Each booklet is made from a single piece of birch plywood and finished with a clear varnish. According to the manufacturers, booklets like these could easily and inexpensively be made on-site by anyone with a laser cutter. But in case you don’t happen to have one, Snijlab offers them for €25 (around \$33).



Source: <http://dornob.com/hyper-flexible-wood-notepads-bend-the-rules-of-materials/>

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