

THREE LEGS

We've all experienced the frustration of sitting at a wobbly table, especially at cafes and coffee shops. These tables are moved so often and/or set-up on uneven ground ... rarely do they ever sit steady.

But there's a simple solution. A three-legged table. A three-legged table steadies itself on nearly any surface - which is why photographers use a tripod.

The three-legged design just makes sense for tables, chairs, and stools.



Here are some noteworthy examples - [CLICK LINKS FOR MORE INFO – EXTERNAL WEBSITES](#)

- **1** Alvar Aalto's Model 60 stool for Artek

The stackable stool 60 created in 1933 by [Alvar Aalto](#) (1898-1976) represents the quintessence of functionalist furniture design. The simple idea behind this now-classic stool is based on three bent legs and a round seat. The secret of the original Aalto stool's success lies in its legs' unique bends that eventually became the distinctive feature of all Aalto furniture. The stool is also manufactured in a four-legged version.



- **2** Offcut Stool by Tom Dixon
Designer: [Tom Dixon](#)



A stool created from what was once considered rubbish. The rounded top makes use of the curved and irregular pieces of discarded wood (called wayney edges). Straightforward to assemble, the Offcut stool comes [flat packed](#) and is constructed with wooden pegs rather than screws or glue.

- **3** This three-legged hall table by [David Gates](#) is a handmade, sculptural work of art.

Three-legged Hall Table

I have endeavoured to make this piece look as light and as agile as possible. As well as being functional and structural the positioning of the dovetailed drawer and the diagonal stays combine with a balanced asymmetric composition to redistribute the visual and structural loading of the piece, helping it better to describe the form and the space it occupies and delineates.

Made from English oak, brown English oak, Maple and black steel.
L1500xH900xD300



David Gates has won the Wesley-Barrell Craft Award furniture category. The award is for established professional makers, criteria included ‘the use of traditional craft skills utilised in an innovative and contemporary way to create beautiful and hand-crafted one-off pieces’.

- **4** Another classic: Hans Wegner's ch07 shell chair

In 1963 [Hans Wegner](#) introduced the CH07, or Shell Chair. Made from form-pressed plywood, the chair seems light, delicate and with a unique beauty born of its function. Supported on just three legs, and sitting decidedly low to the ground, the chair is surprisingly stable and supportive. The CH07 was produced in a limited series and original pieces in pristine condition are a rare find indeed, and it hasn't been unknown for collectors to part with upwards of £10,000 at auction. Fortunately for those of us on a more restrictive budget, the chair was re-launched in the late Nineties. And so, after a thirty-four year hiatus, the chair is available once again at a more affordable price.



- **5** James Irvine's X3 by Swedese folds, making it perfect for small places.

[James Irvine](#)

“I decided to be a designer after I bought a motorcycle, took it apart and put it together again. I started to fall in love with three dimensions and form and how things work.”



<http://www.wallpaper.com/designawards/2010/james-irvine>

In 2010, Irvine became Wallpaper's Furniture Designer of the year. Irvine is Thonet's Creative Director. Thonet is particularly known for their manufacture of bentwood furniture. Shown above are some of Irvine's sketches for Thonet.