

S I N G A P O R E T A T L E R

# HOMES

THE INSIDER'S GUIDE TO LUXURIOUS LIVING

## ALL-STAR ACCENTS

Domains filled with warmth and elegance



**FEATURES:** KARIM RASHID'S HOME • KITCHEN ROUND-UP • SPECIAL TECH@HOME GIFT GUIDE

The fascination with wire furniture continued well into the '60s, culminating in American architect Warren Platner's seminal **Platner Collection** for Knoll in 1966. The iconic pieces were created by welding hundreds of curved steel rods to circular frames, which simultaneously served as both structure and ornament. "I thought, why separate support from the object? Just make it all one thing," said Platner. In so doing, Platner captured the spirit of the times, as a dramatic shift in cultural values paved the way for a more expressive form of modernism.

Today, wire furniture continues to be as popular as ever. It could be the result of a prolonged recession in the Eurozone economies, political uncertainty across the Arab world, or Chinese austerity drives. Whatever the reason, the global mood seems to favour designs that are minimal, honest and logical, much like in the postwar years.

At the domestic level, wire furniture is also seen as practical. "With wire furniture, visual bulk is minimised," says Eileen Tan, Assistant Marketing Manager at Space Furniture. "It therefore 'melts' into the space around it compared to non see-through pieces," adds Emelie Heden, Marketing Manager of Dream Interiors. As the world gradually becomes more urbanised, land use intensifies, and homes get smaller, this transparency makes more sense.



- 6. Platner collection
- 7. Athena chair
- 8. New Project Traffic sofa
- 9. Wireframe sofa
- 10. Whisk collection
- 11. Orion coffee table
- 12. Octa table



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Aside from practicalities, wire furniture also gels well with current interior fashions. “The industrial and semi-casual look is on-trend and wire furniture fits right into this style,” asserts Ivey Zeng, Assistant Marketing Manager at Proof Living. With such compelling reasons to support the use of wire furniture, it is no surprise that a sizeable number of designs this year boast wire construction.

Most significant of all is Herman Miller’s **Wireframe Sofa Group**, designed by Sam Hecht and Kim Colin of London’s Industrial Facility. The sofa plays on the company’s long-standing use of wire framing with a single-body steel wire frame and removable sofa cushions. The designers also incorporated a trampoline-like suspension system – developed by Herman Miller for the healthcare

industry – to enhance the sofa’s comfort level and durability.

Over at Magis, the **New Project Traffic Sofa** defies

convention by pairing a wire frame with well-padded cushions, giving rise to an intriguing contrast between the lightness and svelteness of the frame and the geometric volumes of the cushions. Arketipo also makes effective use of this contrast in its **Athena Chair**, with a shapely, voluminous seat and seat back poised on a delicate wire base that seems to pay tribute to the Eames’ Eiffel Tower.

Bonaldo’s **Octa Table** appears to use several Eiffel Towers in its base, which comes in either white or matte anthracite-painted metal, chromed finish, or black nickel. It

supports a top that comes in various wood or glass

finishes. The company’s

**Orion Coffee Table**, designed by Singaporean Jarrod Lim, consists of steel wires painted white or grey, with a treated glass or laminated top. Finally, Janus et Cie’s **Whisk** collection presents the wire base in a new light – an outdoor setting.

As for how to work wire furniture into a scheme, Proof Living’s Marketing Executive Vanessa Quek suggests balancing the masculine appearance with “more feminine elements like furniture with softer edges”. Maintenance is also quite minimal, says Space Furniture’s Tan, adding that weekly cleaning with a gentle detergent is all that’s required. **H**



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## WHERE TO GO

**Knoll and String**  
DREAM INTERIORS  
456 River Valley Road  
Tel: 6235 0220  
[www.dream-int.com](http://www.dream-int.com)

**JANUS et Cie and Vitra**  
SPACE ASIA HUB  
77 Bencoolen Street  
Tel: 6415 0000  
[www.spacefurniture.com.sg](http://www.spacefurniture.com.sg)

**Arketipo, Herman Miller and Magis**  
XTRA PARK MALL  
#01-01 Park Mall, 9  
Penang Road  
Tel: 6336 0688  
[www.xtra.com.sg](http://www.xtra.com.sg)

**Bonaldo**  
XZQT HOME  
8 Pandan Crescent,  
#01-05 UE Tech Park  
Tel: 6774 8031  
[www.xzqt.com.sg](http://www.xzqt.com.sg)