

# BENCHMARK

## Benchmark launches Noa

### A compact sit-stand desk suitable for home working



Leading British furniture maker Benchmark presents Noa; its first compact sit-stand desk for flexible working, created in line with ergonomic principles and using natural materials.

While we expect ergonomics to be considered in the workplace, our home workspaces are often poorly designed, and not always well thought out. This year we have all experienced a change to the way we are living and working. As a result, there is an increasing focus on our wellbeing and how we best utilise our own spaces. We are realising the importance of good posture and encouraging movement in our working day. Using a height adjustable desk to alternate between sitting and standing has been proven to bring numerous health and productivity benefits.

Tom Parfitt, a furniture maker at Benchmark, began developing the concept for Noa around the things he considered important when furnishing his own home. “The idea started with wanting an ergonomic sit-stand desk,” he explains. “I couldn’t find any designs that were made from natural materials and suitable for a small space”.

Noa is designed around the tenets of biophilic design. Highly tactile, it has solid timber sides and top that are shaped with a softly rounded, pleasing profile. A central sit-stand mechanism allows for the desktop to smoothly rise and fall, controlled by a console on the underside. The timber down-stand hides the desk’s electrics and the power cable runs neatly down the central column.



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The compact footprint is designed to be suitable for city flats or home offices but could sit equally well in a co-working or commercial space that requires flexible and adaptable solutions. The base will easily accommodate a nested chair, while the desktop has a generous working area of 120 x 66cm.



Sean Sutcliffe, founder and MD of Benchmark says, “in developing Noa, Tom has created something new and purposeful. It is rare to find the ergonomic benefits of sit-stand in such a neat design that combines both functionality and elegance.”

Benchmark has long championed the virtues of incorporating nature into furniture and the built environment using natural materials, shapes, colours, and textures to create restorative and connective spaces that have a positive effect on human health and well-being. Recent initiatives include the introduction of upholstery made from 100% natural, sustainable ingredients. Benchmark furniture carries Red List Free Declare labelling, an ingredients list which shows where a product comes from, what it is made of and where it goes at the end of its life. Red List Free means that it contains no toxic chemicals and does not release harmful VOC's (volatile organic compounds).

Noa will be available to purchase from Benchmark's website and showroom. It is made in a choice of either solid European oak with a low-VOC natural whitened oil, or a dark grey oil finish.

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## About Benchmark

A powerhouse of craft, Benchmark are one of the UK's leading furniture-makers. Founded by Terence Conran and Sean Sutcliffe in 1984, the company has a mission to create furniture that contributes to human health and well-being, using natural, sustainable and non-toxic materials. With workshops in Berkshire and Dorset, Benchmark works with many of the world's leading architects and designers on commercial and residential projects. From forest to finished piece, Benchmark are positioned as a leader in sustainable enterprise. Their approach marries forward-thinking design with exemplary levels of craftsmanship and creativity, producing furniture that exudes natural warmth and soul.

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