

### Foreword

It is with a sense of privilege that I have the responsibility and pleasure of opening this new book of ours.

Furniture making, to us, is far more important and rewarding than just the involvement of running a company, however exciting that may be. Our driving factor, our clear-cut and overriding priority, centres around design and people. These factors are inseparable and one cannot succeed without the other.

By "people" we mean those who work with us and those we work for. The importance of the human factor should hardly need explaining, but although well understood, it is seldom given the priority which is absolutely essential.

So in the knowledge that this new book represents the lifework of many friends and colleagues, J dedicate it to people, both where they work and in their homes.

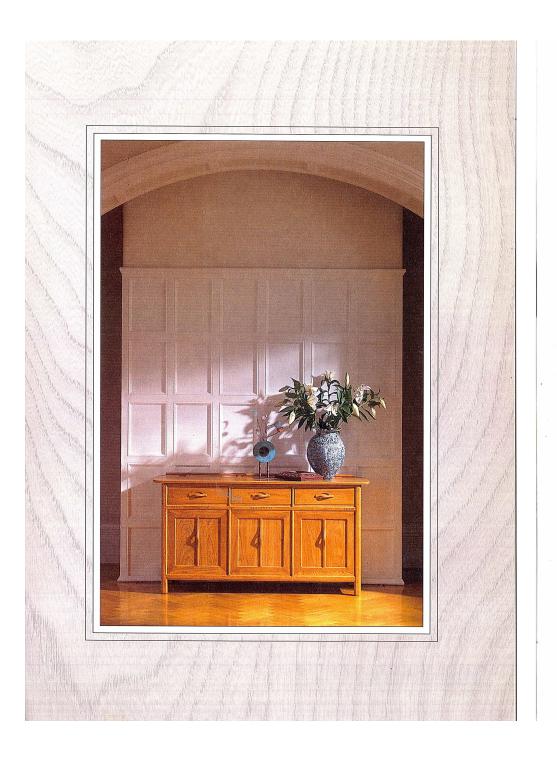
Lucian B.Ercolani., DSO, DFC. Chairman.

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Front cover; Arlington Dresser. Facing page; Arlington three-door sideboard.



### CHAPELS, CHILDREN and CHAIRS.



High Wycombe is at the centre of a furnituremaking tradition that started in the Chiltern woods over three hundred years ago. For Wycombebased furniture makers Ercol, the challenge is to adapt this tradition to the needs of homemakers in the year 2000. t the legal speed limit, a car and its occupants will travel from junctions four to five of the M40, High Wycombe to Stokenchurch, in a little over five minutes, before descending the Chiltern escarpment into the Oxfordshire plain. It's a pleasant, if unremarkable journey along the borders of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, the scenery a mix of farm land, housing and the occasional clump of woods, but there are few clues to indicate that history is rushing past at seventy miles an hour.

History? You're likely to search the reference books in vain for lengthy entries on Wycombe or the Chilterns. Nearby Windsor and its riverside neighbour, Runnymede, attract visitors from Tokyo and Texas alike. Ahead, the dreaming spires of Oxford beckon the tourists' coaches. But the casual student of English history could be forgiven for thinking that the town of High Wycombe and its surrounding woodlands have remained in the wings of history whilst other towns have taken centre stage.

Nonetheless, this calm landscape has earned its place in history, as the birth-place of an industry which became famous throughout the world. It was the scene of a battle, not between armies, but between country craft and town industry. Because in High Wycombe and its surrounding hamlets, over one hundred years ago, furniture-making became big business, triumphing in the process over an older, rural craft tradition.

Inevitably, the story begins in the woods. The Chiltern Hills which surround High Wycombe were once covered in beech woodlands, stretching in a thick, green belt of densely-packed



trees for mile after mile, so plentiful that it became known as "the Buckinghamshire weed." Beech, although its grain is plain to look at, has one great virtue for furniture making; it is a remarkably workable wood. It can be sawn, turned on a lathe, shaped and even bent in a bow, far more easily than most other timbers, as well as taking stain and colour very well.

These virtues mean that as a material for chairmaking, beech is perfect; not, perhaps, for fine pieces that would have been commissioned for a nobleman's dining hall, but ideal for the strong, durable three-legged stools and country chairs that became the hallmark of the

Perhaps the local farmers were the first to discover this, making furniture for their own firesides. Two hundred years ago, the Chilterns would have been a wild and forested land, and the inhabitants would have needed a pioneer's willingness to tackle everything from house-building to animal husbandry. With the exception of the goods supplied by the markets and the

travelling pedlars, everything a Chiltern farmer needed, he made, including the chairs his family sat upon.

But there were others who had their eyes on those woodlands and their crop of Buckinghamshire weed. Thirty miles down the road, in London, the great masters of furniture-making - Sheraton, Chippendale, Hepplewhite, Manwaring - were making magnificent furniture for the wealthy and the landed gentry. Not even the wealthiest of customers, however, would have Chippendale chairs for the servants quarters, and so the first Wycombe workshops came into existence to meet the demand for unadorned, serviceable furniture. Supplying these workshops were a host of specialist outworkers, some cutting trees into plank, others turning chair legs, others shaping the wooden chair seats, a skill known as

These woodland-based specialists became known as Bodgers. Today, to be called a bodger is to have one's craftsmanship insulted, but there's no indication that the original Bodgers were

Rough-hewing the billets before turning them on the pole lathe.

through the dark cottage home to arribeech he was workin first of the daylight. A include digging the state of the High Wycombe the tree, cutting it into the federation featuring the lathe, working into the Wycombe swan. These were the harinstilled a deep, institute of solid wood in each solid wood in each of solid wood in each

Below: the arch of chairs was Wycombe's traditional greeting for visiting Royalty and dignitaries.

Right: Lucian R, Ercolani OBE, founder of Ercol and father of the present Chairman. anything less than skilled men. For a Bodger, a typical day could begin at four in the morning, as he started his walk through the dark woods from his cottage home to arrive at the stand of beech he was working, in time for the first of the daylight. A day's work might include digging the sawpit and felling the tree, cutting it into plank, or turning chair legs and stretchers on a crude pole lathe, working into the gathering dusk. These were the hard disciplines that instilled a deep, instinctive understanding of solid wood in each Bodger.

Wycombe's furniture found a ready market, especially the Wycombe chair. Great cartloads of chairs were sent off to be sold throughout the country. Hundreds of workshops in Wycombe and surrounding villages like Stokenchurch, Lane End and Naphill sprang into existence to meet the demand. Wycombe became a oné-industry, one-product town, a chairmaking town. As the century grew older, and the crude, primitive steam-driven machinery of the workshops became more efficient and more reliable, it soon became possible to see the day when the

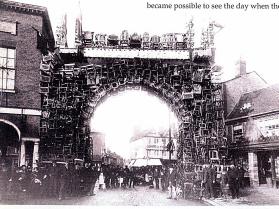
entire tree could be cut and worked in a furniture-making factory, and the Bodgers' way of life would be lost forever, as their sons and grandsons found jobs in High Wycombe furniture workshops.

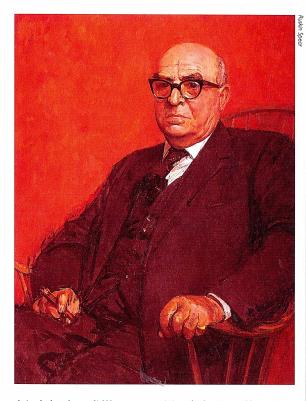


By the end of the 19th Century, High Wycombe was a boom town, attracting men and women from other parts of the country, This influx of new people brought with them elements of their own backgrounds – and religious faith – to Wycombe and their increased prosperity gave them the opportunity to raise the large families that were a characteristic of the Victorian age. Wycombe became the town of Chapels, Children and Chairs

High Wycombe didn't simply supply the congregations for its many chapels; it also provided the seating for them, too. The simple curved-back church chair was a Wycombe best-seller: when St Paul's Cathedral needed 4,000 new rush-seat chairs for its congregations, it ordered them from Walter Skull and Sons of High Wycombe, at 3/4d delivered, or 20 shillings a bundle of six.

But as well as the simple, honest and hard-wearing Wycombe chair, there were increasing signs that Wycombe's skills were being put to more ambitious use. As The History of Wycombe Chairmaking relates, "the first decade of the 20th Century had seen the full flowering of Wycombe's achievements in the field of furniture production, and with the emphasis on furniture, not just





chairs...bedsteads at £1.000 or more each, sideboards which may well become museum pieces in the not-toodistant future, coffers and chests enriched with the purest of carving; all of these were normal products, not rare happenings. Wycombe's reputation had never stood higher."

In this thriving and creative environment, entire dynasties of furniture makers were founded; 'Gommes, Parkers, Messengers, Skulls, Griffiths, Andersons...some still famous today, others whose names have disappeared,

victims of a changing world.

By the time a 22-year old Italian, Lucian R. Ercolani, took his first job as a furniture designer at Parkers in 1910, High Wycombe was prosperous, settled and perhaps a little complacent. The future looked good; it would have seemed inconceivable, back in the last days of Edwardian England, that solid wood furniture would one day be the exception, not the norm, or that by the 1990's much of Britain's furniture would come from overseas.

Today the distinctive facade of Ercol,

### THE WYCOMBE WEIGH-IN.

Following an ancient custom, High Wycombe's mayor is weighed each year on a special set of jockey scales (complete with red plush seat) suspended from a large brass tripod. As the weight is recorded the Macebearer shouts out the figure, adding "and some more" if he (or she) has gained over the year and the words "and no more" if the weight has remained the same or is reduced.

In times bast, the mayor was jeered if the words "and some more" were heard by the spectators, this being taken as proof that he had grown fat at their expense.



perched on the side of a hill above the main London road, seems a fixed landmark to the people of the town. Ercol is part of the fabric of the community; when the local schools advise their post-GCSE students on future careers, Ercol's craft apprenticeships are regarded as an excellent start for a fortunate few. But back in 1920, when young Ercolani left the neighbouring firm of Gommes and started work on his own account with just twelve men, his new firm was not immediately a part of the High Wycombe establishment. Hardly surprising; Lucian Ercolani, who with his sons and his fellow directors made that tiny workshop grow into a thriving, busy company, was a lifelong revolutionary.

Like most revolutionaries, Ercolani was a man of great charm and charisma. One of his partners in that daring venture of 1920 used to joke that he felt an electric shock travelling through his hand when he rested it on the young man's shoulder. Ercolani could win contracts on the basis of a sketch and half an hour's persuasive speech, outlining to some sceptical department store buyer what he intended to make and



how he would make it. And because he and his men always delivered on that promise, with meticulous workmanship, the fame of Ercol started to grow.

His methods were often radical, too. At a Wycombe Federation meeting in 1939, he was asked by a curious rival how he managed to make a chair for 6d less than the price allowed by the government, while still surpassing the set quality standards. Ercolani replied honestly and simply, that he had analysed the entire process from timberyard to finished chair, and had split it into a number of distinct operations. By arranging to have the work brought to the craftsman, rather than have each craftsman fetch and carry for himself, he could produce a better chair while giving his people a more rewarding and interesting job. "My philosophy" he told his questioner rather loftily, "takes into account the fatigue of a man as well as his boredom, and has enabled me to make suitable adjustments". In the 1990's, such a philosophy is an essential part of man management; in the pre-war years, when people talked of masters, not managers, it was the mark of a

Ercolani's enthusiasm and vision led to his re-discovery of some of the simple craft furniture traditions of Wycombe's distant past. Invited to submit new designs for the "Britain can make it"

Below: designs from Amos Catton's pattern book, circa 1850. Commercial travellers with pattern books would visit as far afield as Leeds, taking orders for production at Wycombe.

Right: a young apprentice learns the craft of furniture making.



exhibition in 1946. Ercol's founder realised that the new social order of the post-war years would sweep away many of the old class divisions. Instead of submitting the kind of heavy, elaborately carved pieces that had made Wycombe famous in the Twenties and Thirties, Ercolani created a group of furniture inspired by the Windsor chair, breathtakingly simple in its execution and scaled to the size of ordinary homes. It was the only design accepted. Today, 45 years later, the Windsor Collection is still one of Ercol's design themes.

But however fondly the older craftsmen remember the "Old Man", however many the stories and legends that are told and re-told about him - like the time a prospective purchaser objected to the price of a cabinet, whereupon the Old Man calmly ordered it to be sliced exactly in half, end to end, at the bandsaw shop, to demonstrate its hidden workmanship - it's true to say that Ercol could not have grown or developed if it had been built around one single personality, no matter how remarkable.

Grow and develop Ercol certainly has. The company now stands out as one of the few left in the world to use solid wood in the making of all its pieces, from chairs to cabinets and tables, with designs that offer a wide choice from the traditional to the individualistic. Ercol furniture is known and sought-after far beyond the UK, and is made using craft technology that was unknown in the original Mr Ercolani's day. Even the briefest of visits will reveal that Ercol is an optimistic place, as confident of its future as it is proud of its past. Without being fanciful, it's possible to liken Ercol's own company structure to the woodlands they know so well; as individuals retire, so new



talents grow to take their place.

Don Pedel is Ercol's Design Director and the man who had the daunting task of taking over the reins from Ercol's first designer, the Old Man himself.

"We had the odd clash," he says, with dry understatement. But he defines one of the most important achievements of the company by a single word: overlap.

"The company I joined, back in the late fifties, was a part of a very different society," he explains. "Behind the works, in those days, were rows of bike sheds; that's how most people travelled to work. Today, that same space is a car park, because today's is a far more affluent society. The people we make our furniture for have changed, too; they Part of the fumiture group for the "Britain can make it" exhibition.

Today's Ercol: designs that offer a wide choice, from the traditional to the individualistic.





Canterbury Dresser: carving and detailing as an outward reflection of the piece's craftsmanship.

take holidays abroad, they have videos, dishwashers and fitted carpets. As a furniture designer, the pieces you create must reflect the changing values of the people you make them for. So in that time, our designs have changed, our people have changed, even the way we make furniture has changed...but we've never broken with our past traditions. We have always kept this "overlap", this passing on of ideas and craft and understanding from one person to the next."

Don Pedel pauses for a moment, chooses his words with care to express the thought more precisely. "Compare Ercol today with the Ercol of ten, twenty, thirty years ago. You wouldn't find a single piece today that's exactly as and partly because the advent of hiwe made it in the past and yet the company has never once changed direction. That's what I mean by overlap."

His point about the changing tastes

and values of Ercol's public is clearly illustrated by a comparison of an old Ercol catalogue with today's range. Certain pieces, such as the Windsor dining chair or Old Colonial sideboard, are recognisably part of the range the company offered several decades ago; the company is proud of the fact that there is no planned obsolescence at Ercol, a philosophy which has earned it an enviable loyalty from its customers.

But many of the pieces, although still in keeping with earlier design themes, have more richness and detailing than their predecessors. It's partly because the material itself has become more precious and therefore valuable. tech machinery, when guided by the craftsman, has had a liberating effect upon design. As a result, Ercol's customers throughout the world

nowadays enjoy carving and detailing as an outward reflection of their furniture's craftsmanship.

A piece like the Canterbury Dresser is a long way from the church chairs of the last century, and many of Wycombe's old firms have closed their doors in the course of those years. The Wycombe of the 1990's no longer is a town of chapels, children and chairs, and although the remaining furniture makers are still major employers, the town's character seems as defined by its new industries and its leisure and retail complexes as it is by the old landmarks. But Ercol's story shows that it is possible for a flourishing tradition of craftsmanship in solid wood to meet the needs of today's home-makers, right in the heart of the town where it started, hundreds of years ago.

And as a company that places a great deal of value on its understanding of the woodlands and their continuance. it may be that Ercol's story has something else to tell us. That the battle that started over a century ago, between the craft traditions of the woodlands and the technology of the workshops does not, perhaps, have to end in defeat for either side.





Imagine that you're a Bodger, and that you and your mate are cutting a freshly-felled tree into plank. You take one end of the two-man saw and stand on the top of the trunk, while the other jumps down into the sawpit, a damp trench where he works under a constant shower of sawdust. You now have a good idea why the Bodger's term for this unequal pair, "Top dog" and "Underdog" have worked their way into everyday usage.

Early Wycombe chairmakers may also have been the originators of a

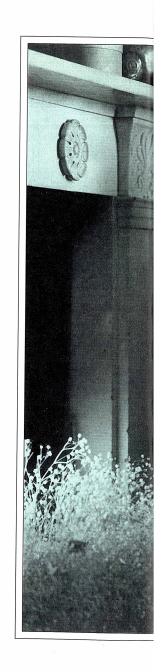
phrase that's in use wherever blunders occur. The first Windsor chairs were assembled with variable degrees of moisture still in the various components, particularly the traditional elm seat. As the wood dried out over the subsequent years, it wasn't uncommon for the seat to twist or warp slightly. When this happened, instead of all four legs staying square to the floor, one leg would "cock up", turning the chair into a three-legged balancing act for the unfortunate sitter.

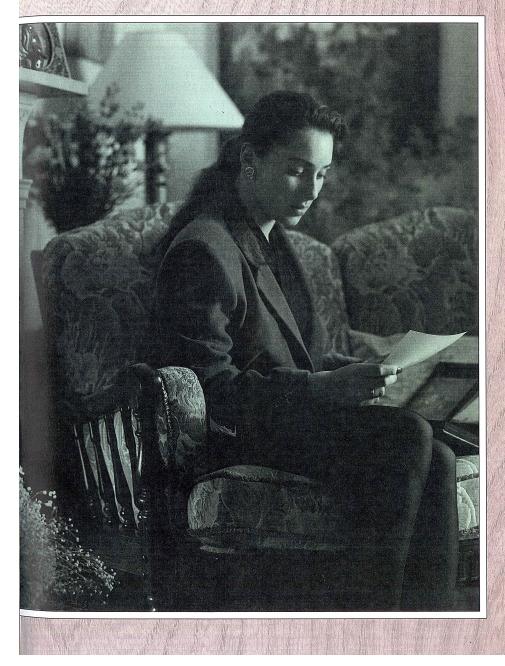
# R I C HTRADITION

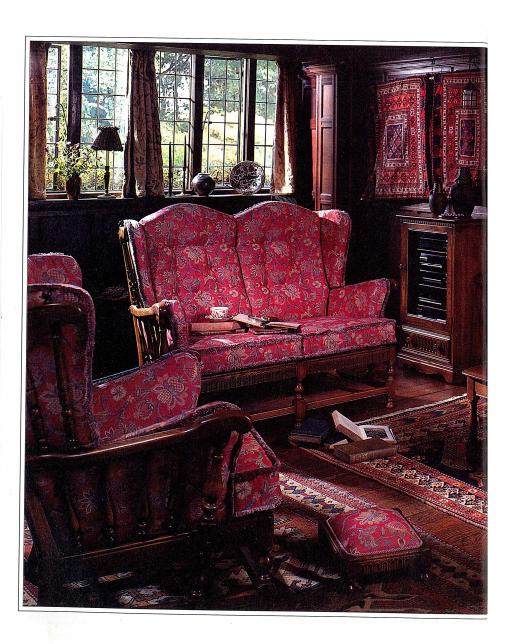
You can tell a great deal about a country by its furniture traditions. English traditions speak of a land where solidity and honesty are prized. Although the strong, sturdy lines of the furniture are softened with an understated touch of decoration, these motifs never dominate the architecture of the piece or spring into the realms of the impractical or of fantasy.

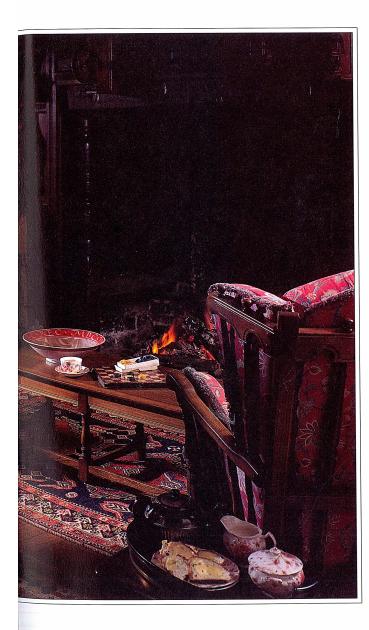
The next few pages celebrate those traditions, framed in Ercol's solid wood craftsmanship.









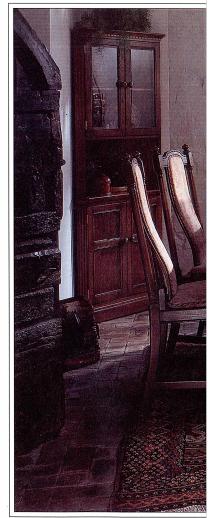


A setting that breathes ease and comfort; Cloister chair (left), Cloister 2-seater settee (centre) and one of the Trinity nest of tables, with the owner's hi-fi components neatly and stylishly contained within the Winchester hi-fi cabinet. Golden Dawn

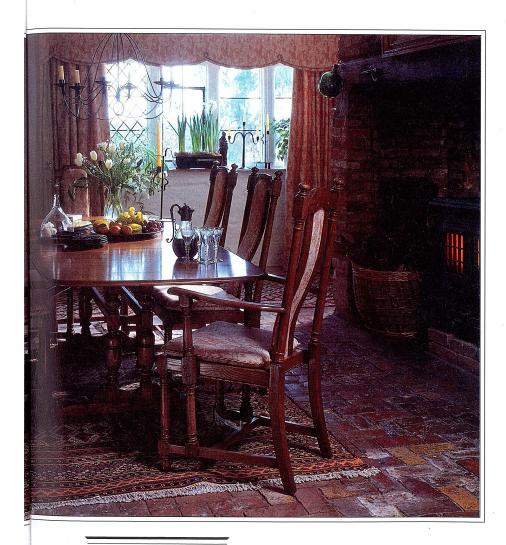


Left: the Evergreen easy chair and Credence cupboard in Golden Dawn finish.

Below: the Cloister easy chair, Marlborough rug chest and Ewelme corner cabinet display the richness of solid wood. In the background: Chairmaker's Chair. Finish: Golden Dawn.







A beautiful, elegant dining room like this makes every meal a pleasure. Ercol's Hampton dining chairs shown here with the Dorchester extending table, all in Golden Dawn.





Top: this splendid country kitchen setting enhanced by the Ercol Latimer dining chairs and Beamish refectory table in Traditional finish.

Right: Everyone's dream of an English cottage; Springtime easy chairs in Golden Dawn finish by the roaring fire.

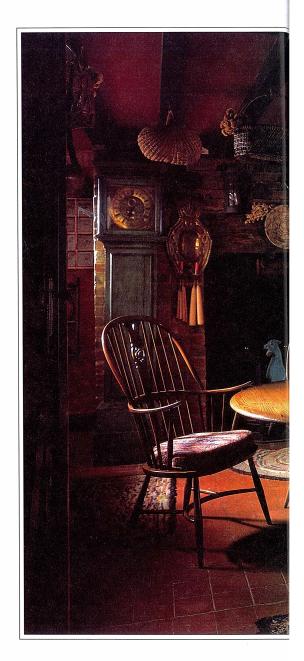
Right: Ercol's Mural cabinets show their true versatility with this magnificent display. Golden Dawn finish.

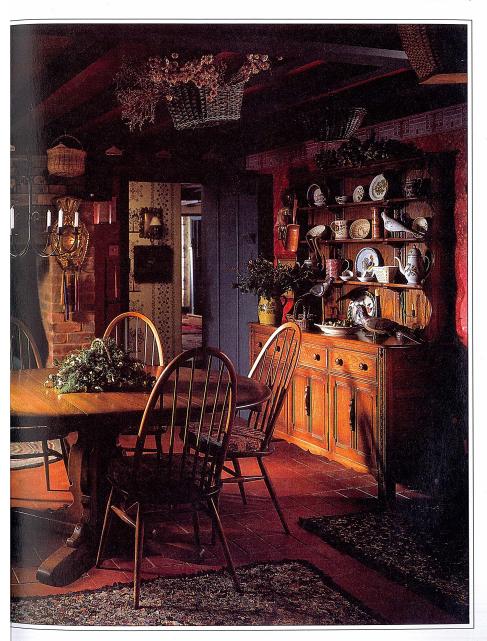
Below: this high-ceilinged room provides an expansive showcase for the York Minster 2-seater settee and armchair, in Traditional finish.











## M A N'S oldest FRIEND?



The story of human civilisation goes hand in hand with the story of timber. From Ancient Greece to the middle of the last century, timber – for trade, for fuel, for industry and for building – has been crucial to power and influence. In past ages, man has exploited timber as though the supply were inexhaustible. Today, companies like Ercol are showing the way for man to find a new relationship – and a new balance.



Below: a world of wood:

even the gutters are all

made from wood in this

19th Century scene.

ship, cart, warehouse and

Ancient Athens, known as the cradle of Western Civilisation, grew in importance as its surrounding forests dwindled. Its prosperity was based on the tall-masted wooden ships that made its navy a force to be feared throughout the Ancient World, and on the merchant fleets that found their protection in the welcoming haven of Pireus harbour. Without the timber for those fleets, and yet more timber to fuel the furnaces that smelted the metals for their armour, and yet more timber still to build the sprawling city that grew over the centuries, Athens would have been no more than a tiny fishing port.

### FIGHTING FOR FORESTRY.

The rise of Ancient Rome, too, was built on timber. At the height of its power and wealth, Rome maintained a fleet of sixty ships to search the lands of the Mediterranean just to find the wood to heat its public baths. Like Athens before it, Rome needed wood to sustain itself; Rome's conquest of Gaul, of Germany and even Britain may have been due to the need to secure new sources of timber, as the land surrounding the city changed from forest to farmland.

And yet today, when we visit Rome or Athens as tourists, we see just the stones of the Parthenon, or the remains of the Colosseum. Our history books tell us about great battles or rulers, but they don't tell us about the one common thread running throughout man's time on earth: that the nation which controlled the supply of timber was the



nation that held the balance of power.

When the air-conditioned coaches take us up to the Acropolis, and we gaze out from the marble pillars of the Parthenon to the surrounding plain, we don't see the vast forests that made it all possible.

### THE DISAPPEARING FORESTS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD.

The woods and forests that built the Ancient World were never replanted. Our ancestors believed that the earth's resources were inexhaustible, a belief that has proved terribly mistaken over the centuries.

Today, the publicity given to the "Greenhouse effect" and similar environmental issues can give the impression that man-made environmental damage is a modern problem. But according to author and historian John Perlin, whose book *A Forest Journey* chronicles the role of wood in the development of civilisation, mankind has been changing the environment – not always very wisely – for thousands of years. Perlin's fascinating account reveals that entire countries were stripped of their life-giving trees long

Without timber, the invasion of 1066 would never have happened.
This panel from the Bayeux Tapestry shows Norman woodmen cutting timber for the invasion fleet.

before the first aircraft, trains or cars ever replaced the horse.

There are many examples from history. Cyprus was forest from shore to shore, until the Ancient Greeks made it the copper-smelting centre of the Mediterranean, with furnaces that devoured mile after mile of forestry. Nearer to our own time, the island of Barbados was once a wonderland of trees and wildlife, until the island's vast forestry was felled to feed Europe's newly-discovered, insatiable appetite for sugar.

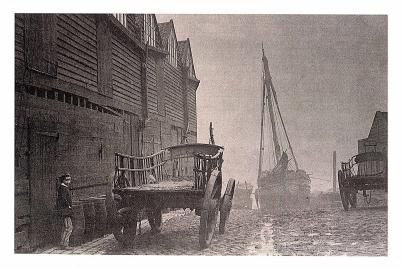
SWEET APPETITE FOR TIMBER. Sugar mills, ironworks, shipping, housing, transport, heating...until the 19th Century's age of coal and our present-day age of oil, timber supplied all man's requirements. The sugar mills of Barbados and Madeira, with their vast, bubbling cauldrons heated by log fires, soon stripped the islands bare of trees, just as the iron foundries of Britain swiftly ate their way through thousands

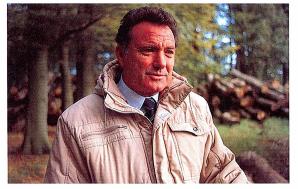
of acres of British forests.

The Britain of the 1990's is very different from the forested land that was the backdrop to Shakespeare's stories, or to Robin Hood's adventures. It is far more heavily populated, cultivated and industrialised, and as a result, people throughout the UK are increasingly concerned to preserve the remaining green areas. No-one can re-write history, but there are hopeful signs that we can still help to preserve – and perhaps increase – the few forests that do remain.

### PRESERVATION AND CULTIVATION.

As individuals and as groups, we can all help to improve our local woodland environment. There are several charities in Britain dedicated to the task of rescuing derelict and abandoned woodland and turning it into recreational land. There are also many "plant a tree" appeals, which encourage the public to take an interest in creating new woods and thus improving their local environ-





Left; a man in his element; Tom Dean in his beloved woodlands.

ment. Few places put the visitor more in tune with the natural world than a mixed woodland, and it's a hopeful sign for future generations that schools and school children are taking such an active role in their creation.

But Ercol's joint Managing Director Tom Dean believes that woodlands must also be used commercially if they are to thrive. He makes the point that the principle of natural regeneration, where trees create new saplings by dropping seeds on the woodland floor, can only function if mature trees are removed as they reach their peak.

"If you clear fell an area, literally take out every tree, young and old, you may destroy the woodland permanently." he explains. "That's what happened all around the world in previous centuries, and sadly, that's still going on in some of the world's most important rainforests today. In well-managed broadleaved woodlands, by contrast, the landowner or forester literally selects individual trees, taking out one tree here, another one there, but leaving plenty of younger growth all around to take their place and support the woodland."

### SELECTIVE FELLING TO SAVE WOODLANDS.

This principle is known as selective felling, and the landowners and foresters who work with Ercol usually undertake it in line with a forestry plan that has been approved by the Forestry Commission. Such work calls for experience and judgement in keeping a delicate balance, making sure that new saplings have enough space and light in the canopy of leaves above them to grow straight and tall, but that they're also sufficiently sheltered from the winds that can destroy them before they have the chance to put down strong roots. But is it really necessary to remove trees? Shouldn't we leave the woodlands



**OPERATION TREELINK -BRINGING TOGETHER** THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD THROUGH TREE-PLANTING.

It's appropriate that Ercol, whose workshops are based in the heartland of the Chilterns, is involved with an initiative to involve children in creating new woodlands for the future.

Treelink was the brainchild of the Rotary Club of High Wycombe. The scheme invites contributions from businesses and industry to purchase and donate tree seedlings for local schools, for planting and future study. Surplus funds go to establish tree nurseries in third world countries, where trees can determine the difference between life and death.

This imaginitive development has won the Rotary International Presidential Award for its contribution to the environment. If you, too would like to make a contribution towards treeplanting through the children of the world, please .contact: The Secretary, The Rotary Club of High Wycombe, P.O. Box 41, S Bucks HP11 2BG.

28 DESIGNS for LIVING

"Because trees die from the centre outwards, appearances can be very deceptive," asserts Dean; "By the time a tree actually looks dead, its core has been deteriorating for many years. That's a shame for two reasons: first, that old tree will have taken nutrients from the soil that could have fed a healthy young sapling, and second, we'll have lost the chance to turn that wood into something of lasting value and beauty. Fact is, if we don't take out mature timber and use it, nature will take it out for us. In my view, that's wasting a marvellous natural resource."

Tom Dean gives the example of a belt of trees in the High Wycombe area, all of them over 80 years old. "They had grown for generations without ever being thinned. In the course of time those trees had choked out all the new saplings, which meant that there was no young growth to succeed them. When the last windblow happened (the gales of January 1990) the entire clump came down. The result is that today there are no trees left at all. In a managed wood, that kind of disaster shouldn't happen;

### THE MARCH OF THE DUTCH ELM BEFTLE.

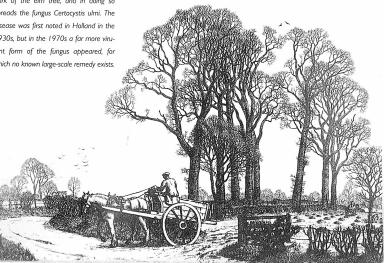
The tall, magnificent elm, so long a feature of Britain's countryside, is now a rare sight. But on this occasion the fault lies not with man, but with a tiny insect, the elm bark beetle.

The beetle lays its eggs beneath the bark of the elm tree, and in doing so spreads the fungus Certocystis ulmi. The disease was first noted in Holland in the 1930s, but in the 1970s a far more virulent form of the fungus appeared, for which no known large-scale remedy exists.

The disease spreads more slowly in Northerly climes, and so the only areas less badly affected appear to be North America, Canada and parts of China.

There is one slight consolation, however. By pioneering a kilning and conditioning technique that enabled elm to be used for furniture making, Ercol have helped to ensure that the wild beauty of elm's graining will never be forgotten for as long as it lives on in their

Elms at West Wickham, S.R.Badmin,





you lose one or two individual trees but the woodland survives. Nature has a funny way of showing you the right way to do things."

Ercol Furniture took the decision, more than twenty-five years ago, not to use tropical hardwoods from what have now become the 'endangered rainforests'. Instead, the company's designs depend on three timbers - the closegrained, highly workable beech, and the grained hardwoods of ash and elm, all of which are native to the UK. But it is crucial to Ercol's philosophy that their timbers, wherever they are sourced, should be harvested from wellmanaged, self-sustaining woodlands.

### A WORLDWIDE SEARCH.

One of nature's less benign gifts to man has been Dutch Elm disease which now spreads unchecked throughout the world. Clearly, Ercol's foresters would be unable to find regenerating supplies of elm, no matter where they looked, although there are still some areas the deadly fungus has yet to reach. But the disease did have one good effect, because it prompted Ercol to look

beyond the UK to the woodland resources of the world and then plan their own role in sustaining an increasingly precious resource.

"We knew that Britain's beech woodlands should be able to yield us sustainable supplies of good beech for as far into the future as we're able to see." Tom Dean explains. "In other words, the timbers we take out each year are going to be equalled or exceeded by the new growth in the woodland. It's a perfect balance, because taking mature trees actually helps the younger trees to

Unfortunately, the picture was less rosy for ash and elm. "Beech is a workable wood, the very basis of chairmaking; it takes bending and shaping very well indeed. But Ercol also needs a timber with a more interesting grain, for surfaces like tables, cabinets and dressers. With the decline of elm, we needed to look further afield, to find places where we could help to maintain a natural balance with grained hardwoods."

Tom Dean's search covered the globe,

From raw material to someone's home: an harmonious blend of ash and elm.

before he and his fellow directors focused on North America and Canada. "We crossed some areas off the list because they were politically unstable, or because they didn't have a truly conservationist attitude to their timber resources. Ercol, and Ercol's customers, care about wood; they don't want to be part of a system that misuses forestry. We also wanted to continue to use timbers that are part of an English furniture-making tradition as well as being part of our own design tradition. That narrowed the shortlist down from around 10,000 hardwoods in hundreds of countries to just two timbers and two possible partners."

There was a final element to the choice - personal chemistry. "We weren't looking for suppliers, we were looking for partners. In the end, we set up a joint venture in Minnesota, with people who feel the way we do about working with wood."

The foresters and sawmill owners of Menahga and Bagley, Minnesota, where Ercol's new joint venture is based, have a surprising amount in common with High Wycombe's roots. Many of them are of Scandinavian or German extraction, with a long tradition of living and working with wood, a pioneering spirit that has echoes in Wycombe's past. Near neighbours may be twenty miles away,



### A CRUSADE TO CUT WASTE.

Experts tell us that cutting waste is one of the keys to a more environmentally-friendly society. One of the major differences between the methods of the past and a company like Ercol today is that nowadays, far less of the tree goes to

A chairmaker in a small turn-of-thecentury workshop would have bored all the holes in legs, seat and stretchers by eye, using a chest "bib and brace" and his own experience. Only when the chair was "knocked up" - loosely assembled prior to glueing - would he have known whether the piece was square and level. Many a chair leg or stretcher would have ended up on the workshop fire!

Today, in contrast, all Ercol's boring



high degree of accuracy, using timber that is carefully dried and kilned to an exact and turning operations are controlled to a moisture level. Ercol can then store each

component separately until it is needed. and at the same time know that the finished furniture will be straight, true and level, with far less waste.

Tables and cabinet surfaces are also made using more of the tree's precious timber than ever before, thanks to modern techniques. Planks are matched by eye, then glued together to form a single surface that's far stronger than if it had been made of a single section of tree.

This crusade to cut waste means that today, in Ercol's workshops, far more of the precious timber ends up as a lasting piece of solid wood furniture. It's an excellent example of the way that the latest in technology can be used to conserve one of the world's most important natural resources



at the end of a long, bumpy forest track; self-reliance is the order of the day. A life spent working in extremes of temperature, with the nearest town many miles away, breeds people who are hardy and who have an instinctive understanding of wood, an empathy with their own environment. The parallel with the original Chiltern chairmakers, the Bodgers, who lived and worked in the woods around High Wycombe, is strong.

Ercol has long been rare among furniture makers in its involvement in the care and maintenance of woodlands. Instead of buying timber through agents or shippers, Ercol has a team of foresters who literally visit each woodland. But Ercol's involvement in North America gives the company, for the first time, the opportunity to extend its role on a worldwide stage, taking it well into the 21st Century.

Part of the reason for Ercol's involvement with the woodlands is pragmatic; making furniture in solid wood, with the grain so crucial a part of the finished piece, it makes practical sense to control the quality of the timber at source. But

the people at Ercol also feel a strong sense of responsibility for the future generations. "Let's just say that if something is important to you, if it provides you with both your living and your inspiration, you're likely to make sure you look after it. That's how we feel about the woodlands." asserts Tom

A NEW AGE OF TIMBER? The furniture that Ercol's craftsmen make is based around the use of timber as a sustainable resource, with the furniture-maker part of an overall balance of growth and replacement. Their philosophy is based on impeccably "green" principles; encouraging the replacement of those resources and using them to create something of lasting value.

Such an awareness is a long way from previous Ages of Timber, when wood supplied our ancestors with their heating, their transport, their building materials and their fuel for industry. Today, Ercol is proving that it is possible to find a new relationship with man's oldest friend, by using timber for the one purpose in which it has never been surpassed: fine furniture for our homes.

Elm's graining will never be forgotten... it lives on in fine fumiture.



## LIGHT toTHE EYE

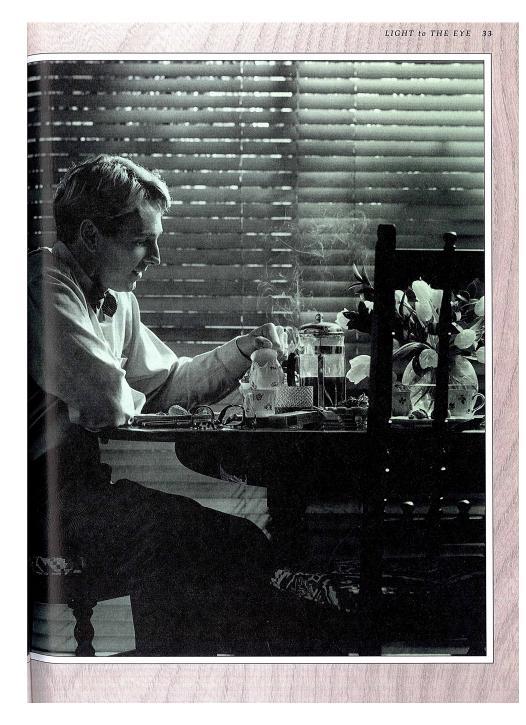
Creating a room with a lighter touch is the most challenging of all tasks for the home maker. Nothing hides the quality of the workmanship or the timber; instead, the very soul of the wood is open and clear for all to read.

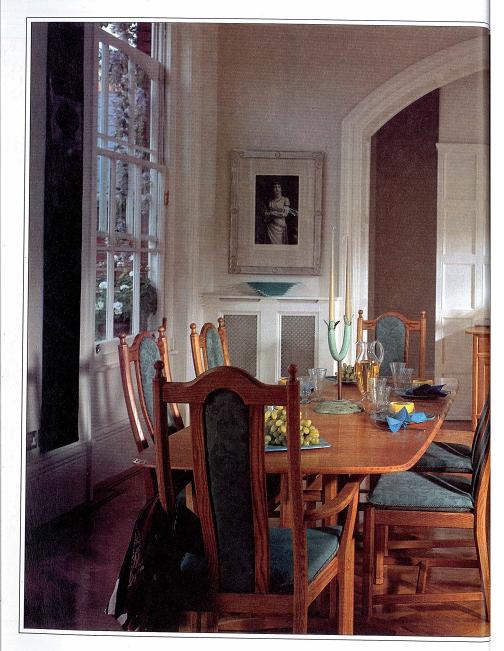
One Japanese lady was asked why she had chosen Ercol for her home. She smiled, touched her eyelid, and replied, "Because it is light to the eye."

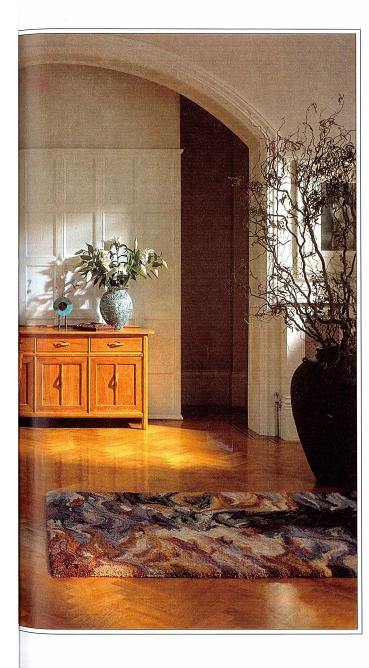




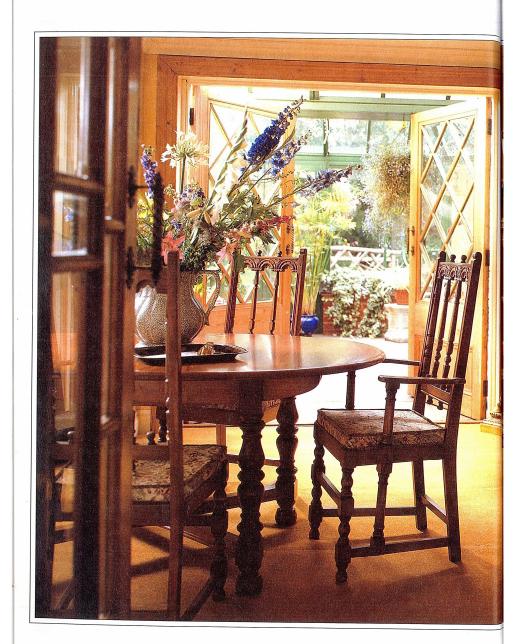








The grandeur of this spacious dining room is perfectly complemented by the enriched simplicity of the furniture. Shown here, in Light finish, are the Burford extending table, Wheatsheaf dining chairs and Arlington 3-door sideboard.

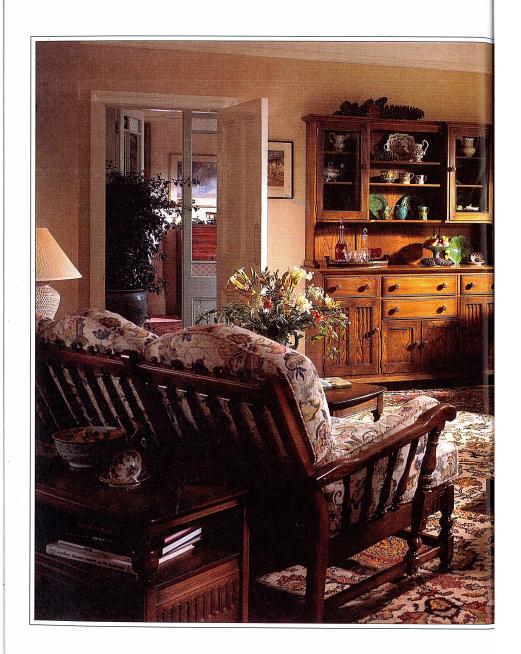


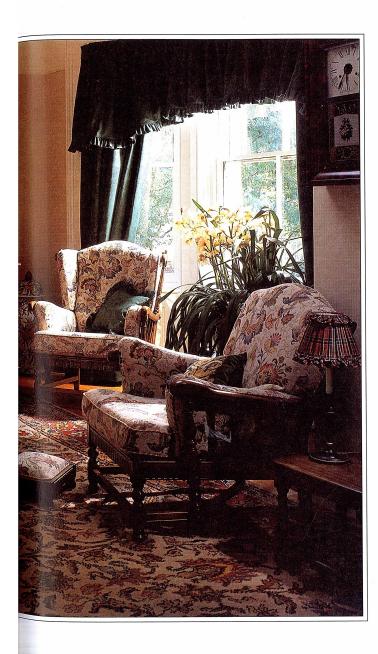




Left: the sunlight, filtering through the conservatory, gives the solid wood in Golden Dawn finish a soft lustre. Furniture shown: Canterbury Dresser, Woburn extending table and Yorkshire dining chair.

Above: Connoisseur Bureau in Golden Dawn.





The deep cushioning of the Cloister chair, York Minster chair and three-seater settee makes this a scene of inviting repose. In the foreground, the Cloister footstool provides the last word in thoughtful comfort. In the background, the Canterbury Dresser. Finish; Golden Dawn.

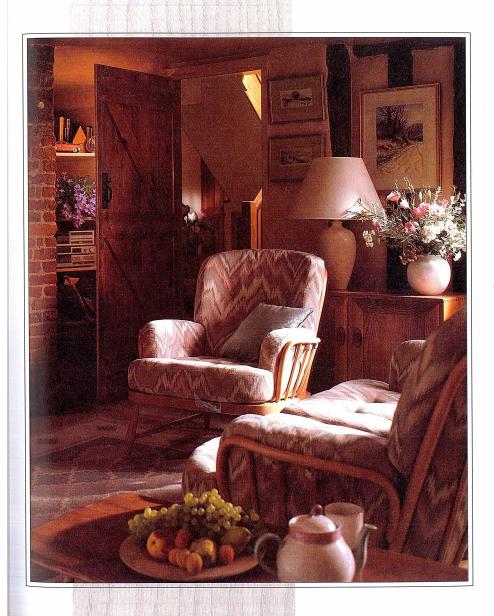


Calm, quiet and comfortable, this cottage living room, although small, shows the Jubilee 2-seater settee and chair to advantage.

Above: Elegant formality with the Old Colonial ladderback chair and Wadham draw-leaf table in Traditional finish.

Right: Windsor cabinets in Light finish showing interior lighting; a showcase for your treasured possessions.





# WORKING with the GRAIN.



What does it take to earn the title of Britain's master furniture maker? As Ercol's extraordinary craft workshop demonstrates, it takes time, skill, investment... and the occasional act of faith.

Top: the fluted door panel of the

Saville cabinet: modest virtuosity.

Below: matching grain by eye:

the vital element of human

judgement.

Forget all your preconceived ideas about workplaces where bored people turn out the same items, hour after hour. With solid wood, as any of Ercol's craftsmen will tell you, no two pieces of timber are ever the same. Forget, too, about the pale, uncooperative lengths of timber that amateur do-it-yourselfers like you and I buy from our local merchant. At Ercol, they're like magicians, making solid wood behave in ways that you'd hardly believe possible.

Have you ever wondered, for instance, how it's possible to persuade a solid stave of beech to bend back on itself, until it's virtually horseshoe shaped, to form the back of a Windsor chair? Or how it's possible to match together different pieces of timber from different trees for a table-top or cabinet so that the infinite variety of grain becomes an harmonious single entity, a natural balance of the wild and the straight? On our imaginary guided tour, a demonstration of each of these skills would have the tourists' flashguns and motordrives working overtime. But they're just two examples from a





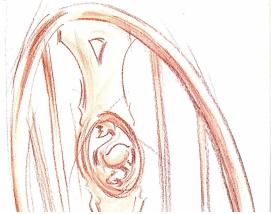
company which has probably amassed as much know-how about furnituremaking in solid wood as any maker in

Almost as fascinating as the knowhow itself are the various stories of how such mastery was acquired. For Ercol is not run by steely-eyed planners, keen to note the trends and fashions of the day and jump on each passing bandwagon. Instead, the company's discoveries have often come as pure serendipity, a word defined as the talent for making happy and unexpected discoveries as if by acci-

Take Ercol's involvement with elm, for instance. Elm's grain is often magnificently wild, shown to beautiful effect on large surfaces like tables and cabinets.

The age-old skill of bending a beechwood bow, here given a new twist in Ercol's Jubilee chair.

Below: Close control of the air-seasoning and kilning process: the secret of Ercol's success with elm





But until around fifty years ago, it was commonly accepted that this very wildness made elm unstable in the dry environment of a home, and so few furniture-makers had ever used it.

It is now a matter of record that by patient experimentation and close control of the air seasoning and kilning process, Ercol's team were able to tame elm's instability, so that it could at last be used for fine furniture. But the key to the entire story, at least as far as Ercol's furniture-makers are concerned, is that the company made a major investment in buying clm before they knew that they could make furniture with it. Madness or inspiration? Present-day Chairman, Lucian B. Ercolani, describes it as an "act of faith" and few could deny that it is faith in their own abilities which has led Ercol's people to some of their most remarkable achievements.

Some of these achievements in furniture-making seem almost to tease the onlooker, to challenge him or her to understand how something was made. The back slat of a Chairmakers Chair, for instance, seems to be just one piece of solid wood, and yet it passes through the arm bow at its narrowest point. How? Ask an Ercol chairmaker, and he may relent and tell you.

The door of a Saville cabinet? That's another piece of modest virtuosity. With its shadows and its distinctive patterns

of graining, it both draws the eye and puzzles the mind, like one of those Escher drawings in which a figure ascends an endlessly rising staircase. Only when you open the door and look along the top of it does the truth dawn; someone has painstakingly matched together twenty-three separate pieces of ash, side by side, before butting them together, fluting them and creating from them what seems to be a single, sinuous, rippling panel of solid wood.

For a business like Ercol, with thousands of customers and hundreds of retailing partners both in the UK and overseas, innovation demands an act of bravery, treading a path that none has trod before. Original designs like the Saville cabinet and craft techniques like the bending of a beechwood chair back demand great skills from every member of the workforce. Where do those skills come from? In Ercol's case, they are literally self-taught.

Most of the people at Ercol have completed a craft apprenticeship within the company's own workshops, before they are allowed to graduate as chair-



By any reckoning. Ercol's range of solid wood furniture must be considered one of the most enduringly popular design themes in Britain - perhaps even the world. This makes the creation of new pieces a daunting task for Ercol's design team, for they have to design furniture that has a fresh perspective to it but which nonetheless manages to dovetail with the existing collections.

So how do they go about it? Design Director Don Pedel is disarmingly

honest about the process.

"Quite frankly, we don't start with some enormous brief that states the market needs this, that or the other. We're a team. An idea comes to you, and you offer it to your colleagues, then to the jig-shop for prototypes, and slowly, slowly it develops from there."

Within Ercol, the idea of design as a process of teamwork is firmly entrenched, but Don is emphatic that this does not amount to design

by committee. "An idea that starts as a sketch on a piece of paper may take months to develop to a final design, and in that time it undergoes many subtle changes, but I have always felt that you know, instinctively, right from that first sketch when something is right."

Pressed to define that "rightness", he takes a while to consider his reply.

"A piece of furniture should have some magic ingredient, something that you fall in love with. Buying furniture is a very personal thing; it's something that you're putting in the heart of your home, to be part of your life for many years. So at the

same time as creating this "love at first sight", our designs must have an enduring quality to them, a harmony of line and detail, with facets that the owner can discover over the years."

Creating such detailing places a great deal of reliance on the skills of the men and women who turn the designs into reality, in the workshop. Between them and the design studio, a certain amount of good-natured leg pulling goes on when



a newly-designed piece proves a test of skills to make, but it's done with the pride of craftsmen who have never yet been beaten by the challenge.

"We've got the notion here of designing something then working out how to make it." says Roy Graves, a youthfullooking veteran of some 15 years in Ercol's machine shop. "We make it to the design, rather than designing to suit the making. Take the Swan slat design; it wasn't easy to work out how to make that, but by hook or by crook we were going to do it."

The design in question expresses the

notion of "something to fall in love with" very well. An oval of wood in the centre back slat of a Windsor chair, the design suggests the shape of a swan on the water by three cutaway sections within the oval. Although the effect is one of simplicity, it becomes more intriguing the more one looks at it, and, as Graves points out, it was no easy matter to make, either.

Difficult, maybe, but not impossible.

Every designer in Ercol's studio has direct experience of working with wood, something which is crucial to the integrity of the finished piece, according to Don Pedel.

"To design you have to know your material. You've got to have cut joints, put them together. You must have a feel for timber, literally know how timber works. It's part and parcel."

He looks around the studio at the people quietly working on drawing boards, examining prototype

designs, selecting fabrics...creating the pieces that will join Ercol's collections in the years to come.

"I don't believe in getting too highflown about design, coming out with a lot of fine-sounding theories. Design is creating beautiful things for people to enjoy. Along the way you'll encounter a bit of heartache, a bit of sweat, but at the end you've got something that people are going to get excited about."

Photo: "Something that you fall in love with"

– Don examines the Saville dining chair.

makers, cabinetmakers, upholsterers, polishers or machinists. The apprenticeship is, effectively, three years of learning the skills of a furniture maker; three years that begin with the apprentices making their own tool-case and include the making of their own piece of furniture, to give each apprentice an understanding which translates into a better final product.

As Edward Tadros, Deputy Chairman and a familiar figure around "the works" points out, somewhat ruefully, it seems as though Ercol's apprentice school has trained half the skilled furniture-makers in Southern England – including some who have since set up shop on their own! But he also points out that teaching the skills of furniture-making is not a case of setting the same projects, year in, year out.

"Look around our workshop today and you'll see that we're using new tech-

nology alongside the best of traditional craft techniques" he explains. "New technology is helping us to create shapes and forms in solid wood that simply were not possible before – and it's worth pointing out that the self-same technology is also helping us to make furniture with more accuracy, greater quality and better use of time and material. But new technology for Ercol isn't like putting a new robot on some car assembly line. Solid wood is unique and ever-varying, so between the machine and the wood you must always have the vital element of skilled human judgement."

This commitment to exploring the limits of their capability has convinced Ercol to re-appraise the entire skills training process. "Effectively, what has happened with us is the reverse of some industries' experience." explains Tadros; "Instead of a machine replacing human skill, with us, every advance actually



"We make to the design, rather than design to the making" says Roy Graves, here admiring the Swan slat.



demands greater levels of skill and understanding from the craftsman or craftswoman."

This gives even more impetus to Ercol's long-held belief in the benefits of having a highly motivated, versatile workforce. It is a belief they have practised for many years, "We have always understood that each individual has his



or her own particular craft, like upholstery, cabinet-making, chair-making, or machining, but there is now an increased emphasis on the broadening of that individual's skills. This makes everyone's job more varied and rewarding, but at the same time, it helps Ercol to meet the individuality and needs of the homemaker."

Glance around Ercol's workshop at the people working there, and you'll see from the expression on their faces that this is an unusual place. There's genuine absorption in the task at hand, rather than the remote expression worn by people when they're a reluctant part of a repetitive process. You'll also note some fascinating contrasts; on one workbench you'll see someone using a simple chisel, a tool unchanged in form for hundreds of years, while next to it the very latest in precision routers conjures a 3-D tracery from a flat panel as delicately as a butterfly landing on a leaf. But an Ercol craftsman won't see anything odd about the contrast; what matters is simply that you should use the best tool for the job, whether it's a £25 chisel or a £250,000 hitech router.

The result of such dedication becomes evident when you examine the finished piece, something that is literally unique, both in the material from which it is made and the skill with which it is made. The value of this individuality is clearly appreciated, judging by the evergrowing numbers of Ercol owners from the West Country to the Far East. Happily, their appreciation seems sure to keep Ercol's furniture makers working with the grain for many years to come.

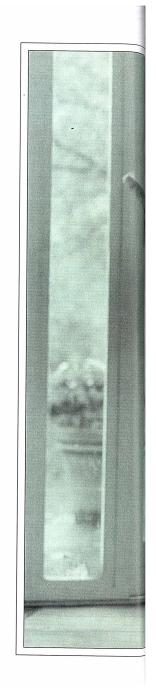
Above: Traditional tracery conjured from a flat panel.

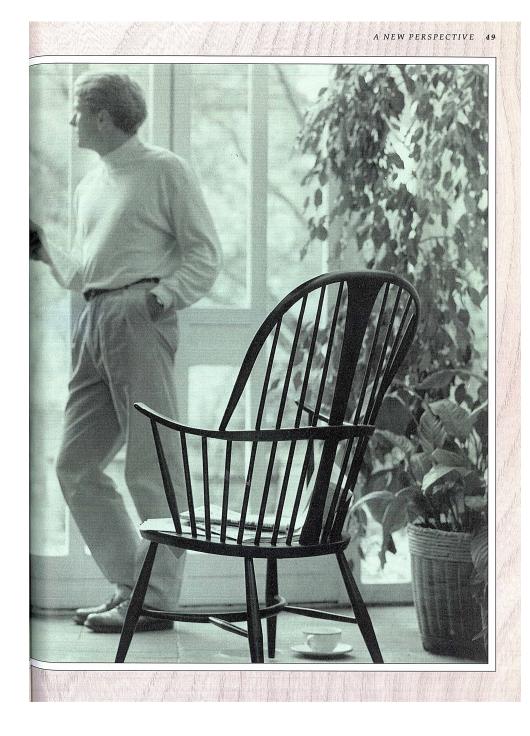
Below: Edward Tadros, third generation fumiture - maker of the Ercolani family.

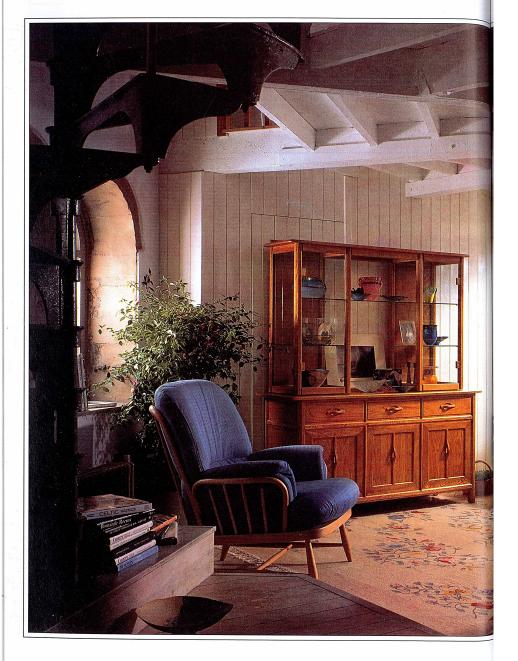
## N E WPERSPECTIVE

Solid wood has been a part of the home for as long as human civilisation has existed, and yet it still has the capacity to surprise and enthrall us. In these pages, we see a fresh perspective on solid wood furniture, either through familiar designs in new and imaginative settings, or with designs that are making their debut in the Ercol Collection.

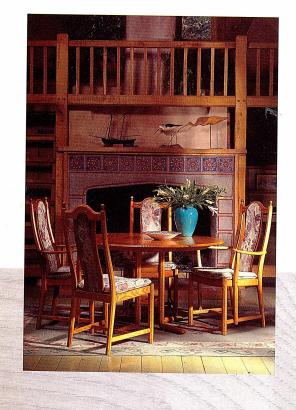








A combination of the familiar and the fresh; Ercol's Arlington display cabinet, a recent addition to the collection, shown here as the centrepiece to a room furnished with the popular Salisbury armchairs and 2-seater settee. Light finish.



Left: the clean, sculptural lines of the Campden dropleaf table and Wheatsheaf dining chairs in Light finish.

Below: another interpretation of the Arlington theme: a sister-piece to the Arlington display cabinet (see previous page), this delightful dresser in Light finish.





Above: the cool setting of this architectural showpiece is in harmony with the pale upholstery fabric on the Saville suite, shown in Traditional finish.

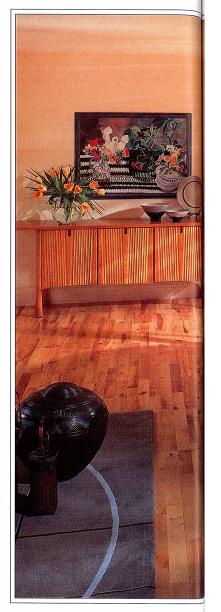
Right: Latimer dining chairs, Saville extending table in Light finish.



Below: Jubilee easy chair and 2-seater settee in Light finish, complementing the bright, open feel of this artistic room.

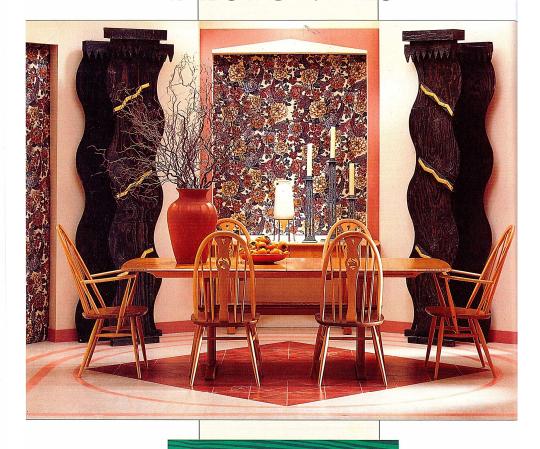
Right: a demonstration of masterly design and craftsmanship, the Saville extending dining table, Saville dining chairs and Saville sideboard in Light







## The YOUNG DESIGNERS



Sadeer Madhloom... echoes traditional Arabian interiors.

nyone who has ever enjoyed the process of putting together a room's decor has probably envied the lot of the professional interior designer, especially those given a completely clean sheet as their starting point. So when House and Garden magazine asked three alumni of the Inchbald School of Design to work from the same source materials, the results proved to be a marvellous showcase for imagination and originality.

All three designers were given their choice from a range of fabrics, a range of floor coverings and a range of furniture. The furniture range was Ercol, and the finished results demonstrate a striking diversity of personal styles.

Piers Northam admired the Scandinavian feel of the Saville Collection and the sculptural shapes of the chairs. His design is both masculine and at the same time highly theatrical, reflecting his interest in shape and texture. Piers now works at Derek Frost Associates.

The dark wood finish of Ercol's Old Colonial furniture provided the focus for Stephen Ryan's interior design. He liked the theme of music and literature from olden times but at the same time aimed for a contemporary feel to the room. He describes the result as "Modern colonial". Stephen, now Chief Designer at David Hicks International, enjoyed the opportunity to do something completely different with the House and Garden brief.

Sadeer Madhloom, an Anglo-Iraqi who lectures at the Inchbald School of

Design, has created for his room a circular space that echoes the traditional interior of Arabian homes. His choice of



Piers Northam: the sculptural feel of Saville.



Modern Colonial: Stephen Ryan's

Ercol Windsor furniture, with the timehallowed bow back of the Swan chair, blends beautifully with the cool simplicity of the room, a highly successful fusion of the traditional and the modern.

## TheERCOLCOLLECTION

As each piece of Ercol furniture features the unique graining of solid wood and is available in up to three different finishes, there's plenty of scope for you to make your choice of Ercol furniture a truly individual one. The three Ercol finishes are:

### O Light (LT)

Light is the closest of Ercol's finishes to the natural simplicity of fresh-cut wood. It shows the characteristics of the different timbers that Ercol uses to great advantage, whilst allowing them to harmonise perfectly.

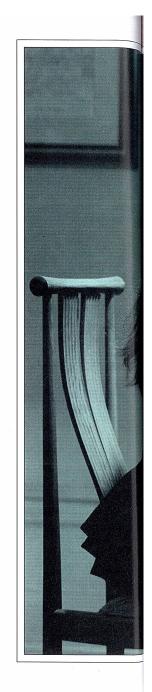
### • Golden Dawn (GD)

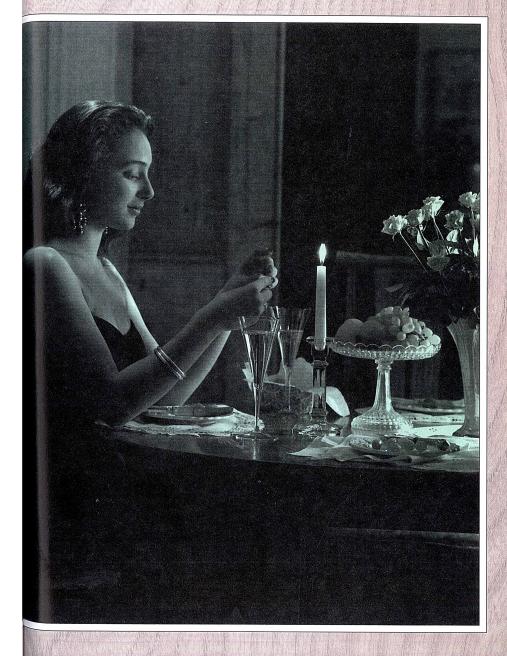
A finish that echoes the look of sunlight on wood, a magnificently warm feeling that will draw your eye to the graining. A consistent favourite with home owners throughout the world.

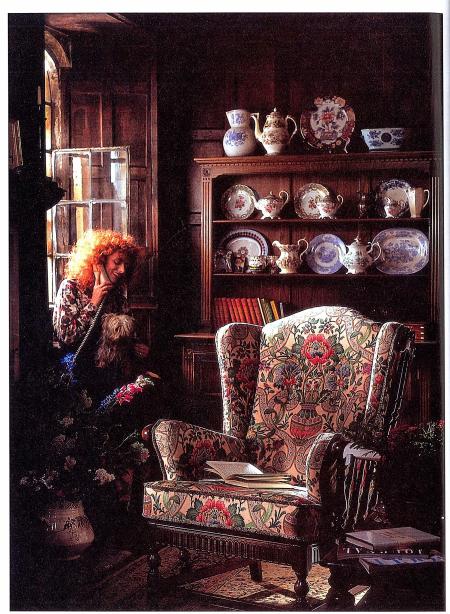
### Traditional (TR)

There's a genuine richness and depth to Ercol Traditional finish that could only show through with solid wood. Can be used with both traditional and modern settings.

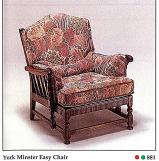








Cloister Easy Chair and Lancaster Dresser.



York Minster Easy Chair

Overall width Overall depth 95cm 3'1½" 47cm 1'6½" Overall height Seat height



York Minster Two-Seater Settee

881/2

Overall width 155cm 5'1" Overall depth 96cm 3'2" Overall height 95cm 3'1½" Seat height 47cm 1'6½"



York Minster Three-Seater Settee

Overall width Overall depth 96cm 3'2" 95cm 3'1½" 47cm 1'6½" Overall height Seat height



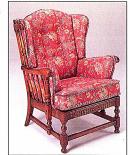
York Minster

**Extension Stool 9 9** 882 Overall width 59cm 1'11" Overall depth 59cm 1'11" Overall height 43cm 1'5"



Cloister Two-Seater Settee

Overall width 140cm 4'7"
Overall depth 85cm 2'9½"
Overall height 110cm 3'7½"
South 117" Seat height 48cm 1'7"



Cloister Easy Chair 932 Overall width 84cm 2'9" Overall depth 85cm 2'9½" Overall height 110cm 3'7¼" Seat height 48cm 1'7" Seat height

932/2

### Wood Finishes

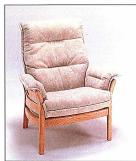
Light

Golden Dawn

Traditional



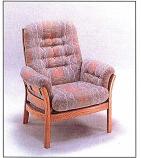
Cloister Footstool 966 Overall width 36cm 1'21/" Overall depth 31cm 1'0\%" Overall height 16cm 0'6¼"



Saville Easy Chair 930

Overall width 90cm 2'11½" Overall depth 94cm 3'1" Overall height 100cm 3'3½" Seat height 46cm 1'6"

Saville Three-Seater Settee Overall width 200cm 6'6¾" Overall depth 94cm 3'1" Overall height 100cm 3'3½" Seat height 46cm 1'6"



Sunningdale Easy Chair 

Overall width 86cm 2'10" Overall depth 86cm 2'10" Overall height 97cm 3'2" Seat height . 46cm



930/3

Sunningdale Three-Seater Settee

Overall width 198cm 6'6" Overall depth 86cm 2'10" Overall height 97cm 3'2" Seat height 46cm



Sunningdale Two-Seater Settee

Overall width 143cm 4'8¼" Overall depth 86cm 2'10" Overall height 97cm 3'2" Seat height



Sunningdale Extension Stool

Overall width 59cm 1'11¼" Overall depth 59cm 1'11¼" Overall height 36cm 1'2¼"

Upholstery



Saville Two-Seater Settee

Overall width Overall depth



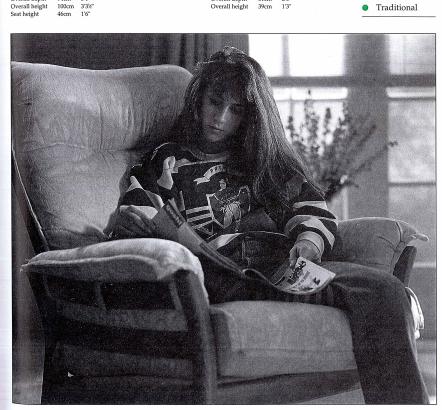
Saville Extension Stool 931

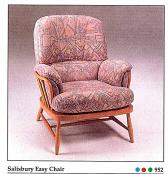
Overall width 61cm 2'0" Overall depth 61cm 2'0" Overall height 39cm 1'3" Wood Finishes

Light

Golden Dawn

Traditional





Salisbury Easy Chair

Overall width 82cm 2'8¼" Overall depth 93cm 3'0½" Overall woun
Overall depth 93cm 3'0½"
Overall height 92cm 3'0½"
Overall height 43cm 1'5"



Overall width 196cm 6'5" Overall depth 93cm 3'0½" Overall height 92cm 3'0½" Seat height 43cm 1'5"



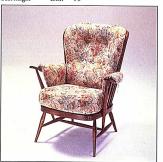
Jubilee Easy Chair

Overall width 82cm 2'8½" Overall depth 92cm 3'0" Overall height 85cm 2'9½" Seat height



### ● ● 766 Jubilee Three-Seater Settee

Overall width 196cm 6'5"
Overall depth 93cm 3'0½"
Overall height 85cm 2'9½"
Seat height 43cm 1'5"



Springtime Easy Chair

 Overall width
 77cm
 2'6½"

 Overall depth
 87cm
 2'10½"

 Overall height
 95cm
 3'1½"

 Seat height
 47cm
 1'6½"



**• • • 766/3** 

Springtime Two-Seater Settee

Overall width 140cm 4'7¼" Overall depth 87cm 2'10¼" Overall height 95cm 3'1½" Seat height 47cm 1'6½"

914

### aphololery



Salisbury Two-Seater Settee

952/2

Overall width 141cm 4'7½" Overall depth 93cm 3'0½" Overall height 92cm 3'0¼" Seat height 43cm 1'5"



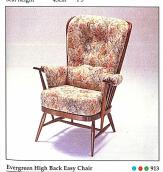
Salisbury Easy Chair and Two-Seater Settee.



Jubilee Two-Seater Settee

• • • 766/2

Overall width 141cm 4'7½" Overall depth 93cm 3'0½"
Overall height 85cm 2'9½" Seat height



Evergreen High Back Easy Chair

Overall width 77cm 2'6½" Overall depth 87cm 2'10½" Overall height 107cm 3'6" Seat height 47cm 1'6½"



Windsor Extension Stool 0 0 205 Overall width 53cm 1'9"
Overall depth 53cm 1'9"
Overall height 39cm 1'3½"

Wood Finishes

Upholstery

Light

Golden Dawn

Traditional



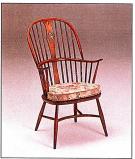
Windsor Easy Chair • • 104

Overall width 71cm 2'3¾" Overall depth 83cm 2'8¾" Overall height 89cm 2'11" Seat height 44cm 1'5½"



Windsor Three-Seater Settee

Overall width 173cm 5'8" Overall depth Overall height 86cm 2'9¾" 89cm 2'11" Seat height 44cm



948

911

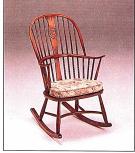
Chairmakers Swan Chair

(also available with back cushion) 
 Overall width
 60cm
 1'11%"

 Overall depth
 66cm
 2'2"

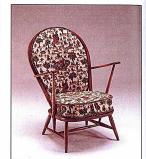
 Overall height
 107cm
 3'6"

 Seat height
 48cm
 1'7"



Chairmakers Swan Rocking Chair 0 949

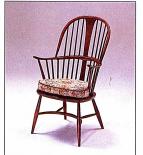
(also available with back cushion) Overall width 60cm 1'11%" Overall depth Overall height Seat height 76cm 2'6" 105cm 3'5½" 47cm 1'6½"



Grandfather Easy Chair

• • • 317

Overall width 74cm 2'5" Overall depth 76cm 2'5%" Overall height 95cm 3'11/2" Seat height 39cm 1'3½"



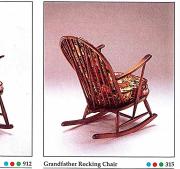
Chairmakers Chair

(also available with back cushion)
Overall width 60cm 1'11¾"
Overall depth 66cm 2'2" Overall height 107cm 3'6" Seat height 48cm 1"7" Seat height



Chairmakers Rocking Chair

(also available with back cushion) Overall width 60cm 1'11%" Overall depth 76cm 2'6" Overall height 105cm 3'5½" Seat height 47cm 1'6½" 47cm 1'6½"



Grandfather Rocking Chair		• • • 31	
0 11 111	7.1	OLEH	

74cm 2'5" 79cm 2'7" 95cm 3'1½" Overall depth Overall height Seat height



Windsor Two-Seater Settee

Overall width Overall depth Overall height 89cm 2'11" Seat height



Overall width Overall depth Overall height 39cm 1'31/2"



Swan Rocking Chair

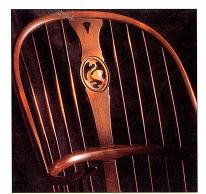
Overall width Overall depth 90cm 2'11¼" Overall height Seat height 41cm 1'4"



Quaker Rocking Chair

• • • 891

Overall width 64cm 2'1" Overall depth Overall height 90cm 2'111//" Seat height 41cm 1'4"



**0 0** 889

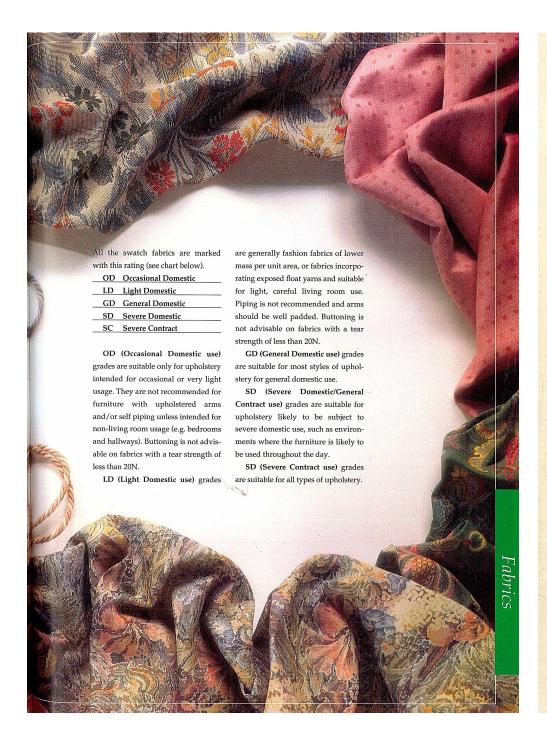
Wood Finishes

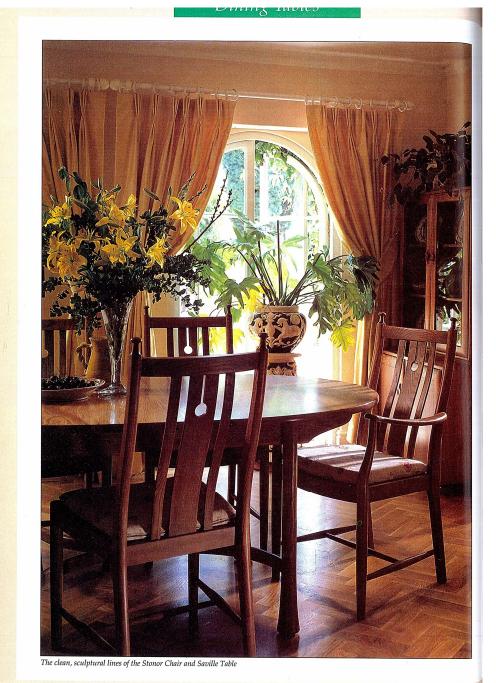
Light

Golden Dawn

Traditional







**9 9** 705

**9 9** 434

**9 757** 

(1) (2H)



**Burford Extending Table** 

Saville Extending Table

Overall width

Overall height

1. Overall length closed 163cm 5'4"

2. Overall length extended 213cm 7'0"

108cm 3'6\%"

73cm 2'4¾"

Comfortable seating for up to 6 people when closed, 8 people extended

160.5cm 5'3¼" 191cm 6'3¼" 1. Overall length closed 2. Open one leaf 3. Open two leaves 221.5cm 7'3¼"

4. Open three leaves 252cm 8'3¼" Overall width 92cm 3'0" Overall height 73cm 2'4¾"



954 Comfortable seating for 4 people, up to 10 people extended

2 (3) (4)



Campden Drop-Leaf Table 955

1. Overall length closed 2. Overall length with one leaf 94cm 3'1" 3. Overall length with both leaves 125cm 4'1" Overall width 113cm 3'81/3"

Overall height 73cm 2'4¾" [1] [2] (3) Comfortable seating for up to 4 people



Southwold Pedestal Table

Overall width 122cm 4'0" Overall length 165cm 5'5" Overall height 73cm 2'4¾" Comfortable seating for up to 8 people



1 2H

Saville Extending Banquet Table

1. Overall length closed 2. Overall length extended 227cm 7'51/2" 3. Overall length fully extended 277cm 9'1" Overall width 123cm 4'0½" Overall height

73cm 2'43/"

925 Comfortable seating for up to 8 people closed, 10 people semi-extended, 12 people fully extended



Wood Finishes

883

Dining

Tables

Light

Golden Dawn

Traditional



Woburn Extending Table 1. Overall length closed 2. Overall length extended

Overall width

163cm 5'4" 213cm 7'0" 108cm 3'61/2"

Overall height 72cm 2'41/4" Comfortable seating for up to 6 people closed, 8 people extended



Wadham Draw-Leaf Table

1. Overall length closed 137cm 4'6" 175cm 5'9" 213cm 7'0" 1 2 3 2. Overall length with one leaf 3. Overall length both leaves Overall width 84cm 2'9"

Overall height 75cm 2'5¾" Comfortable seating for up to 6 people closed, 8 people extended



Beamish Refectory Table

Overall length 183cm 6'0" Overall width 88cm 2'10½" Overall height 73cm 2'4¾" Comfortable seating for up to 8 people



Chichester Drop-Leaf Table

945 1 2

| 1. Overall length closed | 63cm | 2'0%" | 2. Overall length with one leaf | 94cm | 3'1 " | 3. Overall length with both leaves | 125cm | 4'1" | Overall width 113cm 3'8½" Overall height 73cm 2'4¾"

Comfortable seating for up to 4 people





Old Colonial Drop-Leaf Table

1. Overall length closed 63cm 2'0¾" 94cm 3'1" 2. Overall length with one leaf 3. Overall length with both leaves 125cm 4'1" Overall width Overall height

113cm 3'8½" 71cm 2'4" Comfortable seating for up to 4 people

(3)

**9 788** 

11 21



Chester Extending Pedestal Table

1. Overall length closed 115cm 3'9¼" 165cm 5'5" 2. Overall length extended Overall width 115cm 3'9¼"

Overall height 73cm 2'4¾" Comfortable seating for up to 4 people closed, 6 people extended



### Dorchester Extending Table

1. Overall length closed 191cm 6'3¼" up to 10 people extended 2. Open one leaf 3. Open two leaves 221.5cm 7'3¼"

4. Open three leaves 252cm 8'31/4" Overall width 92cm 3'0" Overall height 73cm 2'43"

160.5cm 5'3¼" Comfortable seating for 4 people,

(1) (2) (3) (4)



Overall length 152cm 5'0'

Overall width 84cm 2'9" Overall height 72cm 2'4½" Comfortable seating for up to 6 people



Hampton Dining Chairs and Dorchester Extending Table.



Burnham Gate-Leg Table 610

1. Overall length closed 22cm 8½" 81cm 2'7¾" 1 2. Overall length with one flap 3. Overall length with both flaps 140cm 4'7" Overall width 128cm 4'21/2" Overall height 71cm 2'4"

Comfortable seating for up to 6 people



• • • 384

Windsor Drop-Leaf Table 1. Overall length closed 2'034" 2. Overall length with one leaf 94cm 3'1" 3. Overall length with both leaves 125cm 4'1"

Overall width 113cm 3'8½" Overall height 2'4" 71cm Comfortable seating for up to 4 people 1 2 3

Wood Finishes Light

Golden Dawn

Traditional

# Dining Tables



Windsor Chair 877 Overall width 50cm 1'7%" Overall depth 51cm Overall height 89cm 2'11" Seat height 47cm 1'61/3"



Windsor Armchair 0 0 0 877A Overall width 64cm 2'1" Overall depth 51cm 1'8" Overall height 89cm 2'11" Seat height 47cm



Fleur-de-lys Chair 🏻 🔵 🔵 878 Overall width 50cm 1'7%" Overall depth 51cm 1'8" Overall height 89cm 2'11" Seat height 47cm 1'6¼"



Armchair ● ● 878A Overall width 64cm 2'1" Overall depth 51cm 1'8" Overall height 89cm 2'11" Seat height 47cm 1'6'/"



**Latimer Chair** 909 Overall width 51cm 1'8" Overall depth 60cm 1'11½" Overall height 90cm 2'11½" Seat height 47cm



Latimer Armchair | 0 | 0 909A Overall width 60cm 1'11½" Chair Overall depth 60cm 1'111%" Overall height 90cm 2'11½" Seat height 47cm



Penn Ladderback ● ● 823 Overall width 52cm 1'8¼" Overall depth 56cm 1'10"

Overall height 99cm 3'3"

Seat height 47cm 1'6½"



Penn Ladderback Armchair Overall width 57cm 1'101/" Overall depth 56cm Overall height 99cm 3'3" Seat height 47cm 1'6½"



Yorkshire Chair 730 Overall width 46cm 1'6" Overall depth 53cm 1'9"
Overall height 110cm 3'7½"
Seat height 47cm 1'6½"



Yorkshire Armchair @ @ 730A Overall width 60cm 1'11%" Overall depth 53cm 1'9" Overall height 110cm 3'7¼" Seat height 47cm 1'6½"



Hampton Chair 944 Overall width 48.5cm 1'7" Overall depth 61cm 2'0" Overall height 109cm 3'7" Seat height 48.5cm 1'7"



Hampton Armchair | 9 944A Overall width 61cm 2'0" Overall depth 61cm 2'0" Overall height 109cm 3'7" Seat height 48.5cm 1'7"







 Quaker Armchair
 • • 875A

 Overall width
 64cm
 2'1"

 Overall depth
 60cm
 1'11½"

 Overall height
 101cm
 3'3½"

 Seat height
 47cm
 1'6½"



 Swan Chair
 ● ● 876

 Overall width
 50cm
 1'7½"

 Overall depth
 60cm
 1'11½"

 Overall height
 101cm
 3'3½"

 Seat height
 47cm
 1'6½"



 Swan Armchair
 • • 876A

 Overall width
 64cm
 2'1"

 Overall depth
 60cm
 1'11½"

 Overall height
 101cm
 3'3½"

 Seat height
 47cm
 1'6½"



Stonor Chair

Overall width
Overall depth
Overall height
Seat height

Overall depth
Overall height
Seat height
Overall height



 Stonor Armchair
 • • 872A

 Overall width
 57cm
 1'10½"

 Overall depth
 58cm
 1'11"

 Overall height
 100cm
 3'3½"

 Seat height
 47cm
 1'6½"



Old Colonial
Ladderback Chair

Overall width 46cm
Overall depth 51cm
Overall height 99cm 3'22%'
Seat height 48cm 1'6%''



Old Colonial Laderback

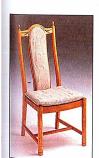
Armchair ● 715A

Overall width 61cm 270°

Overall depth 51cm 188″

Overall height 99cm 322″

Seat height 48cm 166″



 Wheatsheaf Chair
 ● ●

 Overall width
 49cm
 1'7%"

 Overall depth
 58.5cm
 1'11'

 Overall height
 106cm
 3'5%"

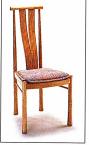
 Seat height
 48.5cm
 1'7"



 Wheatsheaf Armchair
 ● ● 956A

 Overall width Overall depth Coverall height 105cm 3'5%"
 3'5%"

 Seat height 48.5cm 17"
 48.5cm 17"



 Saville Chair
 927

 Overall width
 50cm
 1'7%"

 Overall depth
 56cm
 1'10"

 Overall height
 106cm
 3'5%"

 Seat height
 49cm
 1'7%"

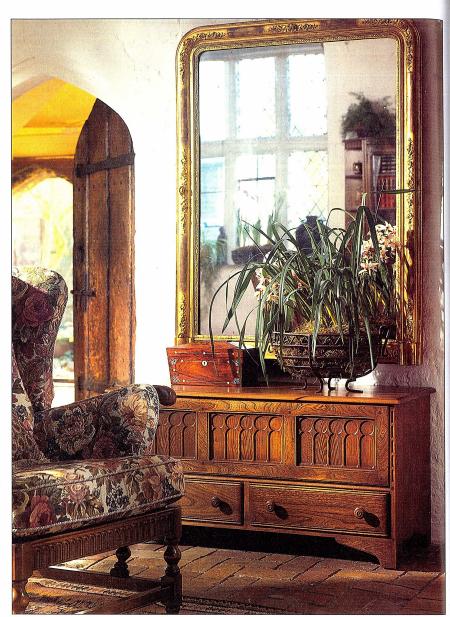
Wood Finishes

Dining Chairs

Golden Dawn

Light

Traditional



It could only be Ercol... detail carving on Marlborough Rug Chest.





Canterbury Dresser

Overall width 156cm 5'1½" Overall depth 51cm 1'8" Overall height 198cm 6'6" Cutlery tray in left hand drawer.



Lancaster Dresser

Overall width 145cm 4'9" Overall depth 53cm 1'9" Overall height 189cm 6'2½" Cutlery tray in top drawer.



Canterbury Sideboard

Overall depth 51cm 1'8"
Overall height 89cm 2'11"
Cutlery tray in left hand drawer.



Lancaster Sideboard

**9 9** 884

Overall width 145cm 4'9"
Overall depth 53cm 1'9"
Overall height 88cm 2'10%"
Cutlery tray in top drawer.

Wood Finishes

**933** 

Cabinets

933D

Light

Golden Dawn

Traditional



Lavenham Dresser

Overall width 146cm 4'9½" Overall depth 51cm 1'8" Overall height 193cm 6'4½" Cutlery tray in top left hand drawer



Hampden Glazed Corner Cabinet with Lights

Wall space required 54cm 1'9½" Overall height 181.5cm 5'11½"



Lavenham Sideboard

Overall width 146cm 4'9½" Overall depth 51cm 1'8" Overall height 86cm 2'10" Cutlery tray in top left hand drawer



935

Old Colonial Sideboard

**962** 

Overall width 123cm 4'0½" Overall depth 48cm 1'6¾" Overall height 84cm 2'9" Cutlery tray in left hand drawer

331



Old Colonial Dresser

Overall width 123cm 4'0½"
Overall depth 48cm 1'7"
Overall height 160cm 5'3"
Cutlery tray in left hand drawer



Old Colonial Corner Cabinet

• • 331D

331B

Wall space required 55cm 1'91/2" 183cm 6'0"

474



The Lancaster Rose, carved in solid wood.



Old Colonial Buffet

Overall width 123cm 4'0½" Overall depth 49cm 1'7½" Overall height 125cm 4'1" Cutlery tray in left hand drawer



Ewelme Hanging Corner Cabinet • 937 Wall space required 44.5cm 1'5½" Overall height 105cm 3'5½"

Wood Finishes

Light Golden Dawn

Traditional



Grasmere Book	case	
O	101	7

Overall width 101cm 3'3¾" Overall depth 31cm 1'0" Overall height 137cm 4'6"



Grasmere Glazed Bookcase	● ● 724
With Lights	724L

Overall width 101cm 3'3¾" Overall height 137cm 4'6"



Ambleside Boo	kcase	
Ouorall midth	61 am	

Overall depth 35cm 1'1¾" Overall height 111cm 3'7½"



Connoisseur Bureau

Overall width 98cm 3'2½" Overall depth 46cm 1'6" Overall height 108cm 3'6¾" Size of fall 41cm 1'4"



Winchester Hi-Fi Cabinet with Glazed Door

External Dimensions Overall width 56cm 1'10" Overall depth 49cm 1'7½" Overall height 96cm 3'2"

961 Record Deck Space: Maximum width 45cm 1'5¾" Maximum depth 43cm Maximum height 16cm 0'6¼"

Stacking Space: Maximum width 46cm 1'6"
Maximum depth 43cm 1'5"
Maximum height 45cm 1'5¾"
Central back panel is removable







Malvern	Freestanding	Hi-Fi Cabinet	(with Record	. CD and	Tape Storage)

Overall width 105cm 3'5½"
Overall depth 51cm 1'8"
Overall height 70cm 2'3½"
Centre back panel is removable

Stacking space: Overall width 46cm 1'6" Overall depth 42cm 1'4½" Overall height 54cm 1'9½"

 Maximum T.V. Space

 Width
 74cm
 2'5%"

 Depth
 45cm
 1'5%"

53cm 1'9" Maximum Video Space 79cm 2'7"

40cm 1'3¾"

18.5cm 71/4"

Depth Height

Width Depth

Height

939

Credence Cupboard Overall width 79cm 2'7" Overall depth 43cm 1'4¾" Overall height 87cm 2'10¼"



Old Colonial T.V./Video Cabinet

Overall width 93cm 3'0½" Overall depth 55cm 1'9½"
Overall height 95cm 3'1½"
Back panels are removable



839 Marlborough Chest with Drop Front

Overall width 112.5cm 3'8¼" Overall depth 47.5cm 1'6¾"
Overall height 56.5cm 1'10¾"
Back panel is adjustable to accommodate wiring 9936

Cabinets

731

Wood Finishes

Light

Golden Dawn

Traditional



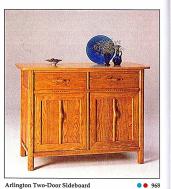




Arlington Two-Door Dresser

● 968D

Overall width 110cm 3'7¼" Overall depth 54cm 1'9%" Overall height 182cm 5'11%" Cutlery tray in left hand drawer



Arlington Two-Door Sideboard

Overall width 110cm 3'7½" Overall depth 54cm 1'9½" Overall height 80cm 2'7½" Cutlery tray in left hand drawer



Arlington Dresser

Overall depth 54cm 1'9¼"
Overall height 182cm 5'11¾"
Cutlery tray in left hand drawer



958D

**958** 



Arlington Sideboard

Overall depth 54cm 1'94"
Overall height 80cm 2'7%'
Cutlery tray in left hand drawer

## Wood Finishes

Cabinets

- Light
- Golden Dawn
- Traditional



Saville Display Dresser

Overall width 150cm 4'11"
Overall depth 53cm 1'9"
Overall height 192cm 6'3%"
With cutlery tray in right hand cupboard.



Saville Display Cabinet

**● ● 922** 

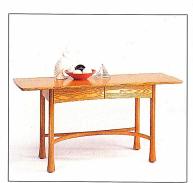
Overall width 149cm 4'10%" Overall depth 50cm 1'7%" Overall height 192cm 6'3%" Drawers have removable divisions.



**9 9 9 9 9 9 9** 

Saville Two Door Sideboard

Overall width 150cm 4'11"
Overall depth 53cm 1'9"
Overall height 73cm 2'4%"
With cutlery tray in right hand cupboard.



Saville Side Table

**90** 920

Overall width 149cm 4'10%"
Overall depth 50cm 1'7%"
Overall height 73cm 2'4%"







Saville Three Door Sideboard

Overall depth 53cm 1'9'
Overall height 73cm 2'4%''
With cutlery tray in right hand cupboard.



The Saville sideboard's central pull-out compartment is designed to be both ornamental and useful; with adaptable dividers, giving you the versatility to use the space for drinks, LP's, compact dices, or dozens of other

**● ● 924** 

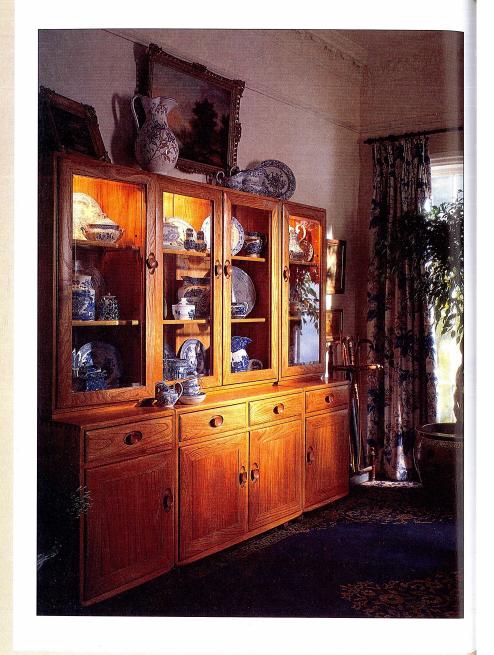


Wood Finishes

Light

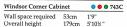
Golden Dawn

Traditional















Windsor Two-Door Glazed Bookcase With Lights and Lipped Glass Shelves

Overall width 91cm 3'0" Overall depth 31cm 1'0" Overall height 99cm 3'3"



Windsor T.V./Video Cabinet Overall width 85cm 2'9½" Overall depth 53cm 1'9" Overall height 94cm 3'1" Top back panel is removable

810L

Maximum T.V. Space 73cm 2'5" Width Depth Height 46cm 1'61/4" 53cm 1'8¾" Maximum Video Space Width 81cm 2'7¾" Depth 40cm 1'3¾" Height 21cm

**9 9 845** 

### Wood Finishes

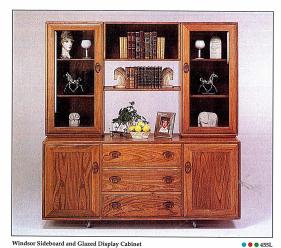
Cabinets

8¼"

Light

Golden Dawn

Traditional



156cm 5'11/3"

Windsor Sideboard and Glazed Display Cabinet with Lights, Lipped Glass Shelves and Adjustable Castors

Comprises 819 Two-Door Glazed Overall width Cabinet Top (two One-Door Display

Overall depth 46cm 1'6" Cabinets, one Open Centre Cabinet Overall height 162cm 5'3¾" and loose shelf), mounted on a 455 Sideboard.

N.B. See below for Windsor base details.



Windsor Glazed Cabinet (Top Unit Only) with Lights and Lipped Glass Shelves

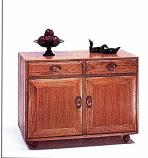
Overall width 91cm 3'0" Overall depth 31cm 1'0" Overall height 93cm 3'0%"

N.B. See 808 below for base details.



Windsor Sideboard with Adjustable Castors

Overall width 156cm 5'1¼" Overall depth 46cm 1'6" Overall height 69cm 2'3" Cutlery tray in top drawer



Windsor Cabinet Base with Adjustable Castors

**• • • 4**55

Overall width 91cm 3'0" Overall depth 46cm 1'6" Overall height 69cm 2'3" Cutlery provision in left hand drawer



Windsor Glazed Cabinet (Top Unit Only) with Lights and Lipped Glass Shelves

● ● 817L

Overall depth 31cm 10°/
Overall height 93cm 30%'
Windsor Glazed Cabinet Top with hinge on right, 817R.

N.B. See below for Windsor base details.



Windsor Cabinet Base with Adjustable Castors



Craftsmanship in close-up...Ercol's mitred and dovetailed joints are an eloquent testimony to the skills of Britain's master furniture makers.

# Wood Finishes

Light

Golden Dawn

Traditional

 $Mural\ Cabinets...\ a\ classic\ of\ the\ Ercol\ Collection.$ 



e have all admired the rich, traditional look of a woodpanelled library or drawing room in some English Stately Home...but few of us, alas, are lucky enough to have the space to furnish our own homes in the manner of a Blenheim Palace or Harewood House.

Fortunately, Ercol's Mural cabinet range provides an excellent solution, giving you the glowing patina of traditional, carved, hand-finished solid wood, but married to the practicality of a free-standing range of wall units.

Mural cabinets will fit into rooms, however small, and yet can grow and extend to provide a magnificent run of shelves, cupboards and glazed cabinets that would adorn a huge dining hall. It's an investment that you keep and add to as you move from house to house.

Whether you choose a single Mural cabinet with its accompanying end units or an entire run, you'll have a piece of furniture that is a superb focus for the room, as well as being uniquely practical for storage and display.



# Iviurai Cavinets

### TOP UNITS WITH LIGHTS



Single Width Top Unit with Open Shelves

● ● 599L Overall width 52cm 1'8%" Overall depth Overall height 126cm 4'11/2"



Double Width Top Unit with Open Shelves & Cupboard

Overall width 98cm 3'2½" Overall depth Overall height 126cm 4'1½"



Double Width Top Unit with Open Shelves

● ● 585L

Overall width 98cm 3'2½" Overall depth 30cm 11%" Overall height 126cm 4'1½" • • 583L

● ● 586L



Single Width Top Unit with Glazed Door

Overall width 52cm 1'8¾" Overall depth 30cm 11%" Overall height 126cm 4'1½" 30cm 11%"



Double Width Top Unit with Glazed Doors & Cupboard

Overall width 98cm 3'2½" Overall depth 30cm 11%" Overall height 126cm 4'1½"



Double Width Top Unit with Glazed Doors

588L

Overall width 98cm 3'2½"
Overall depth 30cm 11½"
Overall height 126cm 4'1½" Now with revised interior to accommodate music centres, midi and mini hi-fi systems

Mural



Double Width Top Unit with Open Shelves & Drop Flap Cupboard

Overall width 98cm 3'2½" Overall depth 30cm 11%" Overall height 126cm 4'1½"



Double Width Top Unit with Glazed Doors & Drop Flap Cupboard 587L

Overall width 98cm 3'21/2" Overall depth 30cm 11%" Overall height 126cm 4'1½"

● ● 584L



**End Top Unit** 862 Wall space required 30cm 115/" Overall height 126cm 4'11/5"



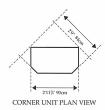
Corner Unit with Glazed Doors 9 590/887L

Overall height 196cm 6'5" Wall space from corner required 84cm 2'9" Wall space required



Corner Unit with Open Shelves ● ● 590/589L Overall height 196cm 6'5" Wall space from corner required 84cm

All top units except 862 are supplied with lights unless otherwise stated. Bookshelves have B after the numbers instead of an L and are available to special order



Wood Finishes

Light

Golden Dawn

Traditional



with Mural Cabinets

ural cabinets take the traditions of English cabinet making and translate them into the lifestyle of the 1990s. Mural units are versatile enough to be used either as "stand alone" pieces or as part of a run of cabinets. Each piece is fitted with levellers, making it easy to line up units even if the floor is not perfectly level.

But there's another side to Mural versatility; the fact that you choose and match base units and top units to fit your needs. With the base units, you have the choice of cupboard, cupboard and drawers or hi-fi compartment, while the top units provide a choice of open shelves, shelves with cupboard, or featuring glazed doors covering shelves. Ornaments, books, glassware, records and CDs can all be accommodated; it's up to you to decide which type of unit would best suit your requirements.

Interior lights are fitted to Mural top units, gently highlighting your favourite ornaments and creating a sense of depth and warmth in your room. Alternatively, you may prefer to use the shelves for books, without lights; your Ercol stockist will order the version that best fits your requirements.

### **BASE UNITS**



Double Width Base Unit

Overall width 98cm 3'2½" Overall depth 50cm 1'7½" Overall height 70cm 2'31/2" With drawers and cupboards, cutlery tray in left hand drawer

**0 0** 581 Overall width 98cm 3'2½"
Overall depth 50cm 1'7½"
Overall height 70cm 2'3½" With cupboards and interior shelf



Double Width Base Unit

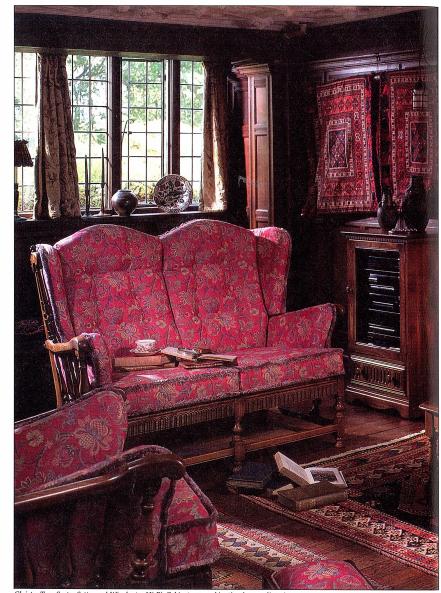
580



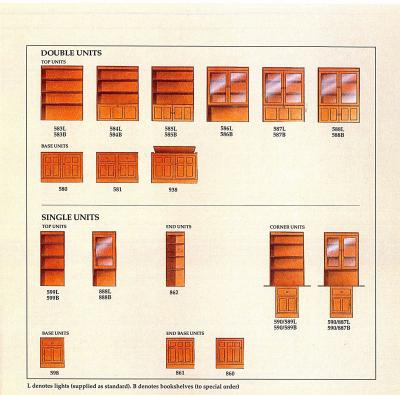
Single Width Base Unit Overall width 52cm 1'8%" Overall depth 50cm 1'7½"
Overall height 70cm 2'3½"
With drawer and cupboard

Mural Cabinets

### TIOTIC LITTER WITHINGTO



Cloister Two-Seater Settee and Winchester Hi-Fi Cabinet... a combination for easy listening.





Control of the contro	
Left End Base Unit	● ● 860
Wall space required 47cr	m 1'6½"
Overall height 70cm	m 2'3½"
Right End Base Unit	♠ ♠ 861



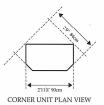
Double Width Record, CD and			<ul><li>938</li></ul>
Overall width	98cm	3'2½"	Stacking space:

 Overall depth
 50cm
 32.8
 Stacking space:

 Overall depth
 50cm
 17.9%
 Overall width
 46cm
 16"

 Overall height
 70cm
 23.8%
 Overall depth
 42cm
 14.9%

 Central back panel is removable.
 Overall height
 54cm
 19.9%



Wood Finishes

- Light
- Golden Dawn
- Traditional

Mural



Overall width 93cm 3'01/2" Overall depth 55cm 1'91/3" Overall height 95cm 3'11/"

Maximum T.V. Space Width 74cm 2'51/6" Depth 45cm Height 53cm 1'9" Maximum Video Space Width 79cm 2'7" Depth 40cm 1'3¾" Height 18.5cm 7'4"



839



Windsor T.V./Video Cabinet with Removable Back

Overall width 85cm 2'9½" Overall depth 53cm 1'9" Overall height 94cm 3'1"



Stacking Space: Width 46cm 1'6" Depth 42cm 1'4½" Height 54cm 1'91/4"



Malvern Freestanding Hi-Fi Cabinet (with Record, CD and Tape Storage)

Overall width 105cm 3'5½" Overall depth 51cm 1'8"

Overall height 70cm 2'3½"

Central back panel is removable



Winchester Hi-Fi Cabinet with Glazed Door

Overall width 56cm 1'10"

Overall depth 49cm 1'7½"

Overall height 96cm 3'2" Back panel is removable and lid lifts



Warwick Table

Overall width Overall depth closed 47cm 1'6½" 79cm 2'7" 48cm 1'7" Overall depth extended Overall height Fitted with fold down flap to fit into a corner.



**929** 

Overall width 72cm 2'4½" Overall depth closed 1'6½" 47cm Overall depth extended 76cm 2'6" Overall height 48cm 1'7" Fitted with fold down flap to fit into a corner.



Maximum T.V. Space

Depth

Depth 40cm 1'334"

Height 21cm 81/3"

Maximum Record Deck Space: Width 45cm 1'5¾"

Depth 43cm 1'5"

Height 16cm 0'6¼" Maximum Stacking Space:

Width 46cm 1'6" Depth 43cm

Height 45cm

1'5"

1'5¾"

Height 53cm 1'8¾"

Width 73cm 2'5"

Maximum Video Space Width

81cm

46cm 1'61/4"

### Woodstock Table

Old Colonial Drop-Leaf Supper Table

**9 9** 506 Overall top open 107cmx90cm 3'6"x2'11½" Overall top closed 107cmx43cm 3'6"x1'4\%" Overall height 48cm



Occusional 1 leces

Trinity Nest of Tables

Overall length 114cm 3'9" Overall width 50cm 1'7½" Overall height 41cm 1'4"



**9 8** 869

**◎ ● ●** 459

Old Colonial Coffee Table

Overall length 75cm 2'5½" Overall width 75cm 2'5½" Overall height 38cm 1'3"



Windsor Refectory Supper Table Overall length 128cm 4'2½" Overall width 67cm 2'2½" Overall height 51cm 1'8"



Windsor Gate-Leg

Coffee Table ● ● 820 Overall top open 102cmx69cm 3'4"x2'3" Overall top closed 19cmx69cm

7½"x2'3" Overall height 46cm 1'6½"



Windsor Coffee Table

732/3

Overall length 104cm 3'5" Overall width 46cm 1'6" Overall height 36cm 1'2"



Saville Glass Top Lounge Table

Overall length 107cm 3'6¼" Overall width 59cm 1'111/4" Overall height 49cm 1'7¼"



Saville Glass Top Lamp Table 0 0 916

Overall length 59cm 1'111/6" Overall width 59cm 1'11½" Overall height 49cm 1'71/3"



Chedworth Nest of Tables 0 0 957

Overall length 62.5cm 2'0%" Overall width 39.5cm 1'3¾" Overall height 42cm 1'4¾"

ntertainment



Bedside Table • 792

Overall length 48cm1'7"

Overall width 44cm1'5''

Overall height 54cm1'9''



Trinity Lamp Table

Overall length 46cm 1'6"

Overall width 37cm 1'2½"

Overall height 38cm 1'3"

● ● ● 844

● ● 268



Chantry Nest of Tables

Overall length 57cm 1'10½"

Overall width 35cm 1'1½"

Overall height 42cm 1'4½"



Windsor Nest of Tables

Overall length
Overall width
Overall height

Overall height

Overall height

Overall height



Minerva TableOverall length125cm4'1"Overall width53cm1'8%"Overall height40cm1'3%"



**● ● 735** 

Pandora Table		
Overall length	80cm	2'71
Overall width	80cm	2'71
Overall height	40cm	1'33



Overall length 71cm 2'4"
Overall width 46cm 1'6"
Overall height 77cm 2'6%"



 Windsor Plate Rack

 Overall width
 97cm
 3'2"

 Overall depth
 13cm
 5½"

 Overall height
 50cm
 1'7½"



Warwick Table

Overall width

Overall depth closed

Overall depth extended

Overall height

Overall height

Overall height

Overall height



Woodstock Table

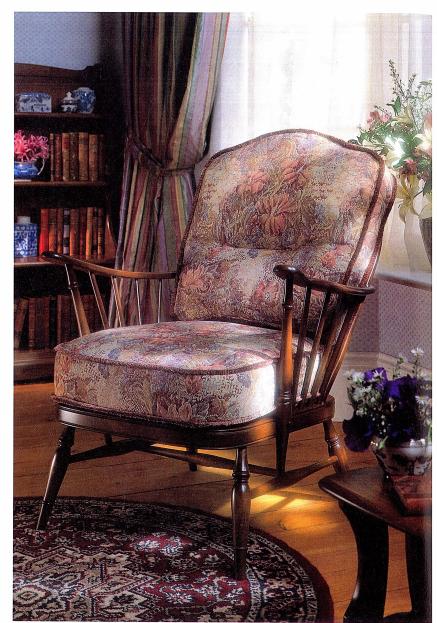
Overall width
Overall depth closed
Overall depth extended
Overall depth extended
Overall height

Overall height

48cm 1'7"

### Wood Finishes

- Light
- Golden Dawn
- Traditional



Cottage Easy chair and Kendal Bookcase.

100

Occasional Pieces





5'8" 2'9¾" 2'11" 1'5½"

86cm

89cm

44cm



Overall width

Overall depth Overall height Seat height



Cottage Extension	Stool	995
Overall width	53cm	1'9"
Overall depth	53cm	1'9"
Overall height	39cm	1'31/2"



Cottage Two Seater Settee

Overall width

Overall depth Overall height

Seat height

Speen Chair	•	0 0 992
Overall width	51cm	1'8"
Overall depth	60cm	1'111'/2"
Overall height	90cm	2'111'/2"
Seat height	47cm	1'61/4"



994/2

4'4½" 2'9¾" 2'11" 1'5½"

86cm

89cm

Speen Armchair	•	• • 992A
Overall width	60cm	1'111%"
Overall depth	60cm	1'111'/2"
Overall height	90cm	2'111//:"
Seat height	47cm	1'6'/4"

### Wood Finishes

Light

Golden Dawn

Traditional

### THE COHECHOH CHOWS



Coniston Bookcase		● ● 972B
Overall width	93cm	3'01/2"
Overall depth	36cm	1'2"
Overall height	191cm	6'31/4"



Kendal Bookcase		983
Overall width	88cm	2'10%"
Overall depth	33cm	1'1"
Overall height	126cm	4'11'/2"



	● ● 972
93cm	3'01/2"
36cm	1'2"
82cm	2'81/4"
	36cm



Winchester Hi-Fi Cabinet
with solid door • 971

Overall width 5ccm 1'10"

Overall depth 49cm 1'7½"

Overall height 96cm 3'2"



Windsor Hi-Fi Cabinet with Glazed Door



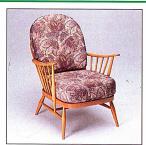
Overall width	56cm	1'10"
Overall depth	49cm	1'71/2"
Overall height	93cm	3'01/2"



Windsor Table	<b>9 9 9 9 7</b> (		
Overall width	72cm	2'41/2'	
Overall depth closed	47cm	1'61/2'	
Overall depth extended	76cm	2'6'	
Overall height	48cm	1'7'	



Stool 0	205
53cm	1'9"
53cm	1'9"
39cm	1'3½"
	53cm 53cm



Windsor Easy Chair		• • 104
Overall width	71cm	2'3¾"
Overall depth	83cm	2'8¾"
Overall height	89cm	2'11"
Seat height	44cm	1'51/2"



Windsor Two-Seater	Callan	0 0 0 101/0
vviiiusoi 1wo-seatei	Settee	● ● 104/2
Overall width	133cm	4'41/2"
Overall depth	86cm	2'9¾"
Overall height	89cm	2'11"
Seat height	44cm	1'51/2"

102

The Collection Grows





Store 0		988
Overall width	40cm	1'3¾'
Overall depth	24cm	91/2
Overall height	123cm	4'01/2'



Monmouth T.V. Table with drawer		
	<b>984</b>	
125cm	4'11%"	
56cm	1'10"	
56cm	1'10"	
	125cm 56cm	



Burlington Coffee T.	able	•
Overall length	124cm	4'0¾"
Overall width	60cm	1'111½"
Overall height	48cm	1'7"



Burlington Lamp Table	•	940
Overall length	60cm	1'111%"
Overall width	59cm	1'1114"
Overall height	48cm	1'7"



Chaucer Magazine	Rack	<ul><li>974</li></ul>
Overall length	55cm	1'9¾"
Overall width	36cm	1'2"
Overall height	50cm	1'7¾"



r Settee		(
173cm	5'8"	
86cm	2'9¾"	
89cm	2'11"	
44cm	1'51/2"	
	173cm 86cm 89cm	173cm 5'8" 86cm 2'9¾" 89cm 2'11"



Evergreen Two-Seater Settee	
139cm	4'6¾"
87cm	2'101/4"
107cm	3'6"
47cm	1'61/2"
	139cm 87cm 107cm

# Wood Finishes Light

The Collection Grows

Golden Dawn

# Traditional

# An investment for the future

### THE INHERITANCE FACTOR

How long do you expect your furniture to last? With Ercol furniture, you can confidently expect the solid wood and the craftsmanship to last for several human lifetimes. After all, solid wood chairs, cabinets and chests from centuries ago have lasted in excellent condition to the present day, and there's no doubt that Ercol's jointing and glueing techniques are stronger and more accurate than has ever been possible before.

Naturally, items like cushions, webbing and fabrics have a finite life. How long they last depends so much on usage that it's truly impossible to give an average figure. All fabrics selected by

Top: Replaceable upholstery

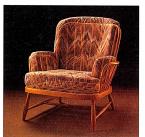
makes Ercol furniture an

investment for the future.

the lustre of the wood.

Bottom: Ercol wax brings out

Ercol for their collections are flame retar-



dant and are classified by the BSI rub test; for details, please refer to the Fabrics section on page 68.

Occasionally you may inherit or discover a past Ercol design which, with a bit of love and care, can be restored. Your local Ercol retailer is the person to contact for advice and assistance.

All Ercol's current range of upholstered furniture is designed so that the upholstery can be removed and replaced, and therefore you will never need to buy another sofa or easy chair.

Replacement cushions are available via your Ercol stockist. Just some of the reasons why Ercol furniture is an investment for the future.

### FURNITURE CARE.

Ercol's solid wood is enhanced by a durable finish that provides some protection against domestic wear and tear. Obviously, solid wood is a natural material and can be scorched or scratched. (Unlike a veneered surface, this isn't necessarily a disaster; one of the hidden advantages of solid wood is that damage can often be repaired, provided the work is undertaken by experts. In such cases, ask your Ercol stockist for his recommendations.)

New Ercol owners are often pleasantly surprised to discover that they don't need to give their furniture the "kid glove" treatment. It will shrug off everyday spills like wine or food, provided it's dealt with promptly; if, however, someone in your family wants a surface for glueing, kit-making or painting, we'd suggest you steer them away from your Ercol table.

For maintenance, we recommend a little Ercol wax from time to time. It has been formulated to Ercol's specifications; applied sparingly, it will bring out the deep, rich lustre of the wood.

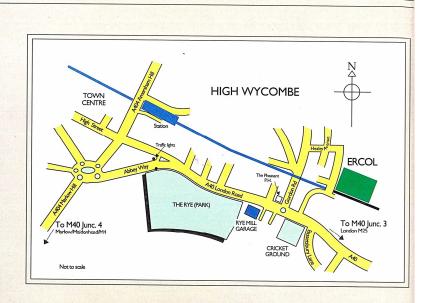


Many of Ercol's approved stockists nationwide have one or more members of staff who have completed the Ercol Diploma Course; this makes a big difference when you're making such an important choice for your home. He or she will be able to show you all the design and craft details that add to the pleasure of ownership, as well as demonstrating the wide choice of designs, finishes and upholstery fabrics in the Ercol Collection.

In the years to come, when you need replacement cushions or covers, your Ercol stockist will be able to advise you on fabric choice and take care of all the ordering details for you.



DESIGNS for LIVING



# The Ercol Showroom

The Ercol Collection contains a wealth of furniture, most of which is available in three finishes and a Holiday Weekends): 9.00am-5.00pm. wide range of fabrics.

To appreciate the true beauty and you are invited to visit the recommended specialist stockist for your area. You are also welcome to visit the Ercol showroom at High Wycombe.

Showroom opening Mon-Fri (excl. Christmas and Bank Saturday: 9.30am-4.00pm.

The showroom is closed for feel of Ercol solid wood furniture, refurbishment at certain times of the year as well as being closed for the Christmas period and Bank Holiday Weekends. If you plan to visit us please ring (0494) 521261 to check opening hours before setting out.

# About this book ...

The paper used in the printing of this brochure has been rated under the "Eco-check" system, a method of monitoring the environmental acceptability of paper products that has been introduced by R.A. Brand and Company Limited in advance of projected legislation on the

Under the Eco-check system, papers and paper mills are examined under five separate criteria: fibre source sustainability (ensuring that the pulp has been taken from renewable, managed forest resources); energy source and efficiency of the production process; minimising of chlorinated organics, including dioxins, in the production process; liquid effluent and solid waste levels from the paper mill; and finally gaseous emissions from the mill. For each section that meets the required standard, the Eco-check system awards one star, with five being the maximum.

This book has been printed on Grandeur Web Matt, a paper awarded a 5-star Eco-check rating through specification with Brands Papers.



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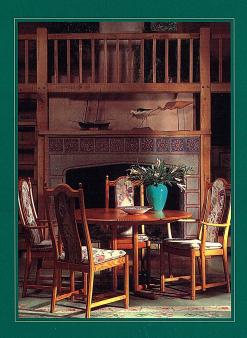
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Britain's master furniture maker.

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fabric and furniture collections without prior notice. Every effort has been made to show the furniture in



