

Work Geometry



Have you ever...

- Sat in a sofa and then struggled to stand because it's too low?
- Perched and leaned in a chair because you needed to be closer to the table?
- Had a 'two-seat' sofa that was only comfortable for one person?
- Had a stool paired with a table at the wrong height?

Problem: Lounge areas and café spaces have become as ubiquitous as standard computer workstations in the office environment. Inappropriate furniture selection can have immense ramifications on the comfort, space utilization, and satisfaction in collaborative areas.

Solution: Work Geometry Considerations

- Understanding Application
- Work Postures
- Seat to Surface Clearance



Work Geometry is Hni's human-centric consideration of your posture, fit, and the tools you use to be productive and comfortable.

Understanding Applications

Work Geometry



Table Height & Application

Considerations



Occasional 16" — 18"

Meeting Type: Casual conversations, shorter duration, likely free of technology.

Size of Group: Solo work or discussion with 2 – 3 people.

Postures: Relaxed sitting or reclining.

In this application, the table will likely be used to place items such as coffee cups or phones not in use. Power access may be beneficial to charge items during a brief get-away from work.



Continental 26"

Meeting Type: Discussions that are intimate or informal, technology may be necessary to complete work tasks.

Size of Group: Solo work or discussion with 2 – 3 people.

Postures: Relaxed sitting.

Smaller table sizes may be more appropriate for intimate conversations.



Standard 28" — 29.75"

Meeting Type: Suitable for technology-based meetings that are formal or informal, medium to long in duration.

Size of Group: Any, based on size of table.

Postures: Engaged sitting.

For longer meetings where technology is supported, power access will be important. This table height is versatile and can accommodate casual meeting or eating areas as well as formal conference spaces.



Counter 36" — 37.6"

Meeting Type: Short to medium length meetings, formal or in formal, technology or not.

Size of Group: Solo work or discussion with 2 – 6 people.

Postures: Engaged sitting and relaxed standing.

Comfortable for sitting and standing work and a great option to promote posture changes. Higher or mid-back stools may be used for longer conversations.



Bar 41" — 42"

Meeting Type: Quick, casual conversations. Place to pause and chat.

Size of Group: Solo work or discussion with 2 – 6 people.

Postures: Engaged sitting, leaning or upright standing.

Consider a lower stool back that can be tucked under the table and declutter the visual landscape. A footrest on the table or stool can support posture changes.

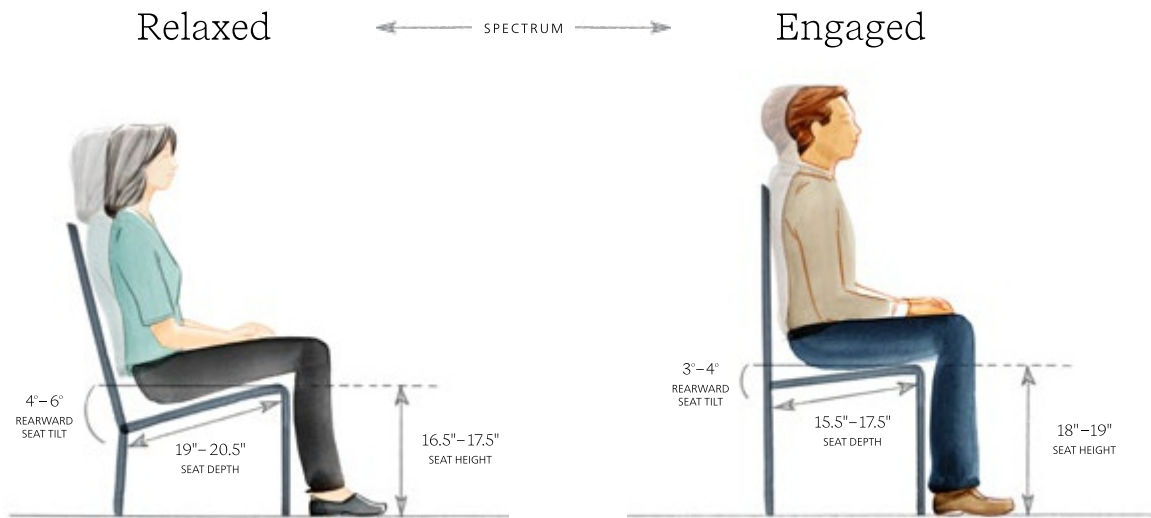
Work Postures: Relaxed & Engaged

Work Geometry



The activities that workers participate in collaborative and café areas will likely be different than those that take place at the dedicated computer workstation.

Therefore, the postures that workers assume will also be different than the 'traditional ergonomic' postures. However, that doesn't mean that people should be awkward or uncomfortable. Consider having products that support different postures for the different activities that will occur in these spaces.



Seating Considerations: More reclined, slightly lower, and deeper seat

Activities: Casual conversations, tech-free meetings, decompressing

Seating Considerations: More upright, slightly higher, and narrower seat

Activities: Traditional meetings, discussions with less familiar colleagues, meetings where laptops/tools necessary



RELAXED

ENGAGE FIRST, RELAX SECOND

ENGAGED

Creating Clearance

Work Geometry



Creating Clearance



Careful consideration of how products work together is fundamental to creating a comfortable work environment. It is important to determine whether the clearances between chair/stool and table are large enough to allow for an individual's legs to be positioned under the table and yet not too large as to result in awkward upper body positions when using the worksurface.

Occasional



Table Height: 16" – 18"
Clearance Not Applicable

Continental



Table Height: 26"
Clearance: 8.5" – 10"

Standard



Table Height: 28" – 29.75"
Clearance: 10" – 11"

Counter



Table Height: 36" – 37.6"
Clearance: 10" – 12"

Bar



Table Height: 41" – 42"
Clearance: 10" – 12"