



Twentieth Century Design Icons
no. 9

“Dr. Glob Chair”
by
Philippe Starck
(born 1949)

THE “DR. GLOB” CHAIR was designed by Starck for the Italian furniture manufacturer, Kartell, as a stacking chair, in 1988. The seat is formed from bulk-died polypropylene, and the frame from powder coated epoxipolyester. Standard dimensions are: height 73 cm, seat height 46 cm, width 48 cm, depth 47.5 cm.

Philippe Starck emerged as one of the world’s most famous furniture designers in the 1980s by distilling an everyday product, such as a chair, into a bold form often inspired by cartoon imagery that the public could recognise – and smile at. Born in Paris in 1949, Starck originally studied architecture but dropped out of university to assist the fashion designer Pierre Cardin. He made his name in the early 1980s when he was commissioned to design furniture for the French president François Mitterrand’s private rooms in the Elysée Palace. Dr Glob typifies his flair for visual puns, comical shapes and equally comical names.

The design arose from the idea of combining different materials to obtain a greater structural rigidity. The innovative design approach played on the contrast between thickness and lightness. The seat is made with a special plastic compound that gives the chairs a warm and mellow, soft and opaque appearance. The material used is mass-coloured, to guarantee good resistance in external environments.



The series comprises three different models: Dr. Glob, Miss Global and Hi Glob, with stools in two different heights and steel backs. All versions of Dr. Glob chairs are stackable.