



Your **Free Guide** To Commissioning Bespoke Furniture

“Now You Can Have the Furniture Of Your Dreams”

Buying ready made, off the shelf furniture is something we have all become very accustomed to. In fact we could be called the ‘Ikea generation’ when it comes to furnishing the rooms in our houses. However, Ikea, Ilva, John Lewis and the like will not always give us what we want and sometimes only a bespoke service will give the discerning buyer that special, dream showpiece furniture that they truly desire.

If you are looking for that special piece then I have to tell you that for most people it is an exciting and rewarding experience. But before you decide to commission a new piece of furniture it is important to think it through a little first and prepare yourself to help ensure that you have a good idea of what it is that you want so that you achieve the goals you have set out.

Your Preparation Is Vital:

Consider the room you are commissioning the furniture for and how it will fit into the environment. As well as any aesthetical considerations, consider any functional requirements that you desire and how they should work for you.

Then begin to think of some other important practical considerations, such as:

- Will you be available for a face-to-face meeting to discuss your needs?
- Do you have the time to go through a design brief and review any suggested concepts?
- What date do you want the furniture to be completed for?
- What budget do you have in mind and do you have the money?
- Is your home or office ready to have the furniture made and installed?
- Is the person you are considering for the project a ***professional designer and cabinet maker?***

10 Key Questions To Ask Before You Commission New Furniture

1. How does the commissioning process actually work?

Make sure the whole commissioning process is explained to you at the beginning so you are clear what is expected of you and what you can expect from the Furniture Designer Maker

2. Where does the initial consultation take place?

Make sure the Designer Furniture Maker is prepared to come to your premises in order to take precise measurements and go through a design brief in full with you, explaining any details that you are not sure about.

3. How can I visualise the piece before it is made?

If you are talking to a professional designer and cabinet maker then it should be no problem for you to see a full design and rendering of the furniture before production starts. This is vital to ensure that you are happy with what is being proposed and that you going to get what you asked for.

4. What choice of materials and finish is available?

A professional designer and cabinet maker will always be able to show you samples of different woods and advise you which ones work best together, as well as a choice of different finishes.

5. How much will it cost?

It's no secret that furniture can cost as much or as little as you want. As it is going to be **your** furniture it is important that you have a set budget right from the start of what you would like to pay. Your designer and cabinet maker can then suggest a design concept that will meet your specific needs and to the budget that you have set. This ensures there are no surprises or unexpected costs and you get real value for money.

6. Do I have to say what my budget is?

Well, this has to be an open relationship based on trust. If you cannot state your budget it will be very difficult for any designer to produce a concept of any meaning and it will be a case of hit or miss. Remember, **you are in control of the process** so you do not have to commission something if you are not happy with the suggested concepts.

7. Is there a design fee?

Sometimes there can be or this can then be rolled into the cost of the project if you decide to go ahead. It makes sense to find out before you ask for the design process to begin. This is likely to vary from one professional designer and cabinet maker to another so make sure you are clear on this.

8. How and when do I pay for the piece?

Again, this is part of understanding the whole process from concept to completion. This should be explained to you from the start so that expectations are set and agreed by both parties. There may be differences from one vendor to another.

9. How long will it take to make?

Once the chosen design concept and a price is agreed the professional designer and cabinet maker will be able to give you a very accurate time scale for production and delivery.

10. Do you have a waiting list?

Production time may be a matter of weeks whereas the waiting list before the project starts may be much longer. If it is a long list you need to considering if the particular designer maker's work is worth waiting for.

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