



FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT®
FURNITURE BY COPELAND

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Who was Frank Lloyd Wright?

A: America's preeminent architect, Frank Lloyd Wright's career spanned 70 years and produced 600 residential designs – including signature houses like his own Taliesin and Taliesin West, the Dana-Thomas House, the Coonley House, the Robie House, and Fallingwater – and over 1,000 furniture designs. He is also known for landmark commercial and public buildings like the Guggenheim Museum, Imperial Hotel (Tokyo), and the Johnson Wax Administrative Building.

Q: What were his Prairie Style designs?

A: Frank Lloyd Wright grew up in the Midwest and was profoundly influenced by the characteristics of the prairie. His Prairie Style designs for houses and furniture, created in the late 1800s and early 1900s, are artistic abstractions of that environment. Strong horizontal and vertical lines imitate the long horizon and crops and trees shooting up from the plain.

Wright's Prairie Houses often include imposing rooflines and cantilevers that extend well beyond exterior walls. Windows are often vertical, rising from floor to ceiling. He used natural materials like wood and stone abundantly in an effort to unify the house with its surroundings. Innovations like attached garages, roof overhangs that shade windows, open living space, large fireplaces, integrated place and recreation space are all attributed to Frank Lloyd Wright.

Furniture pieces were meant to enhance the house by bringing nature indoors. Wright's Prairie Style elements were all applied to his furniture pieces though he took care to tune them to the lifestyle of particular patrons. Built of natural woods, furniture pieces were artistic, functional, and lasting.

Q: How are the designs of Frank Lloyd Wright licensed and controlled?

A: The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation own and licenses all the designs, drawings, writing, and personal properties. Founded by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1940, the Foundation's first mission was to perpetuate The Taliesin Fellowship that he had created in 1932.

The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation continues as a non-profit organization dedicated to conserving the work of Frank Lloyd Wright and advancing the principles of organic architecture. It presides over Frank Lloyd Wrights' extensive archives.

Q: Why did the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation choose Copeland Furniture as the exclusive licensee of Wright's furniture designs?

A: The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation is dedicated to ensuring the authenticity of furniture pieces that use his designs and preserve his legacy. As such they sought a manufacturer with a reputation for quality and value. Further, the Foundation was looking for a licensee that would make Frank Lloyd Wright an important part of its business – creating collections rather

than individual accent pieces and offering price points that were attractive to the fine furniture market.

In Copeland they found a partner that was eager to help them in those missions. Copeland Furniture has been crafting fine furniture from solid hardwoods for over 30 years. Its craftspeople and workshops were perfectly positioned to assume the responsibility of the Frank Lloyd Wright license.

Q: What pieces are included in the Copeland collection?

A: Frank Lloyd Wright® Furniture by Copeland includes dining room, bedroom and living room collections as well as some iconic pieces. The collection also includes an executive desk.

Dining Room: Copeland's initial dining room offerings include pieces that are based on original designs and measurements from the Dana-Thomas House in Springfield, Illinois and the Boynton House in Rochester, New York.

- Grand Extension Table
- Extension Table
- Large Arm Chair
- Large Side Chair
- Side Chair
- Grand Buffet
- Buffet
- Dining Chairs from the Boynton House

Bedroom: All pieces are from original designs and measurements from the Meyer May House in Grand Rapids, Michigan and the J. Kibben Ingalls House in River Forest, Illinois

- Beds in Queen, King, and California King sizes
- Nightstands
- 5 Drawer Tall Chests
- 6 Drawer Dressers
- 10 Drawer Dressers
- Mirrors for the Dressers and Chest

Living Room and Icons:

- Oak Park Chair, Sofa, and Loveseat (Wright's Home and Studio, Oak Park, IL)
- Coonley End Table and Coffee Table (Avery Coonley House, Riverside, IL)
- Barrel chair (Taliesin, Spring Green, WI)
- Robie Tabouret (Robie House, Chicago, IL)
- Dana Thomas Plant Stand (Dana-Thomas House, Springfield, IL)
- Boynton Hall Table (Boynton House, Rochester, NY)
- Dana-Thomas Occasional Chair (Dana-Thomas House, Springfield, IL)
- Dana-Thomas Recliner (Dana-Thomas House, Springfield, IL)
- Heurtley Chair and Ottoman (Arthur Heurtley House, Oak Park, IL)

Office:

- Executive Desk (Francis Little House, Peoria, IL)

Q: Are all pieces exact replicas of originals?

A: Some pieces are exact reproductions. With others Copeland has made slight adaptations to accommodate today's lifestyles. Dana-Thomas Dining Chair backs have been angled slightly to increase comfort. The original Dana-Thomas Buffet was designed as a built-in piece; Copeland has made it free standing using exact measurements from the original. The Meyer May Bed, originally designed as a twin, now comes in Queen, King, and California King. The Meyer May Dresser has six, 31" wide drawers instead of the original three, 60" wide drawers that were meant to fit unfolded dresses.

In addition, Copeland has added new pieces based on Wrights designs and actual companion pieces. The Coonley Coffee Table uses the design and millwork of the original Coonley End Table. The Oak Park Chair sets the design standard for the Oak Park Love Seat and Sofa.

Q: What assurance does the customer have that they are purchasing an authentic licensed piece of Frank Lloyd Wright® Furniture?

A: Each piece is engraved with the signature of Frank Lloyd Wright, the date of manufacture and a serial number. Each serial number is entered into a permanent registry along with the details of manufacture. The retail customer receives a Certificate of Authenticity signed by the Director of the Archives at the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation and the CEO of Copeland Furniture.

Q: What is Copeland Furniture?

A: Copeland Furniture has been crafting high quality, solid hardwood furniture in its Bradford, Vermont workshops for over 30 years. In 2006, Copeland Furniture acquired the rights to produce furniture based on the designs and drawings of Frank Lloyd Wright. Copeland is FSC certified; using only hardwoods from the Northern Forest.

Q: What techniques does Copeland use to craft Frank Lloyd Wright® Furniture?

A: Each piece of Frank Lloyd Wright® Furniture by Copeland is crafted utilizing a combination of traditional and state-of-the-art techniques that announce and preserve the wood's natural beauty while adding strength and durability to the overall piece.

Select solid hardwoods – Each piece of the Frank Lloyd Wright® Furniture starts with solid hardwood (Cherry and White Oak) from The Northern Forests. The White Oak is quartersawn to reveal a ray-fleck in the grain. This time-consuming process is essential to obtaining distinctive wood characteristics and adds to the lumber's stability.

Miter-Wrap construction – In Wright's day, craftsmen achieved the bold, sturdy tabletops of thick-cut hardwood with woodworking techniques that are all but forgotten. Copeland has revived miter-wrap construction for tabletops that present 2 inches or more at the edge – enabling the wood grain from the top to continue over ends and sides.

English Dovetails – Asymmetrical English dovetails form perfect, rigid fits for drawer and case pieces. Copeland makes these intricate cuts utilizing precise, computer-programmed machining.

Superior Drawer Construction – Drawers, with sides of solid ash and bottoms of birch plywood, are all fully finished. They are mounted on three ‘wood-on-wood’ slides – one on each side and at the center - and are fitted with Copeland Furniture’s drawer stops.

Durable, hand wiped finishes – Labor-intensive hand rubbing incorporates stain pigments and highlights grain definition in each piece. Copeland Furniture uses only catalyzed lacquer finishes that meet the Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association’s high standards. They withstand tough stains and age beautifully.

Frank Lloyd Wright® Furniture is available in Parkton Oak, Madison Oak, Parkton Cherry or Natural Cherry finishes.

Quality upholstery fabrics and leather – Copeland Furniture offers an extensive selection of fabrics and leathers or will use customer-supplied material.

Careful drying, machining, and preparation – Key to the longevity of any furniture piece is the preparation of wood pieces and science of joinery. Copeland Furniture combines perfectly planed surfaces, calibrated hydraulic pressure, and radio frequency-assisted curing to ensure consistently superior, enduring glue joints.

Q: What is Copeland’s position on Forest Sustainability?

A: Copeland Furniture purchases only hardwood from the Northern Forests that are from controlled sources, including those that are Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified. All Copeland vendors ensure that the wood they provide is harvested from forests that:

- are not threatened
- do not have high conservation significance, and
- do not contain genetically modified trees.

Q: What is FSC Certification?

A: Copeland is one of a few furniture-manufacturing companies certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). Under FSC rules, Copeland Furniture maintains auditable internal records that demonstrate the chain of custody of all FSC certified lumber and statements from all other lumber vendors as to source areas.

Q: Where is Frank Lloyd Wright® Furniture by Copeland available for purchase?

A: Frank Lloyd Wright® Furniture by Copeland is available at dealers in Boston, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Ephrata, Pa., Seattle, Pasadena, Salt Lake City, Madison, Wis., Virginia Beach, Portland Me., New Canaan, Ct, and Tokyo with additional dealers opening in other areas throughout 2008. In areas not currently served by a dealer, Frank Lloyd Wright® Furniture by Copeland is available through the Copeland Furniture Company Store in Bradford, Vermont (802-222 5300).

Q: Where can I learn more?

A: Visit www.copelandfurniture.com or contact Tim Copeland at 802 222 9282 x 105 or tim@copelandfurniture.com