

History of office furniture:

Office furniture designs has evolved over the period of years. It is changing as per the workplace trends. Employees productivity and comfort are the top most priorities in designing of office workplace.

Monasteries earlier period say around 1400 had spaces devoted to writing. They had curtain for privacy. This was start for solitary nature of work.

The rise of Industrial revolution in the 18th century, brought significant changes in style of work. British empire royal navy building and East India trading company headquarters in London were the first few buildings dedicated for the office.

Frederick Taylors theories in 1900 on efficiency in the workplace become the norm. Staff in offices sat at rows of desks in one open room for managers to supervise. Burolandschaft in 1960 introduced office landscape. It mentioned that employees be seated in pods groups organized by function. It encouraged interaction between members of each teams. Robert Propst in 1970 introduced Action office where employees could sit in



their own enclaves as they worked. Clive Wilkinson in the 1900 introduced open office for collaboration between employees.

- In 1937 before cubicles, open office arranged in rows but first and properly cubicle has been designed in 1964 by scientist. It was having a huge desk with a space for making phone calls, a vertical filling system and partition so person could have privacy. what's more the desk could be set at the varying heights so people could stand while the worked.
- •The cubical became even more commonplace in the 80s and 90s during a period marked by mergers and layouts as employ ees were shuffled around building and crammed into even smaller spaces.
- •Eventually, the cubicles started to be replaced by open office design in the 90s and start-up companies that wanted to make a change. Most importantly, changing office design indicates the evolution of attitudes to work and can help you gain a deeper understanding of the work environment.
- •During the 2000s and 2010s, open plain offices arose again as a modern response to cubicles inspired by tech companies in Silicon Valley.



•What comes next for the cubicle? One scenario is the eradication of the workplace as we know it. Increasingly, employees are opting to work from home instead of office and by some estimates, these workers will comprise 50% of the workforce by 2030. Not only does it provide the ultimate method of flexibility, doing so allows employees to work in the environment they are most productive in – the "cubicle" of their home.

The growing emphasis on employee well being will drive the workspace design of the furniture.