

ym-02

yuimori

This Japanese timber chair features organically curved parts that gently cradle the body. It brings a light and graceful impression to any space.





01 —— Yuinomori project - The beginning

Kokuyo is committed to the responsible use of forest resources, a crucial element in the company's business success. In 2006, Kokuyo launched the Yuinomori Project to conserve a forest in Kochi Prefecture in collaboration with the Shimantochō Forestry Association (formerly the Taishochō Forestry Association). The name Yuinomori combines "Mori" (forest) with "yui," a term for the mutual cooperation system used by rural communities to farm and maintain the land. This name represents the idea of a forest that thrives through community cooperation.

02 —— Forest decline

Forests cover about 70% of Japan, with 40% being man-made. These man-made forests were primarily developed during the postwar years for reconstruction and economic growth, mainly featuring fast-growing Japanese cedar (sugi) and cypress (hinoki). However, the prevalence of these quick-growing trees, coupled with a lack of maintenance, led to overcrowding. This resulted in stunted tree growth and poor biodiversity due to the trees blocking sunlight. The issue worsened as rising imported timber undercut domestic demand, further discouraging necessary forest maintenance. Consequently, Japan's forests increasingly fell into decline.

03 —— Yuinomori - Forest management

Restoring man-made forests requires forest thinning, a process of periodically removing selected trees. This practice improves tree vitality and boosts biodiversity by allowing more sunlight into the forest. For the Yuinomori project, Kokuyo collaborates with Kochi Prefectural Shimanto High School and local residents of Shimantochō to monitor thinning outcomes. Results confirm the project's effectiveness in restoring forest biodiversity.

04 —— Contribution to society in harmony with nature

To further sustainable forestry, Kokuyo decided to utilize the timber removed during thinning. This led to the creation of the Yuinomori furniture brand. Yuinomori furniture is made from Japanese thinned timber and features components that can be easily disassembled and recycled separately. The brand thus encourages people to live in harmony with nature.

DESIGN

Using hinoki cypress harvested through forest thinning of Yuinomori project, the wood parts are three-dimensionally bent and molded. This combination of a simple structure and bent plywood achieves a powerful yet minimalist furniture form, that blends seamlessly into any space design.



Designer
Keiji Ashizawa

The chair was designed by Keiji Ashizawa Design (founded in 2005 by Keiji Ashizawa). Going by the motto "Honest Design," Keiji Ashizawa Design is renowned for its holistic approach whereby it considers the architectural space in which the furniture will serve. In 2011, the designer opened Ishinomaki Laboratory to assist the areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake disaster of March 2011.

FEATURES



Designed to bring nature indoors, the YM-02 series features a color palette evoking the forest's stones, trees, and soil. Its soft, organically tactile feel offers ideal seating that stimulates both idea generation and relaxation in the office.



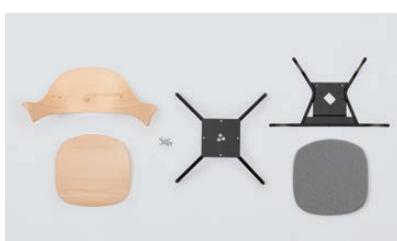
A seat design that distributes body pressure evenly

Made from natural wood, the seat has a three-dimensional curved surface to distribute body pressure evenly without obstructing blood flow in the back of the thighs, ensuring exceptional comfort.



An ergonomic backrest

The backrest is shaped according to the contours of the spine, allowing users to remain comfortable for long periods.



Sustainable

Built with sustainability in mind, the chair uses Japanese cypress (hinoki) and oak. The design allows for easy recycling, and the upholstery utilizes dope-dyed yarn to minimize its environmental impact.



Functional and elegant armrests

The embracing armrests are functional, lightweight, and elegant.

COLOR & MATERIAL

	Hinoki cypress		Japanese oak		
Body					
	WM0 Light Natural	WM8 Pale Black	WX1 Natural	WX8 Pale Black	
Base, pipe armrests					
	E6A Black	M Chrome Plating	E6A Black	E2A*1 Light Gray	Q6A*1 Deep Green
					46A*1 Patina Brown
Seat pad					
	JXBK Black	JXUA Gray Mix	JXYM Beige Mix	JLBA Raise Gray	JLMU Orange Brown
					JL2N Wizer Green
					JLMZ Raise Brown
					Camira synergy* ^{2,3}

*1. Only WM0 (cypress) and WX1 (oak) are available for backrest and seat colors E2A, Q6A, and 46A.

*2. Please be advised that due to the nature of the fabric, Synergy may tear easily depending on usage conditions and may transfer color to clothing.

*3. For imported items, it may take longer than usual to deliver the product if the item is not in the current inventory. Because an order is only processed after the order is received, the actual delivery date may differ from what was stated on the estimate.

LINEUP



ACCESSORIES



Removable seat pad

The soft seat pad, as removable covering, can be removed and replaced.

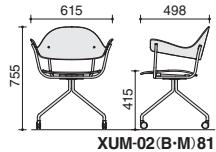
Seat pad

High-grade upholstery
XUMZ-02H JXBK-JXUA 1

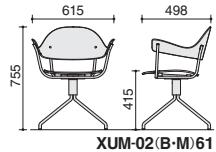
Premium-grade upholstery
XUMZ-02P JLBA-JLMU 1

DIMENSIONS

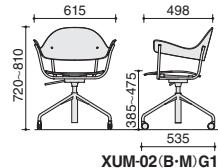
4-star base
with castors



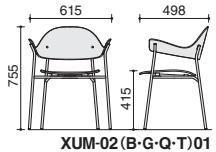
4-star swivel base



Height adjustable 4-star
swivel base with castors



4-legs



MATERIALS

Body

Backrest and seat

Surfaces: Japanese cypress (hinoki), Japanese oak (nara).
Core: Japanese beech (buna).

Base

Coated castor base, coated swivel base, coated swivel base with gas lift and castors:
ø15.9 mm powder-coated steel pipe for body;
ø19.1 mm powder-coated steel pipe for base.

Chromed castor base, chromed swivel base, chromed swivel base with gas lift and castors:
ø15.9 mm chrome-plated steel pipe for body;
ø19.1 mm chrome-plated steel pipe for base.

4-legs:
ø15.9 mm powder-coated steel pipe.

Seat pad

Core: Polyurethane foam.
Surface: Polyester high-grade upholstery.
Premium-grade upholstery: Wool, nylon.

Note: Because the chair is made of natural wood, there will be some variance in pattern and color.

The cypress (hinoki) is generally sourced from timber harvested from thinning or logging operations conducted under the Yuinomori project. However, beech from different sources may be used depending on availability.
Beech and oak are sourced from Japanese forests certified for commercial use.
Soft (polyurethane) castors are suitable for hard floors, such as wood flooring.
Rubber castors are not available on this product.
Caution: Do not use on cushion flooring, as this may damage the flooring.