Office chairs and hybrid working: which chairs work well and why?



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Good supported position

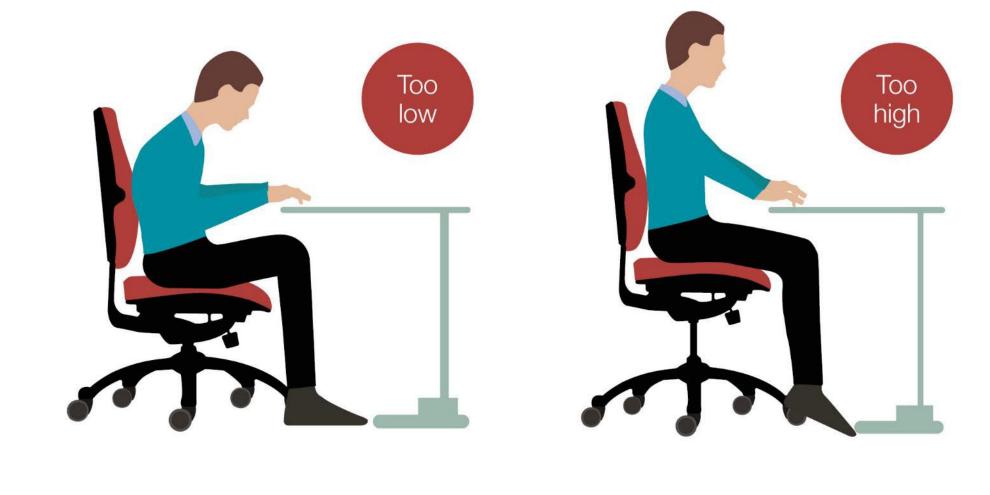
- As the body is supported, it does not have to work hard to maintain the position
- Achieving a good position enables the joints and tissues to be efficient and work without strain or pressure points.

Poor or ill supported position

- Lack of support body requires the body to work hard to maintain a working position, creating fatigue often leading to tissue discomfort and strain.
- Poor working postures place the joints in less effective positions which can create strain and fatigue in the tissues adapting to working in less optimal ways.

Sitting height





Seat depth







Backrest height





Backrest tilt





The features and functions to be mindful of when exploring task chairs



Ergonomic = suitable for the user

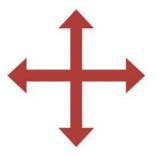


Pad dimensions and ranges



Core adjustments (posture)





Movement mechanism



Support additions

How hybrid working prompts us to think differently about chair options

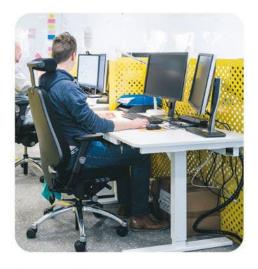








Defined hybrid spaces



8hr office single user



8hr office multiuser (hotdesking)



Touch down multiuser (hotdesking)



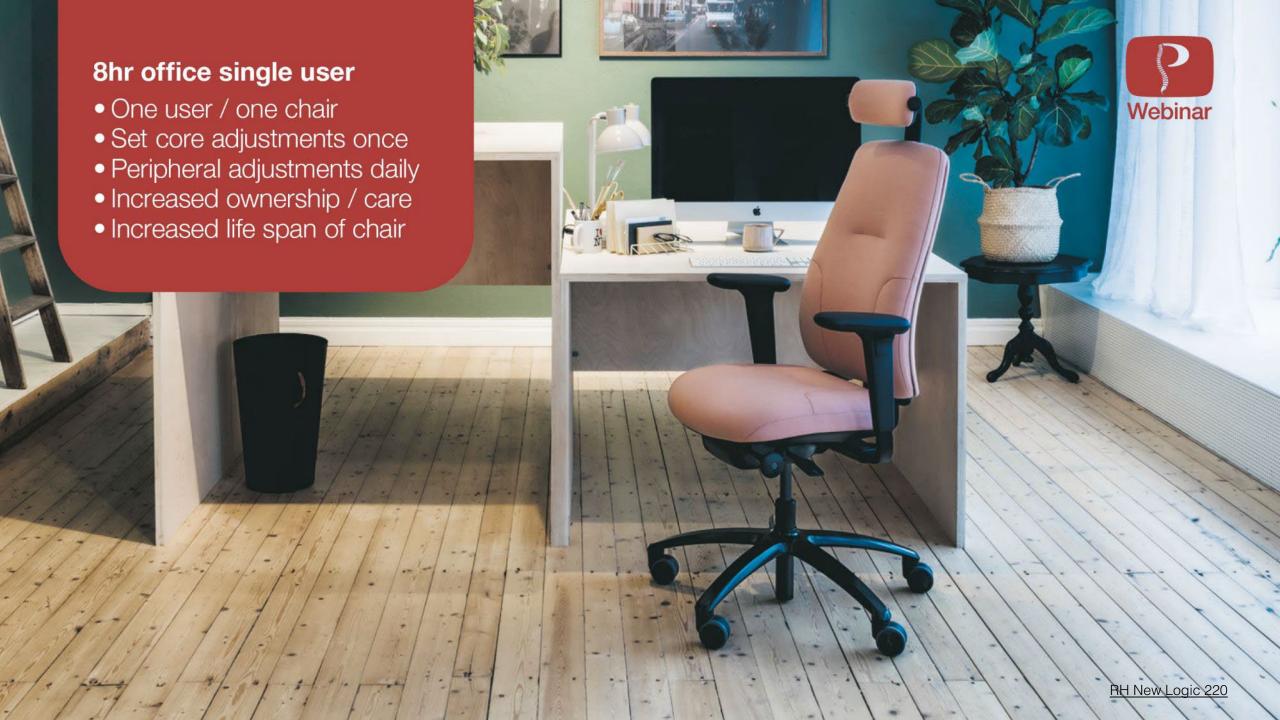
Homeworking



Meeting room (collaboration)







8hr office single user

- One user / one chair
- Set core adjustments once
- Peripheral adjustments daily
- Increased ownership / care
- Increased life span of chair

Optimal chair:

- Traditional levers
- Personalized settings
- Tension-able movement
- Choice of pad size / type
- Less ongoing curative £

- RH New Logic
- Positiv P-Sit







8hr office multi-user

- Multiple users / one chair
- Set core adjustments daily
- Peripheral adjustments daily
- Less ownership / care
- Reduced life span of chair

Optimal chair:

- Plug and play seating
- Fewer adjustments
- Auto-tension movement
- 50th centile pad size / type
- More likely need of curative £

- HAG Sofi
- Boss Tauro



Touch down multi-user

- Multiple users / one chair
- Likely little adjustment used
- Used for short periods of time
- Possibly not DSE task areas
- Reduced life span of chair

Optimal chair:

- Plug and play
- Minimal adjustments
- Auto-tension movement
- Smaller pads?
- Differentiate from 8hr

- Haworth Nia
- HAG Capisco Puls







Meeting room/collaboration

- Multiple users / one chair
- Little adjustment used
- Used for short periods of time
- Likely not DSE task areas
- Possible long duration sitting

The optimal chair:

- Think padding
- Seat height to match desk
- Autonomous movement
- Freedom for upper body
- Less adjustment means improved sustainability story

- HAG Tion
- Boss Ola



Homeworking

- One user / one chair
- Domestic FIRA regs
- Likely aesthetic preference
- What if user leaves?
- How does the user purchase?
- Timeframes

Optimal chair:

- Domestic fabric / foam
- Traditional levers
- Tweakable adjustments
- Less ongoing curative £
- In-stock models

- Homeworker
- Homeworker Plus





How chair manufacturers have adapted to a changing market







Parting thoughts

Hybrid working can offer a greater variance in working environments

Match the task at hand with the most appropriate space and equipment

By selecting a chair with features and functions that serve each space optimally, benefits to health, productivity, usability, sustainability and budget can be achieved



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Employees need a reason to go to the office





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