



Spiral Table
Price: £2400.00



Chevon Desk and Chair
Price: £4200.00



Chest of Drawers
Price: £5000.00

Andrew Lawton

Andrew Lawton trained to be a primary school teacher, followed by three years private tuition in fine cabinetmaking with his father, Harry Lawton, Dip. Ed. He took over the former workshop of pioneer Derbyshire craftsman Ben Coopland and has been running his own business since 1980. Andrew is a member of the Society of Designer Craftsmen and a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers.

Commissions: Most of Andrew's work is domestic furniture for private individuals. Prominent commissions include a complete dining room scheme consisting of a table and chairs, buffet/storage cabinet and floor-standing corner drinks cabinet, and a living room scheme including furniture for display and storage, coffee table, door & architraves and picture frames, for a newly extended house. Work for other than private individuals includes: Old Ashburnians Society, Lincoln County Hospital, Sickleholme Golf Club Library, Richard Attenborough Centre for Disability & the Arts and TC Harrison Group of Companies.

Group Exhibitions: 'Masterclass 82', Hichin. 'Woodworkers of Excellence', Cheltenham New Members Exhibition, Society of Designer Craftsmen, 1987. Bovey Tracey 'The Commissioning Dialogue', Mall Galleries, London 'Furniture Is' Nottingham Trent University 'A Vision in Action' (marking the centenary of the death of William Morris) , Bath 'A Celebration of Craftsmanship' Cheltenham 'Design on Environment', Banqueting House, London 'Designer crafts 2001', Mall Galleries, London Two of his pieces have been awarded the prestigious Guild Mark by the Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers [for excellence in design, craftsmanship & materials]; 'Spiral' Table in English walnut & sycamore, 1991, [pictured] Collector's cabinet in American black walnut & sycamore, in collaboration with marquetry specialists, Young Jones.

Travel: Nationally, Yes Internationally, Yes



Press Quotes: 'Andrew Lawton included a writing table and small triangular table of ebony and ripple sycamore. These were beautifully made, and the artist seems to have enjoyed choosing shapes and strong colour contrasts.' Paul Vincent, 'The Designer Craftsman' 'A lovely restrained design, with elegant details. The folded end panels make the most of some lovely timber...fine drawer making with interesting handles.' Chris Simpson, 'The Complete Woodworking Course' 'Andrew showed three pieces which all displayed a visual simplicity. I believe that this is the area where an established designer may stand apart from the student or a less experienced designer craftsman. All of his pieces relied on a single focal point and were very well made from carefully selected materials'. Joseph Bray, exhibition review.

Maker's Statement:

My work is firmly rooted in fundamental design principles, an understanding of the possibilities and constraints of using timber as a constructional and decorative material, allied to sound cabinetmaking techniques. Integrity of construction, with the joints themselves, where appropriate, forming decorative elements in the design, is central to my approach. My preference is for quiet understatement rather than flamboyant decoration; to create enduring, personalised furniture to live with and use now and in the future.

Commissioning Procedure:

Andrew Lawton hopes to make commissioning furniture from his workshop an enjoyable and rewarding experience. To begin with, the purpose, dimensions, preferred woods and finish are discussed in detail, including any particular features which the furniture should possess. This may involve a visit to the client's home to view the intended setting of the piece. This gives the information needed to produce sketches and drawings, and scale models in some cases, of the proposed design and a calculation of the likely cost. The design process may suggest new ideas or alterations which are then brought together in revised drawings along with an accurate quotation of the final cost and a written specification of the project. The copyright is reserved and the design may not be taken away and made elsewhere. Once the client decides to go ahead, the materials selected and prepared and an approximate delivery date agreed. Commissions are normally completed within six months but it is often possible to meet a specific date such as a wedding. Clients are encouraged to visit and see the work in progress so that they can see the detailed and precise craftsmanship which goes into a piece of bespoke furniture, and feel involved in its creation. When the piece is completed, arrangements are made for its delivery. Studio visits Visitors and prospective clients are welcome to call at the workshop. As well as work in progress, several finished pieces are usually available for inspection in the small showroom. Anyone planning to visit from a distance or at a weekend is advised to make an appointment. Unfortunately, the workshop is unable to take on apprentices.

Pricing Policy:

The figure which accompany the images are only approximate, since in most cases clients will not wish to commission an exact repeat of an existing piece of furniture shown here, but use the photographs as a starting point for a new design that is personal to them. I enjoy the challenge of working to a tight budget, and can usually achieve this by an intelligent combination of design, construction and materials, without compromising quality. A chest of drawers £4200, tables start from £2400, folding screen £1200.

VAT Registered: No

