# **Open Plan Environments**

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### **Opening Up Your Workspace**

Knoll has played a defining role in shaping the modern office. Beginning with the work of the Knoll Planning Unit in 1943, Florence Knoll pioneered the practice of creating office interiors that realize the unique functional, aspirational and economic needs of the client. For four decades Knoll has advanced the evolution of open office systems, including the first panel systems that combine technical performance with the elegance of fine furniture; spine with mobile elements that enable rapid reconfiguration; and storage-based and big table solutions that encourage collaboration as well as improve space and resource efficiencies.

Today, Knoll offers an unmatched range of integrated choices for the open plan and private office environments, a proven commitment to sustainability, and a client-focused approach that Hans and Florence Knoll first nurtured three-quarters of a century ago.

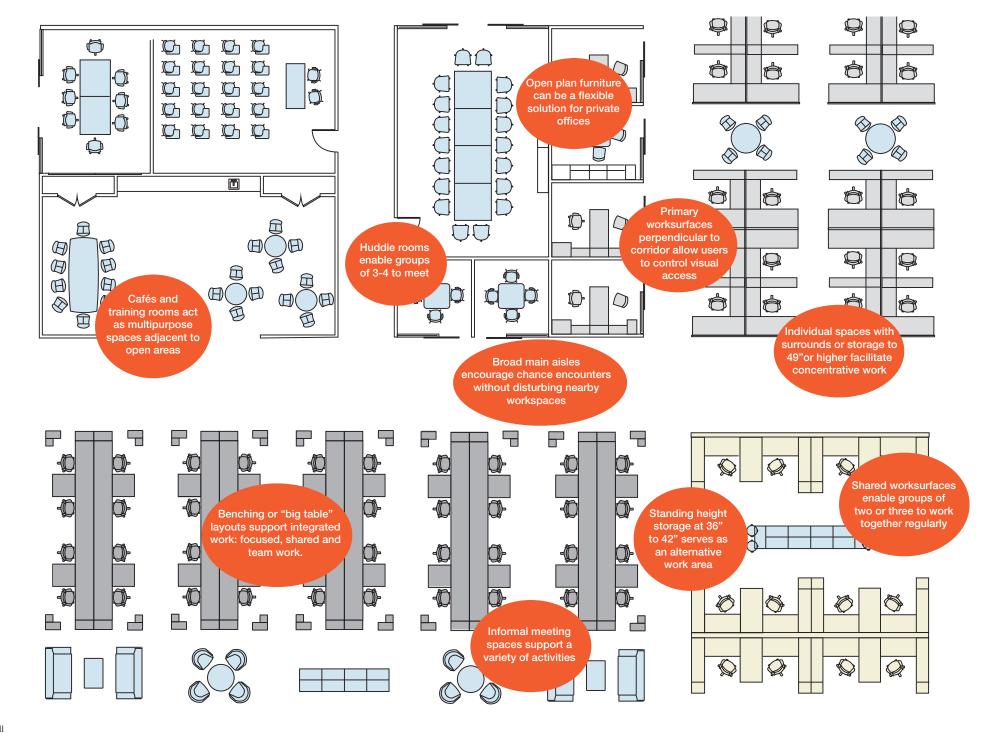
On the cover: Dividends Horizon<sup>®</sup> workstations with Template<sup>™</sup> storage, Chadwick<sup>™</sup> task chairs and Spark<sup>™</sup> side chairs. Opposite: Knoll client installations. Top row, from left: Dividends Horizon; Antenna<sup>®</sup> Workspaces. Middle row: Florence and Hans Knoll with a Knoll Planning Unit client, c. 1953; AutoStrada<sup>™</sup> Crinion Open Table. Bottom row: Milliken corporate offices, designed by the Knoll Planning Unit, c. 1955; Dividends Horizon and Upstart<sup>®</sup> tables with Currents<sup>®</sup> Fence.











# The Office Is Opening Up to Change

The workplace is in the midst of a dramatic transformation in support of changes in demographics, technology and a shift to "distributed work." Open offices are even more open to light, views and communication; more diverse, with different work spaces for different kinds of work; more adaptable to changes in technology and organization; and more integrated in support of both individual and group work.

Knoll research confirms that most organizations recognize three primary types of work: *focused* work (concentrative work by one person); *shared* work (among two or three people); and *team* work (among four to six or more people). These primary work modes are linked and complemented by various activity areas that are often referred to as collaborative spaces. This brochure explores solutions for open plan environments oriented primarily around each of these types of work.

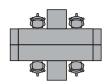
#### **Primary Work Spaces**

Focus

Share







Team

Activity Spaces
Small group

Team meeting

-





Community

# **Focused Planning**

Focused planning allows individuals to concentrate on their work without being isolated from their co-workers. To this end, medium-height panels and storage ensure privacy without blocking views in the open plan. Systems furniture and storage also create nearby meeting spaces and efficient private office solutions.

Dividends Horizon<sup>®</sup> with Template<sup>™</sup> and Calibre<sup>®</sup> storage. Chadwick<sup>™</sup> task chairs; Spark<sup>®</sup> side chairs.





#### Focused Planning

Interchangeable components and a broad finish palette create a differentiated, yet consistent, aesthetic between open plan and more enclosed focused spaces.

There are three key horizons for enclosure in the open plan: 42" enables seated visual access; 48–50" provides some seated privacy and shields computer monitors; and 64" offers maximum privacy as well as the opportunity for overhead storage.

Above and right: AutoStrada<sup>™</sup> with Life<sup>®</sup> chairs; AutoStrada Crinion Open Table with Moment<sup>™</sup> side chairs. Opposite: Morrison with Reuter overhead storage and Generation by Knoll<sup>®</sup> chairs; D'Urso tables; MultiGeneration by Knoll<sup>®</sup> hybrid chairs.





# **Shared Planning**

Shared desktops can support two or three people who work together frequently. A sophisticated spine system with moveable screens and freestanding furniture enables work groups to be readily configured or changed as needed, without disrupting critical services infrastructure.

Reff Profiles<sup>™</sup> workstations with AutoStrada<sup>™</sup> spine and gallery screens; Calibre<sup>®</sup> files with extended Reff Profiles tops; Life<sup>®</sup> chairs; Moment<sup>™</sup> side chairs; Twist barstools.





#### Shared Planning

Shared tables and facing desktops, above and right, offer opportunities for both planned and spontaneous shared work. Shared work, facing page, can be facilitated by adjacent desktops and an extension top for occasional visitors. In both plans, storage elements establish the boundaries of individual work areas.

Above and right: Dividends Horizon<sup>®</sup> with Template<sup>™</sup> storage spine; EWC Pro<sup>™</sup> task chairs; Sprite side chairs. Opposite: Antenna<sup>®</sup> Workspaces with Generation by Knoll<sup>®</sup> chairs and MultiGeneration by Knoll<sup>®</sup> hybrid chairs; Cini Boeri lounge chairs and ottomans with Saarinen side tables.





# **Team Planning**

A "big table" configuration encourages a team of four-to-eight people to communicate freely and frequently. This multi-purpose layout enables focused, shared and team work without leaving the primary work area. Corners of each group work space are defined by L-cabinets for personal storage. Nearby standing height tables and lower storage "islands" offer alternative work settings.

Antenna<sup>®</sup> Workspaces big tables with L-cabinets and returns; Template<sup>™</sup> low credenzas; Generation by Knoll<sup>®</sup> work chairs; Twist barstools; Spark<sup>®</sup> lounge chairs with Antenna Workspaces low table.





#### Team Planning

The continuous, cantilevered tops of a classic "bench" plan, above and right, patterned after a conference table, accommodate any number of users and are ideal for free-address facilities. Parallel standing height counters house group and individual storage.

Fence spines with translucent glass above desk height, facing page, distribute power, data and communications, while forming the boundaries of open team workspaces. Self-supporting Fence enables freestanding desks and independent storage to be rearranged as each team requires.

Above and right: AutoStrada<sup>™</sup> Crinion Open Table with Life<sup>®</sup> chairs. Opposite: Antenna<sup>®</sup> Workspaces with Fence and Template<sup>™</sup> storage; ReGeneration by Knoll<sup>®</sup> task chairs; MultiGeneration by Knoll<sup>®</sup> hybrid chairs





## **Activity Spaces in the Open Plan Environment**

Activity spaces accomodate small group spaces for sharing, team spaces for groups of four to six, and spaces for spontaneous exchange. These areas energize the open environment and support collaborative work, as well as create a sense of shared identity and connectedness to an organization.

Small Group Spaces: Reff Profiles<sup>™</sup> sliding table with Moment<sup>™</sup> side chairs; Antenna<sup>®</sup> Workspaces low table with Spark<sup>®</sup> lounge chairs. Team Work Spaces: D'Urso table with MultiGeneration by Knoll<sup>®</sup> hybrid chairs; Antenna<sup>®</sup> Workspaces desks with ReGeneration by Knoll<sup>®</sup> task chairs. Community Spaces: Calibre standing-height storage with Reff Profiles<sup>™</sup> top and Twist stools; Template<sup>™</sup> low credenza.

### Small Group Spaces

# Knoll Systems





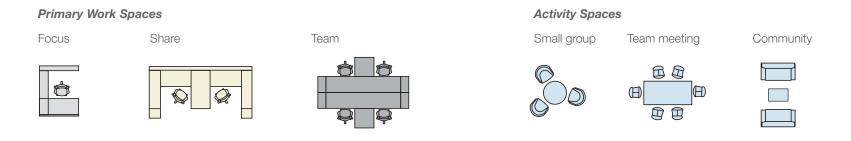
**Community Spaces** 





# Open Plan Environments

Open plan plays a central and growing role in most office environments. Organizations demand a variety of open plan solutions that support diverse individual work styles and provide multiple opportunities for collaborative work and group activities. Knoll offers an unmatched range of integrated choices for open plan and enclosed environments, including systems products, work chairs, guest and multipurpose seating, KnollExtra accessories and KnollStudio furniture featured in this brochure.



#### Primary Work Modes

Knoll research confirms that most organizations recognize three primary types of work—*focused* work (concentrative work by one person), *shared* work (among two or three people) and *team* work (among four to six or more people). These primary work modes are linked and complemented by various *activity* areas that are sometimes called collaborative spaces





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