Jens Risom Collection
One of the first designers to bring traditional Scandinavian values to the United States, Jens Risom was part of a new vanguard that helped establish post-war America’s leadership role in modern furniture design and manufacturing. Born in Denmark in 1916, Risom studied at the Copenhagen School of Industrial Arts and Design. He began his tutelage in the workshop of Kaare Klint in 1935 and subsequently joined Ernst Kuhn’s architectural office to design furniture and interiors.

In 1939, Risom emigrated to the U.S. and joined forces with Hans Knoll, a furniture manufacturer in search of a good designer. The pair embarked on a three-month trip across the country, meeting with architects and designers to gather insight into the demand for modern furnishings. In 1941, the Risom Collection became the first full line of modern furniture to be commissioned and manufactured by Knoll.

Constructed of simple birch wood frames and discarded parachute webbing because of wartime material restrictions, the Collection exhibits Risom’s taste for well-crafted Scandinavian Modernism with streamlined curves and angles. Risom initially described his furniture as “very basic, very simple, inexpensive and easy to make.” The Risom Collection now includes three finishes — Clear Maple, Ebonized Maple and Light Walnut — along with a modern color palette of cotton and nylon webbing.

The Risom Collection reflects the KnollStudio™ commitment to timeless, enduring design, continuing the Knoll legacy of producing furniture to the exacting standards of the designer and affirming our unwavering belief in the power and utility of modern design.
Side Chairs and Stools can be specified in Clear Maple, Ebonized Maple or Light Walnut finishes in a range of cotton or nylon webbing. Risom Side Chairs are available with a webbed seat, as well as webbed seat and back. Stools above in Clear Maple with Steel Blue, Khaki, Maize and Navy cotton webbing. Side Chairs, with webbed seat and back, right, in Ebonized Maple finish with Flax cotton webbing; Side Chair, with webbed seat, in Ebonized Maple finish with Steel Blue cotton webbing.
Left: Round and Square Side Tables and Amoeba Coffee Table in Light Walnut finish. Round Dining Table, above, in Light Walnut finish with accompanying Side Chairs with webbed seat and back in Light Walnut finish with Maize cotton webbing. Side Chairs and Tables can be specified in Clear Maple, Ebonized Maple or Light Walnut finishes.
“I prefer design that is neutral and not center stage, furniture that is for people, to be used.” – Jens Risom
The Risom Collection is available in Clear Maple, Ebonized Maple or Light Walnut finishes with a range of webbing colors in cotton or nylon.
Jens Risom Collection

Side Chair

Lounge Chair

Stool

Dining Table

Side and Coffee Tables

Front and back covers: The Risom Collection in Ebonized Maple finish with Red cotton webbing.