

Eames Fiberglass Armchair LAR

Design: Charles & Ray Eames



SUSTAINABILITY

For Vitra, environmental, economic and social conduct begin with the individual. In order to develop, manufacture and market dependably long-lasting and environmentally sound products, Vitra complements this key factor of individual initiative with regular audits of the company's standards by independent review entities.

VITRA AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Vitra has manufactured furniture designs by Charles & Ray Eames and George Nelson since 1957. Building on this foundation over the years, the company has developed a wide range of furnishings for the office, for the home and for public spaces in collaboration with progressive designers.

Since 1997 Vitra has implemented a certified system for quality and environmental management according to the standards of **DIN EN ISO 9001** and **DIN EN ISO 14001**. Vitra is committed on all levels to reducing the use of energy, raw materials and other resources – thereby reducing the environmental impact caused by emissions, waste water and waste materials. The most important contribution of Vitra to environmental sustainability, however, is the high quality and enduring design of its long-lasting products. The unusually long life cycle of Vitra products is ensured by aesthetics that do not follow temporary trends and fashions, and also by a careful selection of materials and the use of innovative technologies. The longevity of Vitra products is increased by the replaceability of wearing parts.

Trucks are to leave Vitra production sites preferably with a full load; the use of returnable packaging is being constantly increased. Preference is given to rail transport; overseas cargo is sent by ship and special transport is avoided. Vitra uses environmentally friendly materials for packaging and minimizes the volume of packaged products to make efficient use of the loading space in truck trailers and shipping containers.

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MATERIALS

Steel is a stable compound of iron and carbon with various added alloys. As the technical properties such as strength and elasticity can be adjusted according to the steel grade, the material can be used flexibly in many different forms. At the end of the product life cycle, steel components can be melted down and completely recycled.

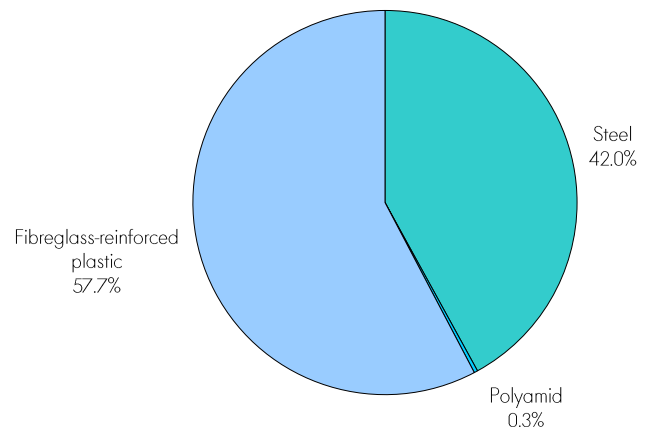
Polyamide is a very strong thermoplastic synthetic material. With the addition of a small amount of new material, polyamide can be 100% recycled. In order to facilitate single-variety separation and recycling, all plastic components that are large enough are labelled according to ISO 11469:2000.

Fibreglass-reinforced plastic is a fibre-plastic composite made of plastic (polyester) and glass fibre. The mechanical properties of plastic and fibreglass complement each other, resulting in a highly resistant and durable construction material. It can be recycled both materially (e.g. in the cement industry) and thermally (in the form of released energy).

RECYCLING AND REUSE OF PRODUCTS

Fiberglass is very durable. Many Vitra products are sold on the established vintage or used furniture market. Vitra itself promotes the reuse of products through repair and resale, rental and return models.

At the end of the product life cycle, the fiberglass chairs can also be recycled as part of a take-back programme: In cooperation with partners from the cement industry, fiberglass is used as a raw material and fuel substitute in the cement clinker production process. In this process, 100% of the discarded shells can also be sustainably exploited, conserving such resources as coal, chalk, sand and aluminium oxide.



Eames Fiberglass Armchair LAR, base chrome