



The Bofinger Chair is the founding father of single sheet manufactured furniture, also named BA 1171 the chair was designed by architect and designer Helmut Batzner in 1964. The chair was designed and built with Bofinger company which was based in Ilsfeld in Germany.

The chair with the help of Bofinger and MD Rudolf Baresel-Bofinger became into the first one-piece plastic chair that was mass produced using fibreglass reinforced polyester to that used a single pressing processes over a steel mould.

The manufacturing process for this chair was incredibly innovative and spawned a whole birth of furniture and objects within the manufacturing world that allowed objects to be made in under 5 minutes from start to finish. The Bofinger chair was intended as extra seating for experimental stages, foyers, cafes, canteens and terraces. Before Batzner's architecture office and Bofinger the only designers to use reinforced plastic were the likes of Charles and Ray

Eames. Many designers of this era had a desire to manufacture chairs and other furniture using this manufacturing technique but had been unable due to lack of infrastructure surrounding the manufacturing process behind Reinforced Polymers. The material was able to be dyed all the way through before being manufactured, speeding up the manufacturing process incredibly. The shape of the chair was that it had maximum stability by smallest material quantity used and was suitable for both indoors and out. The only finishing process required was the scraping of excess material around the edges.

In 1966 the chair was presented at the Cologne Furniture Fair in 1966 and received the Rosenthal-Studio Award and became a design icon that has lasted to this day keeping it's place in the V&A Museum situated in the Materials & Techniques: Furniture, The Dr. Susan Weber Gallery.

Due to it's rapid manufacturing kindness the chair found itself worldwide and impacted lives and society heavily with it's light, movable, stackable, weatherproof and linkable characteristics. The manufacturing process derived from the creation of this chair has left an unmeasurable amount of change and the way products have been fed to us from designers and manufacturers for the last 50 years.

Situated where it is the chair is making and has become a statement reinforcing the importance of this chair, telling the story of it's creation and the impact that followed. Because of the nature of the manufacturing process derived from the creation of this chair, it created a giant turn and change in design that Bofinger designed and became a globally used manufacturing technique. The designer and people behind the chair instigated an influx in change and rooted their say in history impacting the importance of that chair which is played solely through the people who designed and manufactured it. The chair can be found in museums such as the Centre Pompidou in Paris and others around the world and is considered one of the most important classic pieces of modern furniture ever and will retain that position as long as the material stays relevant.

