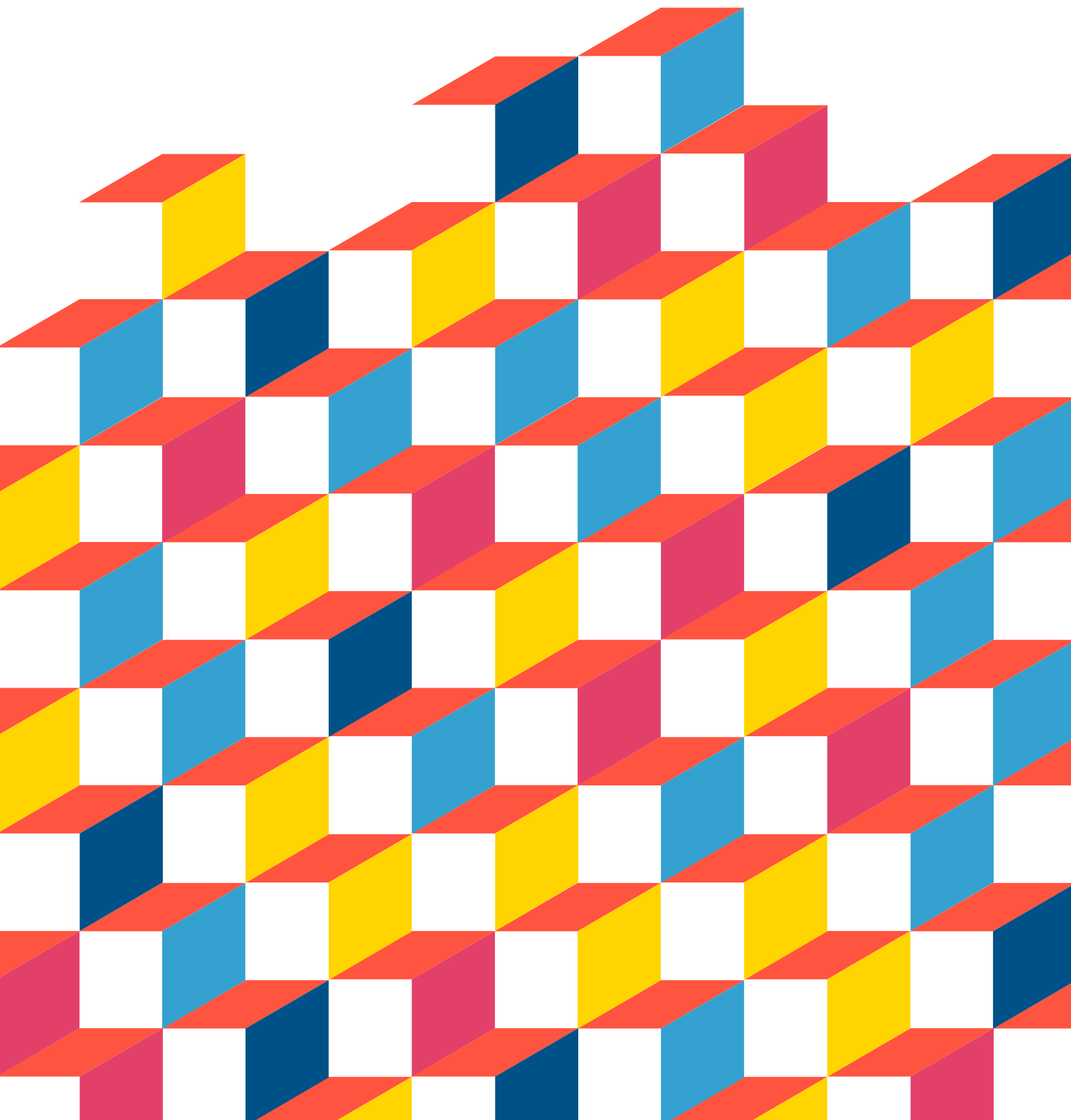


HermanMiller  
Learning Spaces Sketchbook







## People + Pedagogy + Place = Possibilities

People, pedagogy, and place are essential elements of effective learning spaces. When they are considered and combined in the right ways, the possibilities are endless.

How can you design a great learning space? At Herman Miller, we believe it begins with research, an essential part of our design process for more than 60 years.

Since 2007, the Learning Spaces Research Program<sup>SM</sup> (LSRP) has been an important part of our work within higher education. The program serves as an ongoing, strategic research partnership between Herman Miller and several education institutions across North America.

Through the LSRP, we work with institutions interested in testing new approaches to learning spaces and collect data on how these approaches are working. This data provides a critical view into what's working and what isn't, and allows schools to distinguish meaningful approaches to space design from short-lived trends.

The result? A better understanding of the needs of faculty and students, and the ability to make informed decisions about solutions that may be right for their campuses today and in the future.

The Learning Spaces Sketchbook captures a series of insights we've gained from our ongoing research with over 3,000 faculty and students across more than 30 institutions. We have taken these insights, along with ongoing customer engagements, and translated them into a sample of possible learning space "sketches."

This sketchbook is designed to share what we have learned and to challenge you to look at your learning spaces in new ways.

## **Learning Space Insights**

The following insights result from ongoing testing of new approaches to learning spaces and are not intended to be prescriptive. We hope each insight causes you to consider new approaches to learning space design.

As our research continues, we look forward to a continued dialogue on each of the following insights, which will lead to discovery of new ideas for learning space design.

### **Enhance Collaboration**

Idea: Traditional classroom design often limits engagement (due to rows, etc.). Space should enable and encourage student and faculty engagement, as well as student-to-student interaction.

### **Foster Engagement**

Idea: Spaces that encourage engagement remove barriers, get faculty out from behind the traditional lectern, and allow them to move freely around the space.

### **Let Learning Happen Everywhere**

Idea: Consider adding “lingering” spaces that connect faculty and students outside scheduled learning spaces.

### **Flex to Meet More Needs**

Idea: Furnishings selected with flexibility in mind allow spaces to be used in different ways. Consider a simple kit of furniture parts that will allow you multiple layouts and space options.

### **Make Technology Work for You**

Idea: Technology should serve your teaching and learning needs and not dictate how, where, or when teaching or learning happens.

### **Provide Supportive Choices**

Idea: Whether you spend 50 minutes or several hours in a learning environment, the need for comfort and variety is clear. Learning space design needs to offer options that support variety and comfort—for both faculty and students.

### **Blur the Lines Between Learning and Work**

Idea: Consider spaces that mirror corporate spaces and support the collaboration and engagement skills vital to post-graduation success.



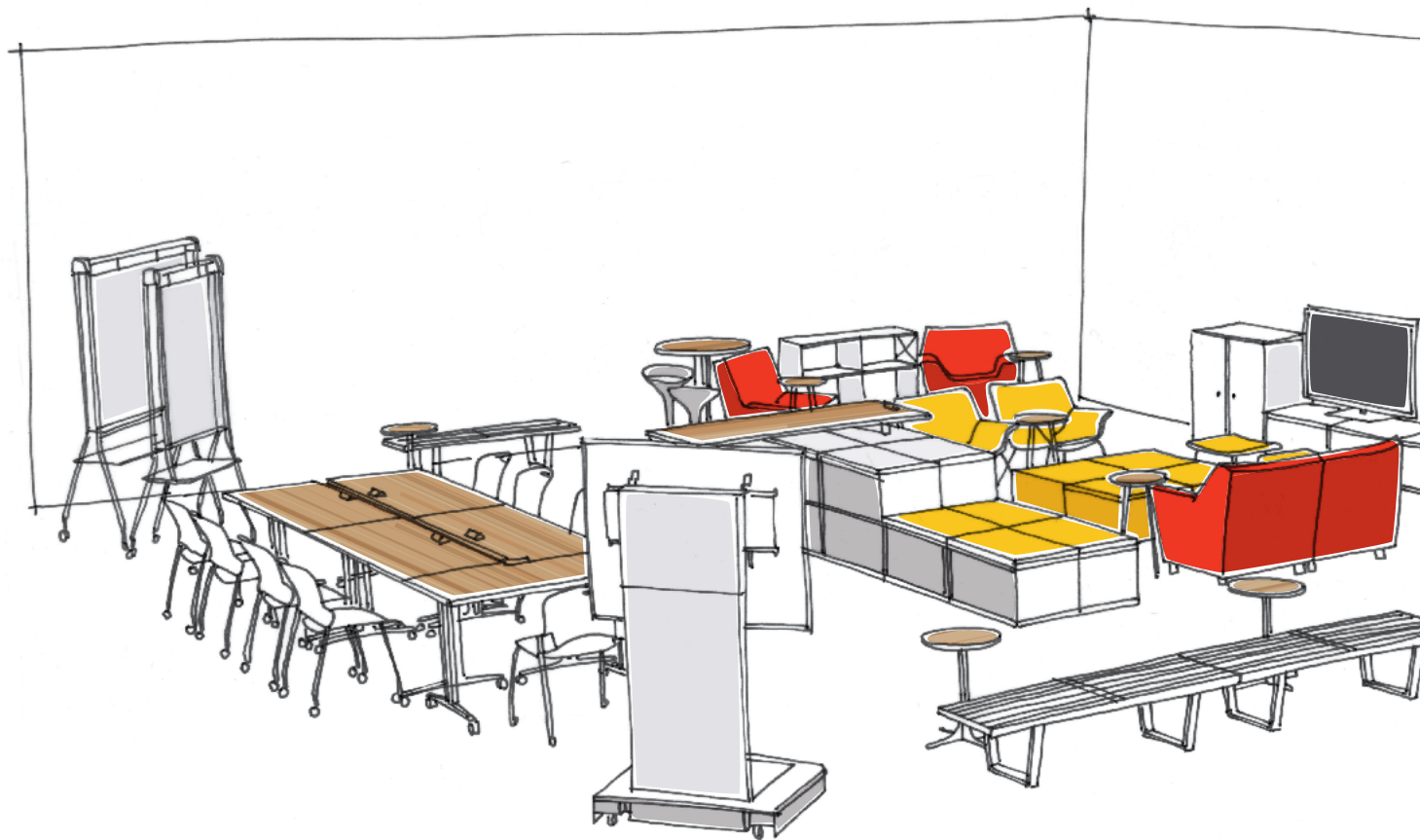




## Consider Something Different

New teaching and learning styles are challenging what we have always considered standard in the traditional “classroom.” Flipping courses, new technologies, and increased collaboration are driving the need for something new in campus learning spaces.

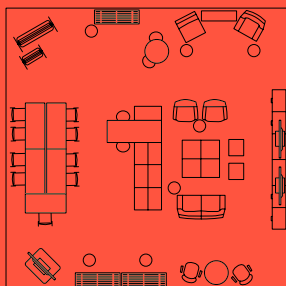
There is something to be said for mixing learning spaces with the comforts of home and the experience of the local coffee shop. It may be time for something different.



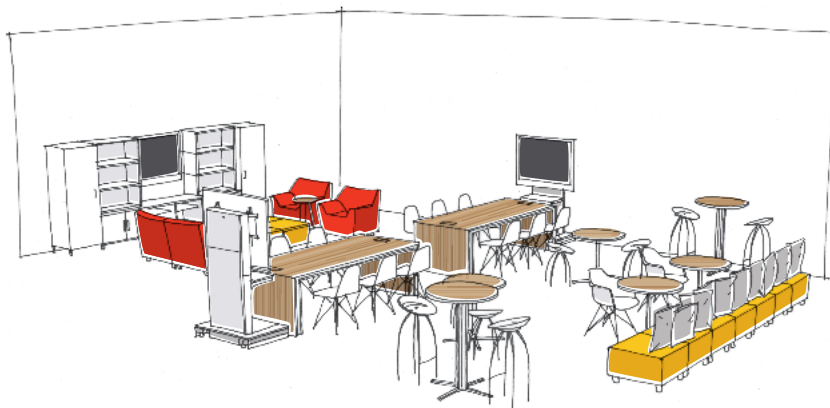
## Interactive Design

Engages students and instructors

An open floor plan encourages instructors to walk around and interact with students by putting less emphasis on the front of the classroom.



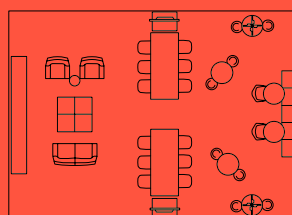
**Learners** 33  
**Room Size** 31' x 31'



## Flexible Design

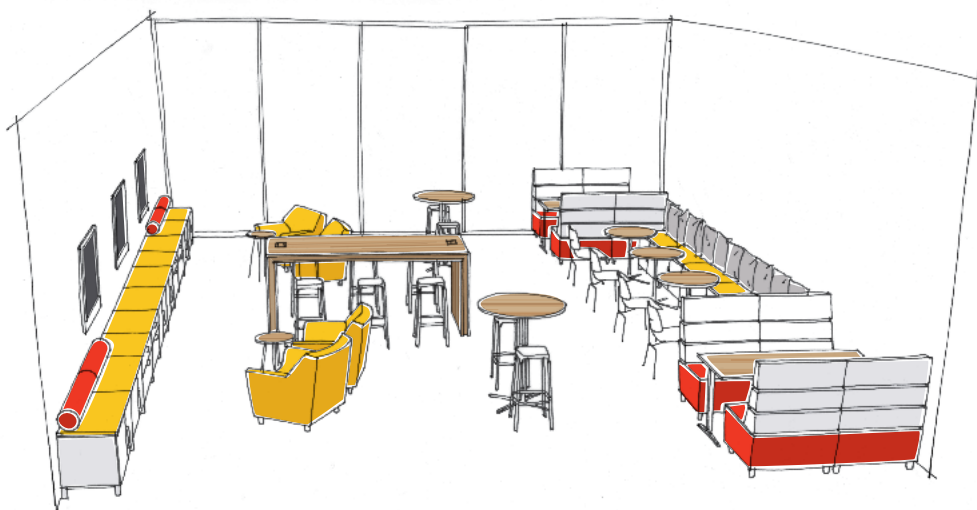
Encourages formal and informal learning

A thoughtful use of soft seating and collaborative spaces creates learning zones that connect with planned and impromptu learning activities.



**Learners** 34

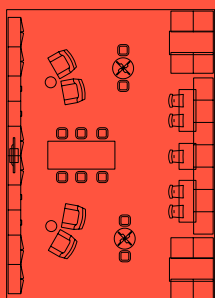
**Room Size** 25' x 35'



## Focused Design

Allows for group privacy

Semi-enclosed lounge seating provides a sense of group privacy, while allowing space for short lectures and classes.



**Learners** 36

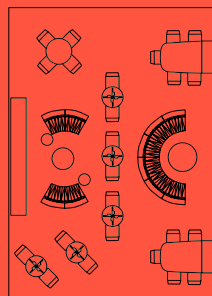
**Room Size** 25' x 35'



### Informal Design

Fosters collaboration in a relaxed environment

A casual mix of furniture and technology encourages student interaction.



Learners 32

Room Size 25' x 35'

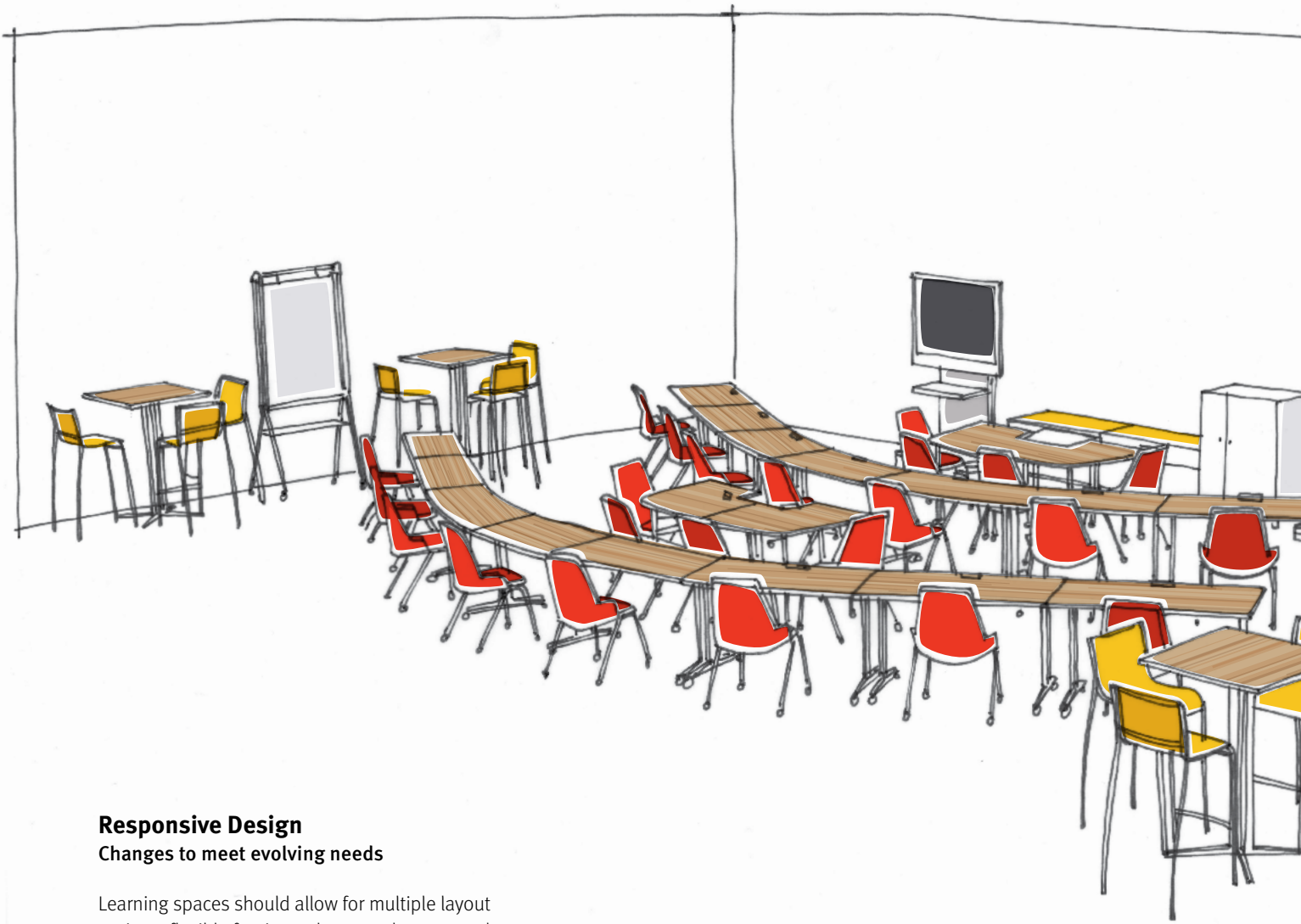




## Design for Change

Often the same classroom on campus is shared by multiple faculty members, departments, and disciplines. This presents a challenge for the traditional classroom layout, forcing faculty and students to adapt to the space versus having the learning space adapt to the teaching and learning taking place. As you can see, it's time for a space that supports change.

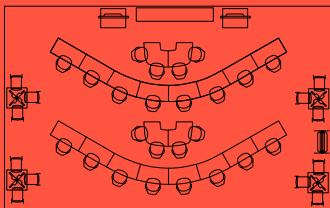
Planning with change in mind can result in a space that evolves with changes in teaching and learning. Consider a smart kit of parts that will enable this change.



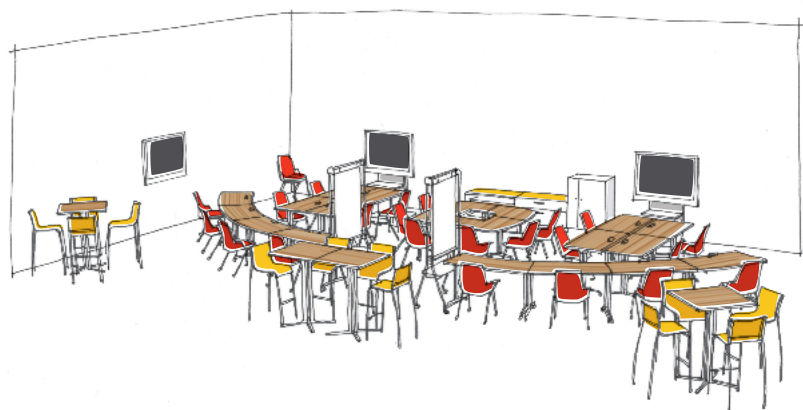
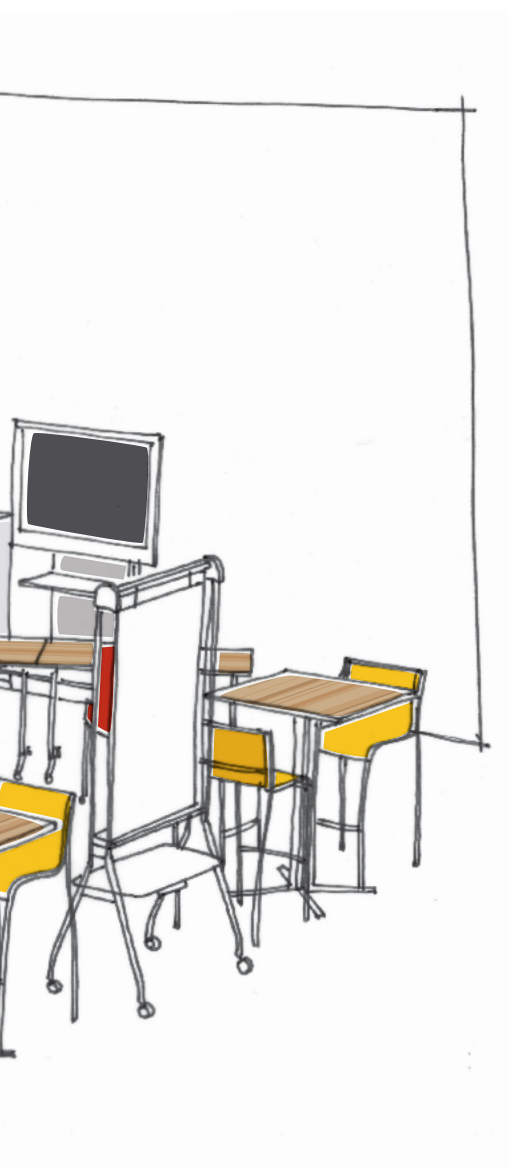
## Responsive Design

### Changes to meet evolving needs

Learning spaces should allow for multiple layout options; flexible furniture elements that respond to evolving learning needs can help.



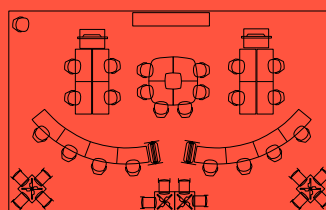
**Learners** 36  
**Room Size** 25' x 40'



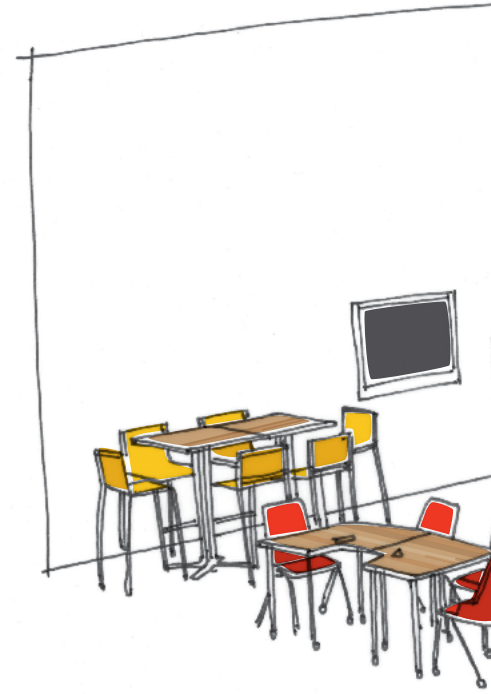
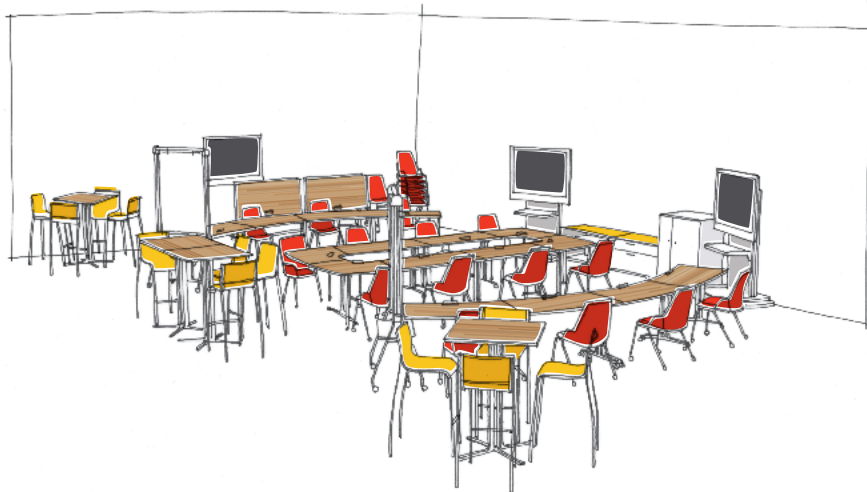
## Mobile Design

Allows for movement and collaboration

A mix of furniture options, designed for mobility, allows for traditional layouts while also meeting the need for collaboration and group work.



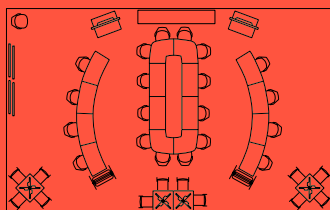
**Learners** 34  
**Room Size** 25' x 40'



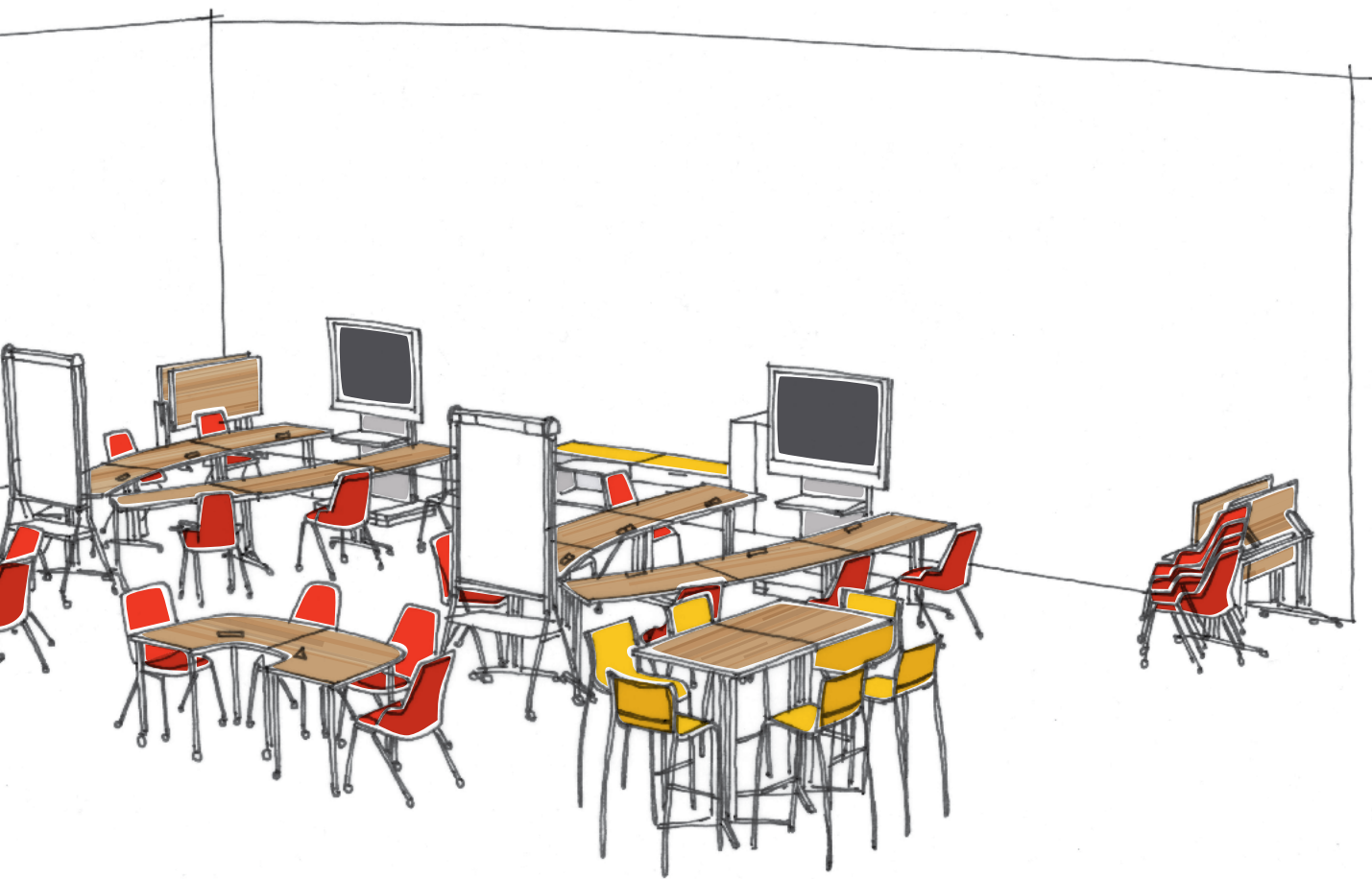
## Open Design

Provides space for interaction

Furniture that can stack, fold, or nest together allows students and instructors to create open spaces for discussion, presentations, and other activities.



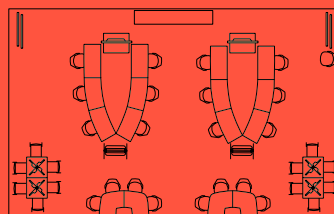
**Learners** 32  
**Room Size** 25' x 40'



### Connective Design

Offers technology that fosters idea exchange

Learning spaces that support video conferencing technology help students to connect. Mobile monitors help students work in groups, no matter their location.



**Learners** 32

**Room Size** 25' x 40'



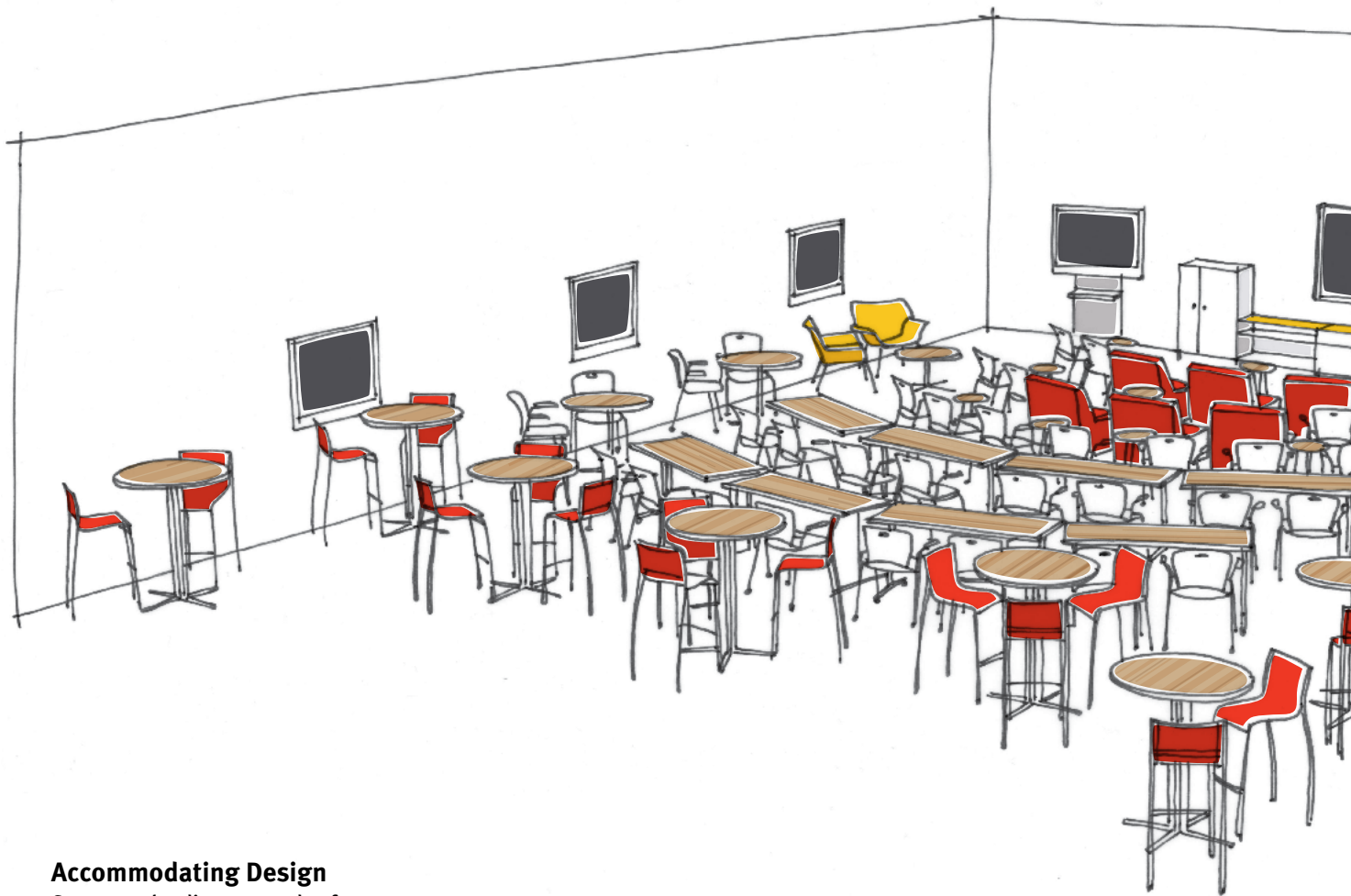


## Build Community

We recognize lecture halls and auditoriums aren't going away anytime soon. They have their place bringing a large number of people together. At the same time, students continue to seek smaller, more engaging learning experiences that help them feel like members of a community.

This rings especially true in those in-between spaces—larger than the traditional classroom and smaller than the traditional lecture hall. While still able to accommodate large numbers of students, these spaces can be designed for comfort, versatility, and small group collaboration.

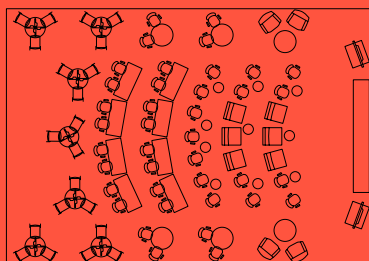
It's difficult to make a small space be big. But you can make larger spaces do double duty, supporting a large number of students while building community both inside and outside the space.



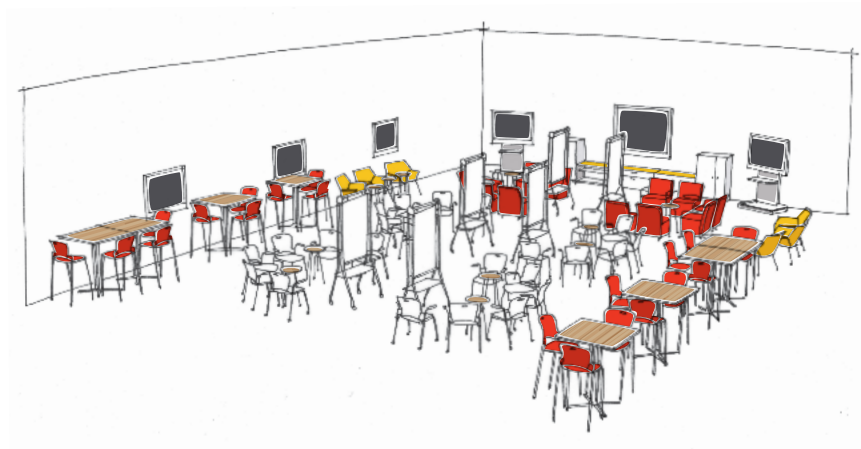
### Accommodating Design

Supports the diverse needs of many

This learning space can become a place that supports larger numbers in collaborative, comfortable, and cohesive ways.



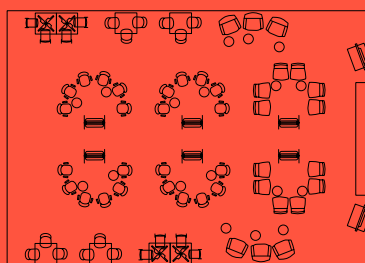
**Learners** 70  
**Room Size** 35' x 50'



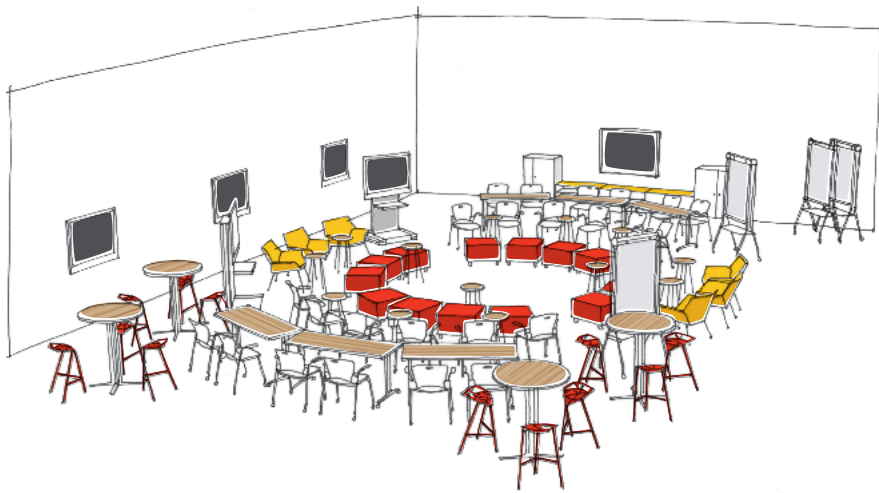
## Adaptive Design

### Morphs to suit large or small groups

A kit of movable parts allows larger learning spaces to support bigger groups and to adapt to support the needs of small group collaborations.



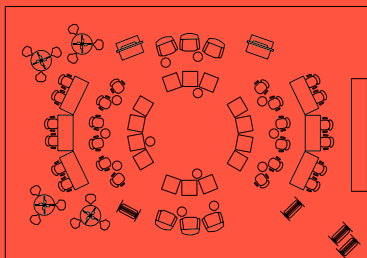
**Learners** 62  
**Room Size** 35' x 40'



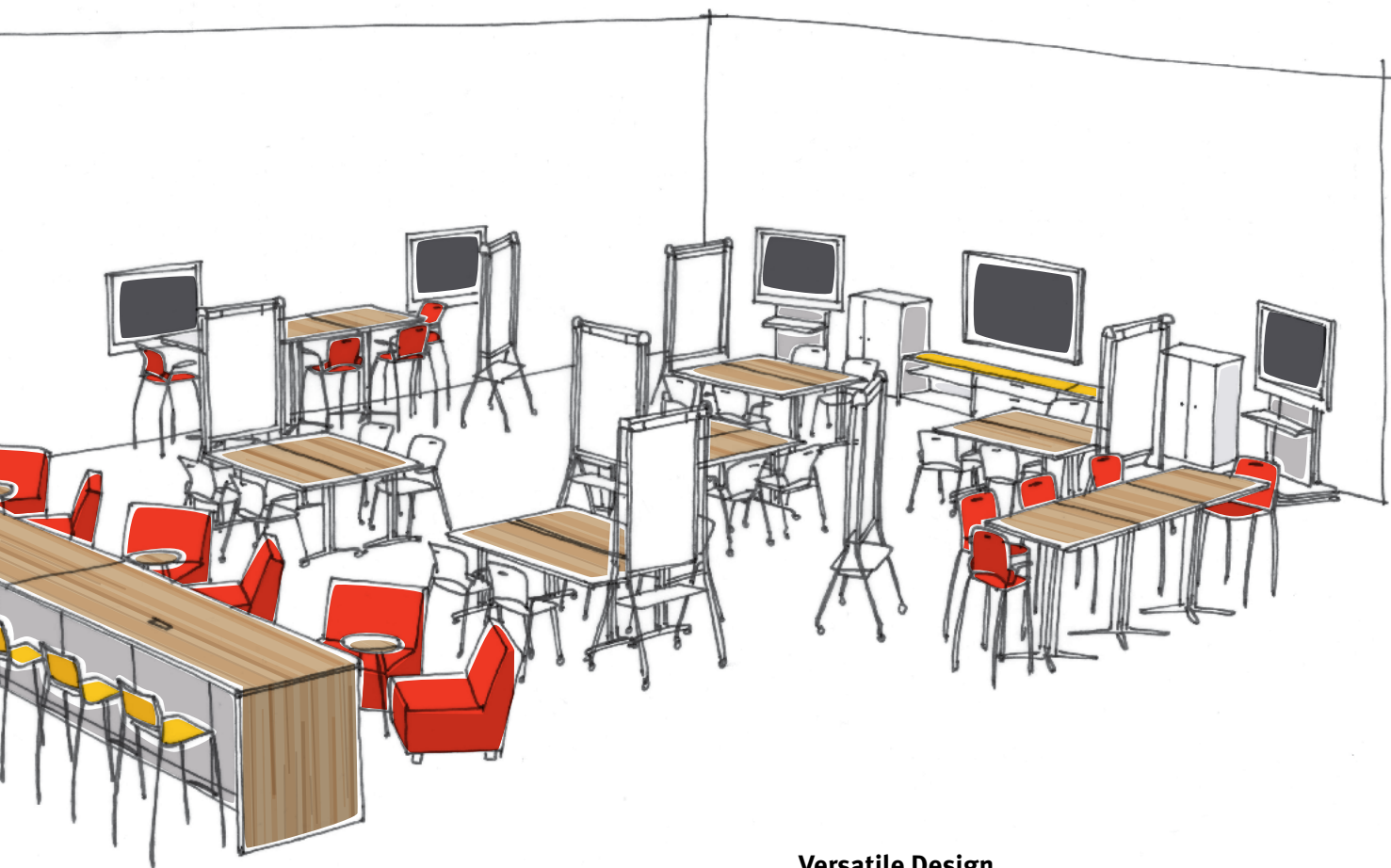
## Tiered Design

Creates a clear line of sight for all

Outfitting a large learning space with furniture of varying heights—from lounge to standing—creates a tiered effect and provides everyone a clear line of sight.



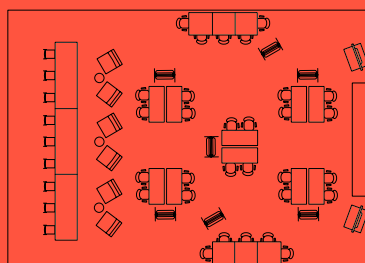
**Learners** 56  
**Room Size** 35' x 50'



### Versatile Design

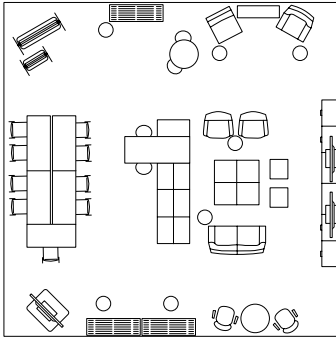
Provides flexible storage and work surfaces

Making storage work harder is a smart way to approach learning space design. Cabinets can store materials and provide surfaces for writing and collaborating.

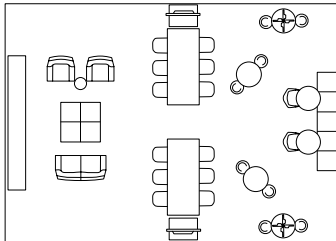


Learners 45  
Room Size 35' x 40'

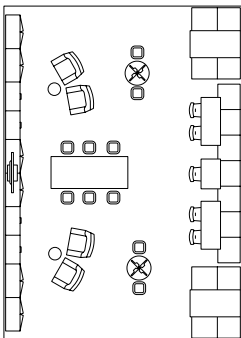
## Consider Something Different



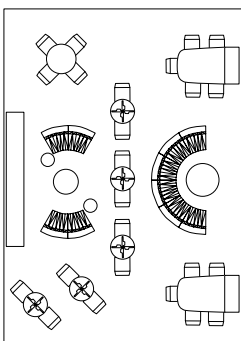
Interactive Design (pg 8)



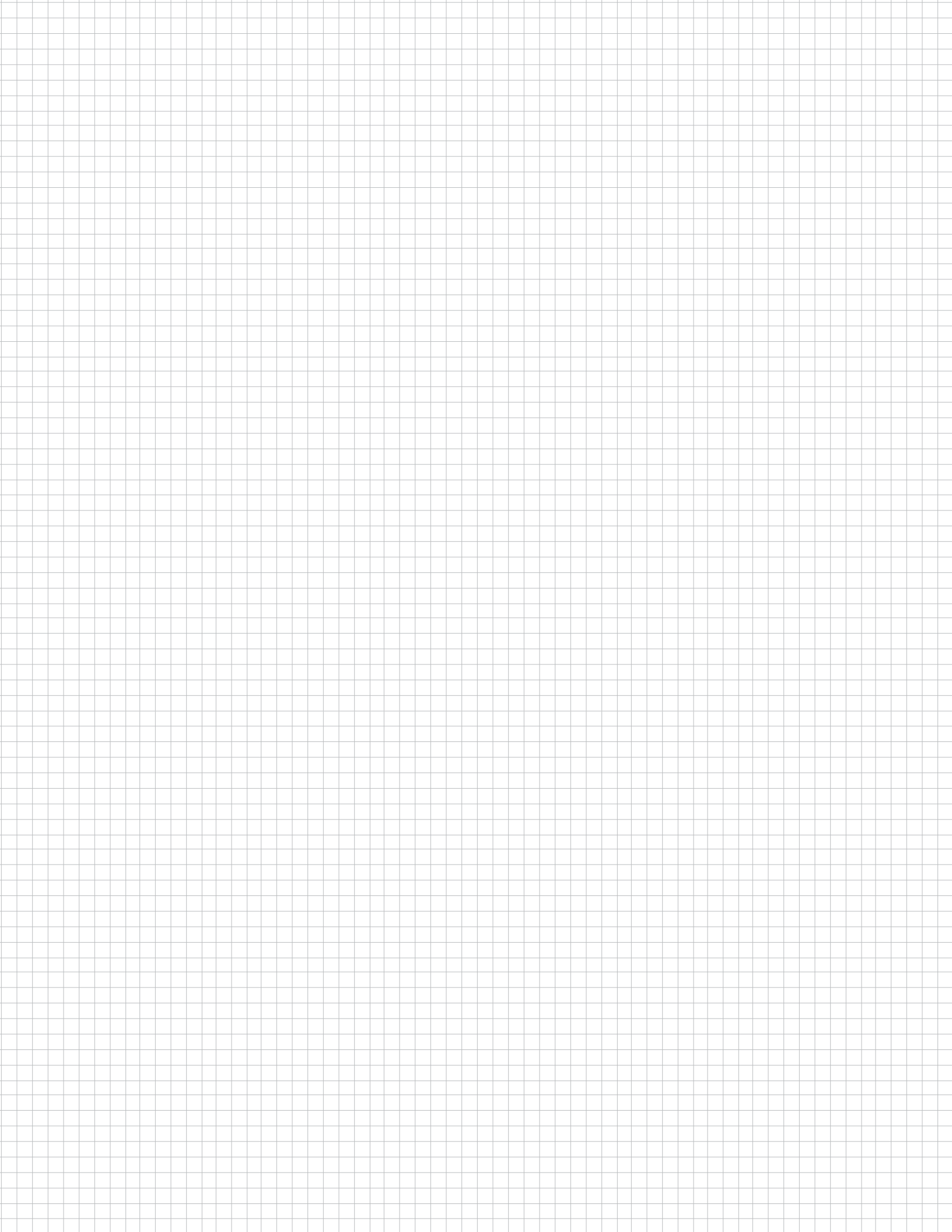
Flexible Design (pg 9)



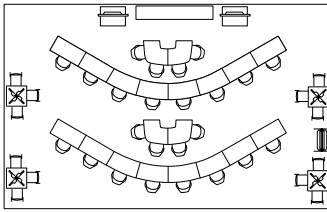
Focused Design (pg 10)



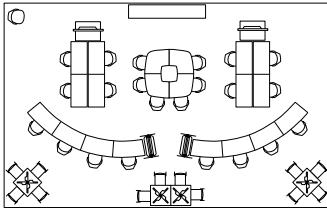
Informal Design (pg 11)



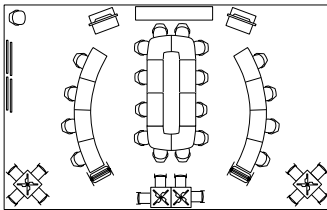
## Design for Change



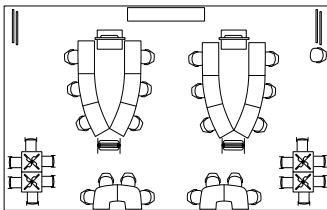
Responsive Design (pg 14)



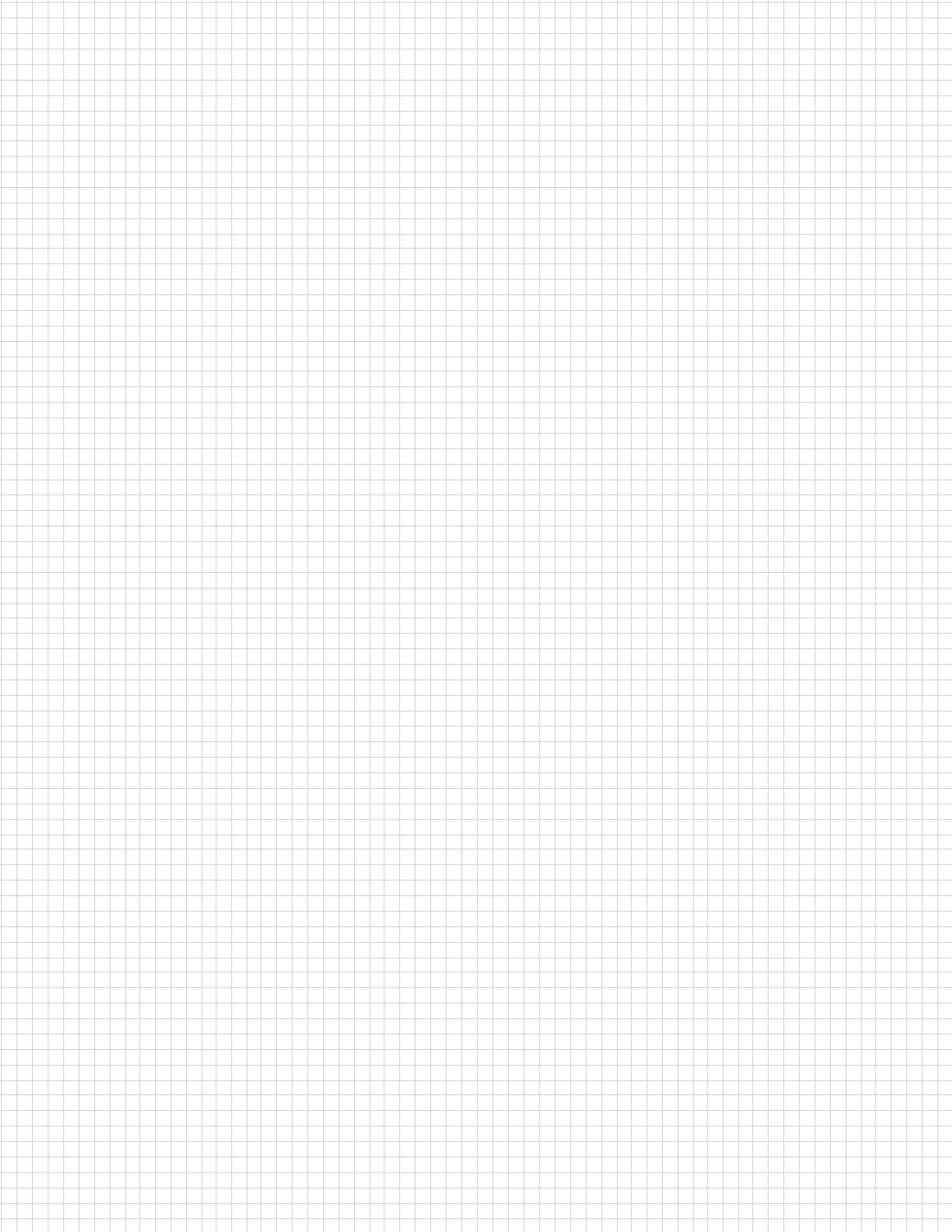
Mobile Design (pg 15)



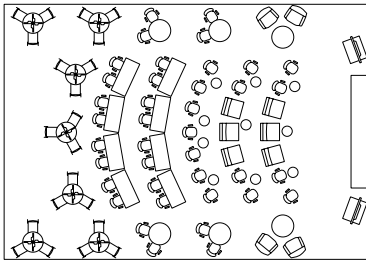
Open Design (pg 16)



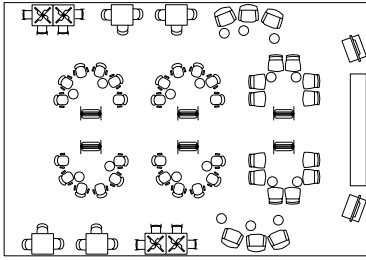
Connective Design (pg 17)



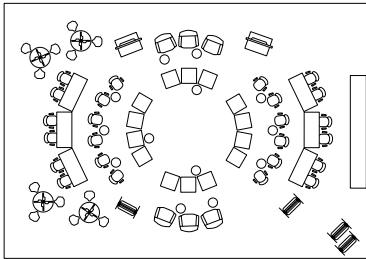
## Build Community



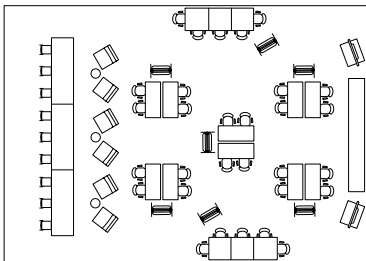
Accommodating Design (pg 20)



Adaptive Design (pg 21)



Tiered Design (pg 22)



Versatile Design (pg 23)







*Please note that the colors and shading shown in the sketchbook are not an accurate representation of the materials available for actual products.*

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