

KENWOOD CHAIR

Fall '25

CNC-cut plywood chair with exposed edges, a carved backrest design, and an upholstered slip seat, finished in clear satin lacquer.



David Ausman

[DAVIDAUSMAN.DESIGN](https://www.davidausman.design)

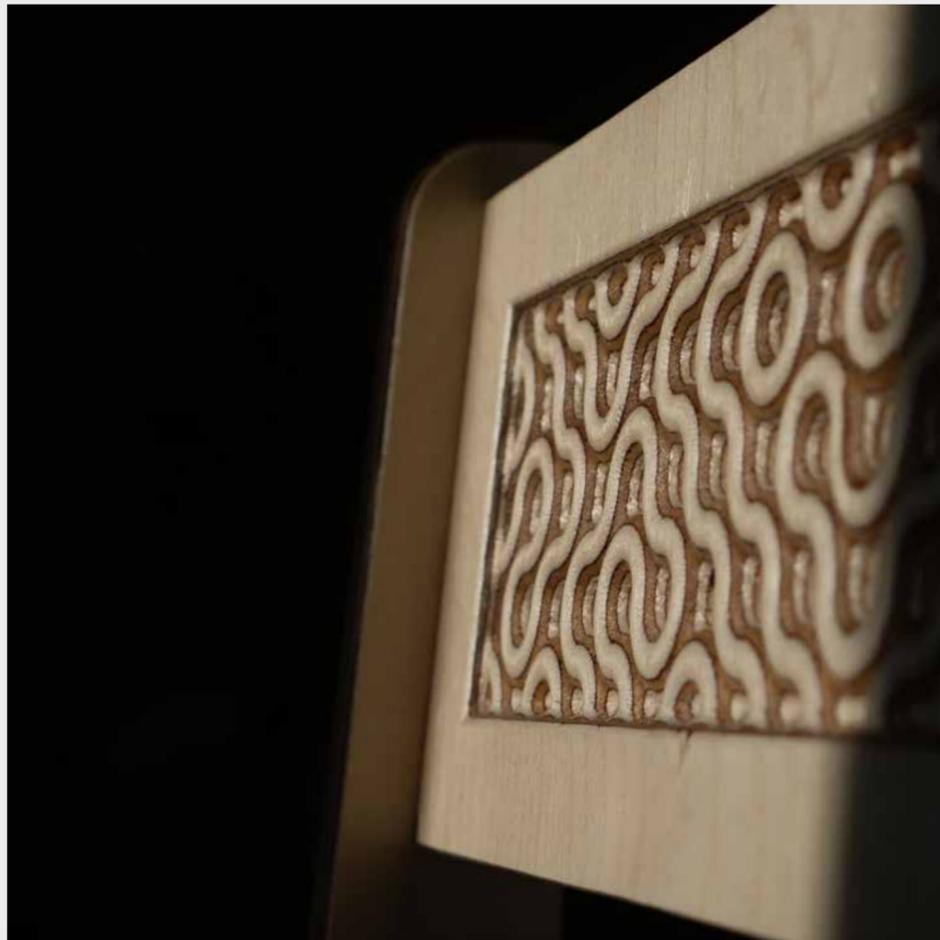
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DETAILS

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Sketches

03

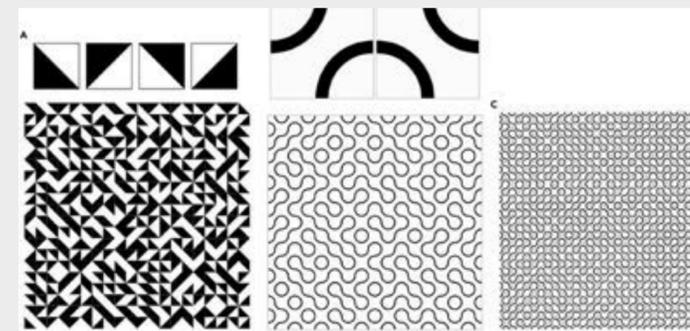
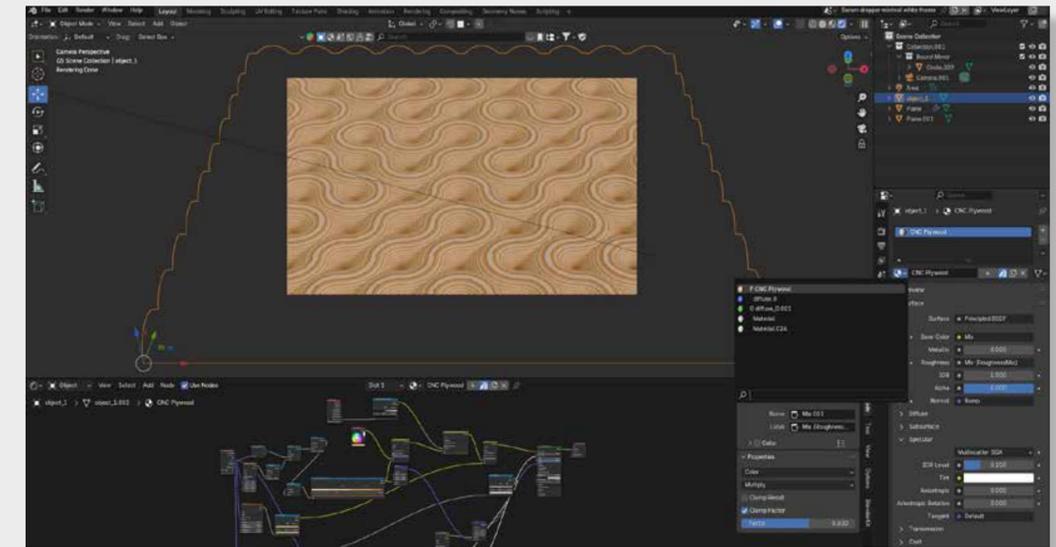
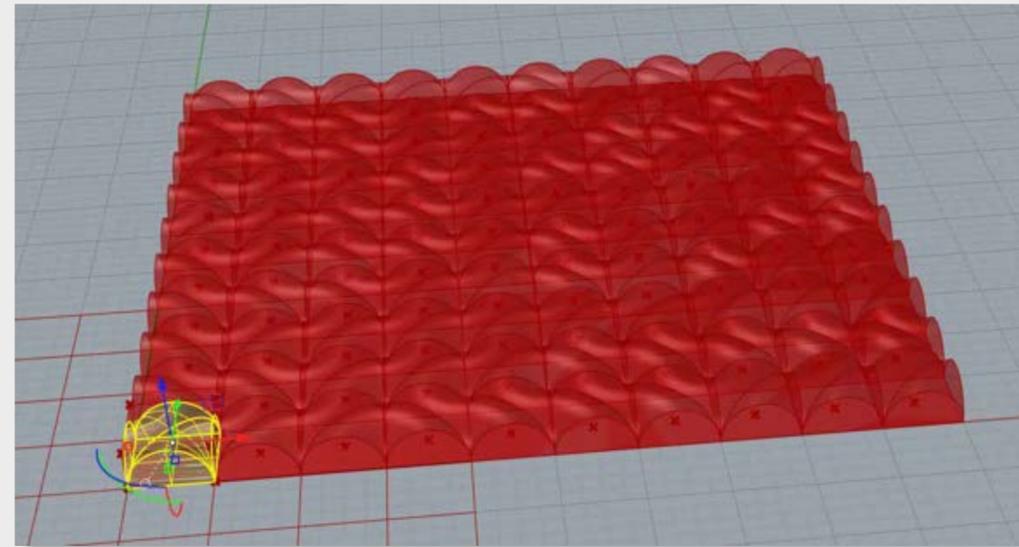


BACKREST PATTERN

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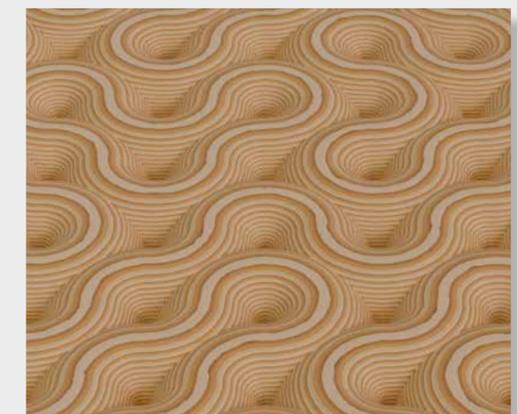
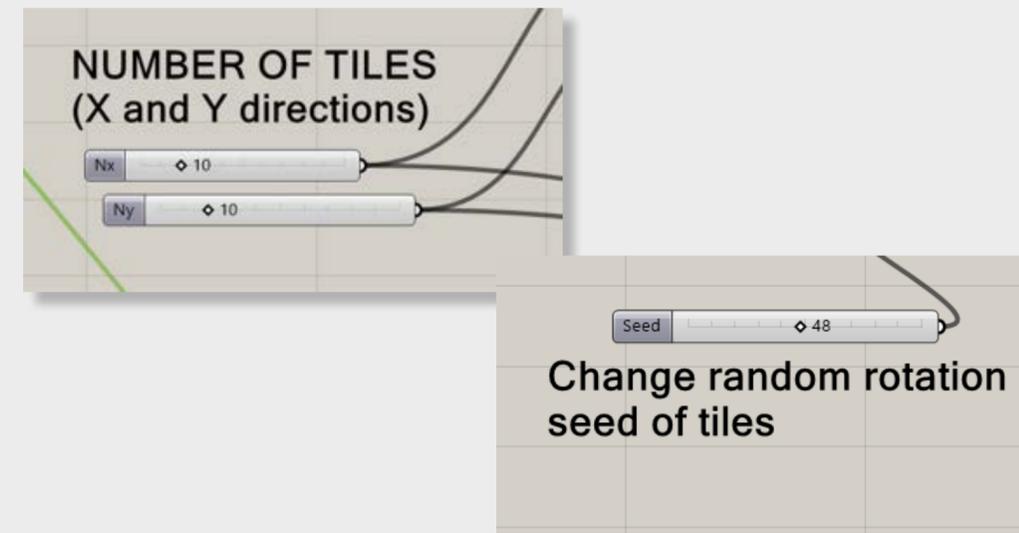
Inspired by CNC-carved panels and Truchet tiles, I built the backrest pattern in Rhino and Grasshopper. With no clear guide available, I published my own step-by-step tutorial on the Rhino Forums. To match the physical surface in renders, I also created a Blender shader tree that replicates carved plywood.

<https://discourse.mcneel.com/t/truchet-tiles-beginners-guide-rhino-grasshopper-blender/212737>



Robert J. Krawczyk

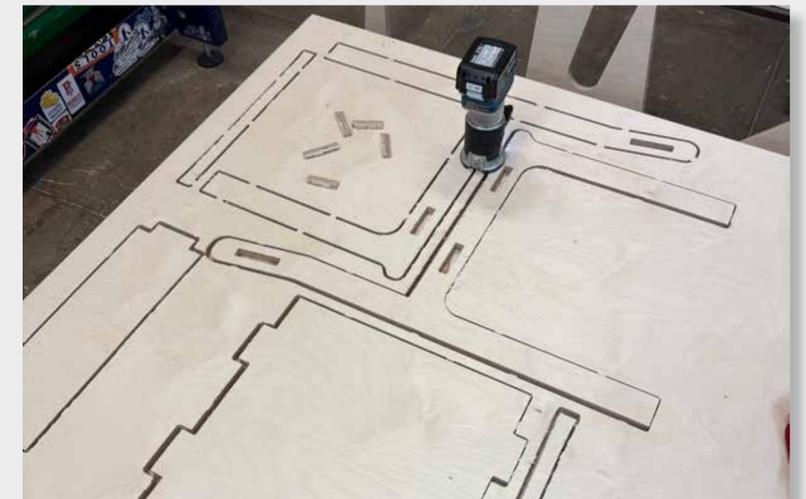
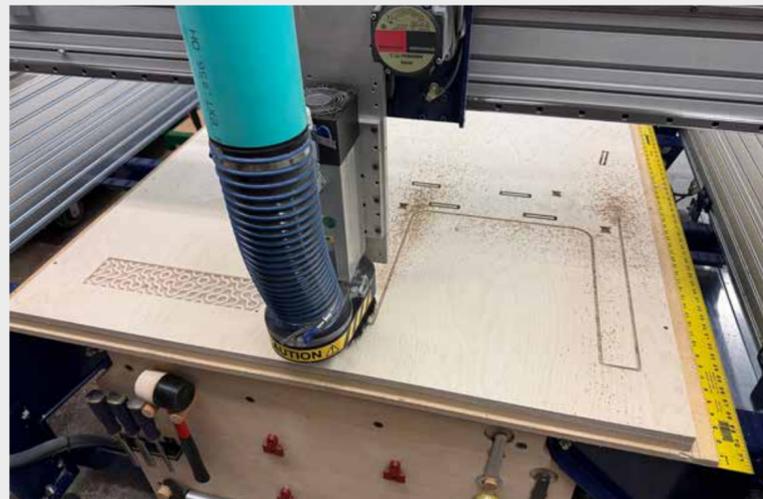
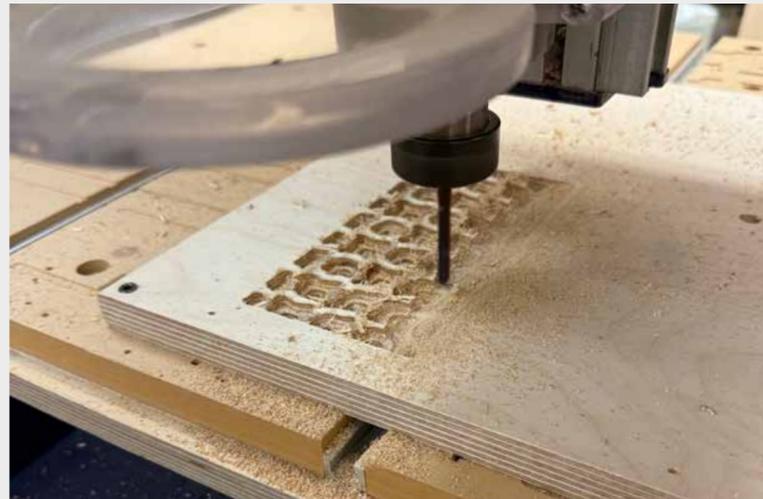
A Truchet tile is a tile that is not rotationally symmetric.



CARVING

05

The toolpaths were developed in Fusion, and I ran a scrap test of the backrest first to confirm the pattern depth and surface quality. After the test cut, I machined the final parts from a 48×96" sheet of 18 mm Baltic birch. By refining the layout and orientation, the material use was efficient enough to fit up to three chairs on one sheet. The retaining tabs were trimmed off cleanly with a flush-trim router bit.

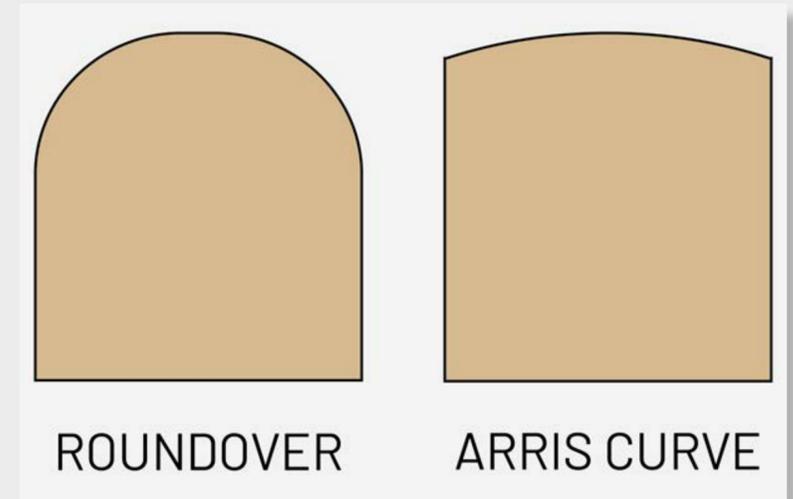


ASSEMBLY

06

Before gluing, I cleaned up the machined edges by filing the internal corners and smoothing out the CNC marks so the joints seated cleanly and the tolerances stayed consistent. Each part was then sanded to 220 grit to prep the surfaces for finishing. The chair was assembled with wood glue and clamped until the joints set.

I finished the edges with a light arris to keep them crisp without the softened look of a full roundover, using a router bit with a radius larger than the board thickness.



FINISHING

07

To preserve the natural look of the Baltic birch, I finished the chair with clear satin lacquer. Lacquer re-wets the previous coat, so multiple light passes melt together and level out smoothly, without the heavy build of polyurethane or the warmer yellow shift of Danish oil. I thinned it with lacquer thinner and sprayed it with an HVLP gun, sanding lightly between coats and finishing with a final mist coat to smooth the surface.



UPHOLSTERY

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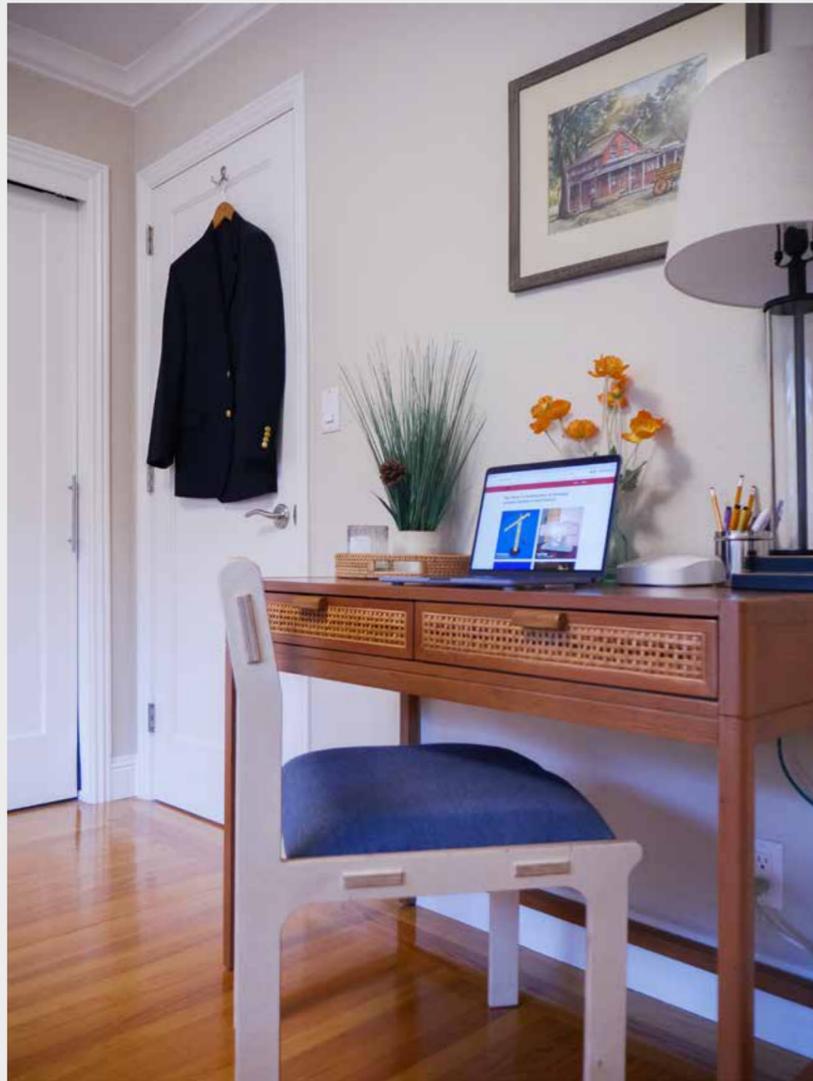
The slip seat starts with a CNC-cut 1/4" plywood base shaped to match the seat frame, with carved relief slits to add a bit of flex and comfort. A 2" high-density polyurethane foam pad was glued to the base, then wrapped in polyester batting and stapled tight to smooth the foam's edges and soften the transitions.

I stretched a performance upholstery fabric over the seat and stapled it in place, trimmed the excess, and finished the underside with a black dust cover. Two T-nuts were installed in the base so the seat can bolt securely to the chair frame.



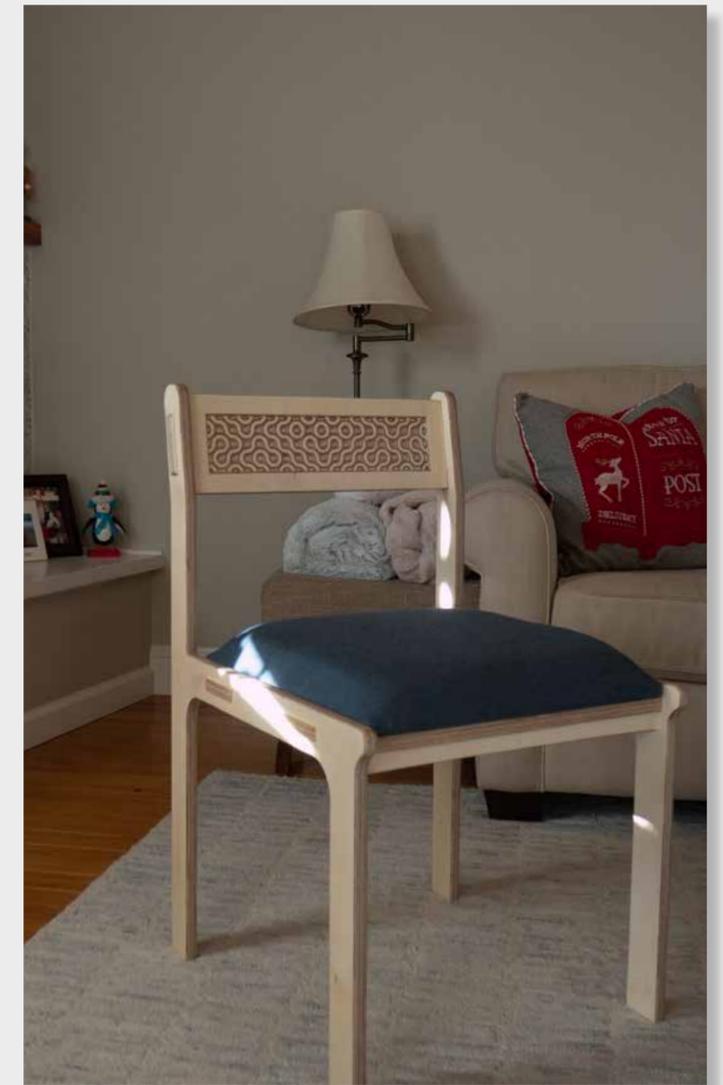
PHOTOS

09



PHOTOS

010



The Kenwood Chair

An elevated everyday chair, designed to fit seamlessly into both casual and formal rooms.

Model No. DA-01
19"W x 21 3/4"D x 32"H

Baltic birch plywood frame in clear satin lacquer, finished with a signature carved back panel, through tenons, and exposed ply edges.



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FABRIC OPTIONS

DENIM



RED



CARBON

