THE BUTTERFLY CHAIR

Who has't seen the Butterly chair somewhere? It is one of those well designed classics from way back when. Actually, the design is so clever and simple, that unauthorised copies are swarming all over the place.

History of the Butterfly Chair

This chair, originally known as the BKF chair, was designed by three guys from Argentina, Antonio **B**onet, Juan **K**urchan and Jorge **F**errari Hardoy in 1938 (hence the name BKF). They were the partners in the Austral Group, a co-operation of leading architects in Argentina which totally defined most of the architecture and design of the 1930's in South America. The BKF chair was actually developed for an apartment building they designed in Buenos Aires. Soon after, they showed the chair at the 3rd *Salon de Artistas Decoradores* exhibition. It was there that the chair was discovered by Edgar Kaufmann Jr, the curator at the time of Industrial Design of the Museum of Modern Art in New York. He brought three production-chairs to the USA, the first was exhibited in the museum, the second went to Edgar's own home (Fallingwaters, designed by family friend Frank Lloyd Wright, lucky him!) and the third chair was never heard of anymore. No one knows where it went.