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Fletcher Capstan Table Designed by David B Fletcher



Sailing Yacht Encore. 2.2 metres. Manual. Brazilian mahogany. Sheen finish hand rubbed polyurethane. Main saloon.



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David Fletcher. Managing Director.

David Fletcher has been designing and manufacturing furniture for over thirty years. He started life in the antique business, dealing in English and continental furniture of the 17th and 18th centuries, and this gave him a strong understanding of form and proportion, taught him construction, and a knowledge and love of wood.

David has been working on his Capstan Table project since 1997. He has constantly improved the design to today's sophisticated, standardised version. During this process he has developed his skills as a mechanical design engineer and has committed every single one of the 5,000 odd separate components to 3D computer drawings. Whilst the company draws upon skilled craftsmen and high tech procedures in the manufacturing process, David is still very closely involved in every aspect of the construction and assembly of a table, and in fact normally attends on-site installations.





Base designed by David Kleinberg Design Associates, New York.



Motor Yacht Perfect Prescriptio 2.5 metres. Manual. Teak. Teak oil. Exposed deck with overhead.

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History of the table.

The original idea for a table of this type was formed in the nineteenth century by a man named Robert Jupe, who patented his design in 1835. Jupe's table was initially round, and had an ingenious geometry and a similarly ingenious method of making it expand radially, changing from a small size to a table of larger diameter. However, these tables could not store their own expansion leaves, were not truly round in every stage, plus they were slow and laborious to operate. The idea was wonderful though and was a source of inspiration and re-invention.









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l 40 metre motor yacht. 3 metres. Electronic, convertible to manua European walnut. Metallised top by Based Upon L[:] Internal, on a revolving platform.





We produce three standard sizes of table.

The area of the table top expands by 73% enabling each table to be two sizes with varying seating capacities.

A 3.6 metre lay-on top, which can be added to the 3.0 metre size to increase its seating capacity even more, is also offered.



2.28 metres to 3.0 metres. (118 to 90 inches). Seating Capacity 16.





1.90 metres to 2.5 metres. (98.5 to 75 inches). Seating Capacity 12.







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Operation.

This unique and amazing piece of furniture is capable of doubling its seating capacity whilst remaining truly circular in the process. Expansion leaves are stored within the mechanism and are self positioning as the table changes from one mode and appearance to an entirely different one. Operation is simple, effortless and extremely quick.

The table top increases in size by manually or electronically turning its top through 120 degrees. Manual operation is achieved by physically rotating the almost weightless table top, and electronically from a pocket sized remote control transmitting device. Electronic tables can easily be converted to manual operation.

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Project. Operation. Materials Finish. Position.

"Every component used is of the highest quality and designed to last for generations."

Construction.

The table top leaves are constructed from a sophisticated layering system and have, at their core, a layer of aluminium honeycomb. This gives them strength, rigidity, stability, and low weight. The table top is composed of thirteen self-stored elements and is capable of radial expansion by turning the top through 120 degrees. When small, the top is made up of six pie shaped leaves. Under this first layer lie two more layers of leaves, the second made up of six arrow shaped leaves and, under that, a large star shaped leaf.

The small table top is enclosed by an outer skirt in the manner of a drum table. This rises and falls as part of the expansion process and completes the table when it is small, making it truly round in both of its modes.

Beneath these parts lies a complex mechanism constructed primarily from stainless steel and hard anodised aluminium. The materials used are of such high specification that the table is capable of being permanently positioned on an exposed deck of a boat or in a beach house in the tropics. Every component used is of the highest quality and designed to last for generations.

Finishes.

We make tables from any suitable material, but generally speaking from the finest hardwoods available. Teak is frequently used for marine use, while Brazilian mahogany or European walnut are beautiful woods for domestic surroundings. More exotic materials such as rosewood and Macassar ebony can be employed or contrasting woods such as wenge and sycamore can be used for interesting and more contemporary effects. We will also construct tables using a customer's own supply of wood.

We can use any form of inlay or marquetry work and sometimes have used burr woods, particularly for the large central star of the table. The geometry of the table lends itself to many other possibilities, so far un-explored. Metals may also be used in the design and the structure of a table.

Tropical and domestic hardwoods are frequently finished in a low sheen polyurethane that we apply in such a way that it simulates a French polish, but with more resilient modern advantages. For marine use we can use traditional marine varnishes or highly UV resilient, and high gloss, polyurethanes. For a mirror-like domestic finish we can also use polyester which provides an exceptionally hard and glass-like appearance.

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Eminently suitable lining room or as ele

- Project. Size. Operation.

Motor Yacht Emelina. 2.2 metres. Electronic. Brazilian mahogany. Sheen finish hand rubbed polyureth Main saloon.

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Project. Size.

Motor Yacht White Rose of Drachs. 2.5 metres. Manual. Brazilian mahogany. Sheen finish hand rubbed polyurethane. Dining cabin.

Private London home. 2.2 metres. Electronic. Brazilian mahogany with burr

Sheen finish hand rubbed polyurethane. Dining room. "We make tables from any suitable material, but generally speaking from the finest hardwoods available."

Project. Operation. Wood. Finish. Base.

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Private Florida home. 2.5 metres. Electronic, convertible to manual. Macassar ebony and wenge. Sheen finish hand rubbed polyuretha. Dining room.

"Not a penny is spare of workmanship."

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l in the choice of materials or in the quality