

## MARTA FERNANDEZ GUARDADO

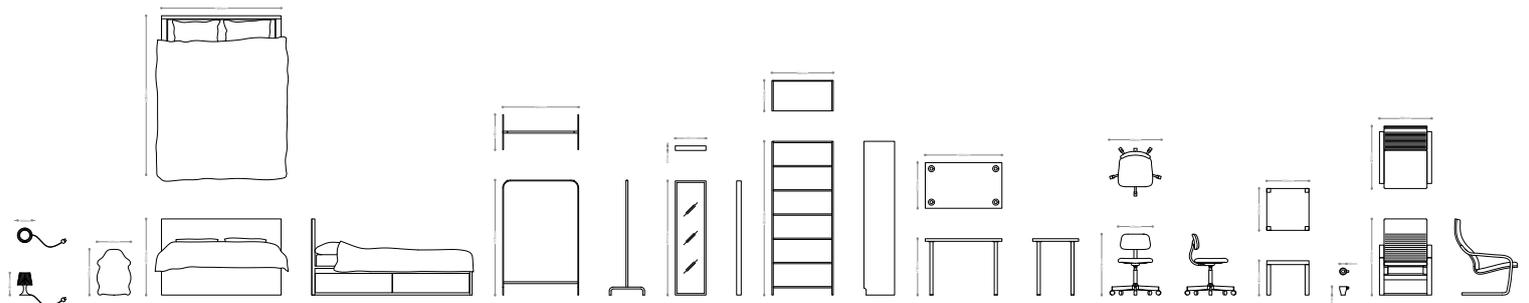
### HOME: THINGS AND BODIES

Due to several social tendencies – urban densification, late emancipation, flat sharing, housing price increase, family size decrease, homeworking or job mobility among others – the personal domestic space of many young Europeans is being reduced and weakened. Different functions squeeze and overlap, sometimes even in the same room, pushing design to serve the space basically thickening and equipping its surfaces. Our belongings, furniture and equipment – sometimes very far from being present elements – program our rooms, but not so much our lives. I believe that, in this scenario, the specific design of a certain programmatic co-inhabitant specially created for each of us, could not only bring functional but also emotional missing qualities to a space. I propose to use estrangement as a design tool to translate domestic elements into characters that, once they become familiar to us, change the way we use and perceive space, and facilitate our particular way of living. I imagine these new designs as active bodies that live at home with us, do things with us and are with us in the space: specific pieces of life in dialogue with us through ceremonies that ultimately can intensify our inhabitation.

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Home: Things and bodies



### The standard life of things

389,03

This selection of the most sold IKEA pieces is the beginning of a list of elements within the domestic landscape of many young Europeans that could have the potential of being redesigned as programmatic co-inhabitants. The combination of technical data and short stories that project my psyche into them, reflects my thoughts on the relations between design and use, between monetary value and sentimental value, and between servant element and present body, in order to be applied in particular scenarios during my practice.

### Your night lamp

2,49

You only appreciate light when it is dark. Then you look for me like crazy because I'm the one that can save you from a strumble. And as if this were not enough, I always find your glasses and your sleeping pills, I offer you water in the middle of the night, and I help you read until falling asleep. The secret is the right measure –not too much light neither too little–, an accessible switch and being able to spend the whole night awake. And at the end of the day –or better at the beginning– it all pays off, cause there is always someone willing to do that for me too.

### Your carpet

24,99

Here I am, thrown and completely naked against the floor, offering you my back as a podium for your numb cold feet... And you dont even touch me with your hands! Why dont you stay with me for a little while? For you I'm just a step to jump in or out of bed –a second between taking your shoes off and cover them with the blanket–, simply a warm piece of floor to move around. But listen to this: I assure you that the day I get sick and get up, you will see my face and you will change your mind.

### Your bed

149,00

I am The Queen of the Room: the biggest, the most comfortable and the center. I change clothes very often, you fill me with accessories and the rest of the furniture is around me just to serve. Here you spend most of your life, and with me you try almost everything. I am the place you never want to leave and that you always come back to. To me you bring your favorite girls and I am the single piece you refer to as yours. And even not being so different from every other bed, I am –I know– your only one.

### Your clothes rack

8,99

Should I hold this for you so you can see it better? It is fine, don't worry, I can also hold you that. Let me see... Give me those... Please don't stress, I promise you can have it back when it gets colder. And if you also like that, just buy it! I can hold it for you.

### Your mirror

29,99

I know all your secrets. I have seen up close what you never allow anyone a glimpse, and I pay your trust back with the most sincere honesty –which none of your friends would dare to do– because underneath it all we are so much alike. You can not avoid looking at me each time you pass by! And this thing between us it is not a superficial thing: the closer you get to me, the more you see what is going on around you.

### Your bookshelf

39,00

Between my forehead and my neck are your novels, down to the chest, your history books, and in my stomach –and even a little bit lower–, all art and architecture. My thighs are manuals, and my feet, full of magazines. I am what you have learned, and I grow with every new interest. This is why –no matter what they tell you– you keep buying books: because only I can remind you of what you already know.

### Your desk

19,00

I am your battlefield. I am your gameboard. I am the only square meter of the room which you do not have to worry about. And –believe me on this– if I get dirty, I cut myself or I wear out, it is because you are using me correctly. Dude, I am a furniture of action!

### Your working chair

49,99

Look, I know you are not done to be sitting all day, but I swear I do everything I can. It is not easy to properly hold your legs, your hip, your back..., all at the same time! I also don't know how to sit anymore. Please, hold on a bit until we are finally done with this. And then I promise we will give each other a break, at least until Monday at 9:00.

### Your coffee table

5,99

There is people coming over today and I am so excited! I am so much looking forward to enjoying a good coffee and a nice conversation without interruptions and distractions. I hope it goes well and last long –it has been a while since the last time. I can not offer so much space, but I will do my best to bring everyone together. And, although this is not a date just for us two, I hope you understand how important it is: also hosting others will help us to feel at home.

### Your coffee cup

0,49

Coffee, wine and cigarette butts have inevitably caused a serious damage to me. It has been less than a year and I look terrible –full of stains and with a broken handle. I am either haggard and hangovered, or on the verge of a nervous breakdown. There is no way that someone would take me..., but luckily you seem to still like me. Anyways one of these days you will take me with wet hands, I will slip and split in two, as it happened to the cup before. So please pour me some coffee, today I have a terrible headache!

### Your arm chair

59,00

Some would say that I am not the most necessary piece –that I'm fine for a nap but you already have the bed, that you can read comfy not really concentrate, and that the usual pile of things on top of me at the end of the day does not justify my presence. But listen: while the bed gives you the empty ceiling, and the desk the plain wall, I offer you the full view of the entire room under the light coming from the back window! Neither to rest, to work or to accumulate, I am your throne to think and take decisions. Isn't this the reason for you to come home?