

GCSE Design & Technology

Designing and making: looking at the work of designers

Philippe Starck

Born: 1949

Education: École Nissim de Camondo, Paris.

Career: Appointed art director to Pierre Cardin, 1962. Founded Starck Products 1980 and furniture making firm, XO, 1985. Contributed to interior design of the French President, Francois Mitterrand's private apartment, 1982. His designs have been put into production by a large number of firms including Alessi, Driade, Flos, Kartell, Puma and Vitra.

Notable designs: *Miss Balu* Table, 1988. *Juicy Salif* lemon squeezer, 1990. *La Marie* chair, 1998. Computer mouse, 2004.

Significance: The prolific Starck may be the most famous designer living. He is renowned both for his luxury hotel interiors, for which he designs every detail from layout to furniture to linen, and his product designs aimed at the mass-market. His principal contribution lies in his rethinking of everyday objects in such a way that his designs challenge expectations and enable everyday products to be enjoyed in a new way.

