Matter Made.

*M*aterial Expressions

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Introduction

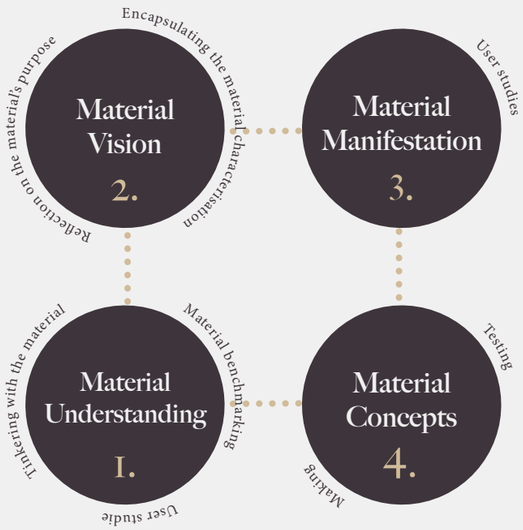
Matter made is a sculptural dialogue between hand, material, and form. Through an open, tactile process, two stools emerged - one in warm, living wood, the other in raw, weighty cast iron. Each piece is a response to the material's own voice, shaped not by control, but by **curiosity and care.** The project invites reflection on how we relate to the objects around us - how materials speak through surface, weight, and presence - and how honest **expressions of matter** can lead to more meaningful, lasting design.

The **wooden stool** is shaped by the grain and softness of the material itself. The legs feature carved surface textures that echo the movement of the craftsman, adding **tactile richness** and a visual rhythm to the form. Contrasting inlays in ash and smoked oak are embedded in the legs - subtle interventions that celebrate the beauty of **imperfection** and material contrast, while referencing both craft and care.

In contrast, the **cast iron stool** embraces mass, gravity, and the raw aesthetic of industrial production. Defined by sharp transitions and a dense, cold surface that resists touch before slowly revealing its own tactile qualities. The surface retains **visible traces** of the casting process: **unpredictable ridges** along the mold's split serve as reminders of its formation. Rather than being removed, these marks are embraced as part of the stool's identity - revealing the tension between precision and imperfection inherent in cast metal. The result is a form that feels both engineered and elemental.

Together, the two stools highlight how different materials demand different attitudes in both making and experiencing - revealing new paths toward **material-sensitive** design.

Concept development



Collaborater: Uldall Jernstøberi

Density: 6.9 - 7.8
Hardness: High (Brinell 150-300)
Pullstrength: 150 - 400
Elasticity: Low fleksibility
Wear risistence: High

Pros:
Strong and hard
High wear risistence

Cons:
Heavy
Can rust

Typical Use:
Machine parts - Kitchen gear - Piping

Collaborater: Own Production

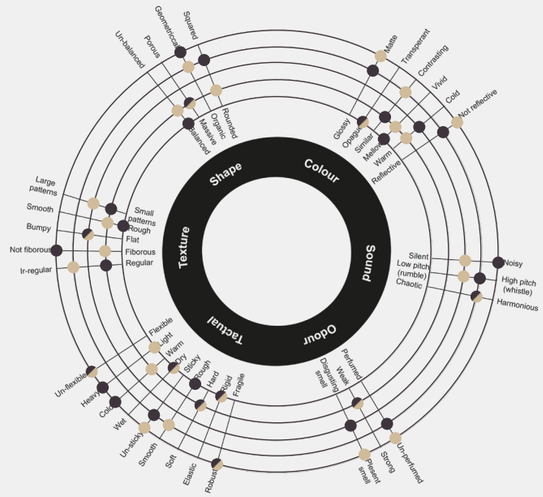
Density: 0.3 - 1.0
Hardness: Medium (Janka 300-4000)
Pullstrength: 40 - 100
Elasticity: Moderat flexsibility
Wear risistance Medium (species?)

Pros:
Reusable
Light weight

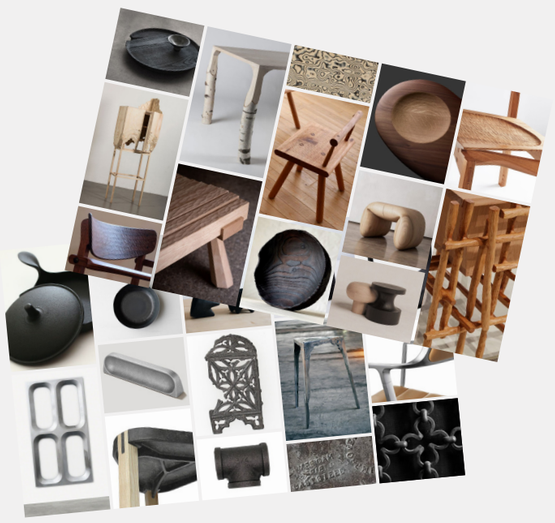
Cons:
Moist problems
Natural variation

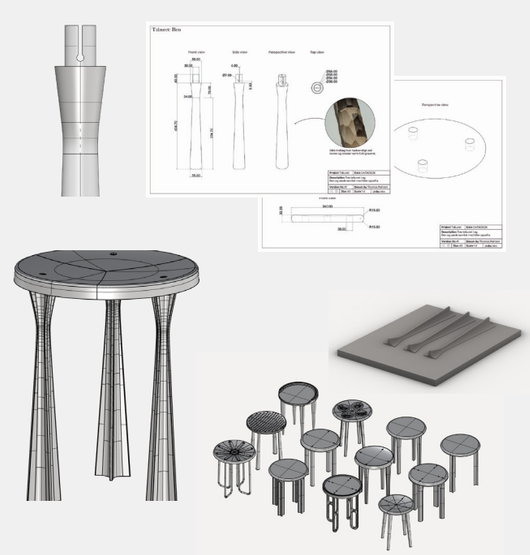
Typical Use:
Construktion - Furniture - Flooring

”How might i create a space where the material can be the primary form-giver and convey its influence on form through design?”



MDD Process — Benchmark — How Might I? — Analysis





Moodboards — Tinkering — Sketching — Development

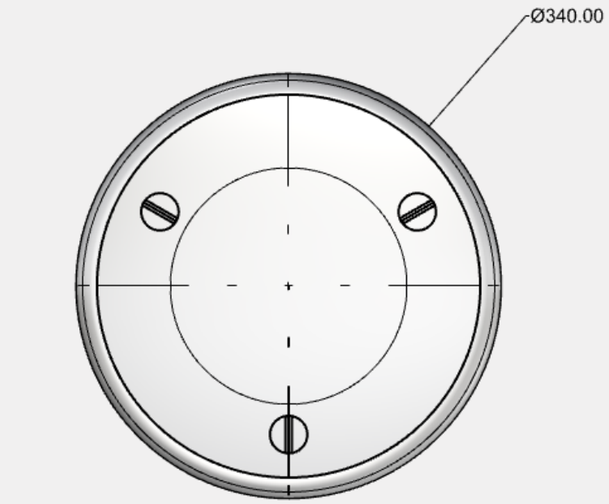
Material selection

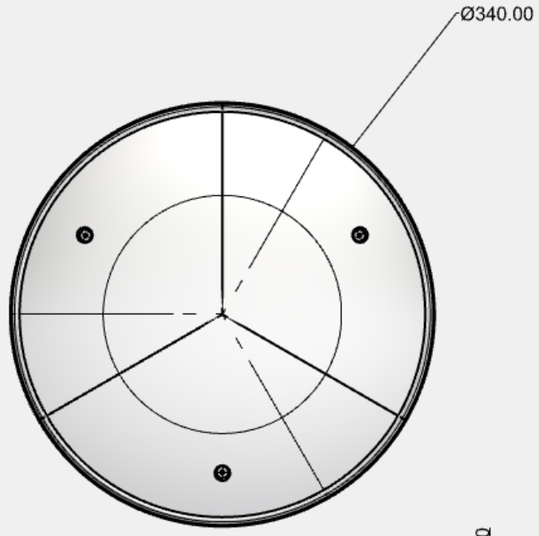
In Matter Made, the selection of materials is not an afterthought, but a **central narrative.** a collaboration between material and maker, where the material's inherent character shapes both process and outcome. The choice to work with wood and cast iron was driven by their rich historical lineage, **textural honesty**, and potential for **sustainable expression.**

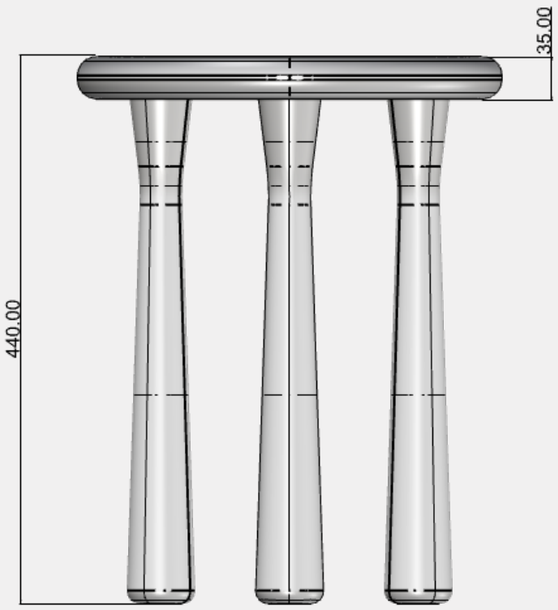
Cast iron commands attention. A material rooted in fire, weight, and transformation. With a history forged in the heart of the industrial age, cast iron carries the strength of centuries while offering a path toward future sustainability. It requires **no surface treatments**, allowing the raw metal to speak through texture, mass, and imperfection. The stool embraces the **visible casting marks** - ridges, seams, and slight irregularities - as intentional features, not flaws. Cast iron is an endlessly recyclable material, retaining its structural integrity through countless life cycles. The stool was cast locally, reducing **transport emissions**, at a foundry actively working to lower its carbon footprint through filtration systems and energy-efficient production methods.

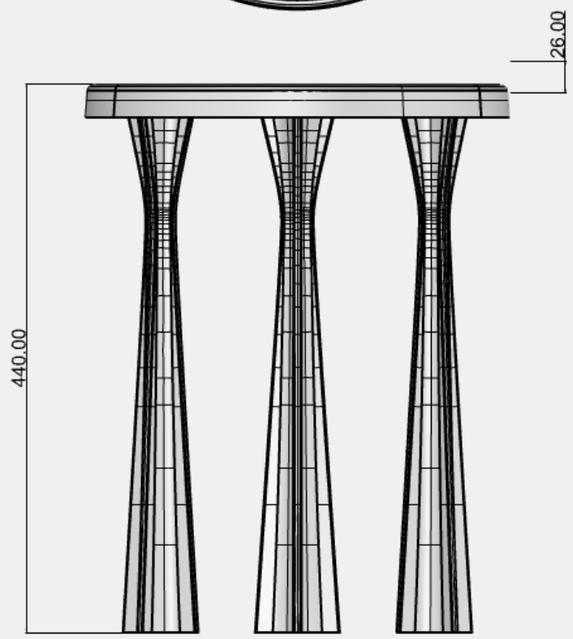
Wood has accompanied humanity for millennia - from tools and shelters to furniture and ritual objects. Its tactile warmth and organic variability speak directly to the hand and the senses. In this project, wood was chosen for its **responsiveness to touch**, and its low environmental impact when sourced responsibly. All the wood used in the production and tinkering proces is FSC-certified, ensuring **sustainable forestry** practices and is furthemore sourced **leftover material** from a local woodshop. As a natural, renewable material with low embodied energy, wood aligns with circular design principles. Its ability to age, repair, and biodegrade contributes to a longer product lifespan and reduced environmental impact.

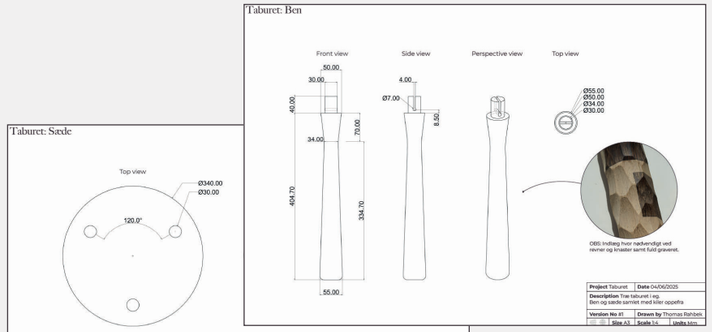
Technical development

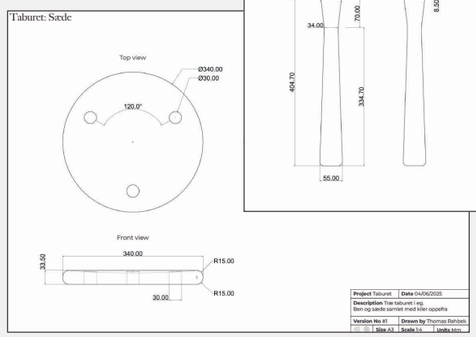


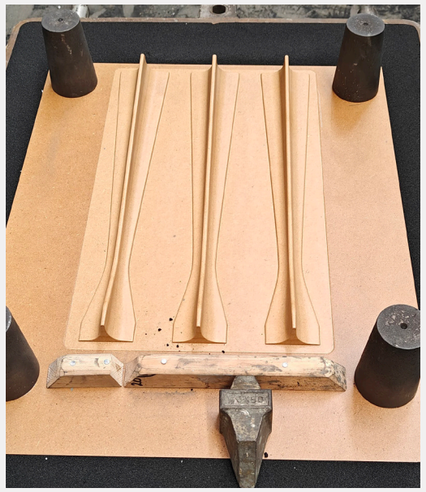


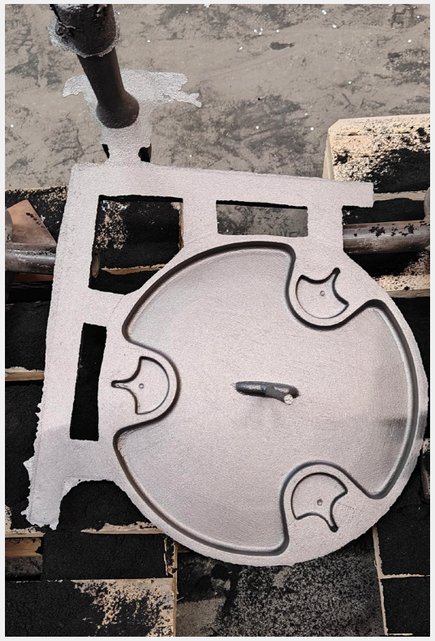

















Thank you for your time!