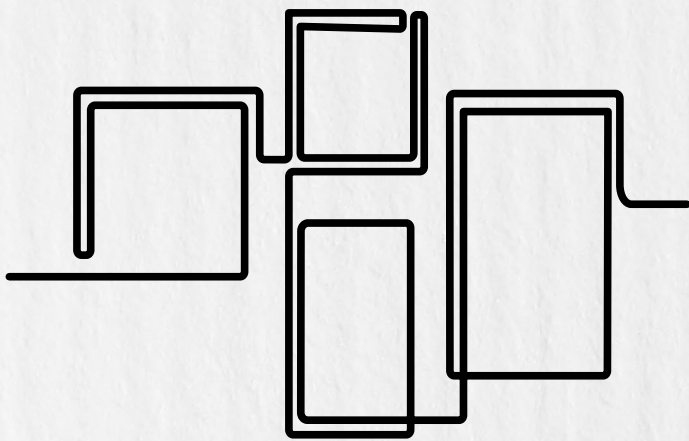


MAKE CHAT WORK: YOUR COFFEE BREAK INTERIOR GUIDE

We all need a space to rest and refresh at work, so here are some ideas to inspire you to either create a brand-new coffee break area, or simply spice up your current one. Whatever your line of work and workplace set-up, we think you'll find something in here to help your team take a break and enjoy the workplace.



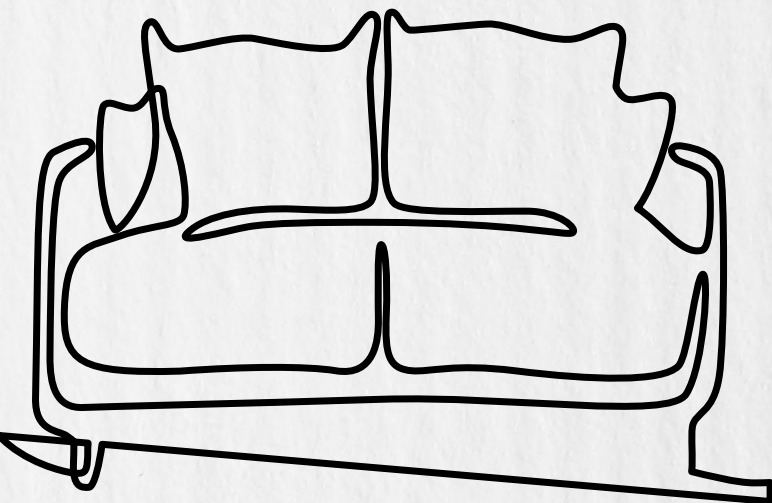
Why invest in an area for the coffee break?

We know that workplace stress, burnout and loneliness can lead to unmotivated workers, but poor workplace facilities are also a contributing factor.

A poor indoor climate has a negative impact on employee health and wellbeing. For a healthy workplace, employees want natural light, greenery, and collaborative and outdoor spaces.¹

Having a well-designed communal space can have a great impact on employees' wellbeing at work, from giving them a space to relax and unwind from work stresses to having an area for socialising with colleagues and building team morale.

It doesn't need to be a large area with sofas, it can simply be an upgrade to the area where your kettle sits.



Design with employees in mind

1

First and foremost, ask your employees what they want from the space – what's missing, what isn't currently working, and what would help them be more productive and enjoy the space more. You want to create a space they want to interact with and spend time at.

2

Encourage everyone to take time away from their desks and use the communal area/s for:

UNPLANNED INTERACTIONS

Informal coffee moments where colleagues in different departments come together by chance, collaborate and chat. These moments can build trust, spark new ideas and promote different ways of thinking.

TEAM-TO-TEAM AND INTER-TEAM COLLABORATION

Planned coffee moments where colleagues from either the same team or different teams break away from a typical working environment to meet over a coffee.

OPTIMISED TEAMWORK

Planned coffee moments where a team can create an ideal, focused meeting environment over a coffee that encourages teamwork, avoiding 'dysfunctional meeting behaviours' (e.g., off-topic conversations, criticism, complaints, interruptions).

Consider spaces that encourage interaction

Workplace interactions have been found to enhance employee wellbeing when collaboration, trust and positivity are present.² What's more, kitchen spaces and extra break areas can also play meaningful roles in workplace wellbeing.

Creating a space where hot beverages are the focal point will help facilitate planned and spontaneous conversation and meaningful moments between co-workers.

How to make the most of your current kitchen space

**MAKE
CHAT
WORK**

Making the space accessible and easy for everyone to use for an enjoyable coffee break.



Make sure you have sufficient storage for mugs, sugars, spoons etc.



Get creative and install corner shelves or add hanging shelving units to your cupboard.



Maximise your storage space with stackable boxes, drawer dividers and wire shelf risers.



Consider having a range of beverages on offer (e.g., instant coffee, coffee pods, teas, filtered water) and find a tidy way to display these so your teams easily know what options are available.



Put beverages and kitchen utensils in places that are easily accessible (e.g., beverages not on the top shelf and utensils all in one place).



Add a communal board where staff can share their ideas and develop them in an informal environment.



Consider good-quality kitchen tops to give off feelings of home and comfort.



Maximise natural light and use indoor plants to help bring the space to life (just remember to find someone who will stay on top of watering!)



If budget permits, give the walls a new lick of paint with light, vibrant colours.

TOP TIP

Display a 'Nescafé the Best Way' sheet that explains how everyone likes their coffee.

**GOOD PEOPLE
DESERVE
GOOD COFFEE**

Expand the coffee break area

If your workplace allows, create extra break-out areas away from desks and workstations for other purposes:



Open-plan table area with benches for laptop work and collaborative projects.

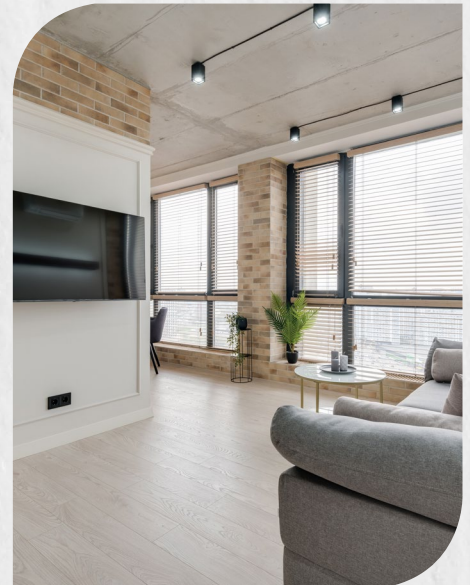


Social area with a coffee bar, table football, snacks etc.



Quiet library area for silent work, reading and researching.

Try experimenting with different types of furniture – from bean bags and lounge chairs to sofas, high tables, tablet mounts and coffee tables.



Lounge with a big screen TV and laptop connection.