



# THE TOP WINGBACK CHAIRS

DESIGNERS JONATHAN SAVAGE AND RUTHIE SOMMERS TEST OUT THE FALL SEASON'S GO-TO CHAIR.

Stand in a hotel lobby and watch: The wingbacks are never empty for long. Perhaps it has something to do with the ample silhouette, its cocooning back beckoning from afar. The chair made its debut in 17th-century England. Three and a half centuries later, it became the writerly respite for Ezra Pound and Roald Dahl, who famously turned his mother's wingback into a work space—with the addition of a writing tray—in his backyard garden shed. In 1958, Arne Jacobsen spun its iconic lines into the (now ubiquitous) Egg chair for Copenhagen's SAS Royal Hotel. And it's much the same in 2017: "I love a wing chair," says Los Angeles-based designer Ruthie Sommers. "I use them all the time, everywhere. From the library to the end of the dining table, they're the most cheerful of chairs." For more on Sommers and Nashville designer Jonathan Savage, see [ruthiesommers.com](http://ruthiesommers.com) and [savageinteriordesign.com](http://savageinteriordesign.com).







## 2 MICRO WINGBACK CHAIR BY TOM DIXON

**JS:** Love the scale—it's cozy. I could see this in a young girl's room for a little princess. Can we do the copper legs? That would make it edgy and fun.

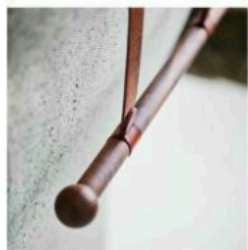
**RS:** I like this because you can just perch in it. And the price is good. 29" w. x 29" d. x 39.5" h., \$2,800. [tomdixon.net](http://tomdixon.net)



## 3 MAMA WINGBACK CHAIR BY BDDW

**RS:** This is really beautiful, and the buttons are so sweet. There's an opportunity to make this fit in any room with a chintz on the back, a velvet on the front, or a stripe.

**JS:** Even though it's mama bear, she's still butch. I love the leather and contrasting buttons; those details matter. It's definitely for a guy's office, a living room in Aspen, or a dark Tom Ford-ish apartment. 32" w. x 35" d. x 44" h., \$14,500. [bddw.com](http://bddw.com)



## 1 ONDINE CHAIR BY VLADIMIR KAGAN

**Jonathan Savage:** I envision this in a modern beach house in Miami, but re-covered in powder blue with a martini, extra dirty, lots of olives.

**Ruthie Sommers:** If this were a woman, it would be Katharine Hepburn: sensual and beautiful. It makes such a statement. 32" w. x 35" d. x 44" h., \$12,300\*. [vladimirkagan.com](http://vladimirkagan.com)

## 4 BALZAC CHAIR BY ROSE TARLOW MELROSE HOUSE

**JS:** For me, it's probably the most comfortable of the group. I would put this at the head of a dining table, hands down. It's not too big, but it has a huge impact.

**RS:** This is actually my least favorite, because of the wood. I'd change the finish to cerused oak and upholster it in a gorgeous lavender wool crepe. 26.5" w. x 30" d. x 45" h., From \$5,580\*. [rosetarlow.com](http://rosetarlow.com)



## 5 BLANCHE BERGÈRE BY LUCA NICHETTO FOR DE LA ESPADA

**JS:** Perfect in the corner as a reading chair. I love the height. It's regal but very Scandi—it has a Hans Wegner feel. Even though it's big, it's still light, which keeps it more universal.

**RS:** There's so much space for a big repeat fabric. I like that it's large yet sleek. I'd prefer it with no accoutrements, but if you had a commercial space or a hotel lobby, I'd do a monogram. It would be great in Nantucket in blue and red. 32.5" w. x 33.5" d. x 48.5" h., \$5,485. [thefutureperfect.com](http://thefutureperfect.com)







**6 MUSTIQUE SEDAN CHAIR BY BILL SOFIELD FOR MCGUIRE**

**JS:** This is nearly 40 inches deep! I'd upholster it in a Loro Piana cashmere.

**RS:** It could be in a completely modern glass house in black or cream.

I love the shape so much, but I would prefer it a little bit smaller because I'd want to use four of them around a table.

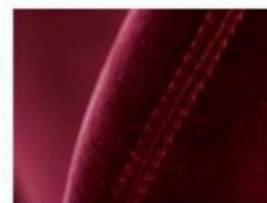
31" w. x 39.5" d. x 47.5" h., \$7,995. mcguirefurniture.com



**7 TUULLA CHAIR BY VIOSKI**

**JS:** The Jetsons! I'd cover it in a smoky gray or mouse belly-brown leather. Pond-scum green would also be really pretty—that dark, sort of dirty green. The side profile is beautiful as well. I would use a pair of them in an office or a formal living room. I'd love to do a little line in the pillow tufting.

39" w. x 35" d. x 38" h., \$4,640. suiteny.com



**8 VUELTA HIGHBACK CHAIR BY JAIME HAYON FOR WITTMANN**

**RS:** You can shampoo my hair now! Just kidding, I actually think it's great. This is not that comfortable, and the color feels too Victorian, but it looks like somebody took their time to think about the design.

I love the baseball stitching. **JS:** I feel like it's not meant for me. I couldn't lounge in it, but I could dine in it. I'd like to see it in mink or chocolate.

25.5" w. x 35" d. x 44" h., \$6,235. avenue-road.com

**9 861 LOUNGE CHAIR BY JEFF ANDREWS FOR A. RUDIN**

**RS:** There's something about that gray—it says *boutique hotel in Paris*. I would have the base whitewashed, upholster it in a vintage cream linen, and call it a day.

**JS:** The simple, tailored lines are what make this so beautiful. Both men and women would gravitate toward it. I'd like to see the base lacquered in Chinese red. 31" w. x 37" d. x 38" h., \$5,500\*. arudin.com



\*AVAILABLE TO THE TRADE ONLY