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Or (DROC)

STOOL PROJECT

Project #1

DES 320-001

Fall 2024



Problem Statement



Furniture Design
Project #1

The idea of this project was to design and build a stool to express building techniques while exploring ergonomics, comfort, and the human experience. We were also encouraged to explore movement during this stage and possibly work it into our project.

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Mood Board

This mood board represents the early development stages of the project as a whole. There is some inspiration from this board that was brought into the final stool, but as I sketched and figured out where I wanted to go with the direction of the project, a lot of things changed as well. This mood board was a way to get me thinking about what I wanted to do and get ideas flowing. This mood board is supposed to represent form, texture, and color, all things I wanted to explore with the project.





Nine Initial Sketches



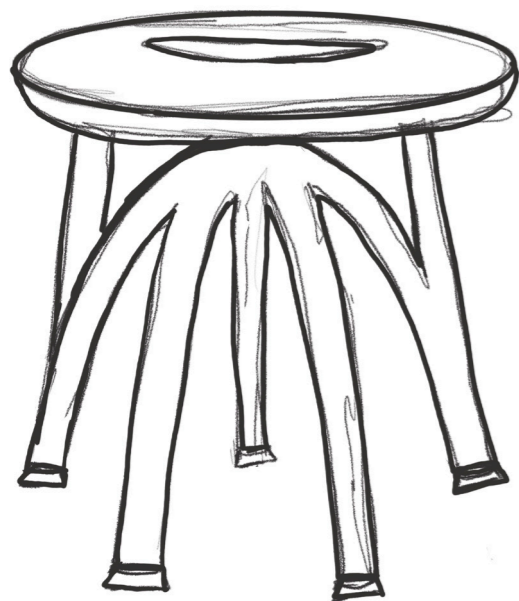
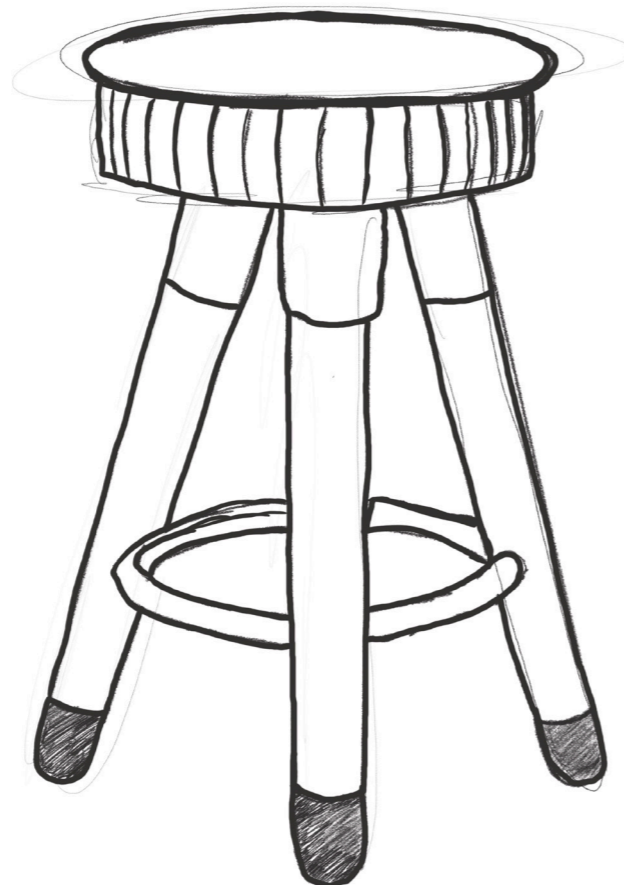
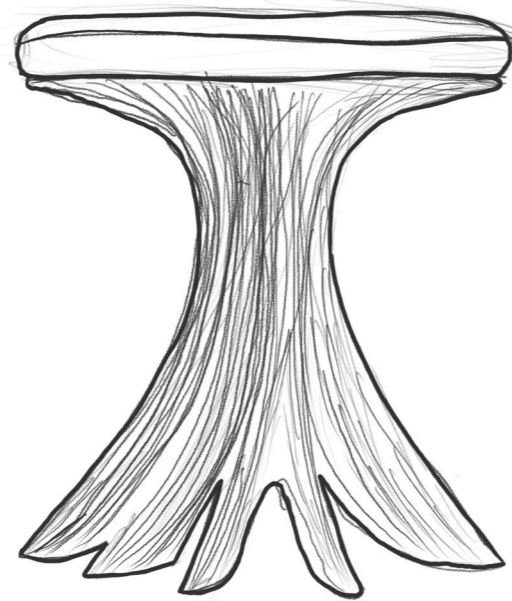
Initial Ideation

My nine initial sketches were concepts of where I wanted to take the project as a whole. What ideas did I want to get across? What kind of form was I going for? How was I going to keep the stool 18" x 18"? Some of these ideas are clearly not possible on a practical level,

like the tree, or the stool with dragonfly wings. Still, this stage was huge in the development of the project and where it would go next. The sketches with yellow marks are sketches that I was encouraged to go forward with in the design process.



Six Improved Sketches



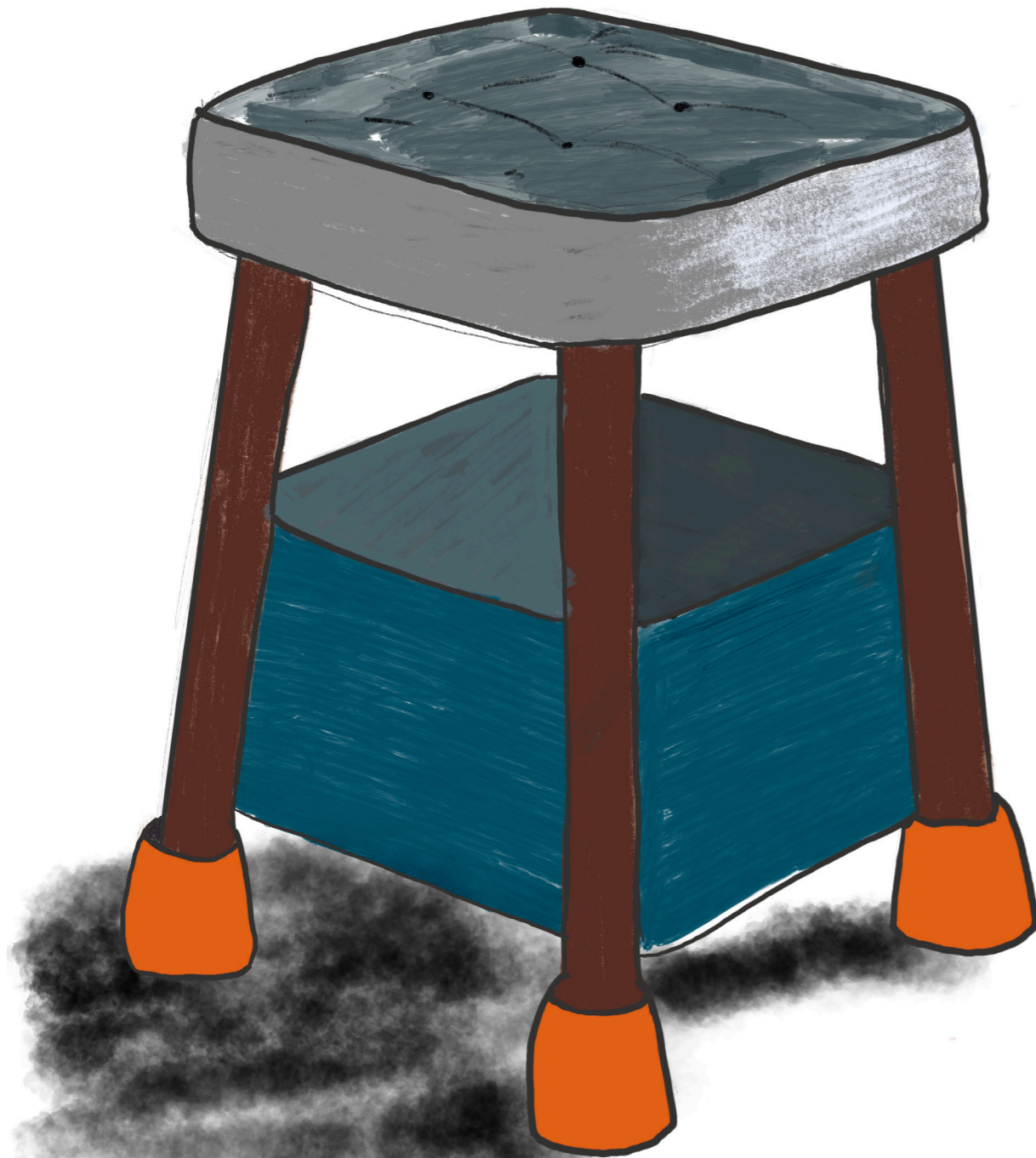
Developing Ideas

My six improved sketches built on what I had previously done with the nine. I was narrowing in on the ideas I had and developing the ideas further. This may have been my favorite stage of the sketching process. I felt like I kind of knew what I wanted to do, but I still had a lot of ideas. Part of me wanted to go

forward with the tree stump stool, but it would've been really hard to find a piece of wood like the one in my sketch and it also wouldn't have involved a lot of work to build, and the building process was a huge part of this project, so I decided to go in a different direction.



Three Final Sketches



NOAH MCGREW
9/11/2024



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9/11/2024

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9/11/2024

Homing in on Ideas

The three final sketches are where I really got to home in on the idea of the colored feet and some sort of blue on the top. I wanted to use orange or red for the feet to add a contrast of color to the piece, making it stand out but complimenting the blue. You can also see the inspiration from my previous

sketches here, especially with the round stool with the cushion and the sort of drumstick-like legs. My final design ended up taking inspiration from the stool with the basket and the orange feet and the round stool with the tapered legs.



Scale Model

Furniture Design 320



Project #1
Stool

Scale Model Budget
Like \$3

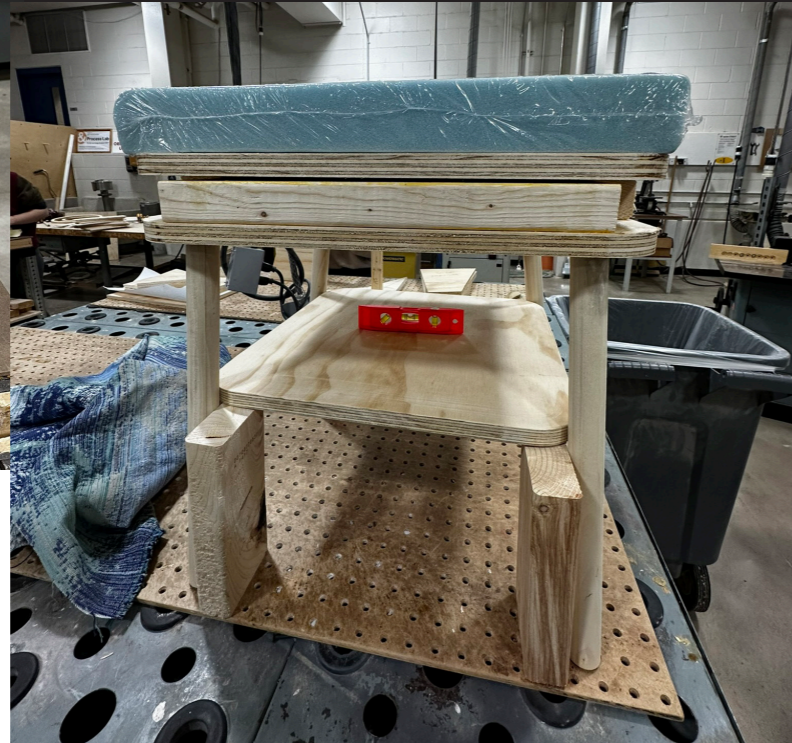


The "Low Fidelity" Scale Model

My scale model consisted of a lot of hot glue, cardboard, and different types of paper. You can also see that the idea of the colored feet is still present here. However, I ended up using red instead of orange. This was due to the fact that I used red paper for the top and I had a red marker already on hand. My scale model wasn't the best, but it got the job done.



Progress Pics



So, how did it go?

The building process required a lot of learning for me. I am not very versed in woodworking or building, so I had to rely on my professor, my friends, and sometimes, the internet. I would describe this process as challenging but fun.



My Stool

It just might win product of the year



So, how did it turn out?

Luckily, through a bit of work and some luck, I was able to assemble the stool. It didn't turn out exactly like my concept, but I'm okay with that. I think that the orange and blue pops of color bring a lot to the table here, and it is very sturdy. If I could go back and change anything I would definitely use smaller spaces to bring the overall weight of the stool down. Overall, I am very happy with how this project turned out!

Noah McGrew

Furniture Design Portfolio

University of
Wisconsin-Stout

Senior Year

Designs From
2024 / 2025

Professor

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