

# METROPOLIS

## 10 Products Show Adaptability Is the Name of the Game

To keep things flexible in the “work from anywhere” era, manufacturers strive for fluid functions and loose applications.

by [Kelly Beamon](#)

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One year after the nationwide shutdown, the United States is officially a “working-from-home economy” with 42 percent of its labor force punching a clock remotely on a full-time basis, according to the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research. As that becomes the norm, items once marketed as either for home or for office are melding into a hybrid that’s blurrier than anything previously labeled “resimercial” (residential looks with commercial performance). Some products even defy categorization by function. An example is London- and Milan-based Supernovas’ Afterlife Collection, a line of multipurpose benches and crates designed by Rotterdam-based studio Odd Matter. Crates (shown) can serve as storage, planters, ice buckets, or waste receptacles; the Afterlife Bench can be stacked to function as shelving instead of a seat. *Metropolis* came across other similarly versatile pieces. Nearly all work—and look—at home anywhere.



## SPOT TABLE

Part of Samuelson Furniture's Phorm Collection, the 20-inch-tall Spot features a retro style with a functional opening that can be used as storage or, with an optional stainless-steel insert, a planter.

SAMUELSON FURNITURE [samuelsonfurniture.com](http://samuelsonfurniture.com)

Courtesy Samuelson Furniture