# MARKERAD IKEA® c/o Virgil Abloh™





"I want each item to bring people a sense of pride, and I want the great design to be the biggest reason why you get it."

- Virgil Abloh

Over the last 10 years, Virgil Abloh has become one of the world's most in-demand designers – and fashion royalty. He's a multi-disciplinary creative who's as comfortable behind a set of DJ decks as he is in the studio, with a celebrated history of collaborations with some of the world's biggest brands. He uses his work to examine the interplay between contemporary visual culture and the world of design, melding high art references with his streetwear heritage.







Virgil, alongside Henrik Most, a creative leader at IKEA, conducted extensive research into the lives of young adults, in order to help understand their needs as they move out on their own for the first time.

Then, over several workshops at IKEA's design centre in Älmhult, Sweden, they worked together to develop sketches and prototypes, physically shaping the products themselves in our pattern shop.

By joining together our approaches to design, we challenged each other to think differently - and created a collection that empowers people to build a first home that's distinctively theirs.



## "OUTPUT"

The collection takes classic minimalist designs and builds on them with the artistic references and deconstructive elements typical of Virgil's work. His iconic quotation marks can be found throughout, and are used to add a sense of irony and inject humour into everyday objects.

## #IKEAxVirgil #MARKERAD













This table updates 1950s Scandinavian modernism with construction and materials that make the table light and easy to assemble. Each leg can be clicked into place in just one step using our wedge-dowel fitting – no tools necessary.











"The receipt is a trademark in itself that has been transformed into art. I think that this rug can just as easily be on a floor or hung on a wall - in both scenarios, the rug highlights the entire story which IKEA embodies."

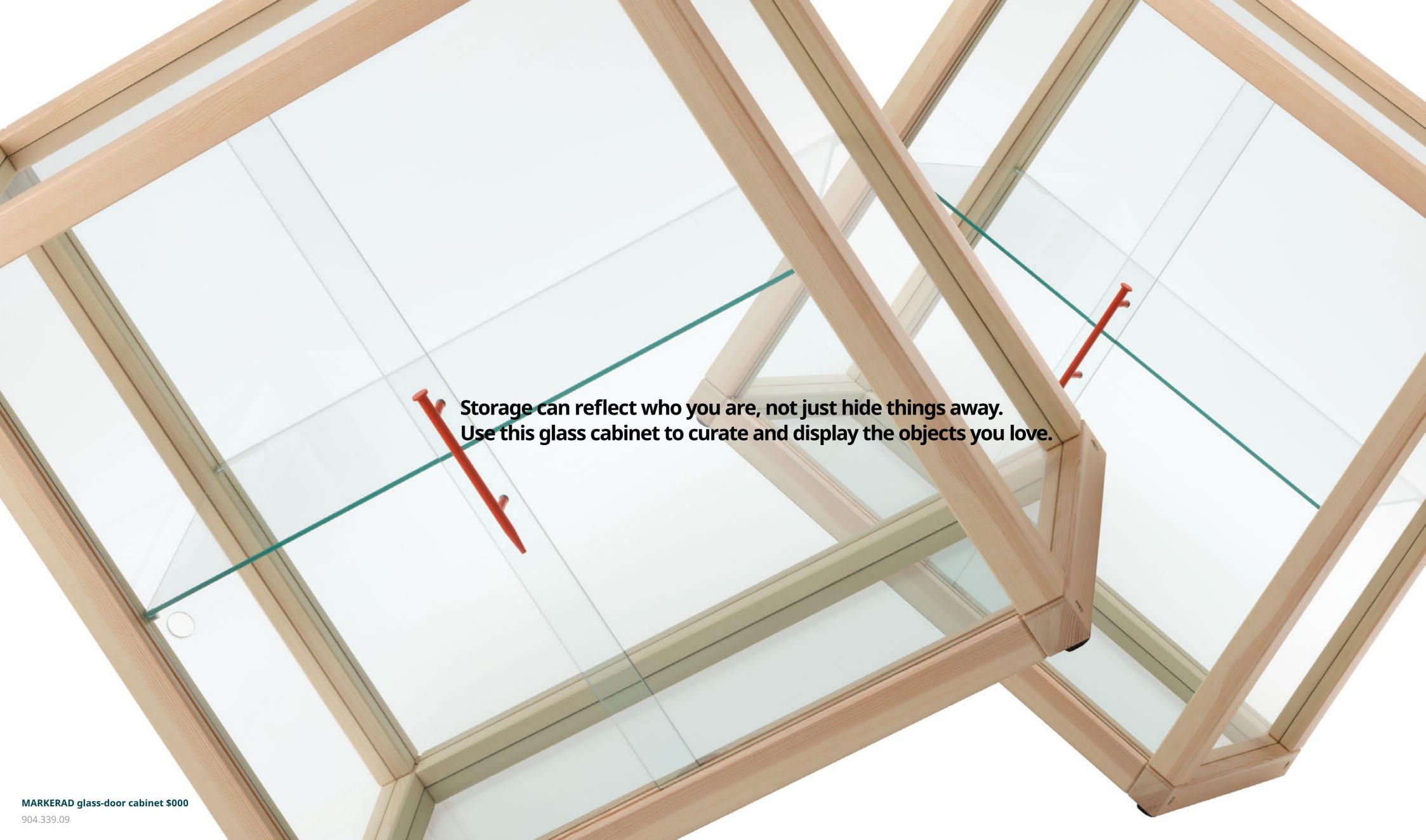


























## IN DIALOGUE WITH HENRIK MOST, CREATIVE LEADER AT IKEA

### What impressed you about Virgil's work and his values?

He takes modern design into a contemporary context. It would be quite boring if he just replicated modern design, but by taking history and tradition and interpreting it in his own unique way, he creates design which very much appeals to our time.

#### How does Virgil fit in with IKEA's global scale of operations?

Even though IKEA is a company with a global reach, we don't limit ourselves to a certain way of working and collaborating with certain designers. We celebrate diversity. For us, Virgil represents working across aesthetic borders, because he is not limiting himself to being only a fashion designer. That is interesting for IKEA because we can see that our customers and the ones we want to attract have, I would say, a longing for collections that have crossover content. I think that connects to how millennials perceive reality. They don't have traditional opinions about how you can't merge mass culture and pop culture with high fashion or high-end design. It all goes together in the same melting pot. The way we work at IKEA, we try to think outside of the expected when we develop collections, and we try to present them as our honest reflection of what we see going on in the world.

### What do you appreciate most about the IKEA 'laboratory'?

At IKEA, we always start with the people. When we look at millennials, we can see that they have rejected the 'normal' way of living. Rather than separate an apartment into different spaces, like the living room, the bedroom, the work room, for them, all activities take place in one room. That challenges the whole idea of a home. That is something we want to explore, creating open tools for millenials to create and co-create their own homes. If you want respect from millennials, you cannot just tell them how you think they should live. That would be a complete dead end. We need to meet them where they are.

## Henrik, when the collection is launched in November, what are you hoping for?

Well, for it to be a success, it has to make a difference for millenials, that they can actually appreciate the designs we have created and will use the products as part of creating a home. It's not about the media hype or whether there is a lot of coverage about the collections. Success for IKEA is whether this collection actually makes a difference for millenials.



## IN DIALOGUE WITH VIRGIL ABLOH

#### What are your thoughts on the collaboration?

It's been the most rigorous of any design project I've done. There are only a few moments in a design career that you get to work with the absolute best in class, and my concept of design resonates with IKEA's democratic design principles, with the idea that great design can be given to the masses.

## You operate where high art culture and street art culture meet. What happens in that intersection and why do you think it so interesting?

I think over the course of time, different art movements have brought us to a point where art is no longer a culture that resides in closed societies. There is a way for art to communicate between people who are more versed in it and those who have come to it more recently.

#### What is most important to you in your art?

What's most important to me in art and design is that the things I create have a reason for existing. Solving a need, whether it be artistic or functional, is an internal measuring stick for me, and that's how I feel able to leave my signature on objects.

### How do you think millennials can make a statement in their first homes?

The essence of the project we're working on is about the millennial spirit. Function is specific to every individual, but the ethos of the collection is to add an artful quality to anonymous objects. In the same way you might hang a piece of art work on your wall, an artful quality can bleed into objects like a chair, table or rug. That was my initial problem to solve when creating this collection.

#### How would you describe your first home?

My first home was carefully thought-through and very empty. You come to realize that making a space feel like a home takes an intangible quality. It's not just about a chair or its form, functional things like that. It's about creating something with character that feels lived-in. That's the challenge.

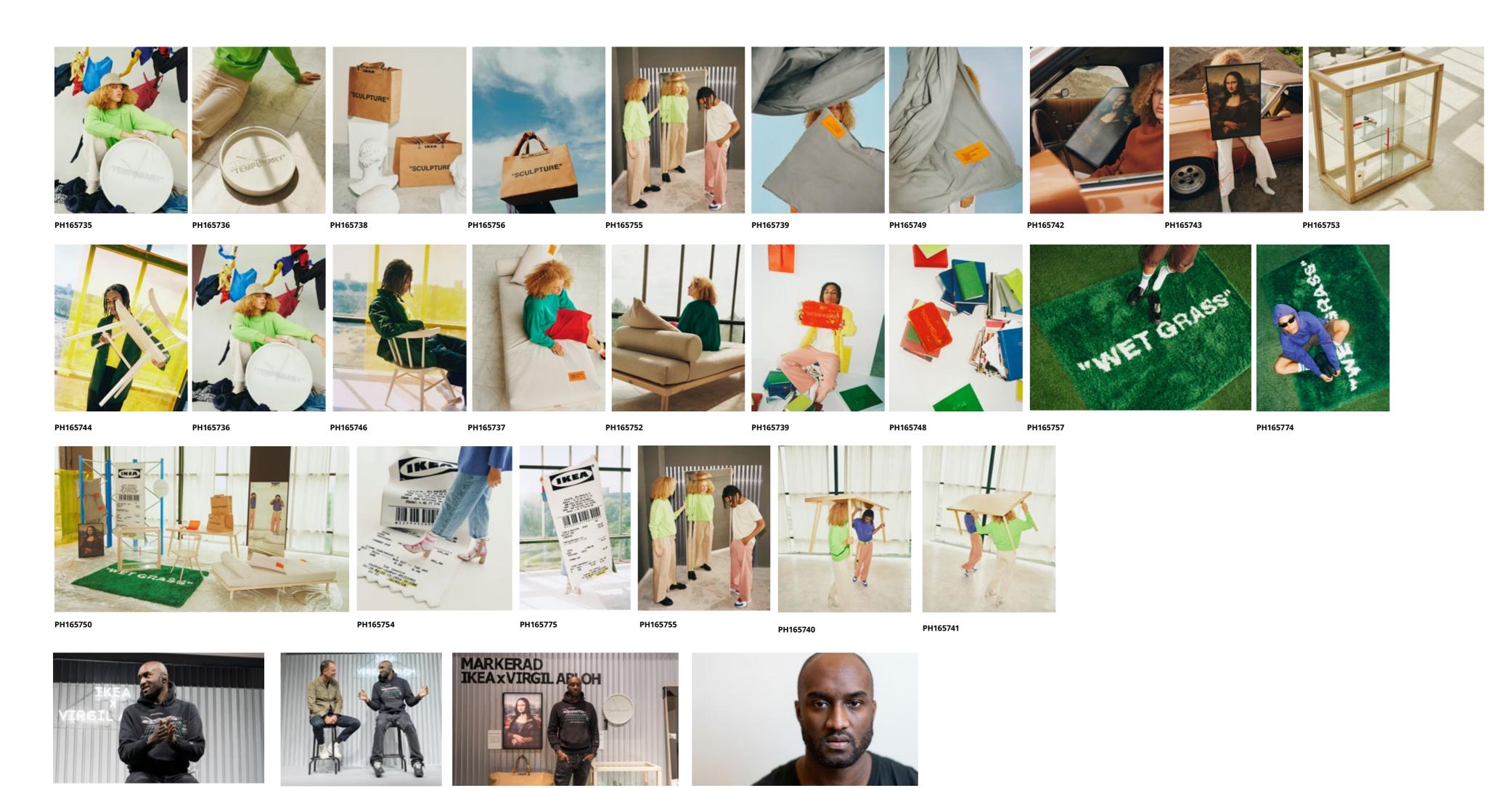
### When you were starting out, how did you typically acquire new furniture?

It was a mix of a hand-me-down meets a particular brand new purchase meets just keeping your eyes open. But it takes a lot of time and access, it's not very easy to find things you want to live with.





## **Images overview**



## Videos overview







Behind the scenes film Story film Products film

#### **Products**



PE739327

#### MARKERAD glass-door cabinet €179,00 MARKERAD cover for day-bed €100,00

Tinted, clear lacquered solid pine and tempered glass. Designer: Virgil Abloh. W80×D40, H80cm. 904.339.09



PE739305

80% cotton, 20% linen. Designer: Virgil Abloh. W80×L200cm. 604.339.01



#### PE739312

#### MARKERAD day-bed frame €199,00

Tinted, clear lacquered solid pine. Designer: Virgil Abloh. W80×L200, H20cm. Mattress size 80×200cm. 404.339.02



#### PE739303

#### MARKERAD cushion cover €9,99

80% cotton, 20% linen. Designer: Virgil Abloh. W40×L65cm. 404.438.83



#### PE738866

#### MARKERAD chair €99,00

Tinted, clear lacquered solid beech. Designer: Virgil Abloh. W53×D46, H76cm. 804.339.00



#### PE739320

#### MARKERAD table €299,00

Seats 6. Tinted, clear lacquered beech veneer and solid wood. Designer: Virgil Abloh. L170×W75, H75cm. 204.339.03



#### PE739332

#### MARKERAD mirror €149,00

Painted solid pine and glass. Designer: Virgil Abloh. W76×H187cm. 404.339.16



#### PE721298

#### MARKERAD rug, high pile €59,99

100% polypropylene. Designer: Virgil Abloh. W133×L195cm. Green 504.339.49



#### PE721294

#### MARKERAD rug, low pile €129,00

100% nylon. Designer: Virgil Abloh. W90×L200cm. White/black 004.347.53



#### PE739302

#### **MARKERAD** wall clock €24,99

Powder coated steel, polystyrene plastic and glass. Designer: Virgil Abloh. Ø42cm. 004.339.56

### **Products**



PE738850

## MARKERAD carrier bag, medium €9,99

Plastic reinforced paper. Designer: Virgil Abloh. W44×D17, H44cm. 33l. 104.558.20



PE738860

#### MARKERAD carrier bag, large €12,99

Plastic reinforced paper. Designer: Virgil Abloh. W58×D37, H37cm. 79l. 304.339.26



PE738855

## MARKERAD backlit artwork USB €79,99

KOPPLA USB charger is sold separately. Powder coated steel and painted polystyrene plastic. Designer: Virgil Abloh. W53×D7, H77cm. 704.339.05



PE739399

## MARKERAD quilt cover and pillowcase €24,99

100% cotton. Designer: Akanksha Deo. Quilt cover W150×L200cm. Pillowcase L50×W60cm. Grey 504.547.91



PE739317

#### MARKERAD 17-piece tool set €9,99

Comprises: Hammer with separate rubber casing, adjustable spanner, combination pliers, bits screwdriver with bits for slotted, cross-headed, allen screws and bradawl. Designer: H Preutz/V Abloh. 104.339.32

