

Our Process

TYPICAL PROJECT TIMELINE



COMMON TIMELINE DEPENDENCIES

Every project is different, but here are some factors that could impact your overall project timeline.

Project size: It's not a surprise, but larger projects generally take longer. Large-volume orders take longer to manufacture, and orders with a wider variety of products are generally more complex and need more coordination time.

Building timelines: Furniture tends to be installed during the later stages of a building plan, so understanding your schedule and communicating changes is critical to having products available at the right time. New buildings generally need to be completed before furniture is installed, while renovations depend more upon what is being replaced. Any construction, painting, and carpeting need to be complete before delivery.

Standard, custom, and stock products: In school projects, most of the products tend to be made to order, so production time needs to be built into the schedule. Many of the products are standard, so you are customizing the colors and finishes, but the engineering and product design have already been done. If you need a custom product to fit a unique space or functional need, production will take a little longer, depending on the uniqueness and complexity of the design.

If you have a very limited time frame, some products are stocked at the manufacturer. Generally, these tend to include things like tables, chairs, and cabinets in basic colors. The trade-off is a limited selection of products and colors to choose from.

Complexity of product selection: When the products selected come from a variety of suppliers, more time is needed to coordinate the orders and shipments. Manufacturer lead times may vary in length, so some products may be available more quickly than others. Generally, limiting the number of suppliers helps a project to flow more smoothly.

Timely design and quote approval: Waiting for quote and design approval cuts into manufacturing, delivery, and installation time. Timely turnarounds will help to shorten timelines.

Color, fabric, and finish selections: An order cannot be placed with a manufacturer until all final color, fabric, and finish selections have been made. To keep the project moving, these selections should be finalized by the time purchase orders are placed.

Seasonality: Many school projects have completion dates during the summer and early fall. Manufacturing lead times tend to be longer during these peak months, so ordering early or avoiding these months can be helpful.

Funding and purchase requirements: Some customers have complex approval processes and extra time is needed to get final approvals and complete the purchase process. If all of the funds needed are not available at the time a project is anticipated to start, this can also impact the timeline.

Phasing timelines: Sometimes it is not possible to complete a project all at once due to funding or building timelines. Schedules can be developed to phase the project so that a cohesive design can be planned up front and implemented as appropriate.