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## Executive Desks

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### Q1. What size executive desk do I need for my office?

**A:** Most executive offices call for a 66" to 72" wide desk with a 30" to 36" depth. Measure your room and allow at least 48" behind the chair — executives often have visitor seating that needs clearance. A 10'x12' office can typically accommodate a 72" double-pedestal desk comfortably.

### Q2. What's the difference between wood veneer and laminate on an executive desk?

**A:** Veneer uses a thin slice of real wood bonded over a substrate — it looks and feels like solid wood at lower cost. Laminate prints a wood image on paper or foil and applies a protective coating. High-quality HPL laminate can look very similar to veneer, at lower price and higher scratch resistance. Veneer is more traditional; commercial HPL laminate is more practical.

### Q3. What's in a double-pedestal executive desk?

**A:** A double-pedestal desk has storage units on both sides — typically box drawers (2–3 shallow drawers for supplies), a file drawer (for hanging files), and sometimes a locking drawer. The center panel usually has a utility drawer. Double-pedestal is the maximum built-in storage configuration.

### Q4. Do I need a credenza with my executive desk?

**A:** Not required, but very useful. A credenza placed behind your chair adds a secondary work surface and significant storage without making the primary desk larger. If you regularly work with multiple projects or meet with visitors, a desk + credenza setup gives you dedicated space for each function.

### Q5. How do I choose between a traditional and contemporary executive desk?

**A:** Match the desk to the firm's aesthetic and the room's other elements. Traditional executive desks (dark wood, raised panels, ornate hardware) suit law firms, financial advisors, and established corporate environments. Contemporary executive desks (clean lines, lighter finishes, minimal hardware) suit creative agencies, tech companies, and modern offices.

### Q6. Can an executive desk fit in a 10x10 office?

**A:** A standard 72" double-pedestal desk requires roughly 9' of clearance with proper chair access behind it. In a 10x10 room, this is workable but tight. Consider a 60" to 66" desk instead, or a single-pedestal desk — gives more circulation space without sacrificing the executive look.

### Q7. What's a lateral file credenza and how is it different from a regular credenza?

**A:** A lateral file credenza includes built-in lateral file drawers (wide, shallow drawers that hold hanging files front-to-back instead of side-to-side). It provides both file storage and a flat surface on top. A standard credenza has shelves or cabinet doors below with a clear surface on top — no dedicated file storage.

### Q8. Should I get a hutch on my executive credenza?

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**A:** If you want the full traditional executive office backdrop, a hutch on the credenza creates that high, library-style look. Practical if you need display shelving or reference books nearby. Check ceiling height — a 36" credenza plus a 40" hutch totals 76", which may be close to ceiling height in rooms under 9'.

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**Q9. Are executive desk drawer slides important?**

**A:** Yes. Cheap desks use basic slides that get sticky over time. Full-extension, ball-bearing slides let drawers open completely (accessing the full depth of the drawer) and operate smoothly for years. Under-mount or soft-close slides are a premium feature that indicates overall build quality.

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**Q10. What kind of warranty should I expect on an executive desk?**

**A:** Commercial-grade executive desks from established manufacturers typically carry 10-year to lifetime warranties on the frame and structure, with shorter coverage on moving parts and surface. A strong warranty reflects manufacturer confidence in the product's durability — it's a meaningful buying signal.

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