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## Lounge Seating

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### Q1. What's the difference between commercial and residential lounge seating?

**A:** Commercial lounge seating uses higher-density foam, contract-grade fabrics (250,000+ double rubs), steel or solid wood frames, and commercial warranties that cover hard daily use. Residential pieces look similar initially but compress and wear out much faster in commercial environments.

### Q2. How do I plan a reception area lounge layout?

**A:** Start with the circulation path — people entering and moving through the reception area define the perimeter of your seating zone. Plan lounge seating in groupings with 18"+ clearance on all sides for walking paths. Anchor each grouping with a low table.

### Q3. What seat height should lounge chairs be in a waiting area?

**A:** 15"–17" for most lounge seating. Avoid very low seats (under 14") in waiting areas — they're difficult to rise from, especially for older visitors. A seat height of 16"–18" is the most universally accessible range.

### Q4. How many people can sit on a commercial sofa?

**A:** Commercial 3-seat sofas typically seat 3 people at 20"–22" per person. Check the sofa's outside width (usually 80"–90") and weight rating. Commercial sofas are typically rated 400–600 lbs total.

### Q5. What's the best lounge seating fabric for a busy waiting area?

**A:** High-performance fabrics rated 250,000+ double rubs with stain protection treatment. Look for fabrics described as 'commercial' or 'contract grade.' Darker mid-tones hide daily soil significantly better than light colors.

### Q6. Should I buy a sofa or individual lounge chairs for my reception area?

**A:** Both, ideally. A sofa + 2 chairs around a coffee table is the most welcoming and functional reception configuration. Chairs-only works in smaller reception areas or where social distancing is a priority. Sofa-only is the minimum for larger waiting areas.

### Q7. How do I make sure lounge seating coordinates with the office aesthetic?

**A:** Match the formality level first (casual/contemporary vs. traditional/formal), then coordinate fabric color with existing wall colors and carpet/flooring, then match metal finish with other hardware in the room. You don't need an exact match — just intentional coordination.

### Q8. What accent tables go with lounge seating?

**A:** Coffee tables (16"–18" height) at the center of a sofa/chair grouping. Side tables (20"–24" height) beside individual chairs. Material and finish should coordinate with the chair frames — wood with wood, metal with metal, or intentional contrast.

### Q9. Can I use residential lounge furniture in a low-traffic executive area?

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**A:** In a private executive lounge or reception that sees 5–10 visitors per week, residential furniture can work. In waiting rooms with 20+ visitors daily, commercial-grade construction is strongly preferred.

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**Q10. What are the ADA requirements for lounge seating areas?**

**A:** Aisle clearance of 44" in public-access areas. Seating areas need a clear floor space adjacent to the seating that allows a wheelchair to approach. Avoid placing lounge seating configurations that block the accessible path. Standard commercial reception configurations typically meet these requirements if circulation is planned properly.

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