



Teacher Desks Buying Guide

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The unique nature of the teaching profession requires furnishings that are flexible and highly functional. Oftentimes teachers will select a desk depending on their teaching style. Regardless, teachers need desks that stand up to daily wear and tear, are equipped to support technology, provide adequate storage, have ample workspace and more. Still there are other features to consider such as locking casters, adjustable heights, material and size.

School Outfitters Tips



Desk grommets help keep technology cords organized.



Locking casters make moving the desk easy.



If you are unsure of the desk height you need, choose one with adjustable height.



Drawers with locks are available for added security.

Teacher Desk Types



Single Pedestal Desk

A pedestal desk with a work surface and one column of drawers is called a single pedestal desk. The drawers can be on the left or right side, and a shallow pencil drawer can sometimes be found directly under the work surface. Depending on the model, some if not all the drawers come equipped with locks. Many single pedestal desks will have a modesty panel that extends at least halfway down the front to conceal the teacher's legs.

Shop Single Pedestal Desks



Double Pedestal Desk

A pedestal desk with a column of drawers on both ends is known as a double pedestal desk. This style of desk also has a shallow pencil drawer beneath the work surface, plus a modesty panel to conceal the teacher's legs. The drawers can come equipped with locks for added security.

Shop Double Pedestal Desks



Standing Teacher Desk

Standing teacher desks allow instructors the flexibility to adjust their position throughout the day. Some styles adjust in height from sitting to standing while others are standing only. Many come equipped with wheels to encourage freedom of movement throughout the classroom. There are a variety of configurations to choose from, such as tables with a privacy panel, combination lectern and AV carts, L-shaped desks and more.

Shop Standing Desks



Teacher Lectern

Teacher lecterns are portable stands used for instructing and presenting. Styles vary from tabletop and adjustable-height stands to those with built-in shelving to hold AV equipment and laptops. Many are equipped with wheels or are lightweight. This gives teachers the flexibility to move throughout the classroom or quickly adapt their desk for standing while leading discussions.

Shop Teacher Lecterns

Desk Material



Wood Teacher Desk

Wood teacher desks are a classic choice. Depending on the brand, the wood can range from solid hardwood to plywood and have a variety of finishes to choose from.

Shop Wood Desks



Steel/Metal Teacher Desk

Desks made of steel are known for their exceptional durability, security and low maintenance. Rarely is the entire desk made of steel, rather the top is usually constructed of a high-pressure laminate that resists scratches and is easy to clean. These can also be referred to as metal desks if the material is not actually steel.

Shop Steel/Metal Desks



Laminate Teacher Desk

Laminate is a man-made material known for its resistance to scratches, stains and heat. Heavy-duty paper is layered and pressed with melamine which hardens into a resin. This resin is then covered by a printable surface to look like real wood and then attached to fiber or particleboard. Laminate desks can have numerous color options and are easy to clean and maintain.

Shop Laminate Desks

Greenguard & BIFMA Certifications



GREENGUARD Certified Teacher Desks

Products that are GREENGUARD Certified meet the stringent standards for low chemical emissions set by the Greenguard Environmental Institute (GEI), an industry independent organization that aims to improve indoor air quality. Products that are GREENGUARD Certified reduce people's exposure to chemicals and other pollutants, improving overall health. GREENGUARD Certification is GEI's first certification offering.



GREENGUARD Gold Certified Teacher Desks

GREENGUARD Gold Certification is GEI's second tier of certification. Products that are GREENGUARD Gold Certified meet an even lower level of chemical emissions plus health-based criteria for additional chemicals. GREENGUARD Gold products meet the indoor air quality needs of sensitive environments like schools, daycares and health care facilities.



BIFMA Certified Teacher Desks

The Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturer's Association, or BIFMA, certification is a voluntary standard that a product has met stringent third-party sustainability requirements. This certification ensures the product is durable, has longevity and promotes a healthy work environment.