

# Reflection



## Look and feel

This elective was a start for me to obtain understanding in how materials, shape and movement could have influences on the experience of the person interacting with it. I wanted to learn how an object could convey different qualities while using different senses. I hoped to realize and construct this in an eventually inspiring artifact. On the other hand I desired to get more understanding of the way materials provoke certain qualities. During all the explorations and iterations we did I already noticed the importance of this subject. I became aware of how extremely important the appearance of an object is, while conveying different qualities. I learned how mood boards can help to express qualities like 'vulnerability' and 'strong' apart as well as opposed to each other. Since I never expressed myself through a mood board I can argue that there were major improvements in that field. I learned to assess mood boards and similar boards of inspiration. Now, I understand the purpose of this board and can really use it to express myself as a designer while developing artifacts, like in this case a chair. Through the mood board iterations I noticed that I got inspired by the theme 'nature' and obtained understanding, later on, how this can be used in a design process appropriately. Understanding of qualities, expressing themselves in the look and the feel, can, in my opinion, influence the way they can help changing people's behavior. This is my approach as a designer and is definitely something I learned in this course. I think the course had valuable additions to this belief, since I had opportunities to end up with a design completely focused on its appearance rather than its functionalities. This approach was new to me, but can be used while eventually developing end products in a later stage.

The elective 'Look and Feel' supported me a lot while developing as a designer. I do believe that some aspects could have been worked out in a better way. I wanted to explore material, but did not focus on that while developing the prototypes that much. During the course I think I underestimated the power of materials and did not fully try to get the maximum out of it. I did notice this and now I am aware about how to involve this in future processes. In the design process we went through, I mainly focused on shape and the construction, enabling movement, in the prototype. This can help me to develop shape changing interfaces in the future. The construction of the interfaces of the chair also could have been better. This was unfortunately hard to realize, but can be considered in other projects at all times.