

The “perfect” model

Take a skeleton and seat it on a chair. With that as a model, you make a nice drawing and - abracadabra - you have the prescription for how living people must sit.

The skeleton has great advantages over school pupils when it comes to sitting 'correctly':

1. It can sit and stare into space all day.
2. It has no tendons or muscles to restrict movement in the hip-joint.
3. It has a bent iron bar through its spine, so it can sit with the same lumbar curve normally used in the standing position.

In order to have a satisfactory overall appearance, the spinal column of a standing person has been taken, and the legs of a sitting person have simply been drawn on. Thus, without the slightest regard for man's actual anatomy, a new human form has been contrived to fit the available furniture.

From: A.C. Mandal, The Seated Man (p 17)