



*Paya*

*Catalogue*

# PAYA



OUR PROMISE IS  
WE'LL NEVER CUT  
DOWN A TREE. OUR  
GOAL IS TO LEAVE  
THIS EARTH BETTER  
THAN WE FOUND IT.  
THESE VALUES ARE  
ONES I PASS DOWN

PAYA exists only by chance. When I think about it, it's actually a pretty funny story, all down to a wrong turn I took when looking for a ceramics store. There I met Xiangdong Li, whittling away at a swing set within the forest. There he had a workshop, where he crafted furniture and plaques from reclaimed wood. I never did make it to the ceramics shop because something took hold of me that day, and we agreed to craft a wider range of sustainable homeware. As luck would have it, within a few weeks he took my money and ran. Leaving behind his entire workshop, tools, a stockpile of reclaimed wood and me, a so-called apprentice who barely knew a thing.



It was clear I had to get some real crafting experts on board, but no self-respecting carpenter was interested. So, I may have lied. I promised them ¥500 a day if they stuck with me for the next 5 years, even though I didn't know when the next order would come through. That was over 10 years ago. I'm proud to say my team has stuck by me and are now compensated more than my initial deception promised.

With all our different expertise and skills, it's sustainability that ties us all to PAYA. Our promise is we'll never cutdown a tree. Instead, all the wood we use is rescued from dilapidated houses, each a perfectly imperfect piece of timber. I often worry there won't be any more wood to reclaim because we are so dominated by concrete and steel. In modern times, embracing more sustainable solutions feels almost like a dying religion. But it's important to us, important for me to leave the earth better than when I first arrived. I'm passing these values down to my daughter. I often tell her, your money is your own,

but the earth's resources are everyone's.

Much like the ideas behind wabi-sabi, it may not be the most obvious way to look at the world, but it is the most rewarding. I whole heartedly believe that weathering is not a sign of decay but one of beauty. There are many captivating things in the world, but it takes a keen eye to find charm in a less obvious beauty. No one notices a fallen branch, but if a florist places it in a vase, and lets it sit under natural light, that's art.

That's how I feel about aged furniture. I revel in the fissures and crannies within the aged wood, like the wrinkles on a wizened face. A friend once commissioned a chair from me, and when he saw the rifts in the texture, he asked: "How could you make me something so flawed?". I felt bad for him in that moment. He had not understood the splendour in the passing of time and decades that had made this wood so irreplaceable.







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PLUCKED DIRECTLY FROM THE FOUNDATIONS  
OF ZHU'S NOW ABANDONED FAMILY HOME,  
PAYA FASHIONED A CHAIR FOR HIM TO KEEP  
THE MEMORIES OF THIS PLACE ALIVE







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EXQUISITE  
CRAFTSMANSHIP THAT  
HAS BEEN HONED  
OVER DECADES OF  
WOODWORKING.



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CREATING THROUGH THE LENS  
OF WABI-SABI LIVING







# Lover's Chair

The Lover's Chair is an artistic piece with hidden meaning, a simple story of two lovers overcoming the boundaries set before them. The chair features two circles divided on either side of a divided backrest and a third at the base of the legs. This understated visual tale signifies two souls coming together in perfect unity.

The circle has had a lasting love affair with Chinese culture dating back centuries. Some believe it stems from the worship of the full moon, however in modern times, it is a symbol of perfection, union and fulfilment. Crafted exclusively using reclaimed wood, this accent chair embraces the natural grains and ageing of the timber used to create it.

Accepting its imperfections as its strengths is a true act of love. Paired with its mortise and tenon joints, the Lover's Chair has an enduring spirit to it. Paya Home promises never to chop down a single tree, giving a second life to wood that would have otherwise been discarded.

Please note images are for reference only. Each piece is unique and may vary slightly in shape, colour and dimension based on the available wood. When crafting with reclaimed wood, the final item may feature naturally occurring holes, cracks, graduation in colouring and fissures within the timber. As with any furniture made with salvaged materials, we embrace this as part of the wood's storied history.

Length 440 mm  
Depth 570 mm  
Height 870 mm

Sustainable craftsmanship



# Live Edge Coffee Table

Truly unique and one of a kind, the Live Edge Coffee Table embraces the natural curves and contours found in salvaged wood. Its live edges are works of art in itself, which is why they remain untouched, simply displayed atop a pedestal to be admired.

A true embodiment of wabi-sabi, this coffee table evokes an unmistakable Asian feel that is both reserved and naturally striking. It's only fitting that this coffee table is crafted with mortise and tenon joinery, embracing only raw materials and deft woodworking. When crafting, the shape and size may vary depending

Length 1460 mm  
Depth 450 mm  
Height 360 mm

One-of-a-kind



on the available reclaimed wood. Before we can confirm your Live Edge Coffee Table order, a variety of available live edge wood pieces will be photographed and shared with you to ensure you find a table that matches your desired dimensions.

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# Kangaroo Bookshelf

Paya Home's Kangaroo Bookshelf features ample shelving and two V-shaped racks for displaying books. Its lower half is reminiscent of a kangaroo's belly as it gently cradles reading materials in its nook. Crafted with a minimal silhouette, it is paired with naturally weathered reclaimed wood, which brings a delightfully warm and aged patina. Painstakingly made using mortise and tenon woodworking, this meticulous and ancient form of craftsmanship honours Asia's spirit of longevity. Ideal for wabi-sabi inspired home offices, japandi-inspired living rooms, or as an elegant partition within large rooms, with open shelving that can be accessed on either side.

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Length 1000 mm  
Depth 500 mm  
Height 1800 mm

Sustainable craftsmanship







# Parable Book Stand

Inspired by antique book stands that once graced the homes of scholars and musicians, the Parable Book Stand features a large surface area to display works of importance. Painstakingly crafted using reclaimed wood, its weathered surface is free from vanity, like a black and white photo that emphasises the wrinkles of an ageing face. This reading stand can easily be moved using one hand despite being crafted from solid wood.

Length 700 mm  
Depth 480 mm  
Height 790 mm

Sustainable craftsmanship

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# Neo-Ming Dynasty Chair

Bringing a sense of harmony and zen to your home, the Neo-Ming Dynasty Chair has been expertly hand-made using reclaimed wood, making it an ideal choice for the conscientious shopper. Its linear structure makes for a solid piece evoking an unmistakable Asian feel.

Length 770 mm  
Depth 610 mm  
Height 1080 mm

Sustainable craftsmanship

While its silhouette may feel effortless, it is the result of a complex and painstaking process. Paya Home embraces the tenets of wabi-sabi furniture, demonstrating that reclaimed wood still has many beautiful years to offer.

An extraordinary accent chair for the living room or dining room, its mortise and tenon woodwork gives it its enduring character. The mature wood will continue to tell its own unique story through its textured timber as it ages.









# Rural Stool

The Rural Stool uses a single piece of reclaimed wood to bring a new purpose to aged timber. A typical small wooden stool found in pastoral homes and on farms, it is known as a workhorse as it is compact but heavy. Made with enduring qualities, Paya Home uses mortise and tenon joinery, devoid of any nails or screws, to create a persisting and robust seat. Each piece is unique in its own way, featuring a distinctive, naturally weathered wood. While its silhouette may feel effortless, this stool is

the result of a complex and detailed grinding process. Please note images are for reference only. Each piece is unique and may vary slightly in shape, colour and dimension based on the available wood. When crafting with reclaimed wood, the final item may feature naturally occurring holes, cracks, graduation in colouring and fissures within the timber. As with any furniture made with salvaged materials, we embrace this as part of the wood’s storied history.

Length 200 mm  
Depth 200 mm  
Height 280 mm

One-of-a-kind



# Fable Magazine Rack

The Fable Magazine Rack pairs its minimal silhouette with naturally tarnished reclaimed wood sourced from forgotten, dilapidated homes. Conveniently crafted with a handle, it can effortlessly be transported from the living room to the home office. Its V-shaped body enables you to display book and magazine covers for all to see. Made with enduring qualities, Paya Home uses mortise and tenon woodwork, devoid of any nails or screws, to create furnishing with added durability.

Length 930 mm  
Depth 430 mm  
Height 700 mm

Sustainable craftsmanship

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# Column Bench

Imposing and weighty, the Column Bench was once a sizable foundational pillar within a home. For many years it stood vertically, but as the house faced demolition, Paya Home granted it a second life and crafted it into a rustic bench. As with most reclaimed furniture, you can see its weather pattern embedded deep within the wood, complemented by an imperfect edge and original markings.

It was only natural to craft this bench using mortise and tenon joinery, embracing only raw materials and deft woodworking. Suitable for long entryways, gallery spaces, dining seating or as an outdoor bench, it can comfortably seat 4-5 people at once.

Length 1900 mm  
Depth 225 mm  
Height 400 mm

Sustainable craftsmanship



# Rustic Bench

Using wood salvaged from an old house set to be torn down, this 3-seater bench embodies all the rustic charm of timber that has lived a great many years. Crafted with hardwood and expert joinery, its minimal silhouette allows it to integrate seamlessly into both japandi and maximalist homes. Each plank features a slightly different grain, giving the Rustic Bench a subtle texture that can be felt when touched.

Using traditional mortise and tenon joinery, this bench is devoid of any nails or screws, imbuing it with greater longevity. At home anywhere from patio spaces, living rooms and dining nooks to galleries and coffee shops.

Length 2000 mm  
Depth 300 mm  
Height 750 mm

Sustainable craftsmanship





# Spine Shelf

The Spine Shelf is a minimalist spine rack that seamlessly hangs from the wall. Crafted exclusively using reclaimed wood, it celebrates the weathered look and feel of the wood’s grain that it has acquired over many years.

Length 260 mm  
Depth 210 mm  
Height 1700 mm

Sustainable craftsmanship

Its open shelving makes it ideal for showcasing objects d’art or notable books within your home. Its stellar handcraftsmanship is best demonstrated with its mortise and tenon joinery, you won’t see any nails or screws along this shelf.

Featuring 8 tiers for display and storage, the number is considered one of luck in China, said to bring wealth and prosperity. This shelf can be customised to any number of shelves upon request.

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# Aged Side Table

The Aged Side Table is a choice place to display valued vases, tea sets or family heirlooms. Painstakingly crafted, Paya Home exclusively uses reclaimed wood, celebrating the weathered look and feel of the wood’s grain, which can be enjoyed throughout this piece. Juxtaposed by its minimal and clean lines, this side table lends itself perfectly to japandi and zen-inspired homes. Exclusively made using mortise and tenon woodwork, this meticulous craftsmanship honours Asia’s spirit of longevity.

Length 320 mm  
Depth 320 mm  
Height 900 mm

Sustainable craftsmanship

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# Ploughman’s Bench

The Ploughman’s Bench is crafted with a variety of reclaimed wood and a vintage plough in true wabi-sabi spirit. It features a long seat that can comfortably seat 4-5 people and a partial backrest fashioned from the handle of a traditional plough and thin panels of wood. Referred to as ‘Li’ in Chinese, the character for the plough is a combination of two Chinese words, the top being the word for benefit and the bottom for cow. This refers to the tool being of great use to farmers.

Devoid of any screws and nails, this bench instead uses mortise and tenon joinery, which is prized for its incredible strength. Suitable as an accent piece for corridors, living rooms and tea houses, the Ploughman’s Bench is a limited-edition collector’s piece as Paya Home has only been able to

salvage a handful of antique ploughs from nearby farms. Please note images are for reference only. Each piece is unique and may vary slightly in shape, colour and dimension based on the available wood.

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Length 3300 mm  
Depth 400 mm  
Height 450 mm

One-of-a-kind







# Simple Living Desk

Paya Home’s Simple Living Desk is a manifestation of striking minimalism at its best. Crafted with the rustic and weathered grain of reclaimed wood, it has been given a purposeful function once again. Effortless in its wabi-sabi design, this desk lends itself perfectly to Asian-inspired home offices and zen spaces that call for a rustic touch. Its silhouette is seamless, devoid of any nails or screws. Instead, it uses mortise and tenon craftsmanship to connect its joints.

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Length 930 mm  
Depth 430 mm  
Height 700 mm

Sustainable craftsmanship

colour and dimension based on the available wood. When crafting with reclaimed wood, the final item may feature naturally occurring holes, cracks, graduation in colouring and fissures within the timber.

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# Hourglass Side Table

Inspired by the silhouette of a traditional sand timer, the Hourglass Side Table is a hefty piece in weight and stature. Both its base and tabletop are crafted from the same piece of reclaimed wood, cut into two semi-circles. Using mortise and tenon woodwork, you won’t see any nails or screws across its body, maintaining its raw, natural character.

Beautifully displaying its weathered veins and blemishes, this side table lends itself perfectly to japandi living rooms and zen-inspired office spaces. Please note images are for reference only.

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Length 400 mm  
Depth 270 mm  
Height 570 mm

One-of-a-kind





