

Schrank (Prototyp), Squadra, 1964
Entwurf: Klaus Vogt
Herstellung: Marghitola AG, Luzern, CH
Material/Technik: Sperrholz, lackiert
140 × 60 × 34 cm
Dauerleihgabe: Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft,
Bundesamt für Kultur Bern



Trained boat builder and interior designer Klaus Vogt (b. 1938) came up with an unconventional and uncomplicated manufacturing technique for storage furniture. He cut free-form door shapes out of a sturdy rectangular box and gave the monolithic shape a strong presence through the use of color.

This colorful object's perfect rectangular shape makes the lineament cut into its front appear all the more intriguing. It is only upon second glance that it can be recognized as the outline of a set of drawers and cupboard doors. Counterintuitively, the flush-mounted doors do not open at the punched-out holes but at the edges of the cupboard. While the prototype shown here features piano hinges, for serial production Huss hinges were inserted into the presumptive finger holes. The doors, like those of antique cupboards, do not match the exact height and width of the compartment behind, but instead betray by the shape of their outlines and the placement of subtle recessed grips whether they conceal a drawer or a set of shelves, or even a fold-down tabletop. Klaus Vogt (b. 1938), who trained as a boat builder and was a graduate of Willy Guhl's interior design course, later becoming

an assistant in the architecture department at the ETH, was a member of a young generation of designers who prized the joy of experimentation and playing with forms, colors, and manufacturing techniques over the strict obedience to rules. Vogt initially constructed the Squadra cupboards—a Helvetian form of Anti-Design—for his own personal use, endeavoring to make do with minimal means. He nailed together standard plywood boards to construct a sturdy body, out of which he then sawed the doors. Eventually, the cupboards were named after Squadra, a working group for architecture, design, and graphics that Vogt cofounded in 1967. (Arthur Rüegg

<https://www.eguide.ch/en/objekt/prototyp-squadra/>