Furniture specification *clause library*

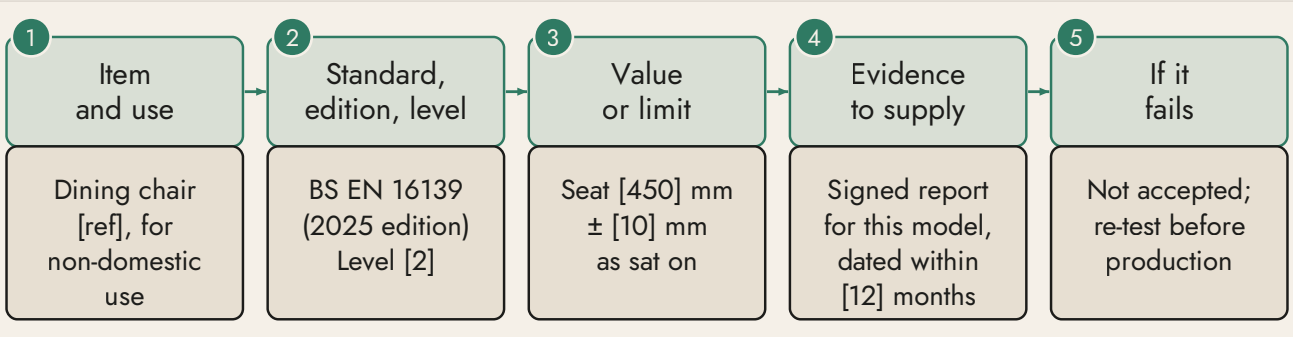
The seven lines to write if you write only seven. The web page has all eighteen clauses, each in one line and in full.

Compliance guidance. Wording here is a starting point and becomes contractual once pasted: have your own contract adviser review it. Standards are named as on our other sheets, with editions to be confirmed on BSI Knowledge; none was read for this sheet, and no clause has yet been checked with our partner workshops. Guidance, not legal or fire safety advice.

AT A GLANCE

Item	Clause	What it fixes	Evidence to ask for
Any item	A1 Basis and precedence; A2 No 'or equal'	Which document governs; substitutions only in writing	Signed drawing and schedule row; options priced separately
Any item	A3 Samples and mock-up	The match to approved samples; first-off approval	Signed sample register
Any item	A4 Evidence; A5 Tolerances	Full report, edition, model, date; sizes and critical dimensions	Reports against the schedule; recorded measurements
Seating	B1 Strength	BS EN 16139:2025 and the level	Full report for this model
Seating	B2 Fire	BS 7176 hazard category on the composite	Composite reports, label, category in writing
Seating	B3 Build-up; B6 Frame	Foam, wrap, suspension, joints, finish	Data sheets, photographs, build statement
Seating	B4 Cloth and leather	Abrasion, pilling, light, seams, cleaning	Batch test reports
Seating	B5 Geometry and sit test	Heights, angles, signed prototype	Prototype and record sheet
Tables	C1 Height; C2 Top and finish; C3 Strength	Top set from the seat; surface resistance; BS EN 15372	Shop drawing; report on an identical panel; test report
Casegoods	D1 Carcase; D2 Timber and veneer	Board, class and balance; species, cut, match, moisture	Declaration of performance; flitch sample
Casegoods	D3 Doors and drawers; D4 Stability	Hinges, runners and rated loads; BS EN 16121; fixing	Data sheets; test report; fixing detail

Eighteen clauses: A any item, B seating, C tables, D casegoods. Values in [square brackets] are examples; no price or lead time.



Leave one part out and a tenderer can price the cheapest reading.

The five parts of a clause, with an example from the seating strength clause (B1). Original drawing by Make Bespoke Studio.

VAGUE WORDING, EXACT WORDING

Says	Write instead
'Crib 5' or 'fire retardant'	BS 7176 [Medium] Hazard, set by the risk assessment, with a composite report
'Contract grade' or 'as sample' or 'or equal'	BS EN 16139:2025 Level [2]; approved sample [S-nn] within range [ ]; no substitution without written approval
'Hardwearing fabric'	Abrasion not less than [ ] rubs, BS EN ISO 12947-2 at 12 kPa, on the batch

SPECIFICATION WORDING

STARTER SET 1: BASIS, SAMPLES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

[Item code] is supplied as drawing [number, revision], schedule row [code] and approved sample [S-nn], within the range [S-nn to S-nn]; where they differ the drawing governs and the supplier asks before making. No substitution without [designer]'s written approval before order; alternatives are priced separately with a data sheet and sample. 'Or equal' is not accepted.

STARTER SET 2: EVIDENCE

Each test report is the full signed report from an accredited laboratory for the exact model, to the edition stated, dated within [12] months. Reports to a withdrawn edition, or for another model, are not accepted. Where a bespoke item has no report, [a representative sample is tested before production] and the report is submitted before the production order is released.

STARTER SET 3: SEATING STRENGTH AND FIRE

Seating to BS EN 16139:2025 Level [2]. Upholstered seating to BS 7176:2007+A1:2011 [Medium] Hazard as set by the fire risk assessment dated [date], with a composite report for the build as supplied, the foam certificate and the label. A standard number without a level, and 'Crib 5' alone, are not accepted.

STARTER SET 4: SEATING COMFORT AND CLOTH

Seat height [450] mm ± [10] as sat on; slope [3] degrees; back rake [5] degrees. A full-size prototype is sit-tested by [4] people and signed before production. Cloth to achieve [ ] rubs (BS EN ISO 12947-2 [edition], 12 kPa) and light fastness [ ], on the batch supplied.

STARTER SET 5: TABLES

Table top [745] mm ± [3] above finished floor level, [295] mm above the finished seat height [450] mm. Top finish [system] to sample [S-nn], with a surface resistance report (BS EN 12720 to 12722, 15186) on an identical panel. Table to BS EN 15372:2023 [edition to confirm], report for this model.

STARTER SET 6: CASEGOODS

Carcase [18] mm [board] to [standard] with a declaration of performance, veneer balanced. Hinges [ref] rated [ ] kg; drawers on [runner ref] rated [ ] kg. Storage to BS EN 16121:2023 [edition to confirm], report for this model; tall units fixed as drawing [ref].

STARTER SET 7: TOLERANCES

Finished sizes within [± 2 mm up to 1,000 mm and ± 3 mm from 1,000 to 3,000 mm]. Critical dimensions are marked on the drawing, measured before dispatch and at handover, and recorded.

TERMS USED

Control sample

The signed sample that production must match. Range samples show how much natural variation is accepted around it.

STANDARDS AND SOURCES

- FIRA and BFC guide (2010, updated 2011): sections 6.1, 7.1.1, 7.2.1 re-read 5 Nov 2026: state the standard and the level.
- BS EN 16139:2025; BS 7176:2007+A1:2011; BS EN 15372:2023; BS EN 16121:2023; cloth, finish and board test methods: named as on our other sheets; editions to confirm; none read.

Full guide: https://makebespoke.com/trade/technical/furniture-specification-clause-library. Make Bespoke Studio coordinates manufacture through its partner workshops. Figures are guidance only and your specification governs; some may be superseded, so contact the studio to verify.