

How will the space be used?

This is the most important question to consider, and one that many OEMs skip. But it's the difference between power that works...and power that blows the circuit.

Will your furniture be going into an office? Classroom? Airport? Hotel? Cafe? People use each of those spaces differently.

An office space, for example, likely has a hard desk setup: each employee's space has a monitor or two, desk phone, maybe even a printer. They'll stay put at their desk station for most of the day. If it's a lecture hall, it's totally different. Do students write notes by hand or on laptops? How long are the lectures? What devices do professors need to power their presentations? These will all determine the best type of power to use.

The good news is your dealer is already talking about this stuff with the end user or architect. So you just have to ask..."How is the occupant going to use this space?" or "What are the occupant's power needs?" to get your info.

What 'dress' should it wear?



Once you've defined your basic power needs, you need to consider the limitations you have with regards to design.

Where do you want to put the power in your furniture? What are the constraints of the furniture? What are the constraints of the space? Any aesthetic guidelines? Is the furniture mobile or permanent?

Those answers will help you choose the right "dress" for your power.

Think of the electrics as the body underneath. And you can cover that body with whatever dress best suits the occasion.

All of OE's sockets use the same footprint so we can give you just about any component in any product. We can even design something custom, if you need a specific look or feel.

Wherever you'd like to mount your power — on-surface, under-surface, in-surface, standalone — we've got a ton of options!

What's your budget?

The final thing you want to consider to specify the right power for each project is the customer's budget. And you can get creative...

By understanding how the space will be used (see point 1) you can advise which areas NEED power, rather than just adding it willy-nilly. This might result in the customer requiring less power overall, but each essential area can now have the best solution in their furniture without sacrificing quality for budget.

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And that always makes customers happy!