

Case study

A Nordic gem

Designed by Danish architects Schmidt Hammer Lassen and opened in 1999, the Black Diamond is an extension to the Royal Library in Copenhagen that doubles its size. Its exterior of two glossy black cubes slightly tilted over its harbour-front walkway, reflect the sky above and the sea before it.

This glass-and-black-marble structure, which changed the face of the city's harbour, features a stunning eight-story atrium, whose undulating walls and balconies echo the ebb and flow of the harbour's waterway.

Cultural spaces include the 600-seat Dronningesalen concert and theatre hall and the National Museum of Photography, and a giant painting by Danish artist Per Kirkeby adorns its ceiling.

d line pull handles, door closers, lever handles and door accessories were chosen by the architects as the Black Diamond's finishing touches for their simplicity, modernity and classicism.

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About d line

d line is a heritage Danish design brand conceiving and hand crafting enduring architectural hardware, sanitary ware and solutions for barrier-free living.

Launched in 1971 with the coordinated line of stainless steel architectural products Knud Holscher created for St Catherine's College Oxford, d line has since collaborated with iconic Danish designers including Arne Jacobsen. The brand's ambition is to be universally known, coveted and admired for the uncompromising endurance of its design, craftsmanship and quality.

About the Knud Holscher collection

Danish architect and industrial designer Knud Holscher has been part of d line from the beginning, conceiving our first coordinated line of architectural hardware in 1971 as 'modest design that is designed to last'.

Holscher graduated from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts School of Architecture in 1957, having studied under Arne Jacobsen. Only three years later, he found himself working for his professor on St. Catherine's College, Oxford, and thumbing through stacks of brochures to piece together its finishing touches.

As a result of this frustrating exercise, Holscher came to design a series of award-winning, minimalist architectural hardware for d line, starting with the iconic U and L levers, whose characteristic bend would influence the entire product range.

Having established Knud Holscher Design in Copenhagen in 1995, Holscher has since worked with a team that includes his architect son, Rasmus, and that designs everything from future-proof buildings like Copenhagen's Kastrup Airport, to future-proof hardware for d line.

Holscher has won over 70 awards, including many iF Design Awards that recognise design excellence and date back as far as 1978 and those first lever handles and doorstops for d line.

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Notes to editors

Architect: Schmidt Hammer Lassen

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark

Year: 1999

Product attributes:

- Designed by Knud Holscher
- 20-year guarantee
- High quality stainless steel AISI 316 (non-corrosive and highly durable)
- Several colours and finishes for different aesthetics, choose between: satin stainless steel , brass, PVD brass, PVD copper, PVD black

Links

- <https://dline.com/collections/knud-holscher/>
- <https://dline.com/cases/the-black-diamond/>

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