What is claimed is:

1. A chair comprising:

a base,

a seat supported on the base;

a support member having an upper portion and at least one lower portion that is lower than the upper portion, the at least one lower portion attached to at least one of the base and the seat, the upper portion attached to the at least one lower portion, the upper portion having a first section, a second section, and a third section between the first and second sections, the third section defining an offset positioned inwardly toward the seat relative to at least one of the first section and the second section;

a tablet moveably attached to the upper portion of the support member such that the tablet is moveable from a first position to a second position;

wherein the offset is positioned such that the offset engages the tablet when the tablet is in the second position and transfers a substantial amount of load supported by the offset to the support member when the tablet is in the second position.

2. The chair of claim 1 further comprising an attachment mechanism, the attachment mechanism moveably attaching the tablet to the upper portion of the support member such that the tablet is moveable from the first position to the second position, the attachment mechanism comprising a bracket assembly that defines a channel that receives a portion of the upper portion and a projection that is attached to the upper portion that extends through a slot formed in the bracket assembly, the projection of the attachment mechanism and the slot of the bracket assembly defining a path of movement of the tablet between the first and second positions.

3. The chair of claim 2 wherein the bracket assembly is comprised of:

a tablet attachment portion that defines the channel that receives the portion of the upper portion of the support member and wherein the slot is formed in the tablet attachment portion of the bracket assembly; and

a cap attached to the tablet attachment portion adjacent the channel and above the portion of the upper portion of the support member received within the channel.

4. The chair of claim 3 wherein the projection is attached to the upper portion of the support member via welding or an integral attachment fastening mechanism.

5. The chair of claim 3 wherein the cap has crushable ribs formed on an inner surface of the cap such that the crushable ribs engage the upper portion received in the channel.

6. The chair of claim 5 wherein the projection only supports 10-15% of the load and the rest of the load is transferred to at least one of the support member and the base via the offset when the tablet is in the second position.

7. The chair of claim 2 wherein the bracket assembly is comprised of nylon that is 50% glass filled, a polymeric material, or a plastic and wherein the projection is comprised of a metal.

8. The chair of claim 2 wherein the offset is positioned so that a portion of the offset is at a location that is higher than the first section of the upper portion of the support member and is also higher than the second section of the upper portion of the support member.

9. The chair of claim 8 wherein the portion of the offset that is at the location that is higher than the first and second sections of the upper portion is a curved portion of the third section.

10. The chair of claim 1 wherein the base is comprised of a pedestal or a plurality of legs attached to the seat.

11. The chair of claim 1 further comprising a back attached to at least one of the seat and the base.

12. The chair of claim 1 wherein the seat is comprised of a polymeric material.

13. The chair of claim 1 wherein the seat is affixed to the base.

14. The chair of claim 1 wherein the seat is moveable relative to the base.

15. The chair of claim 1 wherein the tablet is moveable such that the tablet rotates about the upper portion of the support member to move from the first position to the second position.

16. The chair of claim 1 wherein the substantial amount of load that is transferred via the offset is over 50% of the load.

17. The chair of claim 1 wherein the substantial amount of load that is transferred via the offset is between 50% and 70% of the load.

18. A chair comprising:

a base,

a seat supported on the base;

a support member having an upper portion and at least one lower portion that is lower than the upper portion, the at least one lower portion attached to at least one of the base and the seat, the upper portion attached to the at least one lower portion, the upper portion having a first section, a second section, and a third section between the first and second sections, the third section defining a curved offset positioned inwardly toward the seat relative to at least one of the first section and the second section;

a tablet moveably attached to the upper portion of the support member, the tablet rotatable from a raised position to a lowered position;

an attachment mechanism, the attachment mechanism moveably attaching the tablet to the upper portion of the support member such that the tablet is rotatable about the upper portion of the support member from the raised position to the lowered position, the attachment mechanism comprising:

a bracket assembly that defines an opening that receives a portion of the upper portion of the support member, the bracket assembly also having a slot, and

a projection attached to the upper portion of the support member that extends through the slot, the projection of the attachment mechanism and the slot of the bracket assembly defining a path of movement of the tablet between the raised and lowered positions; and

wherein the offset is a curved portion of the third section of the upper portion of the support member, the offset being positioned such that the offset is at most 0.0625 inches higher than the first section and second section of the upper portion, the offset engaging the tablet when the tablet is in the lowered position such that the offset transfers a substantial amount of load supported by the offset to the support member when the tablet is in the lowered position.

19. The chair of claim 18 wherein the substantial amount of load that is transferred via the offset is between 50% and 70% of the load.

20. The chair of claim 18 wherein the projection only supports 10% to 15% of the load and wherein the other 85% to 90% of the load is transferred to at least one of the support member and the base via the offset.

CLAIMS:

1. A chair comprising:

a base,

a seat supported on the base;

a support member having an upper portion and at least one lower portion that is lower than the upper portion, the at least one lower portion attached to at least one of the base and the seat, the upper portion attached to the at least one lower portion, the upper portion having a first section, a second section, and a third section between the first and second sections, the third section defining an offset positioned inwardly toward the seat relative to at least one of the first section and the second section;

a tablet moveably attached to the upper portion of the support member such that the tablet is moveable from a first position to a second position;

wherein the offset is positioned such that the offset engages the tablet when the tablet is in the second position and transfers a substantial amount of load supported by the offset to the support member when the tablet is in the second position; and

an attachment mechanism, the attachment mechanism moveably attaching the tablet to the upper portion of the support member such that the tablet is moveable from the first position to the second position, the attachment mechanism comprising a bracket assembly that defines a channel that receives a portion of the upper portion and a projection that is attached to the upper portion that extends through a slot formed in the bracket assembly, the projection of the attachment mechanism and the slot of the bracket assembly defining a path of movement of the tablet between the first and second positions;

wherein the bracket assembly is comprised of

a tablet attachment portion that defines the channel that receives the portion of the upper portion of the support member and wherein the slot is formed in the tablet attachment portion of the bracket assembly; and

a cap attached to the tablet attachment portion adjacent the channel and above the portion of the upper portion of the support member received within the channel; and

wherein the cap has crushable ribs formed on an inner surface of the cap such that the crushable ribs engage the upper portion received in the channel; and

wherein the offset is positioned so that a portion of the offset is at a location that is higher than the first section of the upper portion of the support member and is also higher than the second section of the upper portion of the support member.

2. The chair of claim 1 wherein the projection is attached to the upper portion of the support member via welding or an integral attachment fastening mechanism.

3. The chair of claim 1 wherein the projection only supports 10-15% of the load and the rest of the load is transferred to at least one of the support member and the base via the offset when the tablet is in the second position.

4. The chair of claim 1 wherein the bracket assembly is comprised of nylon that is 50% glass filled, a polymeric material, or a plastic and wherein the projection is comprised of a metal.

5. The chair of claim 1 wherein the portion of the offset that is at the location that is higher than the first and second sections of the upper portion is a curved portion of the third section.

6. The chair of claim 1 wherein the base is comprised of a pedestal or a plurality of legs attached to the seat.

7. The chair of claim 1 further comprising a back attached to at least one of the seat and the base.

8. The chair of claim 1 wherein the seat is comprised of a polymeric material.

9. The chair of claim 1 wherein the seat is affixed to the base.

10. The chair of claim 1 wherein the seat is moveable relative to the base.

11. The chair of claim 1 wherein the tablet is moveable such that the tablet rotates about the upper portion of the support member to move from the first position to the second position and wherein the projection does not move when the tablet is rotated.

12. The chair of claim 1 wherein the substantial amount of load that is transferred via the offset is over 50% of the load.

13. The chair of claim 1 wherein the substantial amount of load that is transferred via the offset is between 50% and 70% of the load.

14. The chair of claim 1 wherein the projection only supports 10% to 15% of the load and wherein the other 85% to 90% of the load is transferred to at least one of the support member and the base via the offset.

15. A chair comprising:

a base,

a seat supported on the base;

a support member having an upper portion and at least one lower portion that is lower than the upper portion, the at least one lower portion attached to at least one of the base and the seat, the upper portion attached to the at least one lower portion, the upper portion having a first section, a second section, and a third section between the first and second sections, the third section defining an offset positioned inwardly toward the seat relative to at least one of the first section and the second section;

a tablet moveably attached to the upper portion of the support member such that the tablet is moveable from a first position to a second position;

wherein the offset is positioned such that the offset engages the tablet when the tablet is in the second position and transfers a substantial amount of load supported by the offset to the support member when the tablet is in the second position; and

an attachment mechanism, the attachment mechanism moveably attaching the tablet to the upper portion of the support member such that the tablet is moveable from the first position to the second position, the attachment mechanism comprising a bracket assembly that defines a

channel that receives a portion of the upper portion and a projection that is attached to the upper portion that extends through a slot formed in the bracket assembly, the projection of the attachment mechanism and the slot of the bracket assembly defining a path of movement of the tablet between the first and second positions;

wherein the offset is positioned so that a portion of the offset is at a location that is higher than the first section of the upper portion of the support member and is also higher than the second section of the upper portion of the support member.

16. The chair of claim 15 wherein the bracket assembly is comprised of:

a tablet attachment portion that defines the channel that receives the portion of the upper portion of the support member and wherein the slot is formed in the tablet attachment portion of the bracket assembly; and

a cap attached to the tablet attachment portion adjacent the channel and above the portion of the upper portion of the support member received within the channel.

17. The chair of claim 16 wherein the projection is attached to the upper portion of the support member via welding or an integral attachment fastening mechanism.

18. The chair of claim 16 wherein the cap has crushable ribs formed on an inner surface of the cap such that the crushable ribs engage the upper portion received in the channel.

19. The chair of claim 18 wherein the projection only supports 10-15% of the load and the rest of the load is transferred to at least one of the support member and the base via the offset when the tablet is in the second position.

20. The chair of claim 15 wherein the bracket assembly is comprised of nylon that is 50% glass filled, a polymeric material, or a plastic and wherein the projection is comprised of a metal.

21. The chair of claim 15 wherein the portion of the offset that is at the location that is higher than the first and second sections of the upper portion is a curved portion of the third section.

22. The chair of claim 15 wherein the base is comprised of a pedestal or a plurality of legs attached to the seat.

23. The chair of claim 15 further comprising a back attached to at least one of the seat and the base.

24. The chair of claim 15 wherein the seat is comprised of a polymeric material.

25. The chair of claim 15 wherein the seat is affixed to the base.

26. The chair of claim 15 wherein the seat is moveable relative to the base.

27. The chair of claim 15 wherein the tablet is moveable such that the tablet rotates about the upper portion of the support member to move from the first position to the second position.

28. The chair of claim 15 wherein the substantial amount of load that is transferred via the offset is over 50% of the load.

29. The chair of claim 15 wherein the substantial amount of load that is transferred via the offset is between 50% and 70% of the load.

30. The chair of claim 15 wherein the projection only supports 10% to 15% of the load and wherein the other 85% to 90% of the load is transferred to at least one of the support member and the base via the offset.