

# Adapting a school chair

It's simple: put the step and bring the back.

But, for the mixed results, it seems not to be so simple...



The apparently simple adaptation that requires a normal school chair to be adequate to the body of children with achondroplasia (close backrest, because their shorter femurs make that the normal backrest remains too far, and a step to climb) becomes often a headache.

We can't buy already made school chairs and we must clearly state to the person to do it what we want and how we want it.

Given that in some cases a picture is worth more than a thousand words, we provide here several examples of which, without doubt, the best is the last. Don't miss it.

This is a nursery chair.

As you can see a step has been added and an extra support has been placed, all in the same material as the rest of the chairs, which can be seen behind.

It's aesthetically integrated and adequate for the needs of adaptation.



This is one of the worst designed chairs according to the standard criteria.

We show it as an example of what NOT to do: ostentation, unnecessary complication, striking difference from the rest of the furniture...



In this case, instead of bringing the backrest, they have opted for a cushion. And the platform-stage is unnecessarily extended to the sides and back. It isn't aesthetically integrated with the rest of the class furniture. It can do better...

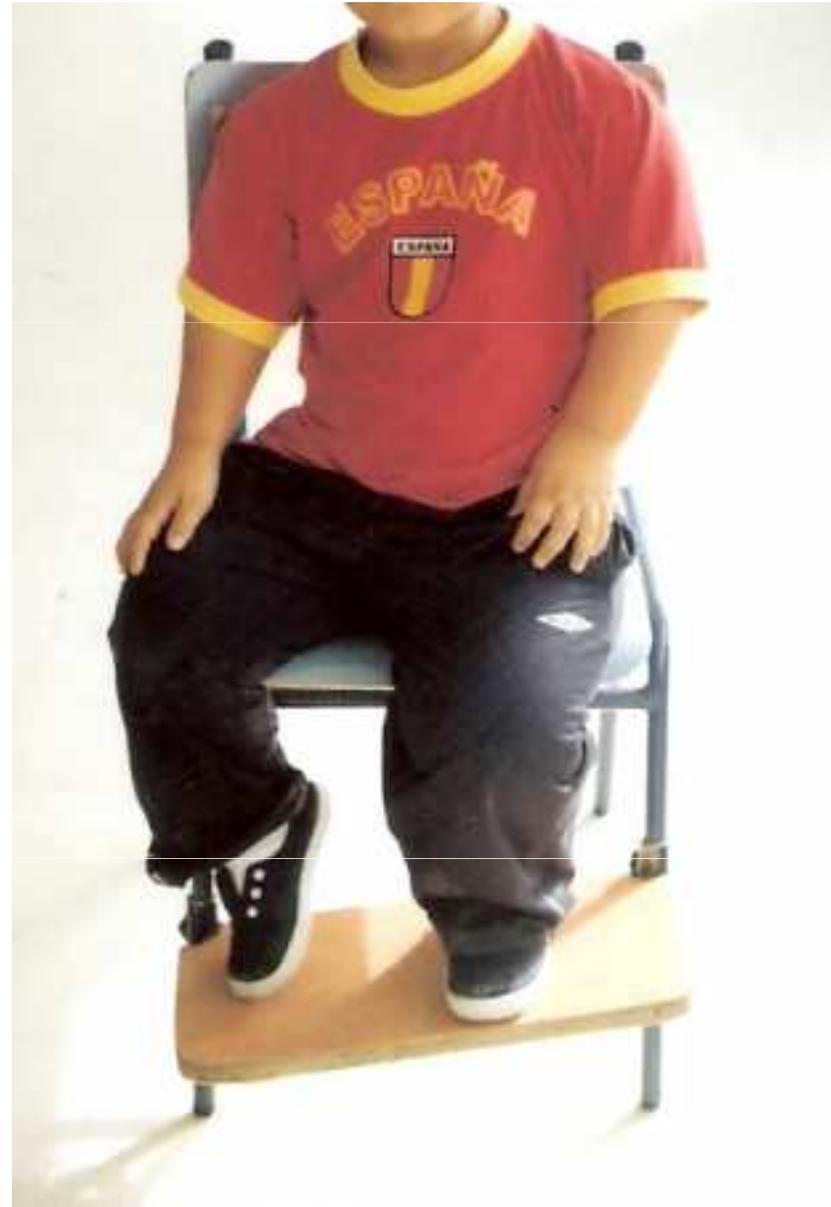


Although the maker has worked with interest and love as evidenced in the careful decoration, it's also somewhat cumbersome.

In an adaptation, it's intended that the chair, or any other object, be as similar as possible to the other children's chairs: same design, size, etcetera.



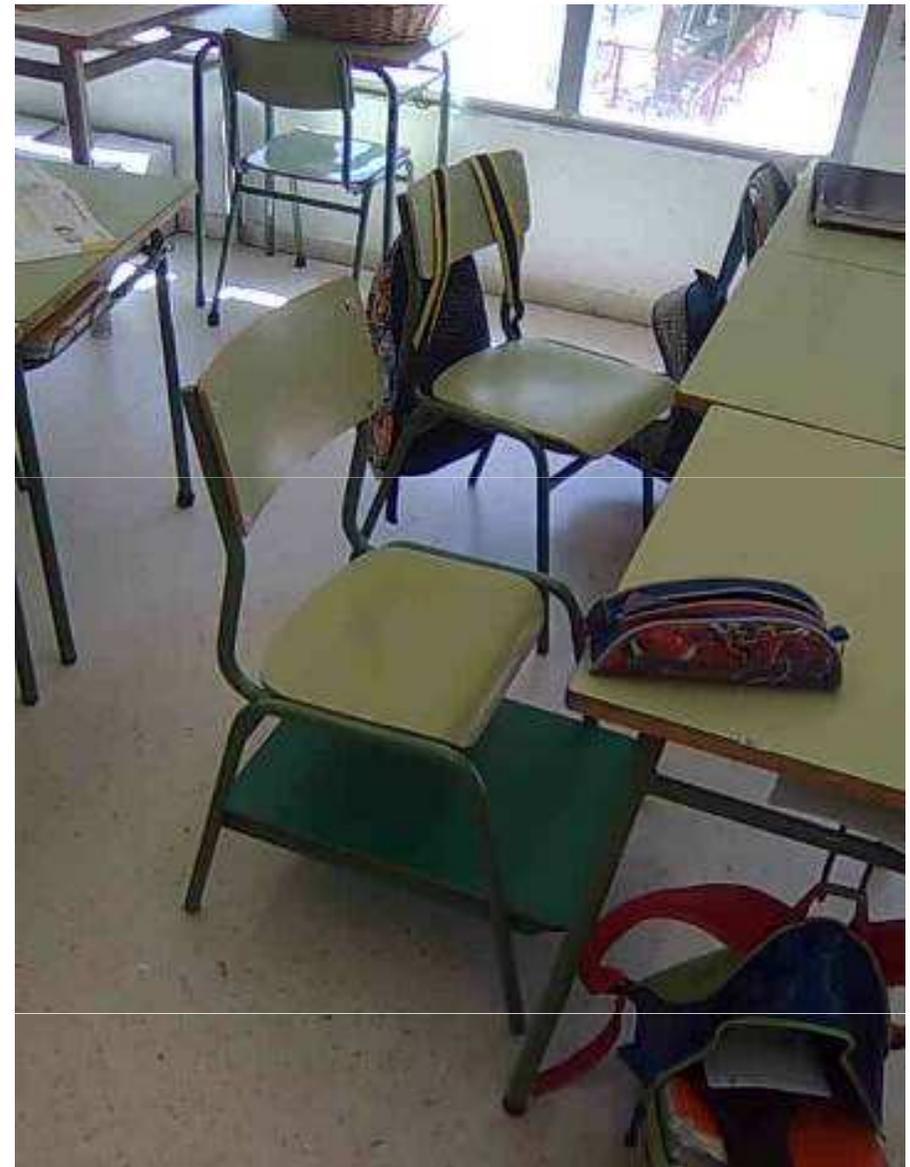
It's not easy to appreciate in the photo, but this one looks simple enough: it doesn't have striking additions of other materials, except by the step, that, however, for some strange reason, is crooked.



This is a good adaptation:  
aesthetically integrated  
with the other chairs (even  
the green color has been  
taken into account) ...



... without cumbersome additions for the back: the seat has been directly shortened, so the backrest distance is much shorter...



The best adaptation we have seen is this one. Very similar to last one, but with an even less striking and gaudy step. Simple and comfortable...



...as you can see in this photo, the child's feet rest comfortably on the step and the seat is short enough for the back of the chair to support the child's back.



**We definitely believe it is the best adaptation we have seen of a schoolchair.**

**You can take inspiration from it for your own chairs.**

**Thanks for showing us your new chair, Antón!**

**Our appreciation to those who have sent images of their adaptations: Pilar Alonso, M<sup>a</sup> José Rodríguez, Isabel Girona, Luchy Polo y Juana Míguez and Javier García.**

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**Translation: María Cristina Terceros**

