



Detail of handles.

Views of walker collapsed.



Integral to the design was the reduction of the total volume of the unit when closed. The rotating handles were key in the development of the final form. This design feature elevates the product when compared to existing models by offering a compact unit composed of accessories and flexible parts.

The Walker as Portable Furniture



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No walker exists currently which functions as a legitimate piece of furniture as does the proposed walker. The design of this walker challenges the tradition of viewing medical devices in a purely engineered realm and is ultimately able to transform a piece of functional equipment into a truly elegant accessory.



The final step before making the computer model involved a final reevaluation of the design of the handles. The point of contact between the hand and handle is critical to the design of a walker.



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Impression of a hand made in clay made by pressing the palm into the top, reaching around and gripping the underside.



Impression of a hand made by grasping a clay extrusion similar to the extruded arm of an aluminum standard walker frame.



Plan and section of impression made by leaning ones body weight into the clay along the length of the forearm and grasping the material in the hand.



Plan and section of an impression of a palm in clay.



Plan and section of an impression of a forearm in clay.

The most universal of the impressions was overlaid in order to conceive of a handle design for the final model.



The black line indicates the combined section toward a final handle design.



FINAL MODEL

